



Town of Newmarket
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Annual status update for 2023 and 2024 and Multi-year Accessibility Plan for 2025 to 2029 Staff Report to Council

Report Number: 2025-18

Department(s): Legislative Services

Author(s): Simon Granat, Legislative Coordinator

Meeting Date: April 7, 2025

Recommendations

1. That the report entitled “Annual status update for 2023 and 2024 and multi-year accessibility plan for 2025 to 2029” dated April 7, 2025 be received; and,
2. That the 2023 and 2024 Annual Status Update (**Attachment 1**) be approved; and,
3. That the 2025 to 2029 Multi-year Accessibility Plan (**Attachment 2**) be approved; and,
4. That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the 2023 and 2024 status updates to the Town’s Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (“Plan”) and for Council to approve a new multi-year plan for 2025 to 2029.

This report details the legislative background of the Plan, the Town’s efforts to date to comply with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) and the plans to continue compliance.

Background

The Integrated Accessibility Standards (“IASR”; O.Reg 191/11) are regulations under the AODA. In accordance with subsection 4 (1) these regulations, the Town is required to:

- (a) establish, implement, maintain and document a multi-year accessibility plan, which outlines the organization’s strategy to prevent and remove barriers and meet its requirements under this Regulation;
- (b) post the accessibility plan on their website, if any, and provide the plan in an accessible format upon request; and
- (c) review and update the accessibility plan at least once every five years.

Further, the regulation requires the Town to provide an annual status report progress of its Plan.

In accordance with the above, the Town makes the Plans and annual status updates available on the Town’s [website](#).

The Town creates a five-year Plan and provides annual status updates to the Plan. This report serves to create a new five-year Plan for 2025 to 2029 (**Attachment 2**) and to provide an annual status update for 2023 and 2024.

Discussion

Multi-Year Accessibility Plan Progress

The Town updates the Multi-year Accessibility Plan in accordance with Provincial requirements and provides annual status updates (**Attachment 1**).

The format of the Multi-year Accessibility Plan continues to comply with accessible document guidelines. The document has been formatted so that it is more easily readable by screen-reading software.

The Town’s action plans to meet the IASR have been detailed in **Attachment 4** of this report.

Town of Newmarket’s Progress with the AODA

The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act requires municipalities and public bodies to be in compliance by January 1, 2025. There are no outstanding areas for compliance identified.

No Known Additional Requirements Beyond 2025

As of the time of writing, all compliance deadlines for IASR implementation have passed. The final deadline is the goal for provincial compliance with the AODA on January 1, 2025. Staff are not aware of any additional compliance requirements beyond 2025.

Consultation

The Accessibility Advisory Committee and all Town departments were consulted in preparation of the annual status updates and Multi-year Accessibility Plan for 2025 to 2029. At their March 20, 2025 Committee meeting, the Accessibility Advisory Committee endorsed the following motion:

1. That the Accessibility Advisory Committee endorse the Multi-year Accessibility Plan

Conclusion

Staff will continue to implement the strategies described in the Multi-year Accessibility Plan.

As required by the IASR, the updated Plan will be published to the Town website in an accessible format. Annual updates will continue to be produced and the Plan will be reviewed and updated in accordance with the IASR requirements.

Council Priority Association

The Plan aligns with the following Council priorities: Customer-first way of life (enhanced by technology) by using technological advancements to lower barriers; Extraordinary Places and Spaces creating exceptional experiences for the community in shared and accessible public spaces; and a Diverse, welcoming, and inclusive community by building strong, healthy, and equitable community where everyone feels an unwavering sense of belonging.

The Plan aligns with the Town's vision of being a community that is well Beyond the Ordinary.

Human Resource Considerations

None.

Budget Impact

None.

Attachments

Attachment 1 – Annual Status Update for 2023 and 2024

Attachment 2 – 2025 to 2029 Multi-year Accessibility Plan

Attachment 3 – Newmarket Accessibility Advisory Committee Accomplishments 2019 to 2024

Attachment 4 – Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation Compliance

Approval for Submission

Kiran Saini, Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Town Clerk

Lisa Lyons, Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk

Esther Armchuk, Commissioner of Corporate Services

Jeff Payne, Commissioner of Corporate Services

Peter Noehammer, Commissioner of Infrastructure and Development

Ian McDougall, Chief Administrative Officer

Report Contact

For more information on this report, contact info@newmarket.ca