

To: Members of the Accessibility Advisory Committee

From: Mark Buffone, Accessibility Compliance Specialist

Meeting Date: February 1, 2023

Subject: Accessibility Staff Report, Report AAC23-005

Purpose

A report to advise the Accessibility Advisory Committee on the current work of Accessibility staff.

Recommendation

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) approve the recommendation outlined in Report AAC23-005 dated February 1, 2023 of the Accessibility Compliance Specialist as follows:

That Report AAC23-005 with respect to the current work of Accessibility staff be received for information.

Budget and Financial Implications

There are no budgetary or financial implications associated with the recommendation.

Background

AODA Compliance

No updates to report.

Accessibility Reviews

The best way to remove barriers is to prevent them. Accessibility staff provide formal reviews for various development applications. Staff also review City projects during the planning and design stages, including projects related to buildings, public spaces, services, documents, websites, by-laws, plans and policies. Recent reviews and research include:

A. Official Plan, Zoning By-law Amendment and Subdivision applications

- 1800 Television Road and 450, 490, 520 Laurie Avenue: request for extension to draft plan of subdivision approval, 41 single family dwelling units.
- Canoe Village subdivision (phase 1 of 6): Phase 1 includes 96 of 462 single family dwelling units and 16 of 48 townhomes.

B. Site Plan Control applications

- 514 Hilliard Street (submission 3): long-term care facility.
- 925 Water Street (submission 2): DeafBlind Ontario multi-unit dwelling, building addition to accommodate two additional dwelling units and an elevator.
- 884 Armour Road (submission 3): mixed-use addition.

C. Infrastructure, Buildings and Parks

- 171 Lansdowne Street West, City of Peterborough arena and library complex: reviewed revisions to the parking lot drop-off lay-by design and the signage package.
- 681 Monaghan Road, 53 unit affordable housing: reviewed concept design.
- 24 Whitla Street (former Naval Club): main entrance door replacement.
- Accessible picnic tables at park pavilions: checked existing inventory and requested more accessible tables.

D. Websites and documents

Accessibility staff support various City departments every week to remediate PDFs and provide content on City websites. The following list represents a sampling of projects, research and education activities:

- Various Council reports: assist staff to make PDF documents accessible.
- Social Services: assisted staff and reviewed remediation strategies for design elements, footnotes and tables in PDFs; assisted with remediation for Children's Services "High Quality Licenced Child Care" PDF, campaign materials.
- PDF Remediation: Developed a guide for staff on using a remediation consultant.
- Accessible presentations: circulated tips to key administrators and Clerks staff.

E. Bylaws, plans and policies

- Transit Liaison Committee: provided feedback on proposed terms of reference.
- Central Area Urban Design Guidelines: reviewed accessibility related topics.
- Peterborough Museum & Archives accessibility plan updates: planned updates.

F. Procurement

Accessibility staff provide ongoing reviews of bid solicitation documents to ensure accessibility is incorporated into every major purchase the City makes. Every project requires the organization we do business with to complete accessibility training as it applies to their scope of work. The following list represents a sampling of projects that incorporated accessibility beyond the training requirements:

- Construction management for 681 Monaghan Road affordable housing project.
- Landscape architect consulting teams of record.
- Next generation 9-1-1 call handling solution.

G. Partnerships

• Council for Persons with Disabilities and Peterborough Sport & Wellness Centre: planning for 2023 Inclusive Recreational Expo.

Accessibility Training

Accessibility training for staff, volunteers and people we do business with is ongoing.

Built Environment Sub-Committee

The January meeting of the Built Environment Sub-Committee was cancelled following discussions with Planning staff as there were no Site Plan Approvals to review at that time. The next scheduled meeting is February 21, 2023.

Council for Persons with Disabilities (CPD)

The Communication Coordinator attended the CPD's Board meeting on January 27, 2023. Information about current City engagement opportunities, including the Civic Awards nominations and discussed potential involvement for National AccessAbility Week Capable Con event, organized and hosted by the CPD.

Legislation Updates and Standards

Accessibility of information and communication technologies: Employment and Social Development Canada is starting to develop the next set of regulations under the Accessible Canada Act (ACA). These regulations would deal with removing barriers and improving accessibility in the area of Information and Communication Technologies. Feedback for this round of consultation ends on January 31, 2023. Draft regulations will also be available for review and feedback at a later date.

[canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/accessible-canada/consultation-accessibility-regulations-information-communication-technologies.html]

Funding opportunities

2022 Enabling Accessibility Fund: The City submitted a funding application in November 2022 to the Government of Canada, requesting \$80,000 to support renovations to the customer service counter at the Peterborough Sport and Wellness Centre. The Government of Canada requested more information in January 2023 on the project budget before processing the proposed project.

Submitted by,

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