



City of  
**Peterborough**

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**To:** **Members of the Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee**

**From:** **Trish Reed, Accessibility and Communication Specialist**

**Meeting Date:** **May 17, 2016**

**Subject:** **Report APRAC16-014  
Accessible Beaches**

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## **Purpose**

A report to inform of options to provide accessible beach access routes at the two City-owned public beaches.

## **Recommendations**

That the Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee approve the recommendations outlined in Report APRAC16-014, dated May 17, 2016 of the Accessibility and Communication Specialist as follows:

- a) That Report APRAC16-014 with respect to options to provide beach access routes at the two City-owned public beaches be received for information;
- b) That staff be directed to investigate options to provide accessible beach access routes at the two City-owned public beaches, and report back at a future meeting.

## **Budget and Financial Implications**

There is no budgetary or financial implication resulting from the approval of the recommendation of this report.

## Background

At the April 6, 2016 meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee, a motion was approved to inform the Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (APRAC) about the need for accessible beach access routes.

Beach access routes are routes that provide access to recreational areas on public beaches. They can be either permanent or temporary. Photographic examples for temporary beach access routes are attached in Appendix A.

Beach access routes can be on the beach or near/beside the beach. The route should increase access to the place intended for recreational activity. If the area intended for recreational activity is set back from the water, the beach access route may not cross the sand. If the area where recreational activity is intended is closer to the water, then the beach access route may cross the sand surface.

The Design of Public Spaces requires new or redeveloped beaches to have beach access routes that must:

- meet minimum clear width (1 m) and height (2.1 m) specifications;
- meet a maximum running slope ratio (1:10);
- meet restrictions on the size of surface openings, and orient elongated openings perpendicular to the direction of travel;
- provide minimum clear width at its opening (1 m), regardless of entrance design (e.g., gate, bollard, etc.);
- have a firm and stable surface;
- where the surface is not constructed (i.e., natural), adhere to a minimum cross slope required for drainage; and
- where the surface area is constructed (i.e., not natural), adhere to specifications on maximum cross slope, bevel ratios at changes in levels, maximum running slope at changes in levels, ramp requirements at changes in levels.

The Accessibility Advisory Committee would like to note that by installing beach access routes, the City will continue to demonstrate the commitment to increase and enhance accessibility to all residents and visitors in the community.

Staff recommends that accessible beach access routes be investigated for the two City-owned public beaches, and are seeking direction from APRAC.

Submitted by,

Trish Reed  
Accessibility and Communication Specialist

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Attachments:

Appendix A: Pictures of Temporary Beach Access Routes

## Appendix A

### Temporary Beach Access Routes

