



MUNICIPALITY OF CALLANDER INFORMATION REPORT TO COUNCIL

MEETING DATE: December 6, 2022

SUBJECT/REPORT NO: 2022-133 ADMIN – Annual AODA Status Update

SUBMITTED BY: Elaine Gunnell, Municipal Clerk

APPROVED BY: Ashely Bilodeau, Senior Municipal Director

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL MOTION

That Council acknowledge receipt of report 2022-133 ADMIN – Annual AODA Status Update for Information.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The main goal of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA) is to make all organizations in Ontario as accessible as possible by 2025. In accordance with the AODA, the Municipality of Callander has a plan that addresses the measures it intends to take in order to make the municipal organization more accessible to persons with various types of disabilities. This plan is reviewed at least annually, and progress is reported to Council.

BACKGROUND

Regulation O. Reg. 191/11: Integrated Accessibility Standards under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA) requires that designated public sector organizations prepare an annual status report on the progress of measures taken in that year and post the status report on their website.

INFORMATION

The following chart shows the identified barriers, desired actions and strategies to address those measures from the 2020 Update that were accomplished in 2022:

DESCRIPTION OF BARRIER, DESIRED ACTION AND STRATEGY TO ADDRESS	PROGRESS MADE IN 2022
Navigating the website. Make the website more intuitive to navigate. Improve the content organization to make it more intuitive and user friendly.	Planned reorganization of website content to make more intuitive and reorganization is under way to be complete in in 2023.
Sidewalk width, condition and corners create barrier for those with mobility issues. Consider wider sidewalks when redeveloping or creating new outdoor paths of travel.	Approximately 240m of sidewalk on Lansdowne St. W, replaced with sidewalk that meets accessibility standards.
Lack of accessible play structure/swing. Add accessible play structure/swing. Design replacement structures for inclusive play.	The new accessible and inclusive playground equipment was installed in 2022.

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DESCRIPTION OF BARRIER, DESIRED ACTION AND STRATEGY TO ADDRESS	PROGRESS MADE IN 2022 (Continued)
The library is not accessible to anyone in a wheelchair. To be addressed when Library moves to new premises but planned renovations to entrance in 2022 as an interim measure.	Interim renovations were included in the 2022 budget, but the Municipality has been unable to find a contractor willing to even provide a quote for this project.
Virtual Council meetings are hard to hear. Improve accessibility for the hearing-impaired listening to virtual council meetings.	A new type of sound system was installed in Council Chambers that provides greater amplification and better sound quality, whether viewing Council meetings via the live stream or attending in person.
Limited amount of hard surface access in park areas to avoid wheels of chairs from sinking into the ground. Consider more hard surfaced outdoor paths of travel.	The Centennial Park revitalization project done in 2022 included 324m of a new hard surface pathway, plus 60m of new paving stone pathways to make all of the old and new play structures, splashpad, gazebo, etc. interconnected with hard surface paths of travel.
Lack of handicap parking for disabled persons. Increase available handicap parking.	The Centennial Park revitalization project done in 2022 included the creation of six (6) new accessible parking spaces on an asphalt surface in a paved parking lot that connects to the paths mentioned above.
Lack of access for wheelchairs at Beaches (2x) on Callander Bay. Add more accessible pathways to beaches.	Ramp to beach at Centennial Park was planned as part of the project. The Ramp has been purchased and will be installed in the spring of 2023.
Walking routes downtown Callander have too few benches, particularly on the east side of the roads. Address in Bench Master Plan as part of the overall Parks and Recreation Master Plan.	Parks and Recreation Master Plan was done in 2022 and includes a bench plan. Four (4) new benches were installed at the cenotaph on Lansdowne St. E. in 2022.

Actions/Strategies Planned but not Accomplished in 2022

An accessible ramp from the road level to the Municipal Office was planned but not completed due to higher than anticipated costs associated with topographic issues and design concerns. The ramp would also need to be located on the municipal road allowance, which poses some challenges should the building ever be sold. These issues were identified to Council, and the ramp is to be discussed as an item for consideration in the 2023 budget. The accessible ramp to the library was planned but not accomplished as detailed above.

CONSULTATION

Tim McKenna, Manager of Operations

APPENDICES / SCHEDULES

N/A

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