

Date: 2022-06-21

Subject: 2022-2026 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan

Contact: Janice Adshead, Deputy Clerk, Administrative Services and Information Management

Report Number: Legislative Services-2022-710

Recommendations:

1. That the report titled 2022-2026 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, to the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting of September 6, 2022, be received; and,
2. The 2022-2026 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan be approved as the basis for municipal program and service delivery planning and implementation, with updates and adjustments provided at regular intervals through the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Overview:

- The City of Brampton's 2022-2026 Multi-Year Municipal Accessibility Plan (MAP) outlines how the City will continue to remove barriers and improve accessibility for persons with disabilities. It builds upon the accomplishments of the 2019 – 2025 MAP, and continues to implement Provincial requirements to create an accessible Ontario by 2025.
- The City of Brampton has taken, and continues to take, a very progressive approach to addressing barriers to accessibility. Not only has this commitment improved the quality of life for residents of Brampton, it has provided a sound base upon which the City will continue to build an inclusive community that meets the needs of people of all ages and abilities. The MAP is also an integral part of the City's ongoing commitment to accessibility and inclusion.

Background:

The City of Brampton's Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (MAP) for 2022-2026 is a legislative requirement that illustrates how the City will continue to recognize, remove, reduce, and prevent accessibility barriers and enhance the Accessibility program.

In 2021, the City of Brampton's Accessibility team reviewed its program, created a new overarching Accessibility Policy, published accompanying Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), and renewed its commitment to making Brampton accessible for all. A 2022-2026 MAP has been created, replacing the 2019 – 2025 MAP, with specific and time-bound initiatives to meet the five accessibility standards of Information and Communications, Employment, Transportation, Design of Public Spaces and Customer Service.

Current Situation:

The 2022 – 2026 MAP is a roadmap that identifies how the City of Brampton will continue to prevent and remove barriers to our programs, services, and facilities. The MAP identifies the actions the City is taking to engage residents, organizations, and businesses to strengthen our foundation, and promote a culture shift, which will allow individuals of all abilities to participate in everyday activities including: utilizing public transit, accessing online services, attending sporting, cultural and other various events, and having access to public spaces including but not limited to recreation facilities, parks, trails etc.

The MAP identifies roles and responsibilities of stakeholders including the Accessibility Advisory Committee, the Accessibility Team, Council and Senior Leadership, staff and the public. The MAP has a refreshed Statement of Commitment, which draws attention to the AODA's four core principles of: dignity, independence, integration, and equitable opportunities for all.

City staff have reviewed the Accessibility program and completed benchmarking with other Ontario municipalities to confirm the City is in alignment with consistent accessibility practices, and in many instances going beyond the requirements.

The MAP will be regularly reviewed and updated to:

- meet legislative requirements,
- reflect the Accessibility Advisory Committee perspective,
- align with Council priorities,
- enable, lead and support City operations and programs, and
- meet public expectations.

Corporate Implications:

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications to the City from this report.

Term of Council Priorities:

This report fulfills the Council Priority of the City of Brampton as a Mosaic, recognizing the City has continued commitment towards accessibility for all residents of Brampton.

Conclusion:

This report provides specific and time-bound initiatives that are scheduled to take place between now, and the end of 2026. These initiatives are designed to enhance City programs, services, information, web content, public spaces, and facilities to ensure that individuals of all abilities have equitable access to all aspects of the community. Status updates will be provided on an on-going basis.

Authored by:

Reviewed by:

Janice Adshead, Deputy Clerk

Peter Fay, City Clerk

Attachments:

2022-2026 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan