



REPORT

TO: Mayor Bonnette and Members of Council

FROM: Renee Brown, Deputy Clerk - Administration

DATE: January 4, 2022

REPORT NO.: REPORT NO. ADMIN-2022-0004

SUBJECT: 2021 Annual Accessibility Status Update

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. ADMIN-2022-0004 dated January 4, 2022 regarding the 2021 Annual Accessibility Status Update be received for information.

KEY POINTS:

The following are key points for consideration with respect to this report:

- Annual Status Report required under the AODA
- The Town is dedicated to improving accessibility in our community and the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan is one of the main tools to ensure we are making improvements and meeting Provincial Standards
- The Town submitted a compliance report to the Province on December 20, 2021 in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act.
- A new Multi-Year Accessibility Plan will be prepared in 2023.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

In accordance with Section Four (4) of the Integrated Accessibility Standards, and to meet the legislative requirements of the AODA the Town is to prepare an annual status report on the progress of measures taken to implement the strategy including steps taken to comply with the Regulation and to post the status report on the website and if required provide the report in an accessible format upon request.

The 2021 Annual Status Report is the Town of Halton Hills annual update on the measures taken to improve accessibility in our community and to report on the progress made to implement the activities introduced in the 2018-2023 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan. The Annual Status Report also highlights areas that the town intends to focus on for accessibility improvements in the coming year. (Appendix A – 2021 Accomplishments and 2022 and Beyond Action Items)

The Town of Halton Hills Council passed the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2018-2023 on April 16, 2018, and as part of the plan an annual status report has to be completed to outline the progress of measures taken to implement the Multi-Year Accessibility plan. A review of the plan will be conducted with the plan being updated as required to include any new identified priority action items as new legislation is brought forward.

In addition to the development and publication of the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan and Annual Status Report, the Town has other reporting obligations to the Province. As required by subsection 14 (1) of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, the town shall file an accessibility compliance report with the province every two years.

The town filed its most recent accessibility compliance report to the province on December 20, 2021 and was compliant in almost all areas with the exception of the Town's website which is 96.6% compliant for Level A and is at 92.2% compliant for Level AA. The Town is working with the help of our website provider to get our website content to Level AA compliance, including all documents hosted publicly on-line. The next accessibility compliance report to the Province will be December 31, 2023 and has been incorporated into the 2018-2023 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This report aligns to the Town's Strategic plan recognizing the value to provide responsive, effective municipal government and strong leadership in the effective and efficient delivery of municipal services.

RELATIONSHIP TO CLIMATE CHANGE:

This report is administrative in nature and does not directly impact or address climate change and the Town's Net Zero target.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

Public Engagement was not needed as this report is administrative in nature.

INTERNAL CONSULTATION:

Consulted with Communications, Traffic and Recreation staff with respect to the accessibility compliance report submitted to the Province and reviewing adherence to the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

This report will be funded through an existing approved budget source.

Reviewed and approved by,

Valerie Petryniak, Town Clerk & Director of Legislative Services

Chris Mills, Chief Administrative Officer