



REPORT

TO: Mayor Lawlor and Members of Council

FROM: Renée Brown, Deputy Clerk - Administration

DATE: January 13, 2023

REPORT NO.: ADMIN-2023-0006

SUBJECT: 2022 Annual Accessibility Status Update

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. ADMIN-2023-0006 dated January 13, 2023, regarding the 2022 Annual Accessibility Status Report 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, the next report is due December 31, 2023.
- A new draft Multi-Year Accessibility Plan will be prepared in the first quarter of 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 2022 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 (Appendix A – 2022 Accomplishments).

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 must 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, the Town 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 due on December 31, 2023, and has been incorporated into the 2018-2023 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan.

A draft of the new Multi-Year Accessibility Plan for 2023-2028 will be prepared and put on Let's Talk Halton Hills for public comment in the first quarter of 2023 and the final draft will be brought forward to Council for approval in the second quarter.

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:

The Town Clerk was consulted in the preparation of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

This report is administrative in nature and does not have any financial implications.

Reviewed and approved by,

Valerie Petryniak, Town Clerk & Director of Legislative Services

Chris Mills, Chief Administrative Officer