



## MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** Mayor Lawlor and Members of Council

**FROM:** Renee Brown, Deputy Clerk - Administration

**DATE:** August 11, 2023

**MEMO NO.:** ADMIN-2023-002

**SUBJECT:** Town of Halton Hills 5-year Multi Year Accessibility Plan

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### **PURPOSE OF THE MEMORANDUM:**

To provide Council with an update on the status of the 5-year Multi Year Accessibility Plan and timeframe for public consultation.

### **BACKGROUND:**

In 2005, the Ontario Government passed the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) to benefit all Ontarians by developing, implementing, and enforcing accessibility standards. These standards work to achieve accessibility for persons with disabilities with respect to goods, services, facilities, accommodations, employment, buildings, structures, and premises on or before January 1, 2025.

The Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR) was enacted in July 2011 and establishes accessibility standards for information and communications, employment, transportation, the design of public spaces and customer service. The requirements apply to the public, private and not for profit sectors and have compliance dates ranging from 2011 to 2021. People with disabilities represent a significant and growing part of our population. According to Statistics Canada, 1.85 million people in Ontario have a disability which represents 15.5% of Ontario's population. Disability tends to increase with age and in two decades it is estimated that 20% of the population will have a disability. Enhancing the ability of people with disabilities to live independently and contribute to the community will have positive effects on the future prosperity in Ontario.

Ontario Regulation 191/11 requires that municipalities with 50 or more employees establish, implement, maintain and document a multi-year accessibility plan, which outlines the organization's strategy to prevent and remove barriers and meet its requirements under this Regulation. This Multi-Year Accessibility Plan must be

reviewed and updated at least once every five years. The Town of Halton Hill's Multi-Year Accessibility Plan for 2023-2027 will be implemented within the provisions of the AODA and the IASR.

**COMMENTS:**

Staff are completing the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan for 2023-2027. A draft will be brought to the Town's Accessibility Advisory Committee in September 2023 for review and comment. The plan will then be available for public review and comment on the Let's Talk Halton Hills platform in late September or early October. Staff will finalize the plan and bring it to Council for final adoption by the end of 2023.

**CONCLUSION:**

A draft of the Town of Halton Hills 5-year Multi-year Accessibility Plan will be ready for public consultation by the end of September or early October, the final draft of the plan will be brought to Council for Final Adoption before the end of 2023.

Reviewed and approved by,

Valerie Petryniak, Town Clerk & Director of Legislative Services

Chris Mills, Chief Administrative Officer