



TO: MAYOR J. LEHMAN AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

FROM: Cheryl Dillon, Accessibility Coordinator

NOTED: Anne Marie Langlois, Director of Human Resources
M. Prowse, Chief Administrative Officer

RE: Update on City of Barrie's 2019 – 2024 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan

DATE: February 13, 2020

The purpose of this Memorandum is to provide members of Council with an update concerning activities undertaken by the City of Barrie and Barrie Police Services in 2019 to comply with the City's 2019 – 2024 Multi-year Accessibility Plan.

Background

Like all Ontario municipalities, the City of Barrie must meet and maintain legislated requirements set forth in the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), including preparing, and implementing the City's Multi-year accessibility plan. Per the AODA, the City's multi-year accessibility plan(s) must be updated at least once every five years. The City's current multi-year accessibility plan runs from January 1, 2019 through to December 31, 2024.

Under the AODA, municipal accessibility advisory committees must provide advice to municipal councils on the requirements and implementation of the accessibility standards, multi-year accessibility plans and compliance reports, in addition to providing advice regarding accessibility in the broader community. The City's Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) fulfills this function for the Corporation of the City of Barrie, and as of 2013, the AAC has also been fulfilling this function for Barrie Police Services.

The Barrie Police Services (BPS) is a member agency covered by the City of Barrie's Multi-year Accessibility Plan and BPS and the City of Barrie staff will continue to work in partnership with the AAC to address issues of accessibility.

Status

The AAC has fulfilled their obligation for the 2019 AODA requirements and provided valuable feedback and support to staff on objectives outlined in the 2019-2024 Multi-year Accessibility Plan, including: working with the Human Resources Department to ensure all recruitment staff received training pertaining to accessible recruitment; auditing the City's feedback processes for accessibility; work with Barrie Transit to ensure that Conventional and Specialized transit services in Barrie continue to reflect the needs of community members with disabilities; including ensuring all Transit Operators are trained in appropriate safety measures for Barrie Transit riders using mobility equipment; and Accessible Customer Service; provide consultation and feedback to staff on trails wayfinding signage for accessibility; and working with community stakeholders through the StopGap initiative.