

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE – FEBRUARY 24, 2025**COMMUNICATIONS****Distributed February 18, 2025****Item**

C1. Presentation material.

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Distributed February 24, 2025

C2. Presentation material.

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Please note there may be further Communications.

C1

Communication

Accessibility Advisory

Committee – February 24, 2025

Item No. 1

Enhancing Accessibility and Inclusion in Recreation Services

Initiatives, achievements and future goals

Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting

February 24, 2025



Multi Year Accessibility Plan-Recreation Services

Customer Service

- ▶ Equitable recreational opportunities
- ▶ Staff training
- ▶ Replace non-accessible equipment
- ▶ Physical accessibility in community centres and events
- ▶ Community engagement

Information and Communication

- ▶ Recommendations and implementation plans to satisfy AODA standards
- ▶ Build staff capacity
- ▶ Inclusive and plain language guidelines

Customer Service Highlights

Providing equitable recreational opportunities

- ▶ **Adaptive programs** for ages 3-65 years old
 - **40% increase** in inclusion services
 - **10% increase** in participant enrollment
- ▶ **Future goals**
 - Provide diverse recreation opportunities with focus on creating new recreation programs



Two people in wheelchair giving each other high five on the tennis court

Customer Service Highlights

Five (5) year plan to acquire accessible equipment

- Adaptive floatation equipment in all pools
- Wheelchairs basketball
- Accessible change tables in 7 community centres.
- Ice sledges available at 3 rinks
- E-vac chairs installed in 6 centres



A person using an ice sledge hockey equipment on the ice rink

Customer Service Highlights

Increasing staff training

- ▶ Provide **ongoing staff training** beyond AODA requirements
 - **664 part-time staff** and **123 volunteers** trained
 - **Key partnerships** with Kerry's Place, Autism Ontario and Recreationists of York Region
 - Certifications in **Non-Violent Crisis Prevention Intervention**
- ▶ **Future goals**
 - Continue to provide specialized training

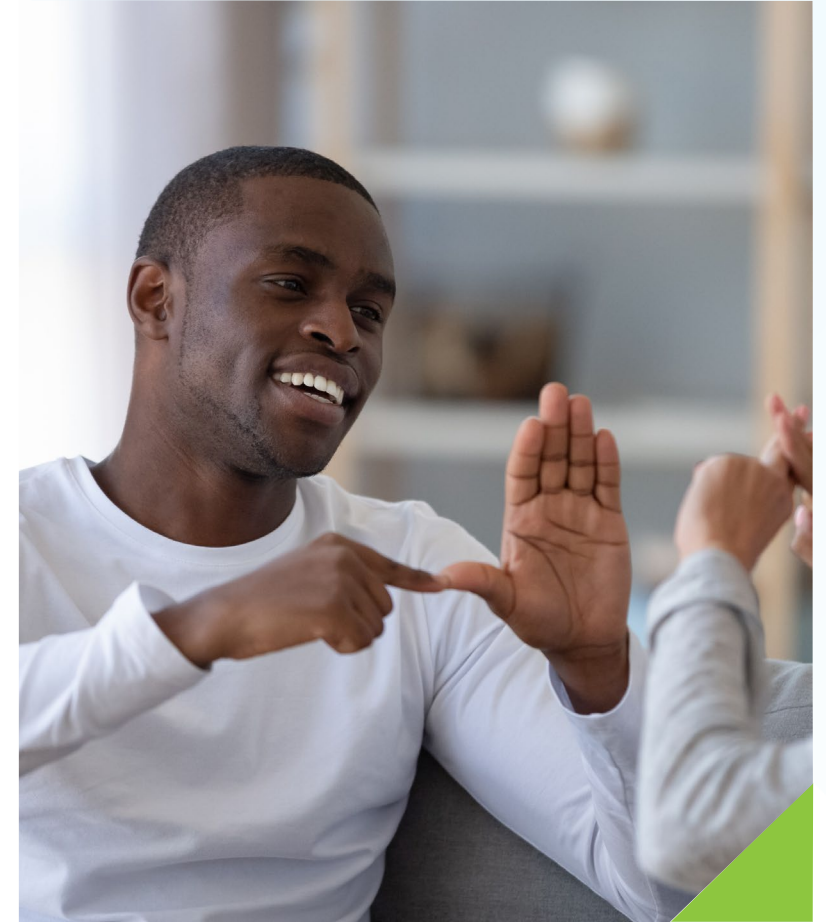


A group of campers and recreation staff posing for a picture

Customer Service Highlights

Accessible Events

- Accessible event guidelines
- Accessibility lift and handrail for the stage for City Hall events
- ASL interpretation upon request
- Close captioning for YouTube videos
- Where possible, quiet spaces are provided at events



A person communicating through American Sign Language (ASL)

Collaboration and Community Engagement

► Initiatives

- Created volunteer opportunities for persons with disabilities
- Subsidized leadership courses
- Skill development employment program

► Key Achievements

- Inclusive art initiative “Unity in Diversity”- mural project
- Community Day Program Teacher’s tour -YCDSB

► Future Goals

- Gaps-in-services survey - York Support Services Network
- “Beyond the Horizon”- Black Student Leadership Conference
- Day Program Information Fair – YRDSB

Information and Communication

► Initiatives

- Refine Recreation Services webpages for web accessibility compliance
- Xplor recreation registration system compliant with AODA

► Key Achievements

- Comprehensive audit of community centres signage
- Staff trained on creating accessible digital content

► Future Goals

- Develop accessible and inclusive digital content, where possible convert PDFs into accessible web formats
- Remediation efforts and the development of community centres wayfinding signage standards
- Targeted marketing for inclusion programs on digital platforms

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide consisting of two overlapping triangles. The front triangle is blue and points to the right. The back triangle is a lighter blue and also points to the right, partially obscured by the front one.

Thank you!

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Overview of Smart City and Accessibility Initiatives

Accessibility Advisory Committee

Monday, February 24, 2025

C2

Communication

Accessibility Advisory

Committee – February 24, 2025

Item No. 2



Agenda

Vaughan's Innovative Initiatives to Support Diversity, Equity, Accessibility and Inclusion (2025-2026)

1	Vaughan.ca Website Accessibility Audit Evaluate Vaughan's current accessibility posture to meet AODA standards
2	CNIB and GoodMaps – Pilot Expansion Indoor wayfinding technology for person with disability
4	Hyper-local Interactive Digital Signs in Mainstreet Areas Solar powered, flexible communications kiosk

Project Selection Criteria

- ▶ Align with Council-approved plans and with the 2018-2022 Smart City Task Force recommendations.
- ▶ Advancing Vaughan's position as a smart and inclusive city by:
 - Improve accessibility for individuals with disabilities
 - Modernize communication networks and service delivery
 - Foster economic opportunities through local advertising and business promotion.
- ▶ Proven technologies in use by other leading cities
- ▶ First in the Greater Toronto Area to position Vaughan as a leader
- ▶ Low-risk, low-cost and low complexity to implement within the 2022-2026 Term of Council

Initiative 1: Website Accessibility Audit

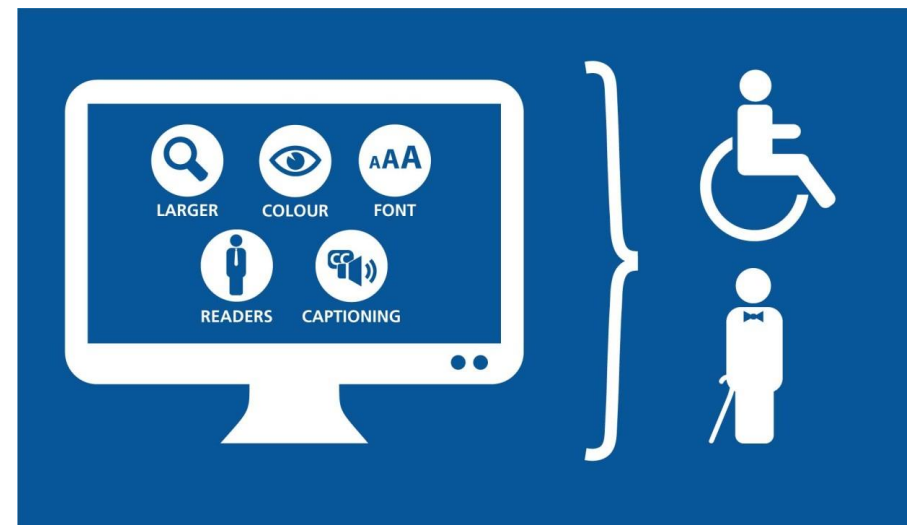
Evaluate Vaughan's current accessibility posture to meet AODA standards

Project Overview:

Assess the current state of the City's external web assets for compliance with accessibility standards. Identify gaps and provide recommendations, implementation plans, and a framework to ensure ongoing compliance and continuous improvement beyond baseline requirements.

Expected Impact and Community Benefits:

Provide an inclusive digital experience for all residents, businesses, and visitors - including individuals with disabilities.



Initiative 1: Website Accessibility Audit

Evaluate Vaughan’s current accessibility posture to meet AODA standards

Current Status	
Scope Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Current state assessment• Recommendations and implementation plans• Framework for ongoing compliance
Status	In Progress
Strategic Alignment	2023-2027 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan
Timeline	Assessment Completion: Q2 2025 Implementation Completion: 2026

Initiative 2: CNIB and GoodMaps Pilot Expansion

Innovative wayfinding technology to help people who are blind or partially sighted navigate City facilities

Project Overview:

The Wayfinding Pilot Project, in partnership with CNIB Access Labs, uses GoodMaps' free mobile app to enhance accessibility for people with vision-related disabilities and other diverse visitors, including people using wheelchairs or mobility devices.

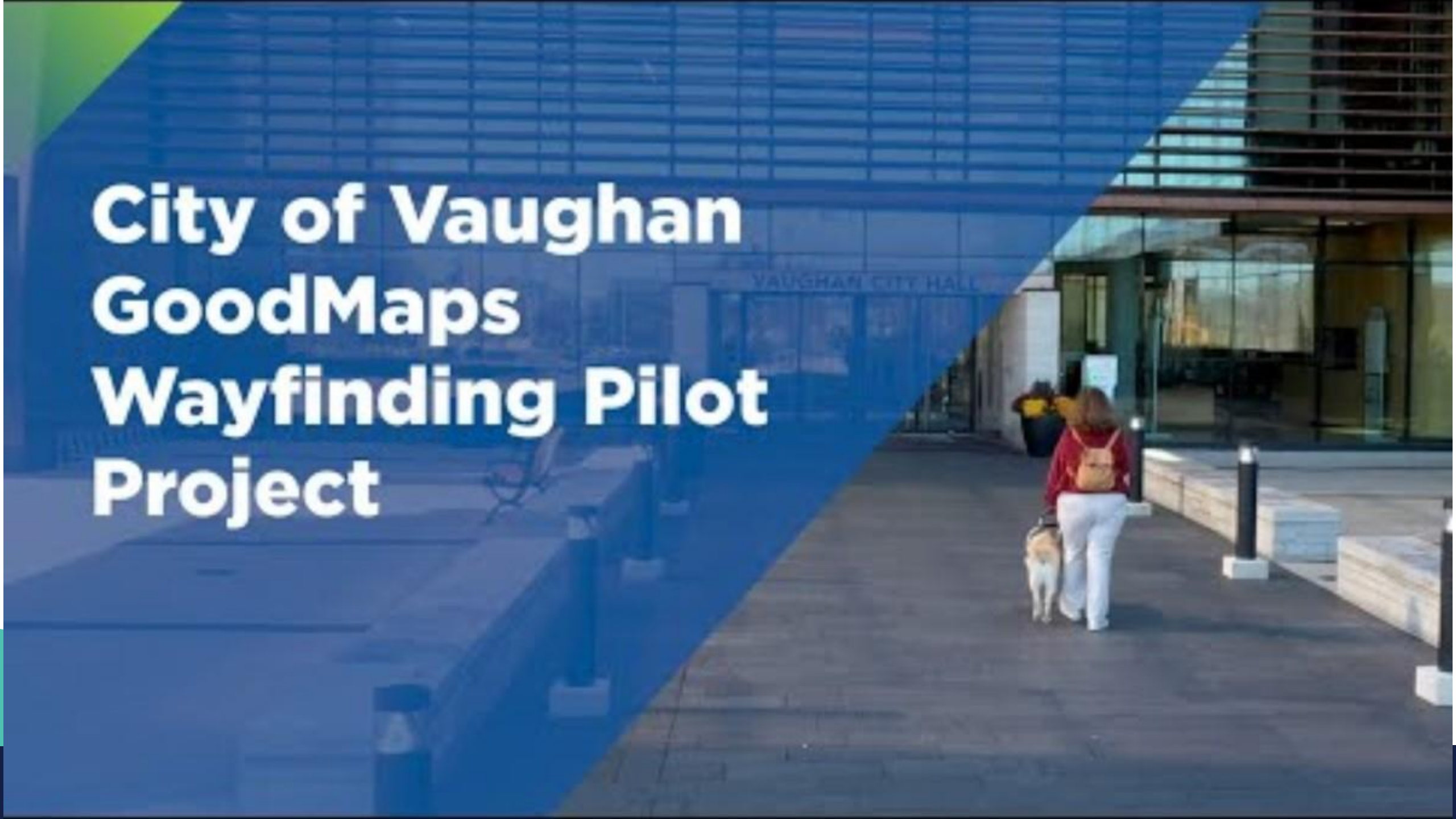
The City is exploring the pilot to include more City facilities.

Expected Impact and Community Benefits:

People with vision loss can independently navigate city facilities, aligning accessible customer service.



City of Vaughan GoodMaps Wayfinding Pilot Project



Initiative 2: CNIB and GoodMaps Pilot Expansion

Innovative wayfinding technology to help people who are blind or partially sighted navigate City facilities

Project Implementation	
Current Status	Pilot launched in December 2024 for six City facilities (Vaughan City Hall, Community Centre and Vaughan Public Library)
Project Expansion Opportunity	Expanding CNIB/GoodMaps pilot to add additional city facilities onto the Goodmaps platform (Example: new Carville Community Centre, Vaughan Metropolitan Centre)
Strategic Alignment	2023-2027 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (Action 3.2 Fostering an inclusive and accessible City by regularly engaging with people with disabilities)
Timeline	2-year pilot started in December 2024 Expansion 2026-2027
Budget	Existing approved budget within Economic Development department

Initiative 3: Hyper-local Interactive Digital Signs in Mainstreet Areas

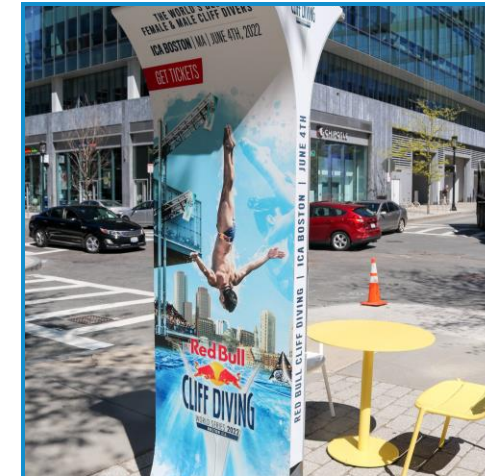
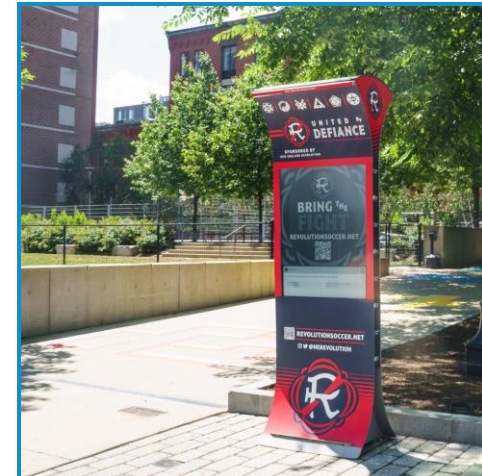
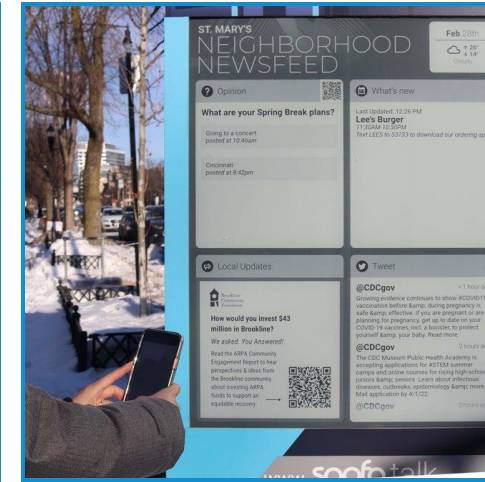
Solar Powered, Flexible Communications Kiosk

Project Overview:

Installing flexible communications kiosks that showcase content tailored to diverse cultural and community groups. These kiosks will highlight nearby cultural events and provide information on community services. Additionally, they offer the opportunity for hyper-local advertising to promote local diverse businesses.

Expected Impact and Community Benefits:

Expansion of City's communication networks to foster a more connected, informed, and inclusive community.



Initiative 3: Hyper-local Interactive Digital Signs in Mainstreet Areas

Communications Kiosk with hyperlocal features

Project Implementation		
Scope Overview	Installation of zero-emission communication kiosks in main street areas to enhance accessibility and connectivity <ul style="list-style-type: none">Promote Hyper Local Businesses and City and Cultural EventsDisplay Real-Time Information (e.g. transit) and disseminate information to communityOpportunity to feature and leverage artwork from diverse groups	
Phase Approach	Phase 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">KleinburgWoodbridgeVaughan Metropolitan Centre	Phase 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Yonge SteelesThornhill
Strategic Alignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Smart City Task Force RecommendationDiversity, Equity and Inclusion Plan 2022-2026Anti-Black Racism Action Plan 2024-2031	
Timeline	Feasibility in 2025, procurement in 2026	

Thank you.

