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Communication

Accessibility Advisory

Committee – March 24, 2025

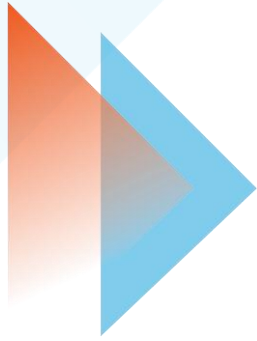
Item No. 1

Proposed Consultation Process

Accessibility Advisory Committee
March 2025



Agenda



1. AODA Requirements & Challenges
2. Inclusive Design Standards
3. Proposed Approach
4. Process Integration
5. Next Steps

Role of Vaughan's AAC

- ▶ As outlined in the [Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005](#) and the [O. Reg. 191/11: Integrated Accessibility Standards](#), Vaughan's Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) plays a crucial role in providing consultation and guidance on matters related to accessibility within the City's services, facilities, and policies, ensuring they are inclusive and accessible to all residents and visitors.

Required AAC Consultation

- ▶ **A Building, Structure, or Premises (or part thereof) that Council:**
 - Purchases
 - Constructs
 - Significantly Renovates
 - Enters a New Lease with third-parties
- ▶ **Recreational Trails:** New or Redeveloping
- ▶ **Outdoor Play Spaces:** New or Redeveloping
- ▶ **Exterior paths of travel:** New or Redeveloping
- ▶ **Onsite Parking Spaces:** New or Redeveloping

AAC Consultation: Challenges

- ▶ Reviewing each building, facility, and public space individually is neither feasible nor practical for the City and the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC).
- ▶ Currently, there are approx. 267 Active Infrastructure and Development Projects with only approx. 8 AAC meetings each year.

Inclusive Design Standards (IDS)

- ▶ The City's Inclusive Design Standards (IDS) were established in 2020 by SPH Planning and Consulting, HR (Accessibility Coordinator), and Facilities Management.
- ▶ IDS serves as a comprehensive set of guidelines for the City buildings, facilities, and public spaces.



Improving Accessible Built Environment Standards

- ▶ In 2023, the Government of Ontario conducted a review of the accessible built environment standards in the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disability Act (AODA) and the barrier-free accessibility requirement under the Ontario Building Code (OBC)
- ▶ The report outlines initial recommendations to enhance accessibility in Ontario's built environment. It focuses on creating inclusive public spaces and buildings for people with disabilities by updating standards, improving design, and ensuring better access to facilities and services. The report includes 126 recommendations that were open for public consultation.

Proposed Approach

- ▶ We propose consulting the AAC on the update of the IDS guidelines themselves, ensuring their consistent application in the development and renovation of City properties.
- ▶ This approach, if adopted by the AAC, would streamline the review process while ensuring compliance.
- ▶ Specific projects can still be discussed during AAC meetings as needed, by adding them as agenda items.
- ▶ Approach aligns with the City of Toronto's standards to ensure compliance while maintaining efficiency and timely delivery of work, without disrupting project timelines.

IDS Process Integration

Areas of Integration	Process
A Building, Structure, or Premises (or part thereof) that Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Purchases, Constructs, Significantly Renovates Recreational Trails: New or Redeveloping Outdoor Play Spaces: New or Redeveloping Exterior paths of travel: New or Redeveloping Onsite Parking Spaces: New or Redeveloping	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project and Program Charter Templates• Procurement Bid Documents• Engineering Design Criteria and Standard Drawings
A Building, Structure, or Premises (or part thereof) that Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enters a New Lease with third parties (including Municipal Capital Facilities)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leasing Strategy

IDS Implementation

- ▶ All recommendations will be considered; however, not all will be implemented due to constraints related to cost, resources, and feasibility.
- ▶ All City new or renovated buildings, facilities, and public spaces will comply with the Accessibility for Ontarians Disability Act (AODA) and the Ontario Building Code (OBC) standards

Inclusive Design Standards (IDS) Update

Timeline

- ▶ Consultation with the Vaughan AAC: **April 28**
 - Provide an overview of the City's Inclusive Design Standards (IDS)
 - Discuss initial findings for the IDS
 - Receive comments and feedback about the IDS
- ▶ Present updated IDS: **September 29**
 - Highlight updates
 - Q&A session

Next Steps

- ▶ Approval from AAC to move forward with the proposed approach
- ▶ Consultation of the updated Inclusive Design Standards (IDS) with the AAC in April
- ▶ Finalize Updated IDS & Process Integration



Thank you!

Inclusion and Community Outreach
City of Vaughan
2141 Major Mackenzie Dr.
Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1

vaughan.ca

Additional Resources

Accessibility for Ontarians with disabilities act, Part vii (6) Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committees

When the committee selects site plans and drawings described in section 41 of the Planning Act to review, the council shall supply them to the committee in a timely manner for the purpose of the review.
2005, c. 11, s. 29 (6).

► Planit Application

- All site plans are publicly posted on the PLANit Application Viewer platform
- AAC members may visit <https://maps.v Vaughan.ca/planit/> and select sites they wish to review

