

Accessibility Consultation Policy

1.0 INTERPRETATION

1.1 In this policy, unless the context requires otherwise:

“**AAP**” means the Accessibility Advisory Panel established in accordance with subsection 29 (1) of the AODA;

“**AODA**” means the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005, S.O. 2005, c. 11;

“**City**” means the corporation of the City of Greater Sudbury;

“**disability**” has the meaning given to it in the AODA;

“**park**” means land designated by the City for use as a park;

“**recreational program**” means a program for the provision of facilities for recreation or for the supervision, encouragement and guidance of recreational activity and;

“**special event**” means a public event held at a City facility, building, structure or premises for the primary purpose of supporting a community, culture, arts, heritage, recreation or sport experience.

1.2 In this policy:

(a) “include”, “includes” and “including” indicate that the subsequent list is not exhaustive;

(b) “consult” includes to seek advice from; and

(c) a reference to a department includes, in the event of organizational changes, the successor department or division responsible for the performance of the department’s obligations under this policy.

1.3 A reference to any legislation, regulation, by-law, rule, policy or provision thereof includes a reference to any legislation, regulation, by-law, rule or provision thereof enacted in substitution thereof or amendment thereof.

1.4 A reference to legislation includes all the regulations made thereunder.

- 1.5 A reference to the position or title of any City employee includes a reference to any position or title created in substitution thereof.

2.0 PURPOSE/SCOPE

- 2.1 The purpose of this policy is to:

- (a) recognize the history of discrimination against persons with disabilities in Ontario;
- (b) assist the City to achieve accessibility for persons with disabilities with respect to goods, services, facilities, accommodations, buildings, structures and premises as required by the AODA;
- (c) assist the City to implement the measures, policies, practices or other requirements of the AODA, including the requirement to consult with the AAP, the public and persons with disabilities in certain circumstances; and
- (d) recognize that achieving the purposes set out in clauses (a), (b), and (c), and working to the highest level of inclusion is to the benefit of all members of the community.

3.0 REQUIRED CONSULTATION

- 3.1 The City shall, in accordance with the AODA, consult with the AAP:

- (a) on a building, structure or premises, or part of a building, structure or premises:
 - (i) that the City purchases, constructs or significantly renovates;
 - (ii) for which the City enters into a new lease; or
 - (iii) that a person provides as municipal capital facilities under an agreement entered into with the City.
- (b) in the development of accessible design criteria to be considered in the construction, renovation or replacement of bus stops and shelters.

(c) on the following before the City constructs new or redevelops existing recreational trails:

(i) the slope of the trail;

(ii) the need for, and location of, ramps on the trail; or

(iii) the need for, location and design of rest areas, passing areas, paths of travel to and from parking amenities, viewing areas, amenities on the trail, and any other pertinent feature(s).

(d) when establishing, reviewing, or updating its multi-year accessibility plan.

(e) on the requirements and implementation of accessibility standards.

(f) when constructing new or redeveloping existing outdoor play and park spaces.

(g) when constructing new or redeveloping existing exterior paths of travel that the City intends to maintain.

(h) when providing new or redeveloping existing recreational programs.

(i) conduct assessments on a regular basis to enhance and ensure a barrier-free environment for all persons at special events.

(j) on any other matter council considers it necessary or desirable to seek advice from the AAP.

3.2 When sections 3.1 of this policy require the City to consult with the AAP, the City must do so at a meeting of the AAP in consultation with the Clerk's Services Section.

3.3 The City must supply available site plans, drawings and any other relevant material to the AAP in a timely and accessible manner for the purpose of review.

3.4 When section 3.1 requires consultation with AAP, City staff shall:

(a) upon receiving a request for consultation from City staff, the Clerk's Services Section shall schedule a meeting of the AAP. Meetings can be held in person, via video conference, or by

telephone depending on the preferences, accessibility needs and availability.

(b) before the meeting, documents relevant to the matter under consultation shall be provided to the Clerk's Services Section and distributed accordingly.

(c) relevant City staff shall attend the meeting to present recommendations and provide an overview of the matter under consultation and to receive input and feedback.

(d) City staff shall re-attend meetings if necessary.

4.0 TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

- 4.1 The Clerk's Services Section will provide ongoing training for staff involved in the accessibility consultation process to ensure they are informed about current accessibility standards.