



**Meeting Date:** March 10, 2021

**Submitted by:** James Hutson, Municipal Clerk

**Report No:** CLK-06-2021

**Subject:** Summary of Middlesex County Annual Accessibility Report for 2020

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**Recommendation:**

THAT Report CLK-06-2021 re: Summary of Middlesex County Annual Accessibility Report for 2020 be received for information.

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to highlight the accessibility achievements of Middlesex Centre in 2020 as detailed in the Middlesex County Annual Accessibility Report for 2020.

**Background:**

The framework of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) sets out a road map for to achieve a goal of an accessible Ontario by 2025. Public sector organizations, including municipalities, are striving to achieve these goals in a number of different areas. In order to ensure compliance with the standards set out in the AODA, the County of Middlesex develops a multi-year accessibility plan which is prepared jointly with participating lower-tier municipalities located in the County. The current multi-year accessibility plan was adopted in 2016 and will expire at the end of 2021.

In addition to this plan, an annual reporting exercise is undertaken to highlight achievements and progress made towards implementing components of the multi-year accessibility plan. Many of the future goals found in this plan relate to training, design of public spaces, accessible customer standard updates and website content.

The 2020 annual report accessibility status report was prepared by the Accessibility Coordinator and submitted to Middlesex County Committee of the Whole of February 16, 2021 (noted as Appendix A1). The Municipal Clerk for Middlesex Centre circulated staff to assist with compiling the achievements noted therein for our Municipality, and this report will further highlight and celebrate these achievements.

## **Analysis:**

The Municipality of Middlesex Centre undertakes a number of initiatives each year in line with the goals of the multi-year accessibility plan. In 2020, the following items were noted for Middlesex Centre:

### **Community Services/Facilities**

- Asphalt paving of Douglas B. Weldon Park Parking Lot with installation of dedicated accessible parking spots
- Installation of accessible swing bays at Caverhill Park
- Installation of Poplar Hill Park Accessible Pathways

### **Corporate Services**

- Upgrades to existing Council meetings, including live-streaming of regularly scheduled meetings, and upgrades to audio and video technology to support this live streaming.
- Updates AODA Compliant Form Templates, including Planning Act notices.
- Maintaining and updating the website to appropriate WCAG compliance (ongoing).

In addition to the above, there are several ongoing or planned projects for 2021, these include:

- Douglas B. Weldon Park Accessible Washrooms
- Ilderton Optimist Park Accessible Playground
- Denfield Park Accessible Playground
- Kilworth Heights Park Accessible Playground
- Clear Skies Accessible Trail

## **Financial Implications:**

There are no financial implications associated with the preparation of this report; however, each projected noted herein has a separate budgetary implication

## **Strategic Plan:**

This matter aligns with following strategic priorities:

- Engaged Community
- Responsive Municipal Government

The accessibility related undertakings by the Municipality help to ensure there are a multitude of means by which members of the community can engage with and access municipal resources and information.

**Attachments:**

A1 - 2020 Annual Accessibility Report - Middlesex County - February 16, 2021  
Committee of the Whole Report