

Staff Report

Presented By: Sarah Bonderud, Deputy Clerk

Meeting Date: January 6, 2025

Subject: 2024 Accessibility Update

Attachment(s): None

Recommendation

That the 2024 Accessibility Update be received for information.

Report Summary

The Town completed various initiatives and projects in 2024, that were either accessibility driven or had an accessibility improvement component involved. This report is to provide Council with an update on the work being completed for their awareness.

Background/Analysis

The following list highlights the accessibility initiatives that were completed in 2024:

- The Multi-Year Accessibility Plan was implemented and approved for 2024-2028.
- Both accessibility policies for the Town were updated, which included the Integrated Accessibility Standards Policy and the Accessibility Standards for Customer Service Policy.
- Downtown Accessibility inspections were completed for both Port Elgin and Southampton.
- The Accessible Beach Wheelchair Program was launched.
- Three facilities received entrance improvements, which included a ramp and new accessible doors at the Chantry Senior's Centre, a new entrance at the Southampton Library, and new door openers at the Port Elgin Library.
- Elevator improvements at the Southampton Town Hall.
- Sidewalk improvements and repairs to approximately 150 meters of sidewalk.
- Tactile plates were installed at three high-volume pedestrian-use intersections.

Linkages

- Strategic Plan Alignment: Pillar 1: Meeting the Needs of a Growing Community
- Business Plan Alignment: Corporate Services Business as Usual

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding

No costs or revenue is associated with this report.

Prepared By: Sarah Bonderud, Deputy Clerk

Reviewed By: Dawn Mittelholtz, Manager, Legislative Services/Clerk
Frank Burrows, Manager, Parks and Facilities
Matt Prentice, Director, Operations

Approved By: Kara Van Myall, Chief Administrative Officer