

**From:** Ottawa Public Library Board\C.A. de la bibliothèque publique d'Ottawa  
<libraryboard@ottawa.ca>  
**Sent:** March 06, 2024 11:37 AM  
**To:** King, Rawlson  
**Subject:** Accessibility Barriers

*Sent on behalf of Anna Basile, Deputy CEO, OPL*

Good morning, Trustee King,

I am following up on the December Board meeting budget-related question pertaining to accessibility deficits at OPL facilities, in relation to accessibility-related City funding, and the outstanding barriers.

OPL's accessibility audits identified a total of 1,811 barriers in 2017. Between 2017 and 2023, **326** barriers were removed by way of capital projects (funded by either OPL or the City), leaving OPL with an outstanding 1,485 barriers. With the upcoming demolition of the old Metcalfe branch and the addition of a universal washroom in Alta Vista, an additional 54 barriers will be removed within 2024.

For context, barriers that were flagged in audits range from items such as incorrect heights of light switches to lack of grab bars within a washroom to a lack of wheelchair access ramps or incorrect elevations of the ramps. Accessibility projects are continuously reviewed by staff at both OPL and the City, and are consistently being addressed by way of large renovations or minor capital expenditures where possible.

Please let me know if you have further questions.

Thank you,

Anna

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