

2024 City of Ottawa Design of Public Spaces Compliance Plan Agreement Update

Attention: AODA.compliance@ontario.ca

To whom it may concern,

Please accept the following as the City of Ottawa's compliance agreement plan update regarding the non-compliance reported in question 10.a of the 2023 Accessibility Compliance Report (Design of Public Spaces Standard).

Background

The City remains committed to achieve compliance with Section 80.5 of the *Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation* of the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005* (AODA).

In accordance with the *Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation* (the "IASR") under the AODA, all new and redeveloped City of Ottawa public spaces, including their various elements, must be constructed in compliance with applicable standards. New and redeveloped spaces owned, leased or operated by the City must also meet applicable Council-approved [City of Ottawa Accessibility Design Standards](#), which further reinforce or exceed the IASR.

As previously mentioned in the City of Ottawa's Proposed Design of Public Spaces Compliance Plan Agreement update, submitted in December 2023, it was discovered that some Design of Public Spaces (DOPS) projects delivered since 2016, which included the implementation of certain traffic measures, such as All-Way Stop Controls (AWSC), Pedestrian Crossovers (PXO), or Adult School Crossing Guard (ASCG) locations did not meet the AODA at the time of implementation and remain non-compliant. Depending on the location, some of the intersections may be missing various elements included in sections 80.23, 80.26 and 80.27 of the IASR related to curb ramps, depressed curbs and tactile walking surface indicators. During design and construction, these projects were not considered redevelopment, however, a City-wide exercise to examine and classify construction projects, supported by Legal Services, confirmed that these types of projects are redevelopment, thus triggering IASR.

Current Status

As of November 30, 2024, there are currently 89 non-compliant locations remaining across the City. In 2024, two additional non-compliant locations were discovered and added to the list, while a total of ten locations were remediated. The updated list of remaining non-compliant locations, as well as their anticipated remediation date, is attached. As previously communicated, all non-compliant locations will ultimately be remediated by 2029.

Next Steps

The City is committed to provide safe and accessible infrastructure for residents. For future projects where the application of the AODA is triggered, projects with an imminent public safety concern will be prioritized and will meet the applicable accessibility standard at the time of implementation. Any new warranted traffic measures will only be implemented when compliance with the AODA can be achieved. As a result of education provided by the City of Ottawa's Corporate Accessibility Office and supported by Legal Services, staff are now better equipped to determine when the regulatory standards are triggered and take necessary steps to ensure compliance with the legislation. As per the City's recent submission to the Province regarding the initial recommendation of the Design of Public Spaces Standard Development Committee, it is the City's hope that future updates to the Standard will include clearer definitions of maintenance and redevelopment, to assist all organizations to understand when the legislation applies.

The City remains committed to achieve compliance with the DOPS requirements and to increase accessibility across Ottawa for persons with disabilities. Further, the City is committed to transparent and timely compliance reporting to the Province, Ottawa City Council, our Accessibility Advisory Committee, and the public.

I trust that this summary is satisfactory for your purposes.

Regards,

Caitlin Salter MacDonald

City Clerk/ Greffière municipale

City of Ottawa/ Ville d'Ottawa

Tel./Tél. 613-580-2424, ext./poste 28136

Cell | portable: 613-898-1419