

# St. Clair Multi – Year Accessibility Plan 2023 – 2028

### 1.0 Vision Statement

Working together to build inclusive and welcoming communities throughout St. Clair Township focusing on the four principles of accessibility.

- Independence
- Dignity
- Integration
- Equality of Opportunity

### 2.0 Executive Summary

The Township of St. Clair is committed to the continued improvement of access to all municipal premises, documents, facilities, and services for all residents, staff and visitors with disabilities.

The Township's Accessibility Advisory Committee is comprised of residents of the Township with varying disabilities who participate in the continued development and improvement of the accessibility plan annually.

This plan identifies measures already taken to ensure accessibility within the Township and prioritizes necessary steps to continue to eliminate all barriers for staff, visitors, and residents with disabilities.

## 3.0 Commitment

To establish, encourage and promote an assessable community which ensures equality for all.

The Township of St. Clair is committed to being responsive to the needs of it communities by recognizing the diverse needs of all residents and providing services and facilities that are accessible to all.

Council commits to the continual improvement of access to all Municipality owned facilities, premises, and services.

### **4.0 Accessibility Advisory Committee**

The Accessibility Advisory Committee shall:

- establish, review and update the Township's multi-year accessibility plan;
- identify the need, location and design of accessible on-street parking spaces when building new or making major changes to existing on-street parking spaces;
- review the design for any new or major changes to existing recreational trails to help determine particular trail features;
- determine the needs of children and caregivers with various disabilities in the community when building new or making major changes to existing outdoor play spaces;
- review the design and placement of rest areas along the exterior path of travel when building new or making major changes to existing exterior paths of travel.

## **5.0 Committee Composition**

The Committee is composed of 4 members of the community with disabilities, 2 members of staff, 1 elected official (and one alternate).

The Committee will meet annually or as required for a four-year term that coincides with the term of Council.

## **6.0 Accessibility Standards Overview**

St. Clair Township is currently in compliance and continues to fulfill ongoing obligations under the Accessibility Standards for Customer Service.

Policies and Planning have continued to be a focus for this committee. Unfortunately, COVID restrictions caused delays in this area.

The Multi-Year Accessibility Plan will be presented to Council prior to each renewal or implementation.

# 7.0 Accessible Formats and Communication Supports

- 1. Provide accessible formats and communication supports for persons with disabilities in a timely manner;
- 2. Notify all employees and the public of alternative formats for all documents
  - Documents are per the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines
  - Ensure statement is on the Township Website to alert the availability of alternate documents