



## **2022 ANNUAL REPORT TO STRATFORD CITY COUNCIL**

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**Committee Name: Accessibility Advisory Committee**

**Date Submitted: December 9, 2022**

**1. Outline of accomplishments/projects completed in 2022:**

- Work with city staff to identify sidewalk curbs throughout the city that require replacement
- Site Plan Sub-Committee review numerous developments throughout town including the Boathouse Public Washroom Expansion Project and Gallery Stratford Project
- 2022 AccessAbility Week Video Project (joint project with Heritage Stratford) that showcased solutions to accessibility barriers at local heritage properties

**2. Summary of how the Advisory Committee's mandate in the Terms of Reference is reflected in the Committee's accomplishments/projects for 2022:**

- The AAC continues to identify and communicate opportunities to remove barriers and improve accessibility in our community
- The AAC understands that accessibility should be a top priority and continues to communicate this through awareness projects and the AAC's Site Plan Sub-Committee

**3. Summary of 2022 recommendations made to Sub-committee, Committee or Council:**

- THAT the Accessibility Advisory Committee recommends Stratford City Council develop an implementation plan to identify current and projected accessible housing inventory needs in the City of Stratford.
- THAT the Accessibility Advisory Committee recommends Stratford City Council adopt a resolution requesting the Province of Ontario amend the Ontario Building Code, the Planning Act and Municipal Tax Regulations to allow municipalities to include tax deferral programs for accessible housing in community improvement plans.

**4. Please summarize how your 2022 projects/plans have reflected the City's strategic priorities:**

- The AAC continues to advocate and recommend transportation options that are accessible to all levels of ability.

**5. Comments regarding impact of COVID-19 on your Committee's operations in 2022:**

- It was difficult to make progression on planned projects with so much scheduling uncertainty
- The remote meetings are beneficial for members of the AAC, however in person sub-committee meetings were still where the most progress was achieved

**6. Outline of projects/plans for 2023 budget funds:**

- Meeting expenses, transportation, special project participation
- 2023 AccessAbility Week Project
- TBD