



Township of Norwich
**Annual Status Report
Of the Multi-year
Accessibility Plan
2022**

This document is a summary of the Township of Norwich accomplishments towards compliance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA). The purpose of the AODA is to develop, implement and enforce accessibility standards in order to achieve accessibility for Ontarians.

Ontario Regulation 191/11 entitled *Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation* states:

4. (3) The government of Ontario, Legislative Assembly and designated public sector organizations shall;
- (a) Prepare an annual status report on the progress of measures taken to implement the strategy reference in clause (1) (a) (multi-year accessibility plan) including steps taken to comply with this Regulation; and
 - (b) Post the status report on their website, if any, and provide the report in an accessible format upon request, O. Reg. 191/11, s.4(3) O. Reg. 413/12 s. 3 (1)

Planned Action Items and Status:

Requests for additional streetlights to be reviewed

- All requests are reviewed for feasibility and necessity as received.

Centralized Public Works Shop – renovations to improve accessibility at front entrance and washrooms

- Accessible ramped entrance completed
- Accessible push button entrance
- Accessible washroom (existing)

Sidewalk installation – Grove Street, Otterville

- Completed

New Southwest Park in Norwich – accessible pathways around park perimeter and links to various amenities & accessible play structure

- This large project will be completed over several years. The Request for Proposals has been issued for the ‘Design, Development and Implementation of a 3-acre Community Park Facility’ to include: parking lot, play equipment, walking/fitness trail, signage, paved pathways, shade structures with picnic tables and two multi use playcourts. Accessible pathways around park perimeter to be installed in 2022. Plans to be provided to the AAC for review and comment.

Springford Picnic Shelter (shelter and accessible picnic table(s) as required)

- Pavillion completed. Accessibility Advisory Committee has reviewed accessible picnic table designs and proposed pathway route. Picnic tables and pathways to be installed in 2022.

Burgessville Park – paved pathways

- Project timeline moved to 2023 / 2024

New online purchase of Dog Tags

- Successful implementation of the new online dog tag registration was completed in 2021.

Ongoing training to create accessible documents for the website

- New staff member trained to make agenda items accessible for website.
I-Cloud permitting implemented by the Building Department to provide better public access to services.
Oxford County currently transitioning website data to new website platform. Additional staff training will be required upon implementation

Installation of self flushing toilets at the Norwich Community Centre / Arena

- Project dependent upon Trillium Resilient Communities Fund approval, which was not forthcoming

Installation of automatic doors at both entrances to the Blue Line Room at the NCC

- Project dependent upon Trillium Resilient Communities Fund approval, which was not forthcoming

Accessibililty during COVID-19 Pandemic

- The Municipal Office remained open with limited capacity whenever possible during the Pandemic, following recommended health and safety measures.
- Information about safety measures and Township protocols was conveyed using high contrast, large font signage and posted on the municipal website.
- When working remotely, municipal staff were provided with the technology and meeting software to allow for safe meeting options. These programs provide accessibility features such as closed captioning, adjustable font size for chat and captions, keyboard maneuverability and screen reader support
- Council meetings were held via teleconference which enabled anyone wishing to attend/participate a safe experience