

ACTION REQUEST – Corporate Services	
To:	Warden and Members of Council
Date of Meeting:	November 15, 2021
Subject:	SDG Multi-Year Accessibility Plan

RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT the Council of the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry adopt the SDG Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2021-2026, as presented.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* (AODA) outlines the requirement for municipalities to establish, maintain and document a Multi-Year Accessibility Plan to outline the organization's strategy to prevent and remove barriers. The purpose of the AODA is to develop, implement and enforce accessibility standards in order to achieve accessibility for Ontarians with disabilities and to improve opportunities for people with disabilities by providing for their involvement in the identification, removal and prevention of barriers in the Province.

The United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Multi-Year Accessibility Plan outlines our approach to being an inclusive and accessible service provider and workplace. The SDG Accessibility Advisory Committee met on October 27, 2021, to review and discuss the plan. The Committee is recommending that Council adopt the plan, as presented.

BACKGROUND:

The Multi-Year Accessibility Plan is based upon requirements under the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* (AODA). Under AODA, all municipalities have a legal obligation to prepare Multi-Year Accessibility Plans. The AODA sets out the roadmap for an accessible Ontario by 2025. The standards are contained in one regulation called the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation, also known as the IASR. Currently, the IASR contains standards in the following five (5) areas:

1. Customer Service;
2. Information and Communications;
3. Employment;
4. Transportation; and
5. Design of Public Spaces.

The SDG Accessibility Advisory Committee met to review and discuss the draft plan. The committee is recommending that Council adopt the plan, as presented. In order to ensure that the targets established to address the removal of barriers are completed, annual reviews of the plan will be conducted by County staff and the SDG Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Appendix 'A' of the plan includes the County's plan with respect to requirements under the *Ontarians with Disability Act*, the Integrated Accessibility Standard Regulation (IASR) and the Human Rights Code and will be updated as needed. Appendix 'B' summarizes the results of the review of the municipal facilities undertaken by municipal staff. Appendix 'B' will be reviewed and amended when reviews of additional facilities are completed, work is undertaken, or additional information regarding the implementation of the Built Environment regulations are obtained.

OPTIONS AND DISCUSSION:

1. The plan is mandated by provincial legislation. The only possible option would be to revise the plan to include a specific project or accomplishment.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS:

The targets set for completion in 2022 have a minimal financial impact. Other targets include staff time which will not have a direct impact on the budget.

LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT:

None

OTHERS CONSULTED:

County CAO and Directors
SDG Accessibility Advisory Committee

ATTACHMENTS:

SDG Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2021-2026

RECOMMENDED BY:



Kimberley Casselman
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk

APPROVED BY:



T.J. Simpson, CAO