



Date: July 14, 2025
To: Mayor and Council
Author: Natalie Sharp, Supervisor of Municipal Governance/Deputy Clerk
RE: Accessibility Advisory Committee Update

INFORMATION REPORT

BACKGROUND

The Province of Ontario proclaimed the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (the 'Act') on June 13, 2005. The purpose of the Act is to improve opportunities for people with disabilities and to provide for their involvement in the identification, removal and prevention of barriers. Under the Act, each municipality must establish an Accessibility Advisory Committee. The Kingsville Accessibility Advisory Committee (KAAC) acts in an advisory capacity and provides advice to the Town to help make public services and facilities accessible to everyone.

DISCUSSION

As part of the Kingsville Accessibility Advisory Committee's (KAAC) 2025 Work Plan, the Committee reviewed the site plan for the new Ridgeview Park Community Centre in Cottam. Architectural design plans were shared with the Committee in February for feedback and comments to address any potential barriers to accessibility. The Committee formally discussed the plans during two meetings in April and passed the following resolutions:

KAAC-06-20250409

Moved By: Phil Caruana
Seconded By: Jackie Barraco

That the following Accessibility Advisory Committee comments regarding the design plans for Ridgeview Park Community Centre be considered by Administration:

- a) An additional access to the site from the neighbourhood, as the current asphalt walkway is located at the far western edge of the property;

And that the Committee supports the overall proposed design plans for Ridgeview Park Community Centre, as they meet the accessibility requirements and standards set forth.

Carried.

KAAC-08-20250425

Moved By: Phil Caruana

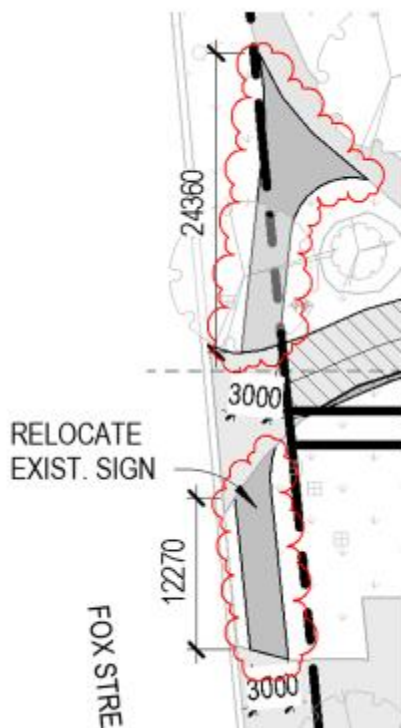
Seconded By: Jackie Barraco

That the following Accessibility Advisory Committee comments regarding the design plans for Ridgeview Park Community Centre be considered by Administration:

- a) An additional 8 ft wide curb drop handicap ramp positioned in front of the main entrance with bollards placed for security purposes
- b) Changing the front doors to automatic sliding doors.

Carried.

Administration reviewed these items with the Project Architect and Project Manager and the request for an additional access point was supported. The existing concrete sidewalk on Fox Street will be extended to connect to the asphalt pathway around the park. This will provide an at-grade additional entrance to the Centre from the sidewalk. The cost of the sidewalk extension will be covered under the approved project costs with no additional funding required. See sketch below for details of the pathway.



The request for an additional ramp positioned at the main entrance with bollards was also considered. However, the existing design currently includes a 6 foot wide accessible ramp adjacent to the accessible parking spaces. This provides direct access for individuals using the accessible parking spots, safely guiding them onto a sidewalk leading to the main entrance of the building. Installing an additional ramp at the main entrance would require individuals to cross or travel along the driveway creating a safety issue. There is currently a 10 foot wide sidewalk in front of the building and it is

raised 6 inches above the driveway to provide a safe separation for pedestrians without the need for bollards.

The request to change the style of doors to sliding doors was also considered. Currently, the architectural design of the building does not support the installation of sliding doors due to structural limitations. The current design features outward-swinging doors with an accessible push button. The doors are also made of glass, providing good visibility for individuals coming from the opposite direction. The doors also need to swing out to allow egress for exit doors. Additionally, concerns regarding building security influenced the decision to retain swing doors, as sliding doors can be pried open more easily.

Administration appreciates the feedback provided by the Accessibility Advisory Committee and looks forward to continued collaboration on future initiatives.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The extension of the sidewalk on Fox Street to connect with the existing asphalt pathway around the park will be funded through the project's approved contingency allowance.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

Not applicable.

CONSULTATIONS

Daniel Baughn, Engineering Tech
Tim Del Greco, Senior Manager, Capital Projects and Engineering

PREPARED BY:



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Supervisor of Municipal Governance/Deputy Clerk

REVIEWED BY:



Angela Toole
Manager of Municipal Governance/Acting Clerk

REVIEWED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Norton', written over a horizontal line.

John Norton
CAO