

Town of Accessibility Guidelines Project

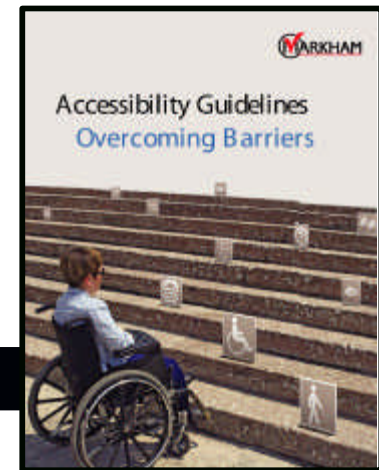


Presentation To:
Development Services
Committee - January 20th 2009

SPH PLANNING &
CONSULTING
CREATING INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENTS FOR ALL

R.E. MILLWARD
&
ASSOCIATES LTD

Agenda



- 1.0 Project Background & Overview**
- 2.0 Summary: Guideline Updates**
- 3.0 Summary: Project Timelines**
- 4.0 Next Steps & Discussion**

1.0 Project Background

Provincial Legislation

1. Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001 (ODA)

- Develop an annual **Accessibility Plan** - identify, remove and prevent barriers;
- Consult with people with disabilities on accessibility issues – e.g., via **Markham's Accessibility Advisory Committee on Accessibility (MACA)**;
- Make Accessibility Plan public.

2. Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA)

- Jointly develop “**Accessibility Standards**” – areas to cover customer service, **transportation, information & communications, built environment and employment.**
- Implement in stages of five years or less – make Ontario accessible by 2025.



1.0 Project Background

Town Initiatives

- **2006** – Led by Asset Management, SPH retained to update existing Accessibility Guidelines (*originally developed in 1998*).
- ✓ Referred to as Phase 1.
- ✓ Focus was on the “technical” criteria and information.
- ✓ Applied this criteria to existing facilities – Conducted Prioritized Accessibility Audits (Civic Centre & Milliken Mills CC).
- ✓ Held Consultation Meetings with Town Staff & Accessibility Advisory Committee.

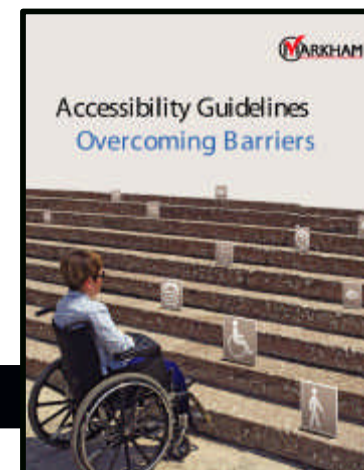


1.1 Project Overview

Now, Phase 2....

- ✓ Need to consider additional Guideline revisions & updates: Ensure all Town Departmental needs are met.
- ✓ Cover broader **planning, design, and development processes – implementation.**
- ✓ **Additional Consultation:** Technical Advisory Committee, Staff, Accessibility Advisory Committee, Development Services Committee.

1.2 Staff Consultation



Established Town Advisory Committee (TAC):

- ✓ With staff representation from key Departments and new Accessibility Coordinator.

Developed Staff Feedback Form:

- ✓ Distributed to Town Departments with a focus on obtaining additional staff input early in the project.

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MARKHAM

STAFF FEEDBACK FORM – DRAFT ONLY

MARKHAM ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES PROJECT – (PHASE 2)

Name of Department: _____

This feedback is intended to be anonymous. Please complete this feedback form under a **Secret Label** in **Insert Deadline**. Alternatively, forms can be placed in a drop-off box located at **Insert Location**.

1. What has been your experience with existing Guidelines (e.g., Joint Guidelines for Accessibility)? Have there been any issues that may relate to the new Guidelines and current implementation?

2. Do you have any suggestions on how to improve the Guidelines? Is there any missing information?

Staff Feedback Form – DRAFT ONLY 1

2.0 Summary: Guideline Updates



- New Layout and Organization
- New Graphics – completely updated
- Revised content and review of best practices
- Updates related to proposed AODA standards
- New sections include: Accessible Housing, Trails and Parks, Accessible Pedestrian Signals
- Implementation Checklists: e.g., Site Planning / Maintenance

2.1 Summary: Organization & Layout



- Organized Presentation of Information.
- Text reduced in some areas for clarity. Some new sections added.
- Hierarchy of text and headings: rationale, followed by technical criteria (e.g., dimensions).
- Photos combined with technical graphics: a focus on examples of best practices.

3.0 Summary: Project Timeline



- ✓ **May 2008:** Project Initiated
- ✓ **Summer 2008:** Staff / Committee Feedback
- ✓ **Fall 2008:** Project Meetings, Research and Guideline Development
- ✓ **December 2008:** Submission of Draft 1 for Staff Feedback
- **Jan / Feb / 2009:** Staff / Committee Feedback (Draft 1) and finalization of Guidelines
- **End of March 2009:** Final Guideline Submission, Presentation & Approval



4.0 Next Steps & Discussion

- Integrate Staff, Accessibility Committee and DSC Feedback
- Finish New Sections and Layout
- Develop Implementation Strategies and Linkages to Departmental Activities
- Develop and Submit Final Draft for Approval
- Final Presentation(s): Town Accessibility Advisory Committee and DSC

Thank – you! Questions?