

Authority: Infrastructure and Environment Committee Item IE23.7, adopted as amended by City of Toronto Council on July 23 and 24, 2025

City Council voted in favour of this by-law on October 9, 2025

Written approval of this by-law was given by Mayoral Decision 13-2025 dated October 9, 2025

CITY OF TORONTO

BY-LAW 1071-2025

To amend City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 743, Streets and Sidewalks, Use of to permit temporary ramps as permitted encroachments.

The Council of the City of Toronto enacts:

1. A. Section 743-1D of Municipal Code Chapter 743, Streets and Sidewalks, Use of, is amended by adding the following definitions, in alphabetical order:

MOVABLE - The characteristic of being easily lifted or moved by a person or two people without the use of equipment and not permanently affixed to the sidewalk or road.

PEDESTRIAN CLEARWAY - The zone or area of sidewalk that accommodates pedestrian movement.

TEMPORARY RAMP - A ramp which is movable, provides a sloped entrance from the sidewalk into a building entrance and is not considered a building projection.

B. Section 743-31 of Municipal Code Chapter 743, Streets and Sidewalks, Use of, is amended by adding the following:

“L. The placement of temporary ramps on a street are permitted encroachments and shall not require an agreement or the payment of any permit or encroachment fee, provided that the temporary ramp is maintained pursuant to Article V at the expense of the owner or occupier of land to which the temporary ramp is appurtenant and complies with the following conditions:

- (1) They do not obstruct pedestrian and vehicle sight lines;
- (2) They do not obstruct driveways, impede or pose a hazard or potential hazard to pedestrian or vehicle traffic;
- (3) They do not interfere with the City's ability to maintain the street in a state of good repair or to keep it free of litter, snow and ice;

- (4) They do not interfere with traffic control devices or the existing and future location and maintenance of sidewalks, bicycle trails, or utilities;
- (5) They are stable and have a slip-resistant surface with a high color contrast against the surrounding sidewalk and the entrance;
- (6) They have a slope only in the direction perpendicular to the step or the building entrance;
- (7) Their top edge is level with the step landing;
- (8) They must be brought inside after business hours at all times;
- (9) Temporary ramps must be designed in a manner that is identifiable by a person using a long white cane for wayfinding, including but not limited to having:
 - (a) a solid, enclosed base that provides a continuous surface along the sides of the ramp for a cane to tap or slide along for wayfinding, and
 - (b) no gaps or openings in which the tip of a cane could be lodged or entangled
- (10) They shall be properly maintained, free of debris, and stored safely indoors during adverse weather conditions;
- (11) They are movable and not affixed to the sidewalk, building or curb using screws, bolts, or any permanent materials;
- (12) Their placement maintains the required pedestrian clearway of 2.1 meters on an arterial road or a collector road and 1.8 meters on a local road and 2.5 metres on streets identified in Chapter 742, Appendix A, at all times;
- (13) The pedestrian clearway must remain free of any obstructions, including but not limited to, street furniture, utilities, or other physical features, and provide a clear and continuous path that is universally accessible, safe and comfortable passage for pedestrians, at all times;
- (14) They do not extend into the boulevard area fronting any neighbouring property when the common lot line is projected perpendicular to the road; and
- (15) They do not impede accessibility for persons with disabilities.

This section 743-31(L) does not apply to permanent access ramps constructed in accordance with section 743-34(A)(4)

C. Section 743-31 of Municipal Code Chapter 743, Streets and Sidewalks, Use of, is amended by deleting subsection 743-31J and adding:

J. Encroachments permitted under Subsections H, I and L shall be exempt from the requirement of Subsection D.

Enacted and passed on October 9, 2025.

Frances Nunziata,
Speaker

(Seal of the City)

John D. Elvidge,
City Clerk