
City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM5.16	ACTION			Ward:All
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Modernizing City By-Laws and Policies to Make Toronto More Accessible - by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Shelley Carroll

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Shelley Carroll, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the City Manager to work with City divisions and stakeholders, including the Disability Issues Committee, on updating the Accessibility Design Guidelines, and report back in the third quarter of 2015.
2. City Council direct the City Manager to work with City divisions to provide a summary list of City by-laws, policies, and protocols to be audited for alignment with standards for the built environment and design of public space under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and Building Code Act, by the second quarter of 2015. The summary list should also include projected timelines to undertake a review of City's by-laws, policies, and protocols to determine if updates are needed to support the City's priorities, including enhancing accessibility.
3. City Council direct the City Manager to report back on the need to undertake a City-wide review of by-laws, policies, and protocols for alignment with the areas of mandatory accessibility standards under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, including, but not limited to: Customer Service; Employment; Information and Communications; and Transportation.

Summary

For many people in Toronto, the City provides an abundance of opportunities and experiences free of limitations imposed upon them by the built environment. For Torontonians with disabilities, however, the built environment imposes numerous obstacles that limit their ability to moving about freely and safely without concern.

The City has made considerable progress in its efforts to remove barriers in the built environment including the 2004 release of the Accessibility Design Guidelines, a resource document of best practices. However, since its release in 2004, much has changed in the world of enhancing accessibility, including public and private sector requirements under the Province's Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act. It is critical that in addition to the updated Accessibility Design Guidelines, the City's by-laws, policies and procedures that impact the built environment also reflect the City's commitment to accessibility. An audit of relevant by-laws, policies and procedures to the built environment is one action of many to creating a barrier-free City.