

## **Supplementary Report on Temporary Ramps for Stepped Entrances - Amendments to Chapter 743**

**Date:** July 21, 2025

**To:** City Council

**From:** General Manager, Transportation Services

**Wards:** All Wards

### **SUMMARY**

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This supplementary report provides an update to the report titled, Temporary Ramps for Stepped Entrances - Amendments to Chapter 743 (Item IE23.7), which was adopted by the Infrastructure and Environment Committee (IEC) with amendment at its July 10, 2025, meeting. The report recommended amendments to Chapter 743 to allow the placement of temporary ramps as a permitted encroachment within the public right-of-way.

Since then, staff have received new input which prompted staff to identify clauses in the proposed by-law amendments to Chapter 743 which require updates that include:

- better clarity and consistency on pedestrian clearway language,
- changing a permissive clause to requirements regarding white cane detectability for the visually-impaired, which better explains what detectability entails and removes the use of traffic control devices and small frontage café and marketing displays as methods of cane-detectability, and
- removal of potential inconsistency or ambiguity regarding by-law requirements versus recommended practices.

The result is a revised Attachment 1 with Chapter 743 by-law amendments, as well as an updated user-friendly guide in Attachment 2 that aligns with and accompanies the proposed by-law amendments. These Attachments 1 and 2 to this report are to replace the previous Attachments to the report from June 25, 2025, on temporary ramps. No substantive changes have been made to the proposals in the report from June 25, 2025, on temporary ramps from the General Manager, Transportation Services.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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The General Manager, Transportation Services, recommends that:

1. City Council amend Infrastructure and Environment Committee Recommendation 1 by deleting the words “Attachment 1 to the report (June 25, 2025) from the General Manager, Transportation Services” and replacing with the words “Attachment 1 to the supplementary report (July 21, 2025) by the General Manager, Transportation Services” so that Recommendation 1 now reads as follows:

1. City Council amend City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 743, Street and Sidewalks, Use Of, to permit temporary ramps as permitted encroachments, generally as set out in Attachment 1 to the supplementary report (July 21, 2025) from the General Manager, Transportation Services.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

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There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

## **DECISION HISTORY**

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At its meeting on July 10th, 2025, the Infrastructure and Environment Committee adopted Item - 2025.IE23.7 on Temporary Ramps for Stepped Entrances - Amendments to Chapter 743 with amendments. [Agenda Item History - 2025.IE23.7 \(toronto.ca\)](#).

## **COMMENTS**

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A report was submitted to Infrastructure and Environment Committee on July 10th, 2025, that recommends amendments to Chapter 743 to allow the placement of temporary ramps as a permitted encroachment within the public right-of-way.

Since that report was published, new input was received which has prompted staff to identify clauses in the proposed by-law amendments to Chapter 743 which require updates that include:

- better clarity and consistency on pedestrian clearway language,
- changing a permissive clause to requirements regarding white cane detectability for the visually-impaired, which better explains what detectability entails and removes the use of traffic control devices and small frontage café and marketing displays as methods of cane-detectability, and
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Transportation Services on temporary ramps. No substantive changes have been made to the proposals in that report.

These changes retain the spirit and intention of the previous language while giving better direction and guidance to owners of temporary ramps. The proposed amendments aim to balance the need for improved accessibility with the need to maintain pedestrian clearways and provide ramp features detectable by white canes. Attachment 2 which has also been updated serves as a user-friendly, illustrated guide to key parts of the by-law on temporary ramps and is intended to help raise awareness for businesses and the public.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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Barbara Gray  
General Manager, Transportation Services

## **ATTACHMENTS**

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Attachment 1: Amendments to Chapter 743 of the Toronto Municipal Code to allow temporary ramps as a permitted encroachment within the public right-of-way

Attachment 2: User-Friendly Guide to the Rules for Temporary Ramps on City's Sidewalks