

Access to Social Infrastructure – Bylaw Implementation Update

**Presentation to the Confronting Anti-Black Racism
Advisory Committee**

November 25, 2025



Purpose

- City staff are providing an update to the Confronting Anti-Black Racism Advisory Committee (CABRAC) regarding the implementation of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 473 (Streets and Sidewalks, Use of), Article XII (Access to Social Infrastructure).
- City staff presented to CABRAC at its June 5th meeting on upcoming changes impacting access to social infrastructure. CABRAC invited staff to come back to the advisory committee and present an update on the implementation of the bylaw.

CABRAC Invitation

On June 9, 2025, the Confronting Anti-Black Racism Advisory Committee:

1. Requested the Confronting Anti-Black Racism Unit, Social Development invite the City Manager's Office to present an update on the Access to Social Infrastructure by-law implementation by Q4 2025. The presentation should include the following:
 - a. an overview of the implementation plan, including staff resources;
 - b. equity implications and strategies to prevent harm to Indigenous, Black and other equity-deserving communities affected; and
 - c. the monitoring and reporting plans on the use and impact of the by-law.



Implementation Update

Bylaw Implementation

- The City began accepting requests for Access Areas July 2, 2025 when the bylaw came into effect. City staff have worked on implementation activities and operational planning to administer the bylaw.
- The City's Transportation Services division is responsible for the operational delivery of the bylaw, including receiving and processing Access Area requests and responding to service requests, including bylaw enforcement when necessary.
- Transportation Services has a staff complement of 62 Transportation Standards Officers (TSOs) who work to ensure compliance with City bylaws related to the public right-of-way.
 - Four TSOs support the Access Area work.

Communications

- An ongoing public education and communications plan is being conducted to ensure the public is aware of and understands the new regulations, including community-focused communication.
- A dedicated City webpage was launched on July 2 with information about the bylaw and Access Area requests: toronto.ca/AccessArea
- Staff have informed community groups and organizations that participated in the public consultation about the bylaw coming into effect and the new website.
- Staff will continue to explore further communications opportunities that may be needed to support public and community awareness of the amended bylaw and its provisions.

Engagement to Support Equity Considerations

- Staff presented to the Confronting Anti-Black Racism Advisory Committee in June and the Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Advisory Committee in October regarding changes impacting access to social infrastructure and to seek advice on additional ways to engage and communicate with the communities these committees represent.
- Staff also presented to the Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee in July to provide an overview of changes regarding access to social infrastructure for informational purposes.
- In consultation with divisional equity subject matter experts and in accordance with City data and privacy obligations related to data collection, the City is committed to continuing engaging with communities to better understand and respond to experiences and issues regarding the bylaw's implementation.

Monitoring and Reporting

- Staff are monitoring the implementation of the bylaw and look to real-time scenarios and experiences as an opportunity to understand its impacts and respond to emerging needs where necessary.
- Staff are tracking the number of Access Area requests, established Access Areas, service requests and bylaw infractions.
- As of October 30, 2025, there have been 47 Access Areas established. The City has received five service requests related to the bylaw since it came into effect July 2, 2025, which have been related to clarifications of established Access Areas, all of which have been responded to.
- Information may also be publicly available on the City's website at: toronto.ca/AccessArea



Thank you



Appendix

Council Direction

- At its December 2024 meeting ([2024.CC24.2](#)), City Council directed the City Manager, in consultation with the City Solicitor, applicable City divisions, the Toronto Police Service and other applicable stakeholders, to report to City Council in the first quarter of 2025, informed by public consultations and a constitutional legal expert opinion on the Charter Rights implications from the City Solicitor, with a proposed by-law, with an emphasis on protecting vulnerable institutions such as places of worship, faith-based schools and cultural institutions, that supports the City's commitment to keeping Torontonians safe from hate and protects Charter rights that address impacts of demonstrations that target people based on their identity as prohibited under the Ontario Human Rights Code.

Council Decision

- In May 2025, City staff reported back to Council with a proposed bylaw amendment.
- At its meeting on May 22, 2025, City Council voted on several amendments to the staff-proposed bylaw and adopted an amended bylaw ([2025.CC30.5](#)).
- The City's Streets and Sidewalks Bylaw was amended to include an article on Access to Social Infrastructure, which came into effect on July 2, 2025.