



Committee of the Whole

Meeting Date: December 10, 2024

Submitted by: Rebecca Glavin, Deputy Clerk

Subject: 2024 Joint Annual Accessibility Status Report

BACKGROUND:

Middlesex County and its constituent municipalities are required to collaboratively prepare an annual accessibility status report on the progress of measures taken to implement the goals outlined in the [Joint Multi-Year Accessibility Plan](#). Additionally, the report must be posted on the County and constituent municipalities websites, per the [Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation](#) (IASR) requirements.

The Joint Annual Accessibility Status Report is completed collaboratively by Middlesex County and its constituent municipalities. This reduces the number of cumulative resources allocated to fulfilling this requirement. The Joint Annual Accessibility Status Report provides the public and municipal employees a better understanding of all the accessibility projects and initiatives happening across Middlesex County.

The Joint Annual Accessibility Status Report for 2024 was approved by the Middlesex Accessibility Advisory Committee on November 20, 2024.

As outlined in the attached 2024 Joint Annual Accessibility Status Report, the County of Middlesex and its constituent municipalities will continue to identify, remove and prevent barriers to people with disabilities. These efforts will continue to be communicated through the Joint Multi-Year Accessibility Plan and affiliated Joint Annual Accessibility Status Reports.

Completion of the Joint Annual Accessibility Status Report and posting it online for the public to access is a legislative requirement and is reported in the Accessibility Compliance Report.

ANALYSIS:

Over the 5-year period, on an annual basis, the County and its constituent municipalities are required to provide an update to County Council on the progress made towards obtaining the goals outlined in the Joint Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (2022-2027).




The attached report outlines the measures taken to ensure compliance with the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)* and IASR. It details the initiatives undertaken by the County and its constituent municipalities in 2024 to identify, remove and prevent barriers.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC FOCUS:

This report aligns with the following Strategic Focus, Goals, or Objectives:

Strategic Focus	Goals	Objectives
<p>Cultivating Community Vitality</p> 	<p>Advance a diverse, healthy, and engaged community across Middlesex County</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promote and support community wellness• Innovate social and community services• Attract, retain, and engage youth in our community
<p>Strengthening Our Economy</p> 	<p>Encourage a diverse and robust economic base throughout the county</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support opportunities to create a stronger and sustainable agricultural sector• Create an environment that enables the attraction and retention of businesses, talent, and investments• Attract visitors to Middlesex County• Support the development and prosperity of downtown core areas in Middlesex County
<p>Promoting Service Excellence</p> 	<p>Innovate and transform municipal service delivery</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anticipate and align municipal service delivery to emerging needs and expectations• Engage, educate and inform residents, businesses, and visitors of county services and community activities• Build organizational capacity and capabilities

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the 2024 Joint Annual Accessibility Status Report be received for information;

AND THAT the 2024 Joint Annual Accessibility Status Report be approved and posted on the Middlesex County website.