



Corporate Policy

1. Administration

01.3 Accessible Public Spaces Policy

Approved by:	Council	on	April 11, 2016
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Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to set out the requirements of the Design of Public Spaces Standard of Ontario Regulation 191/11 – Integrated Accessibility Standards (IASR).

This document will be made publicly available and will be provided in an accessible format upon request, as soon as is practicable. This policy is not intended to replace or supersede the Township of Warwick Integrated Accessibility Standards Policy.

Should there be a conflict between this policy and the Design of Public Spaces Standards, the Standard shall prevail.

Policy Statement:

The Township of Warwick is committed to providing equal treatment to people with disabilities with respect to the use and benefit of Township services, programs, goods and facilities in a manner that respects their dignity and independence. This commitment extends to residents, visitors and employees with visible or non-visible disabilities.

Scope:

This policy shall be followed when building new public spaces or when redeveloping existing public spaces. More specifically, this policy applies to:

1. Recreational trails

2. Beach access routes
3. Outdoor public use eating areas
4. Outdoor play spaces
5. Exterior paths of travel (such as sidewalks)
6. Accessible parking
7. Obtaining services (such as service counters)
8. Maintenance

Definitions:

For the purpose of this policy, unless otherwise stated, the following definitions shall apply:

Term	Definition
Amenities	Are objects placed in public spaces that provide a convenience or services. Examples include but are not limited to drinking fountains, benches and garbage containers.
Beach access routes	Are routes intended to help people get to a beach area but do not include the beach area itself. They are often constructed pathways that provide access from a parking lot, a recreational trail, a sidewalk or walkway, or an amenity.
Bevel	Means a small slope cut into a right angle that helps mobility devices to cross a small elevation change.
Cross slope	Means the slope of a surface that is at a right angle to the direction of travel.

Consultation	Means the manner in which the Township of Warwick will solicit opinions or feedback from people with disabilities, organizations and members of the public. This consultation could include correspondence with community groups, advertisement on the Township website or newsletter, notice of a Council meeting open to the public or other such method intended to involve members of the public in the decision-making process.
Environmental mitigation	Means activities that are intended to address any negative effects on the environment caused by the Design of Public Spaces Standard, such as constructing a recreational trail, walkway, play space or parking lot.
In-line ramp	Means a ramp that does not change direction.
Maintenance	Means activities that are intended to keep existing public spaces in good working order. Maintenance can also restore the space or element back to its original condition. Maintenance work could include painting and minor repairs.
Off-street parking facilities	Are designated areas where vehicles can be parked on a temporary basis, whether or not there is a charge for parking. This includes open area parking lots and structures, such as visitor parking spaces in lots, or multi-storey parking garages at shopping centres.
On-street parking	Means designated spaces where vehicles can be parked on a temporary basis, located on a public highway, street, avenue, parkway or similar type of road. On-street parking spaces often provide direct access to shops, offices and other facilities.
Recreational trails	Means public trails intended to allow pedestrians to participate in recreation and leisure activities, such as walking through parks, using playgrounds, or enjoying nature.

Redeveloped	Means a planned significant alteration to a public space. It does not include maintenance activities, environmental mitigation or environmental restoration. For clarification purposes, the Township of Warwick will consider redevelopment to be any alteration of more than 60% of an existing public space.
Rest area	Is a dedicated space on a recreational trail or exterior path of travel intended for public use that allows a person to stop and rest.
Running slope	Means the slope of a surface that is parallel to the direction of travel.
Species at risk	Means species identified on the Species at Risk in Ontario List under the Endangered Species Act, 2007 to protect areas where construction may damage the environment.
Vibro-tactile walk indicators	Are push-button signal devices at pedestrian crossings. They vibrate and communicate the walk cycle through the sense of touch.

Principles:

When considering the construction or redevelopment of a public space, the following items will be considered, in accordance with the requirements of the Design of Public Spaces Standard.

1. RECREATIONAL TRAILS

Recreational trails refer to any newly constructed or redeveloped recreational trails that the Township of Warwick intends to maintain, but it does not apply to the following types of recreational trails:

1. Trails solely intended for cross-country skiing, mountain biking or the use of motorized snow vehicles or off-road vehicles;
2. Wilderness trails, backcountry trails and portage routes.

1.1. Consultation Requirements

The Township of Warwick is required to consult with the public and persons with disabilities before undertaking the construction or redevelopment of recreational trails. More specifically, the Township must consult on the following:

1. The slope of the trail;
2. The need for, and location of, ramps on the trail;
3. The need for, location and design of rest areas, passing areas, viewing areas, amenities on the trail and any other pertinent feature.

1.2. Technical Requirements

The Township of Warwick shall ensure that any recreational trails will be constructed or redeveloped with the following technical specifications:

1. The recreational trail must have a minimum clear width of 1,000 mm;
2. The recreational trail must have a clear height that provides a minimum head room clearance of 2,100 mm above the trail;
3. The surface of the recreational trail must be firm and stable;
4. Where the recreational trail has openings in its surface
 - a. The openings must not allow passage of an object that has a diameter of more than 20 mm; and
 - b. Any elongated openings must be orientated approximately perpendicular to the direction of travel.
5. Where the recreational trail is constructed adjacent to water or a drop-off, the trail must have edge protection that meets the following requirements:
 - a. The edge protection must constitute an elevated barrier that runs along the edge of the recreational trail in order to prevent users of the trail from slipping over the edge;
 - b. The top of the edge protection must be at least 50 mm above the trail surface; and
 - c. The edge protection must be designed so as not to impede the drainage of the trail surface.

6. If there is a protective barrier that runs along the edge of the recreational trail that is adjacent to water or a drop-off, edge protection does not have to be provided.
7. The entrance to a recreation trail must provide a clear opening of between 850 mm and 1,000 mm, whether the entrance includes a gate, bollard or other entrance design.
8. The recreational trail must have at each trail head signage that provides the following information:
 - a. The length of the trail;
 - b. The type of surface of which the trail is constructed;
 - c. The average and the minimum trail width;
 - d. The average and maximum running slope; and
 - e. The location of amenities, where provided.
9. The signage must have text that has high tonal contrast with its background in order to assist with visual recognition and includes characters that use a sans serif font.
10. Where other media, such as the Township website or brochures are used to provide information about the recreational trail (beyond advertising, notice or promotion), the media must provide the same information as listed on the trail head signage.
11. Where the recreational trail is equipped with a boardwalk, the boardwalk must meet the following requirements:
 - a. The boardwalk must have a minimum clear width of 1,000 mm;
 - b. The boardwalk must have a clear height that provides a minimum headroom clearance of 2,100 mm above the boardwalk;
 - c. The surface of the boardwalk must be firm and stable;
 - d. The boardwalk must not have any openings in the surface that allow the passage of an object that has a diameter of more than 20 mm;
 - e. The boardwalk must have edge protection that is at least 50 mm in height; and

- f. If the boardwalk has running slopes that are steeper than 1:20, the running slopes must meet the requirements for ramps set out in Section 12 below.
12. Where the recreational trail is equipped with a ramp, the ramp must meet the following requirements:
- a. The ramp must have a minimum clear width of 900 mm;
 - b. The ramp must have a clear height that provides a minimum headroom clearance of 2,100 mm above the ramp;
 - c. The surface of the ramp must be firm and stable;
 - d. The ramp must have a maximum running slope of no more than 1:10;
 - e. The ramp must be provided with landings that meet the following requirements:
 - i. Landings must be provided at the top and bottom of the ramp, where there is an abrupt change in the direction of the ramp and at horizontal intervals not greater than 9 m apart;
 - ii. Landings must be a minimum of 1,670 mm by 1,670 mm at the top and bottom of the ramp and where there is an abrupt change in direction of the ramp;
 - iii. Landings must be a minimum of 1,670 mm in length and at least the same width of the ramp for an in-line ramp; and
 - iv. Landings must have a cross slope that is not steeper than 1:50.
 - f. The ramp must not have any openings in the surface that allow the passage of an object that has a diameter of more than 20 mm;
 - g. The ramp must be equipped with handrails on both sides of the ramp and the handrails must
 - i. Be continuously graspable along their entire length and have circular cross-section with an outside diameter not less than 30 mm and not more than 40 mm, or any non-circular shape with a graspable portion that has a perimeter not less than 100 mm and not more than 155 mm and whose largest cross-sectional dimension is not more than 57 mm;

- ii. Be not less than 865 mm and not more than 965 mm high, measured vertically from the surface of the ramp, except that handrails not meeting these requirements are permitted if they are installed in addition to the required handrail;
 - iii. Terminate in a manner that will not obstruct pedestrian travel or create a hazard;
 - iv. Extend horizontally not less than 300 mm beyond the top and bottom of the ramp; and
 - v. Be provided with a clearance of not less than 50 mm between the handrail and any wall to which it is attached.
- h. Where the ramp is more than 2,200 mm in width
 - i. One or more intermediate handrails which are continuous between landings must be provided and located so that there is no more than 1,650 mm between handrails; and
 - ii. The handrails must meet the requirements set out in Section 12 g) above.
- i. The ramp must have a wall or guard on both sides and where a guard is provided, it must
 - i. Be not less than 1,070 mm measured vertically to the top of the guard from the ramp surface; and
 - ii. Be designed so that no member, attachment or opening located between 140 mm and 900 mm above the ramp surface being protection by the guard will facilitate climbing.
- j. The ramp must have edge protection that is provided
 - i. With a curb at least 50 mm high on any side of the ramp where no solid enclosure or solid guard is provided; or
 - ii. With railings or other barriers that extend to within 50 mm of the finished ramp surface.

1.3. Exceptions to the Requirements

An exception to the requirements for recreational trails is permitted where the Township of Warwick can demonstrate one or more of the following:

1. The requirements, or some of them, would likely affect the cultural heritage value or interest of a property identified, designated or otherwise protected under the Ontario Heritage Act as being of cultural heritage value or interest;
2. The requirements, or some of them, would affect the preservation of places set apart as National Historic Sites of Canada by the Minister of the Environment for Canada under the Canada National Parks Act;
3. The requirements, or some of them, would affect the national historic interest or significance of historic places marked or commemorated under the Historic Sites and Monuments Act;
4. The requirements, or some of them, might damage, directly or indirectly, the cultural heritage or natural heritage on a property included in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's World Heritage List of site under the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage;
5. There is a significant risk that the requirements, or some of them, would adversely affect water, fish, wildlife, plants, invertebrates, species at risk, ecological integrity or natural heritage values, whether the adverse effects are direct or indirect; or
6. It is not practicable to comply with the requirements, or some of them, because existing physical or site constraints prohibit modification or addition of elements, spaces or features, such as where surrounding rocks bordering the recreational trail impede achieving the required clear width.

It is important to note that if an exception is permitted, it applies solely:

1. To the particular requirement for which the exception is allowed and not to any other requirements that applies to the recreational trail; and
2. To the portion of the recreational trail for which it is claimed and not to the recreational trail in its entirety.

2. BEACH ACCESS ROUTES

Beach access routes refer to any newly constructed or redeveloped beach access routes that the Township of Warwick intends to maintain, including permanent and

temporary routes, and temporary routes that are established through the use of manufactured goods, which can be removed for the winter months.

2.1. Consultation Requirements

Consultation on beach access routes is not required.

2.2. Technical Requirements

The Township of Warwick shall ensure that any beach access routes will be constructed or redeveloped with the following technical specifications:

1. The beach access route must have a minimum clear width of 1,000 mm;
2. The beach access route must have a clear height that provides a minimum head room clearance of 2,100 mm above the beach access route;
3. The surface of the beach access route must be firm and stable;
4. Where the surface areas of the beach access route is constructed, that is where the surface area is not natural, the surface area must meeting the following requirements:
 - a. The maximum cross slope of the beach access route must be no more than 1:50;
 - b. The surface area must have a 1:2 bevel at changes in level between 6 mm and 13 mm;
 - c. The surface area must have a maximum running slope of 1:10 at changes in level between 14 mm and 200 mm;
 - d. The surface area must have a ramp that meets the requirements of Section 9 below where there are changes in level greater than 200 mm;
 - e. Any openings in the surface of the beach access route must not allow passage of an object with a diameter of more than 20 mm;
 - f. Any elongated openings in the beach access route must be oriented approximately perpendicular to the direction of travel.
5. The maximum cross slope of the beach access route where the surface is not constructed must be the minimum slope required for drainage;
6. The maximum running slope of the beach access route is 1:10;

7. The entrance to the beach access route must have a minimum clear opening of 1,000 mm, whether the entrance includes a gate, bollard or other entrance design.
8. Where the beach access route is equipped with a boardwalk, the boardwalk must meeting the following requirements:
 - a. The boardwalk must have a minimum clear width of 1,000 mm;
 - b. The boardwalk must have a clear height that provides a minimum headroom clearance of 2,100 mm above the boardwalk;
 - c. The surface of the boardwalk must be firm and stable;
 - d. The boardwalk must not have any openings in the surface that allow the passage of an object that has a diameter of more than 20 mm;
 - e. The boardwalk must have edge protection that is at least 50 mm in height; and
 - f. If the boardwalk has running slopes that are steeper than 1:20, the running slopes must meet the requirements for ramps set out in Section 9 below.
9. Where the beach access route is equipped with a ramp, the ramp must meet the following requirements:
 - a. The ramp must have a minimum clear width of 900 mm;
 - b. The ramp must have a clear height that provides a minimum headroom clearance of 2,100 mm above the ramp;
 - c. The surface of the ramp must be firm and stable;
 - d. The ramp must have a maximum running slope of no more than 1:10;
 - e. The ramp must be provided with landings that meet the following requirements:
 - i. Landings must be provided at the top and bottom of the ramp, where there is an abrupt change in the direction of the ramp and at horizontal intervals not greater than 9 m apart;

- ii. Landings must be a minimum of 1,670 mm by 1,670 mm at the top and bottom of the ramp and where there is an abrupt change in direction of the ramp;
 - iii. Landings must be a minimum of 1,670 mm in length and at least the same width of the ramp for an in-line ramp; and
 - iv. Landings must have a cross slope that is not steeper than 1:50.
- f. The ramp must not have any openings in the surface that allow the passage of an object that has a diameter of more than 20 mm;
- g. The ramp must be equipped with handrails on both sides of the ramp and the handrails must
 - i. Be continuously graspable along their entire length and have circular cross-section with an outside diameter not less than 30 mm and not more than 40 mm, or any non-circular shape with a graspable portion that has a perimeter not less than 100 mm and not more than 155 mm and whose largest cross-sectional dimension is not more than 57 mm;
 - ii. Be not less than 865 mm and not more than 965 mm high, measured vertically from the surface of the ramp, except that handrails not meeting these requirements are permitted if they are installed in addition to the required handrail;
 - iii. Terminate in a manner that will not obstruct pedestrian travel or create a hazard;
 - iv. Extend horizontally not less than 300 mm beyond the top and bottom of the ramp; and
 - v. Be provided with a clearance of not less than 50 mm between the handrail and any wall to which it is attached.
- h. Where the ramp is more than 2,200 mm in width
 - i. One or more intermediate handrails which are continuous between landings must be provided and located so that there is no more than 1,650 mm between handrails; and

- ii. The handrails must meet the requirements set out in Section 9 g) above.
- i. The ramp must have a wall or guard on both sides and where a guard is provided, it must
 - i. Be not less than 1,070 mm measured vertically to the top of the guard from the ramp surface; and
 - ii. Be designed so that no member, attachment or opening located between 140 mm and 900 mm above the ramp surface being protection by the guard will facilitate climbing.
- j. The ramp must have edge protection that is provided
 - i. With a curb at least 50 mm high on any side of the ramp where no solid enclosure or solid guard is provided; or
 - ii. With railing or other barriers that extend to within 50 mm of the finished ramp surface.

2.3. Exceptions to the Requirements

An exception to the requirements for beach access routes is permitted where the Township of Warwick can demonstrate one or more of the following:

1. The requirements, or some of them, would likely affect the cultural heritage value or interest of a property identified, designated or otherwise protected under the Ontario Heritage Act as being of cultural heritage value or interest;
2. The requirements, or some of them, would affect the preservation of places set apart as National Historic Sites of Canada by the Minister of the Environment for Canada under the Canada National Parks Act;
3. The requirements, or some of them, would affect the national historic interest or significance of historic places marked or commemorated under the Historic Sites and Monuments Act;
4. The requirements, or some of them, might damage, directly or indirectly, the cultural heritage or natural heritage on a property included in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organizations' World Heritage List of site under the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage;

5. There is a significant risk that the requirements, or some of them, would adversely affect water, fish, wildlife, plants, invertebrates, species at risk, ecological integrity or natural heritage values, whether the adverse effects are direct or indirect; or
6. It is not practicable to comply with the requirements, or some of them, because existing physical or site constraints prohibit modification or addition of elements, spaces or features, such as where surrounding rocks bordering the recreational trail impede achieving the required clear width.

It is important to note that if an exception is permitted, it applies solely:

1. To the particular requirement for which the exception is allowed and not to any other requirements that applies to the beach access route; and
2. To the portion of the beach access route for which it is claimed and not to the beach access route in its entirety.

3. OUTDOOR PUBLIC USE EATING AREAS

Outdoor public use eating areas refers to any newly constructed or redeveloped areas that the Township of Warwick intends to maintain that consist of tables that are found in public areas, such as in public parks, and are specifically intended for use by the public as a place to consume food.

3.1. Consultation Requirements

Consultation on outdoor public use eating areas is not required.

3.2. Technical Requirements

The Township of Warwick shall ensure that any outdoor public use eating area will be constructed or redeveloped with the following technical specifications:

1. A minimum of 20% of the tables that are provided must be accessible to persons using mobility aids by having knee and toe clearance underneath the table and in no case shall there be fewer than one table in an outdoor public use eating area that meets this requirement;
2. The ground surface leading to and under tables that are accessible to persons using mobility aids must be level, firm and stable; and
3. Tables that are accessible to persons using mobility aids must have clear ground space around them that allows for a forward approach to the tables.

3.3. Exceptions to the Requirements

There are no exceptions allowed for the requirements related to outdoor public use eating areas.

4. OUTDOOR PLAY SPACES

Outdoor play spaces refers to any newly constructed or redeveloped play spaces that the Township of Warwick intends to maintain that consist of an area that includes play equipment, such as swings, or features such as logs, rocks, sand or water, where the equipment or features are designed and placed to provide play opportunities and experiences for children and caregivers.

4.1. Consultation Requirements

The Township of Warwick is required to consult on the needs of children and caregivers with various disabilities before constructing new or redeveloping existing outdoor play spaces.

4.2. Technical Requirements

The Township of Warwick shall ensure that any outdoor play spaces will be constructed or redeveloped with the following technical specifications:

1. The outdoor play space must include accessibility features such as sensory and active play components for children and caregivers with various disabilities; and
2. The outdoor play space must have a ground surface that is firm, stable and has impact attenuating properties for injury prevention and sufficient clearance to provide children and caregivers with various disabilities the ability to move through, in and around the outdoor play space.

4.3. Exceptions to the Requirements

There are no exceptions allowed for the requirements related to outdoor play spaces.

5. EXTERIOR PATHS OF TRAVEL

Exterior paths of travel refer to any newly constructed or redeveloped exterior paths of travel that are outdoor sidewalks or walkways designed and constructed for pedestrian travel and are intended to serve a functional purpose and not to provide a recreational experience. This does not apply to paths of travel regulated under the Ontario Building Code.

5.1. Consultation Requirements

The Township of Warwick is required to consult with the public and persons with disabilities before undertaking the construction or redevelopment of exterior paths of travel. More specifically, the Township must consult on the following:

1. The design and placement of rest areas along the exterior path of travel.

5.2. Technical Requirements

The Township of Warwick shall ensure that any exterior path of travel will be constructed or redeveloped with the following technical specifications:

1. The exterior path must have a minimum clear width of 1,500 mm, however this clear width can be reduced to 1,200 mm to serve as a turning space where the exterior path connects with a curb ramp;
2. Where the headroom clearance is less than 2,100 mm over the portion of the exterior path, a rail or other barrier with a leading edge that is cane detectable must be provided around the object that is obstructing the headroom clearance;
3. The surface of the exterior path must be firm, stable and slip resistant;
4. Where the exterior path has openings in its surface,
 - a. The openings must not allow passage of an object that has a diameter of more than 20 mm; and
 - b. Any elongated openings must be oriented approximately perpendicular to the direction of travel.
5. The maximum running slope of the exterior path must be no more than 1:20, however where the exterior path is a sidewalk, it can have a slope greater than 1:20 but it cannot be steeper than the slope of the adjacent roadway;
6. The maximum cross slope of the exterior path must be no more than 1:20 where the surface is asphalt, concrete or some other hard surface, or no more than 1:10 in all other cases;
7. The exterior path must meeting the following requirements:
 - a. It must have a 1:2 bevel at changes in level between 6 mm and 13 mm;
 - b. It must have a maximum running slope of 1:8 or a curb ramp that meets the requirement of Section 11 below at changes in level of greater than 13 mm and less than 75 mm;

- c. It must have a maximum running slope of 1:10 or a curb ramp that meets the requirements of Section 11 below at changes in level of 75 mm or greater and 200 mm or less;
 - d. It must have a ramp that meets the requirements of Section 9 below and changes in level of greater than 200 mm.
- 8. The entrance to the exterior path must provide a minimum clear opening of 850 mm, whether the entrance includes a gate, bollard or other entrance design;
- 9. Where the exterior path is equipped with a ramp, the ramp must meet the following requirements:
 - a. The ramp must have a minimum clear width of 900 mm;
 - b. The surface of the ramp must be firm, stable and slip-resistant;
 - c. The ramp must have a maximum running slope of no more than 1:15;
 - d. The ramp must be provided with landings that meet the following requirements:
 - i. Landings must be provided at the top and bottom of the ramp, where there is an abrupt change in the direction of the ramp and at horizontal intervals not greater than 9 m apart;
 - ii. Landings must be a minimum of 1,670 mm by 1,670 mm at the top and bottom of the ramp and where there is an abrupt change in direction of the ramp;
 - iii. Landings must be a minimum of 1,670 mm in length and at least the same width of the ramp for an in-line ramp; and
 - iv. Landings must have a cross slope that is not steeper than 1:50.
 - e. Where a ramp has openings in its surface
 - i. The openings must not allow passage of an object that has a diameter of more than 20 mm; and
 - ii. Any elongated openings must be oriented approximately perpendicular to the direction of travel.

- f. The ramp must be equipped with handrails on both sides of the ramp and the handrails must
 - i. Be continuously graspable along their entire length and have circular cross-section with an outside diameter not less than 30 mm and not more than 40 mm, or any non-circular shape with a graspable portion that has a perimeter not less than 100 mm and not more than 155 mm and whose largest cross-sectional dimension is not more than 57 mm;
 - ii. Be not less than 865 mm and not more than 965 mm high, measured vertically from the surface of the ramp, except that handrails not meeting these requirements are permitted if they are installed in addition to the required handrail;
 - iii. Terminate in a manner that will not obstruct pedestrian travel or create a hazard;
 - iv. Extend horizontally not less than 300 mm beyond the top and bottom of the ramp;
 - v. Be provided with a clearance of not less than 50 mm between the handrail and any wall to which it is attached; and
 - vi. Be designed and constructed such that handrails and their supports will withstand the loading values obtained from the non-concurrent application of a concentrated load not less than 0.9 kN applied at any point and in any direction for all handrails and a uniform load not less than 0.7 kN/m applied in any direction to the handrail.
- g. Where the ramp is more than 2,200 mm in width
 - i. One or more intermediate handrails which are continuous between landings must be provided and located so that there is no more than 1,650 mm between handrails; and
 - ii. The handrails must meet the requirements set out in Section 9 f) above.
- h. The ramp must have a wall or guard on both sides and where a guard is provided, it must

- i. Be not less than 1,070 mm measured vertically to the top of the guard from the ramp surface; and
 - ii. Be designed so that no member, attachment or opening located between 140 mm and 900 mm above the ramp surface being protection by the guard will facilitate climbing.
 - i. The ramp must have edge protection that is provided
 - i. With a curb at least 50 mm high on any side of the ramp where no solid enclosure or solid guard is provided; or
 - ii. With railing or other barriers that extend to within 50 mm of the finished ramp surface.
10. Where stairs connect to the exterior path, the stairs must meet the following requirements:
- a. The surface of the treads must have a finish that is slip resistant;
 - b. Stairs must have uniform risers and runs in any one flight;
 - c. The rise between successive treads must be between 125 mm and 180 mm;
 - d. The run between successive steps must be between 280 mm and 355 mm;
 - e. Stairs must have closed risers;
 - f. The maximum nosing projection on a tread must be no more than 38 mm, with no abrupt undersides;
 - g. Stairs must have high tonal contrast markings that extend the full tread width of the leading edge of each step;
 - h. Stairs must be equipped with tactile walking surface indicators that are built in or applied to the walking surface, and the tactile walking surface indicators must
 - i. Have raised tactile profiles;
 - ii. Have a high tonal contrast with the adjacent surface;

- iii. Be located at the top of all flights of stairs; and
 - iv. Extend the full tread width to a minimum depth of 610 mm commencing one tread depth from the edge of the stair.
 - i. Handrails must be included on both sides of the stairs and must satisfy the requirements set out in Section 9 f) above.
 - j. A guard must be provided that is not less than 920 mm, measured vertically to the top of the guard from a line drawn through the outside edges of the stair nosings and 1,070 mm around the landings and is required on each side of a stairway where the difference in elevation between ground level and the top of the stair is more than 600 mm but, where there is a wall, a guard is not required on that side.
 - k. Where stairs are more than 2,200 mm in width
 - i. One or more intermediate handrails that are continuous between landings must be provided and located so there is no more than 1,650 mm between handrails; and
 - ii. The handrails must satisfy the requirements set out in Section 9 f) above.
11. Where a curb ramp is provided on the exterior path, the curb must align with the direction of travel and meet the following requirements:
- a. The curb ramp must have a minimum clear width of 1,200 mm, exclusive of any flared sides;
 - b. The running slope of the curb ramp must
 - i. Be a maximum of 1:8 where elevation is less than 75 mm; and
 - ii. Be a maximum of 1:10 where elevation is 75 mm or greater and 200 mm or less.
 - c. The maximum cross slope of the curb ramp must be no more than 1:50;
 - d. The maximum slope on the flared side of the curb ramp must be no more than 1:10;
 - e. Where the curb ramp is provided at a pedestrian crossing, it must have tactile walking surface indicators that

- i. Have raised tactile profiles;
- ii. Have a high tonal contrast with the adjacent surface;
- iii. Are located at the bottom of the curb ramp;
- iv. Are set back between 150 mm and 200 mm from the curb edge;
- v. Extend the full width of the curb ramp; and
- vi. Are a minimum of 610 mm in depth.

12. Where a depressed curb is provided on the exterior path, the depressed curb must meet the following requirements

- a. The depressed curb must have a maximum running slope of 1:20;
- b. The depressed curb must be aligned with the direction of travel;
- c. Where the depressed curb is provided at a pedestrian crossing, it must have tactile walking surface indicators that
 - i. Have raised tactile profiles;
 - ii. Have high tonal contrast with the adjacent surface;
 - iii. Are located at the bottom portion of the depressed curb that is flush with the roadway;
 - iv. Are set back between 150 mm and 200 mm from the curb edge; and
 - v. Are a minimum of 610 mm in depth.

13. Where new pedestrian signals are being installed or existing pedestrian signs are being replaced at a pedestrian crossover, they must be accessible pedestrian signals and must meet the following requirements:

- a. They must have a locator tone that is distinct from a walk indicator tone;
- b. They must be installed within 1,500 mm of the edge of the curb;
- c. They must be mounted at a maximum of 1,100 mm above ground level;
- d. They must have tactile arrows that align with the direction of crossing;

- e. They must include both manual and automatic activation features;
 - f. They must include both audible and vibro-tactile walk indicators.
14. Where two accessible pedestrian signal assemblies are installed on the same corner, they must be a minimum of 3,000 mm apart;
15. Where the requirements of the section above cannot be met because of site constraints or existing infrastructure, two accessible pedestrian signal assemblies can be installed on a single post, and when this occurs, a verbal announcement must clearly state which crossing is active.

5.3. Exceptions to the Requirements

An exception to the requirements for exterior paths of travel is permitted where the Township of Warwick can demonstrate one or more of the following:

1. The requirements, or some of them, would likely affect the cultural heritage value or interest of a property identified, designated or otherwise protected under the Ontario Heritage Act as being of cultural heritage value or interest;
2. The requirements, or some of them, would affect the preservation of places set apart as National Historic Sites of Canada by the Minister of the Environment for Canada under the Canada National Parks Act;
3. The requirements, or some of them, would affect the national historic interest or significance of historic places marked or commemorated under the Historic Sites and Monuments Act;
4. The requirements, or some of them, might damage, directly or indirectly, the cultural heritage or natural heritage on a property included in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's World Heritage List of site under the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage;
5. There is a significant risk that the requirements, or some of them, would adversely affect water, fish, wildlife, plants, invertebrates, species at risk, ecological integrity or natural heritage values, whether the adverse effects are direct or indirect; or
6. It is not practicable to comply with the requirements, or some of them, because existing physical or site constraints prohibit modification or addition of elements, spaces or features, such as where increasing the width of the exterior path would narrow the width of the adjacent highway or locating an accessible pedestrian

signal pole within 1,500 mm of the curb edge is not feasible because of existing underground utilities.

It is important to note that if an exception is permitted, it applies solely:

1. To the particular requirement for which the exception is allowed and not to any other requirements that applies to the exterior path of travel; and
2. To the portion of the exterior path for which it is claimed and not to the exterior path in its entirety.

6. ACCESSIBLE PARKING

Accessible parking refers to any newly constructed or redeveloped off-street parking facilities or on-street parking spaces that the Township of Warwick intends to maintain.

6.1. Consultation Requirements

Consultation on accessible parking for off-street parking is not required.

The Township of Warwick is required to consult with the public and persons with disabilities before undertaking the construction or redevelopment of on-street parking spaces. More specifically, the Township must consult on the following:

1. The need for, location and design of accessible on-street parking spaces.

It is also suggested that consultation topics included such items as:

1. The expected accessibility benefits;
2. Any relevant safety concerns; and
3. Local traffic patterns.

6.2. Technical Requirements

Please note that this section is divided into technical requirements for off-street parking facilities as well as on-street parking spaces.

Off-Street Parking Facilities

The Township of Warwick shall ensure that any off-street parking facilities will be constructed or redeveloped with the following technical specifications:

1. Off-street parking facilities must provide the following two types of parking spaces for the use of persons with disabilities:
 - a. Type A, a wider parking space which has a minimum width of 3,400 mm and signage that identifies the space as “van accessible”; and
 - b. Type B, a standard parking space which has a minimum width of 2,400 mm.

2. Access aisles, that is the space between parking spaces that allows persons with disabilities to get in and out of their vehicles, must be provided for all parking spaces for the use of persons with disabilities in off-street parking facilities;
3. Access aisles may be shared by two parking spaces for the use of persons with disabilities in an off-street parking facility and must meet the following requirements:
 - a. They must have a minimum width of 1,500 mm;
 - b. They must extend the full length of the parking space;
 - c. They must be marked with high tonal contrast diagonal lines, which discourage parking in them, where the surface is asphalt, concrete or some other hard surface.
4. Off-street parking facilities must have a minimum number of parking spaces for the use of persons with disabilities, in accordance with the following requirements:
 - a. One parking space for the use of persons with disabilities, which meets the requirements of a Type A parking spaces, where there are 12 parking spaces or fewer;
 - b. 4% of the total number of parking spaces for the use of persons with disabilities where there are between 13 and 100 parking spaces in accordance with the following ratio, rounding up to the nearest whole number:
 - i. Where an even number of parking spaces for the use of persons with disabilities are provided in accordance with the requirements of this paragraph, an equal number of parking spaces that meet the requirements of a Type A parking space and a Type B parking space must be provided.
 - ii. Where an odd number of parking spaces for the use of persons with disabilities are provided in accordance with the requirements of this paragraph, the number of parking spaces must be divided equally between parking spaces that meet the requirements of a Type A parking space and a Type B parking space, but the additional parking space, the odd-numbered space, may be a Type B parking space.

- c. One parking space for the use of persons with disabilities and an additional 3% of parking spaces for the use of persons with disabilities where there are between 101 and 200 parking spaces, calculated in accordance with ratios set out in Section 4 b) above rounding up to the nearest whole number;
 - d. Two parking spaces for the use of persons with disabilities and an additional 2% of parking spaces for the use of persons with disabilities where there are between 201 and 1,000 parking spaces must be parking spaces for the use of persons with disabilities in accordance with ratios set out in Section 4 b) above, rounding up to the nearest whole number;
 - e. Eleven parking spaces for the use of persons with disabilities and an additional 1% of parking spaces for the use of persons with disabilities, where more than 1,000 parking spaces are provided must be parking spaces for the use of persons with disabilities in accordance with ratios set out in Section 4 b) above, rounding up to the nearest whole number;
5. If the Township provides more than one off-street parking facility at a site, the Township shall calculate the number and type of parking spaces for the use of persons with disabilities according to the number and type of parking spaces required for each off-street parking facility;
6. In determining the location of parking spaces for the use of persons with disabilities that must be provided where there is more than one off-street parking facilities at a site, the Township may distribute them among the off-street parking facilities in a manner that provides substantially equivalent or greater accessibility in terms of distance from an accessible entrance or user convenience;
7. For the purpose of the above-noted paragraph, the following factors may be considered:
 - a. Protection from the weather;
 - b. Security;
 - c. Lighting;
 - d. Comparative maintenance.
8. The Township shall ensure that off-street parking spaces for the use of persons with disabilities are distinctly indicated by erecting an accessible permit parking sign in accordance with section 11 of Regulation 581 of the Revised Regulations

of Ontario, 1990 (Accessible Parking for Persons with Disabilities) made under the Highway Traffic Act.

On-Street Parking Spaces

Because of the large number of site-specific variables on any given roadway and the need to maintain safety for road-users and pedestrians, specific requirements for accessible on-street parking spaces, such as minimum sizes, types and numbers of accessible parking spaces, have not been included in the Design of Public Spaces Standard. It is suggested that consultation topics included such items as:

1. The expected accessibility benefits;
2. Any relevant safety concerns; and
3. Local traffic patterns.

6.3. Exceptions to the Requirements

The requirements in respect to off-street parking facilities do not apply to off-street parking facilities that are used exclusively for one of the following:

1. Parking for buses;
2. Parking for delivery vehicles;
3. Parking for law enforcement vehicles;
4. Parking for medical transportation vehicles, such as ambulances;
5. Parking used as a parking lot for impounded vehicles.

The requirements in respect of off-street parking facilities do not apply to off-street parking facilities if:

1. The off-street parking facilities are not located on a barrier-free path of travel, regulated under Ontario Regulation 350/06 (Building Code) made under the Building Code Act; and
2. The Township has multiple off-street parking facilities on a single site that serve a building or facility.

An exception to the required minimum number of off-street parking spaces for the use of persons with disabilities is permitted where the Township can demonstrate that it is not practicable to comply with the requirements because existing physical or site constraints prevent it from meeting the required ratio, such as where the minimum width for parking spaces for persons with disabilities or access aisles cannot be met because of existing

pay and display parking meters, surrounding curb edges, walkways, landscaping or the need to maintain a minimum drive aisle width.

Where the Township claims an exception to the minimum number of parking spaces for the use of persons with disabilities, the Township shall provide as close to as many parking spaces for the use of persons with disabilities that meet the requirements that can be accommodated by the existing site and

1. Where that number is an even number, the number of parking spaces must be divided equally between parking spaces that meet the requirements of a Type A parking space and a Type B parking space; and
2. Where that number is an odd number, the number of parking spaces must be divided equally between parking spaces that meet the requirements of a Type A parking space and a Type B parking space, but the additional parking space, the odd-numbered space, may be a Type B parking space.

7. OBTAINING SERVICES

Obtaining services refers to any newly constructed service counters and fixed queuing guides, as well as any newly constructed or redeveloped waiting areas with fixed seating that the Township of Warwick intends to maintain. Any of these features can be located either indoors or outdoors.

7.1. Consultation Requirements

Consultation on obtaining services is not required.

7.2. Technical Requirements

The Township of Warwick shall ensure that any feature for obtaining services will be constructed or redeveloped with the following technical specifications:

1. When constructing new services counters, which includes replacing existing service counters, the following requirements must be met:
 - a. There must be at a minimum one service counter that accommodates a mobility aid for each type of service provided and the accessible service counter must be clearly identified with signage, where there are multiple queuing lines and service counters; and
 - b. Each service counter must accommodate a mobility aid, where a single queuing line services a single or multiple counters.
2. The service counter that accommodates mobility aids must meet the following requirements:

- a. The countertop height must be such that it is usable by a person seated in a mobility aid;
 - b. There must be sufficient knee clearance for a person seated in a mobility aid, where a forward approach to the counter is required; and
 - c. The floor space in front of the counter must be sufficiently clear so as to accommodate a mobility aid.
3. When constructing new fixed queuing guides, the following requirements must be met:
 - a. The fixed queuing guides must provide sufficient width to allow for the passage of mobility aids and mobility assistive devices;
 - b. The fixed queuing guides must have sufficiently clear floor area to permit mobility aids to turn where queuing lines change direction;
 - c. The fixed queuing guides must be cane detectable.
 4. When constructing a new waiting area or redeveloping an existing waiting area, where the seating is fixed to the floor and a minimum of 3% of the new seating must be accessible, but in no case shall there be less than one accessible seating space. Accessible seating refers to a space in the seating area where an individual using a mobility aid can wait.

7.3. Exceptions to the Requirements

There are no exceptions allowed for the requirements related to obtaining services.

8. MAINTENANCE

Maintenance can involve but is not limited to: undertaking specific activities to keep existing public spaces in good working order, or restoring spaces or elements within a space to their original condition.

8.1. Consultation Requirements

Consultation on maintenance is not required.

8.2. Technical Requirements

The Township of Warwick shall ensure that the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan includes the following:

1. Procedures for preventative and emergency maintenance of the accessible elements in public spaces; and

2. Procedures for dealing with temporary disruptions when accessible elements are not in working order.

8.3. Exceptions to the Requirements

There are no exceptions allowed for the requirements related to maintenance.

Contact Information:

For more information on this policy, contact the Administrator/Clerk of the Township of Warwick

References:

1. *Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c 32*
2. *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005, S.O. 2005*
3. Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation, O. Reg. 191/11 Part 4.1 – Design of Public Spaces Standard
4. *Human Rights Code, R.S.O. 1990, c H.19*

Roles:

Accountable:

Administrator/Clerk

Responsible:

Public Works and Parks and Recreation staff and all other staff members