

Draft AODA Standards for the Design of Public Spaces in Built Environment

**Presentation to the York Region
Accessibility Advisory Committee**

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Presentation Highlights

- ❑ Context
- ❑ Proposed standards
- ❑ Impact analysis
- ❑ York Region's Response
- ❑ Next steps

Context

- ❑ The Province posted proposed amendments to the *Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR)* under the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA)*.
- ❑ Includes the *Design of Public Spaces Standards* and minor technical amendments to the IASR.
- ❑ Posted for a **45-day public review** period concluding on October 1, 2012.

Proposed Standards

- ❑ Intended to create more inclusive and liveable communities by removing accessibility barriers in a range of **public spaces** including:
 - ❑ trails/beach access routes
 - ❑ Outdoor public use eating areas and play spaces
 - ❑ accessible parking
 - ❑ exterior paths of travel including sidewalks and accessibility pedestrian signals
 - ❑ service counters, fixed queuing guides and waiting areas
- ❑ Include definitions, general standards, technical and consultation requirements and exemptions.
- ❑ Apply only to **new construction** and **planned redevelopment** on or after January 1, 2016 by public, private and not-for-profit sectors.

Impact Analysis

- ❑ The proposed standards will mainly impact the Region's:
 - ❑ Public facilities
 - ❑ Housing and Long Term Care buildings
 - ❑ Maintained forest trails
 - ❑ Transportation Services

- ❑ York Region is on track to meet the proposed requirements through its accessibility planning.

York Region's Response

- ❑ The Region recommended:
 - ❑ Clarification of terms and wording
 - ❑ Including specifications for customer service areas
 - ❑ Allowing discretion for local accessible parking needs
 - ❑ Alignment with other guidelines
 - ❑ Exemption for audible pedestrian signals where there is no pedestrian traffic
 - ❑ Consideration for reporting requirements

Next Steps

- ❑ Continue to monitor the development of accessibility standards and report back.
- ❑ You may also respond by emailing your feedback to designofpublicspaces@ontario.ca

Questions and Comments