

## Township of Tiny Commitment

The Township of Tiny remains committed to fostering an inclusive, accessible community where every individual, whether an employee, resident, or visitor, experiences independence, dignity, and equal opportunity. In addition we strive to make all Township workplaces welcoming and adaptable, ensuring that accessibility needs are met promptly.

Through our Multi-Year Accessibility Plan and annual progress updates like this one, we underscore our dedication to making accessibility a fundamental part of daily operations. Guided by the valuable insights of the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC), we continually review and enhance our plan, ensuring that accessibility initiatives align with our community's evolving needs.

We are proud to share the notable achievements and advancements we have made over the past year.



## Accessibility Achievements 2024

### Community Awareness and Engagement:

- › **National AccessAbility Week (May 26 - June 1):** Celebrated through a flag-raising ceremony and social media campaign, showcasing contributions by Canadians with disabilities.
- › **Promoted County of Simcoe File of Life Program:** Distributed information about the File of Life program to improve emergency responses, ensuring residents with medical needs are supported.
- › **'Respect the Space' Brochure Campaign:** Promoted educational materials on accessible parking, raising awareness about proper use of designated spaces.
- › **Snow Angels Canada Support:** Promoted a tool that connects volunteers to residents in need of snow-shoveling assistance, improving accessibility in winter months.

### Accessibility Enhancements in Public Spaces:

- › **Trail and Park Accessibility:** Added rest benches and resurfaced 2 kms of the Tiny Rail Trail with crushed limestone, enhancing accessibility for all users.
- › **Rolling Boardwalk Installations:** Installed accessible boardwalks at Concessions 9 and 11, enabling easier beach access.
- › **Accessible Water Fill Stations:** Installed accessible water stations at parks and beaches, funded by an Ontario Trillium Foundation grant, offering accessible, hygienic hydration points for all community members.
- › **Review and Feedback on Playground Design:** Conducted AAC reviews of Tee Pee Park playground design, aligning with accessibility guidelines and Rick Hansen Foundation standards.
- › **Accessibility Features in New Municipal Facilities:** Provided input on the Township Administration Centre design, ensuring accessible and inclusive features in future facilities.
- › **Beach and Park Audits:** Reviewed 2023 park audits, setting operational directives for prioritized accessibility projects in 2024.
- › **Grant Application for Community Garden Enhancements:** Although the Inclusive Communities Grant application was unsuccessful, lessons learned will guide future grant applications.

### Planning and Policy Development

- › **North Simcoe Accessibility Committee Meetings:** Collaborated with regional committees to explore joint initiatives, share best practices, and identify accessibility gaps.
- › **Development of Accessible Playground Design Guidelines:** Drafted Township guidelines for evaluating playground accessibility, using Rick Hansen Foundation recommendations.
- › **AODA-Compliant Review of Site Plans:** Reviewed site plans described in section 41 of the *Planning Act* to ensure alignment with AODA standards, recommending accessibility improvements in new developments to foster barrier-free, inclusive spaces for all community members.

### Training and Professional Development:

- › **AMO Abilities Centre Workshop Attendance:** Participated in AMO Abilities Centre Disability Inclusion Workshop, furthering their expertise on accessibility needs and innovations (R. Gould and A. Makor).

## 2025 Accessibility Priorities

**National AccessAbility Week Recognition (May 25 to May 31, 2025):** Participate in National AccessAbility Week with community events and outreach efforts to recognize contributions by individuals with disabilities and promote inclusivity.

**Tiny Rail Trail Crushed Limestone Resurfacing:** Resurface an additional 1-2 kilometers of the Tiny Rail Trail with crushed limestone to improve surfacing.

**Rolling Boardwalk Installations:** Install or replace approximately 1,000 meters of rolling boardwalks at high-traffic areas to enhance accessibility in natural and recreational spaces, offering inclusive access to beach and park areas.

**Pursue Funding for Community Gardens:** Reapply for the Inclusive Communities Grant or similar funding to improve accessibility at community gardens, adding accessible raised beds and seating.

**Accessible Playgrounds:** Review existing playgrounds for enhancement and potential locations for new development for consideration in the 2026 Budget.

**Review Toanche Park Pavilion:** Conduct a comprehensive review of the Toanche Park Pavilion to ensure all design elements meet AODA standards, with a focus on accessibility features that promote inclusivity for all users.

**Accessibility Training:** Implement AODA training sessions for all municipal staff and AAC members, with a focus on accessible customer service and accommodations, to ensure staff are well-prepared to serve residents with diverse needs.

**Guidelines for site plans:** Develop Township guidelines for AAC for reviewing and commenting on site plans described in section 41 of the *Planning Act*.

**Consultation with AAC on Administration Centre:** Continued consultation with AAC on the development of the Township of Tiny Administration Centre.

This document can be viewed on the Township of Tiny website ([www.tiny.ca](http://www.tiny.ca)) and is available in accessible formats upon request.

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