COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - APRIL 4, 2005

2005 YORK REGION'S SECOND ANNUAL ACCESSIBILITY PLAN - MOVING FORWARD

Recommendation

Regional Councillor Joyce Frustaglio recommends:

- 1. That the draft 2005 York Region's Second Annual Accessibility Plan Moving Forward be received for information, and
- 2. That the City Clerk forward the draft copy to the City of Vaughan Accessibility Advisory Committee for their review.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to meet the legislated requirements of the Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001 (ODA) by presenting the final version of Moving Forward: York Region's 2005 Accessibility Plan (see Attachment). As well, this report and the 2005 Plan highlight the results of the implementation of the Region's 2004 accessibility plan. Finally this report also presents the release strategy for making the 2005 Accessibility Plan available to the public.

To provide this information to the City of Vaughan Accessibility Advisory Committee for their review, to ensure that the City of Vaughan's accessibility plan has regard for the Region's plan and that the two plans are 'barrier free'.

Background - Analysis and Options

The ODA includes specific requirements for all municipalities, including York Region. One requirement is the development of an annual accessibility plan. Under the ODA, the annual accessibility plan must address the identification, removal and prevention of barriers to persons with disabilities in municipal by-laws, policies, practices, programs, services and facilities. The ODA also requires that the accessibility plan is developed in consultation with persons with disabilities and made available to the public.

Even before the ODA was created, the City of Vaughan had begun to remove barriers for people with disabilities in many of its programs, services and facilities.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Attachments

Draft - Moving Forward: 2005 York Region's 2005 Second Annual Accessibility Plan (Available in the Clerks Department)

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Frustaglio Regional Councillor