



The Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie Accessibility Status Report

2020

This Accessibility Status Report and all documents referenced within will be made available in alternate formats upon request

Barrier Removal Projects 2020

- **\$20,000** – commitment to the Vulnerable Persons Registry
- **\$10,000** – maintenance fees for the TextNet system
- **\$10,000** – support to improving curb cuts
- **\$10,000** – support of the accessible pedestrian signals
- **\$34,000** – Complete accessible viewing area at JRCC Arena 2
- **\$ 1,000** – JRCC arena sledge maintenance

Barrier Removal Reserves

Barrier removal reserves fund planned projects as described above. In the event that funds remain in the reserves after the planned projects, The City of Sault Ste. Marie Accessibility Coordinator with input from City Departments, the Accessibility Advisory Committee and the public will return to council to approve other barrier removal initiatives.

Vulnerable Persons Registry (VPR)

An Initiative in Memory of Lewis Wheelan

The Accessibility Office offers support to the VPR as a registration Center and the Barrier Removal Budget funds this initiative

[Vulnerable persons registry](#)

TextNet

TextNet service enabling community members with speech and hearing disabilities to contact City Departments.

Curb Cuts

The Public Works and Transportation Department consults with the Accessibility Coordinator yearly to determine the priorities for curb cut repair. The Accessibility Coordinator keeps a list from public and AAC feedback received on this barrier

Curb Cuts repaired 2020: 208 Prentice Avenue, 416 and 424 Farwell Avenue, 706 Korah Road, 159 Wilson Avenue, 608 Lake Street, 86 and 134 Molouch Street, 83 Laronde Avenue, 130 Churchill Boulevard (2), 560 Shannon Road.

Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS)

APS, advise pedestrians who are visually impaired when they have the right-of-way, and in which direction they may cross at a signalized intersection.

John Rhodes Community Centre Arena - Accessible seating

This project was delayed due to current pandemic. Arena management is sourcing accessible seating solutions.

John Rhodes Community Centre Arena – Sledge Maintenance

Due to the current pandemic, the sledges required no maintenance at this time.

Sledge Skating – John Rhodes Community Centre – Arena

Sledges are available and maintained by the City of Sault Ste. Marie for the purpose of Public Skating. Sledge Skating times are posted on the City website along with other public skating times. Sledges are also available for use for other user groups upon request.

Barrier Removal Tool

To offer an additional avenue for community members to provide information on barriers this online form is available.

Parking Lots

Zoning Bylaw was updated 2019 to adjust the size of the access aisle in hopes the persistent problem of vehicles using this area for parking will cease.

Recognizing the needs of the community, City of Sault Ste. Marie facilities exceed the required number of barrier free spaces

Public Restroom Map

An interactive google map has been populated with the public restrooms throughout the city and offers details such as open hours and cost for parking

[Public restroom map](#)

Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS)

APS, advise pedestrians who are visually impaired when they have the right-of-way, and in which direction they may cross at a signalized intersection. Each year priorities are addressed for additional accessible pedestrian signals.

John Rhodes Community Centre (JRCC)

The sidewalk to the front of the barrier free parking on the North side of the JRCC was replaced with an at grade sidewalk enabling people to exit their vehicles and move directly to the sidewalk without entering traffic route

John Rhodes Community Centre Pool

The JRCC pool has barrier free entry with actuators on all doors. An accessible family change room has a ceiling lift with high/low adult change table as well as an accessible shower station and washroom. The competition pool has a ramp providing for access using one of the three available water wheelchairs. Also available is a portable aquatic lift that will lift directly into the pool without the use of a water chair and an Otter Bathing Chair , it allows caregivers of persons with many different physical disabilities easier access into the pool in the instances where a traditional wheelchair would not be appropriate.

Bellevue Marina

Dock improvements at the Bellevue Marina took place in 2019 and 2020. The main docks are 6 feet wide with a 4.5-foot wide ramp that has a double railing leading to the 1 metre wide fingers.

The surface is constructed of slip and wear resistant materials. There is a social gathering with a poured concrete surface and will contain accessible seating.

TextNet

TextNet service enabling community members with speech and hearing disabilities to contact City Departments.

Accessibility training

All City of Sault Ste. Marie staff have been trained on Accessible Customer Service, the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), and the Ontario Human Rights Code as it relates to persons with disabilities. New staff receives training as part of the new employee orientation sessions.

Accessible websites and web content

The Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie's website complies with the requirement of *World Wide Web Consortium Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0, Level A*

Transit

The City of Sault Ste. Marie Transit Division fleet of conventional busses are all mobility device accessible and operates a fully accessible Para Bus service. Detailed information can be found - [SSM Transit](#)

Accessible Taxicabs

The City of Sault Ste. Marie Police Service licenses and monitors the taxicab companies for compliance of the IASR transportation Standard requirements. Taxicabs will display their vehicle registration and identification. All taxi companies must operate a wheelchair accessible vehicle according to the Taxi Bylaw [Taxi Bylaw](#)

Design or Public Spaces Standards

The City complies with the AODA Design or Public Spaces Standards (Accessibility Standards for The Built Environment) when undertaking new construction and redevelopment of public spaces. City staff consults the Accessibility Advisory Committee on all projects.

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