

Corporate Policy

If this information is required in an alternate format, please contact the Accessibility Coordinator at 905-623-3379 ext. 2131

POLICY TYPE:	Operational
SUBSECTION:	Building/Grounds/Parking/Equipment – Access & Use
POLICY TITLE:	Accessible Public Spaces
POLICY #:	F112
POLICY APPROVED BY:	Chief Administrative Officer
EFFECTIVE DATE:	January 17, 2017
REVISED:	September 19, 2017
APPLICABLE TO:	All Employees

1. Purpose

This policy addresses the Design of Public Spaces Standard's requirements of Ontario Regulation 191/11 for the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA).

The Municipality of Clarington is committed to eliminating barriers and improving accessibility for persons with disabilities to afford equal opportunities and the provision of integrated programs and services where possible, in a manner that respects dignity and independence.

2. Scope

This policy applies to new construction and redevelopment of elements in public spaces owned, operated or leased and maintained by the Municipality, designed or constructed by the Municipality as well as by volunteers, agents, contractors (personnel) or any individual representing or performing any function on behalf of the Municipality.

This procedure does not require forced changes (retrofits) to meet the standards and does not apply to emergency repairs. It also does not apply where 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.

Ontario's Building Code (OBC) regulates accessibility features in buildings as well as walkways or ramps that connect to building entranceways.

The requirements set out in this policy are being implemented by the Municipality of Clarington in accordance with the Standards and timelines established in the AODA.

Corporate Policy

If this information is required in an alternate format, please contact the Accessibility Coordinator at 905-623-3379 ext. 2131

3. Definitions

Accessible path - a continuous unobstructed path connecting accessible elements and spaces at the exterior of a building and within the interior spaces of a building. Interior accessible paths include corridors, floors, ramps, elevators, and clear floor spaces at fixtures. Exterior accessible paths include parking access aisles, curb ramps, crosswalks, etc.

Accessible seating is an area alongside the other seating locations where a person with a mobility aid can position themselves and/or their equipment.

Amenities - objects placed in public spaces that provide a convenience or service. Examples include (but are not limited to) drinking fountains, benches and garbage containers.

Beach access route means routes that are constructed and are intended for pedestrian use by the public and that provide access from off-street parking facilities, recreational trails, exterior paths of travel and amenities to an area of the beach that is intended for recreational use by the public.

Fixed Queuing Guides are permanent or built-in fixtures that direct people to follow a set path and are often used to organize long customer service lines.

Maintenance means activities that are intended to keep existing public spaces and elements in good working order and restoring spaces or elements back to their original working condition.

Off-street parking refers to open area parking lots and structures intended for temporary parking of vehicles for the public, whether or not the payment of a fee is charged and includes visitor spaces in parking facilities.

On-street parking refers to designated parking spaces where vehicles can be parked on a temporary basis, located on a public highway, street, avenue, parkway or similar type of road and provides direct access to shops, offices and other facilities.

Outdoor public use eating areas consist of tables that are found in public spaces, such as public parks, and are specifically intended for use by the public as a place to eat food.

Recreational trails a public pedestrian trail intended for recreational and leisure purposes.

Corporate Policy

If this information is required in an alternate format, please contact the Accessibility Coordinator at 905-623-3379 ext. 2131

Redeveloped means a planned, significant alteration to a public space. It does not include maintenance activities, environmental mitigation or environmental restoration.

Rest area refers to a dedicated space on a recreational trail or exterior path of travel intended for public use that allows a person to stop and rest.

Service Counters are places where a resident or visitor receives a service and can include information desks, kiosks or counters.

Waiting Areas are places where people wait to receive a service and often include fixed seating.

4. Policy

The Municipality of Clarington is committed to designing public spaces that are accessible to its residents and visitors.

The Municipality will provide opportunity for public consultation as stated in the regulation which includes the public, people with disabilities and the municipal accessibility advisory committee. Areas of consultation include; recreational trails, outdoor play spaces, exterior pathway rest areas and on-street parking.

The Municipality will comply with the Design of Public Spaces Standards with respect to public spaces that are newly constructed or redeveloped, including:

- Recreational trails/beach access routes
- Outdoor public-use eating areas like rest stops or picnic areas
- Outdoor play spaces, like playgrounds in municipal parks
- Exterior paths of travel, such as sidewalks, ramps, stairs, curb ramps, rest areas and accessible pedestrian signals
- Accessible parking on and off street
- Service related elements such as service counters, fixed queuing lines and waiting areas; and
- Maintenance of accessible elements

Corporate Policy



If this information is required in an alternate format, please contact the Accessibility Coordinator at 905-623-3379 ext. 2131

5. Public Spaces and Facility Accessibility Guidelines

New or re-developed public spaces/facilities shall comply with the Municipality of Clarington's Public Spaces and Facility Accessibility Guidelines. This Guide merges legislative requirements, minimum standards and best practices into one easy to access document.

The Guidelines provide additional information/clarification on technical requirements through examples and illustrations. Where an exception applies, it will be clearly outlined in the Guidelines.