

DATE OF MEETING January 10, 2024

AUTHORED BY MIKE BRYSON, MANAGER REC FACILITIES & CUSTODIAL SERVICES

SUBJECT UPDATE ON ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS TO CITY FACILITIES

OVERVIEW

Purpose of Report

To provide the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness an update on accessibility improvements carried out at City Recreation Facilities as recommended by the Rick Hanson Foundation Audit, and to seek direction for priority of improvements. |

Recommendation

That the ACAI Committee recommend the following City Recreation Centres receive assessments/audits in 2024:

- Oliver Woods Community Centre
- Beban Park Pool
- Cliff McNabb Arena
- Nanaimo Ice Centre
- Nanaimo Museum
- Vancouver Island Military Museum
- City Hall/SARC

BACKGROUND

The ACAI Committee work plan goal adopted by City Council is to reduce barriers and improve equity and access to City residents in alignment with the City Plan, the Integrated Action Plan priorities and the terms of reference of the ACAI Committee. The first topic on the 2023-2026 Work Plan speaks to Accessibility in City Parks, Facilities and City infrastructure and determining priority for accessibility assessments/audits for other City facilities. |

DISCUSSION

Several upgrades have been done, or are in progress, in the three recreation facilities that the Rick Hanson Foundation audited and provided \$82,000 for upgrading accessibility in 2023. Two City facilities staff have been trained through the Rick Hanson Foundation to do facility accessibility assessments/audits and have compiled a list of recreation facilities to prioritise for 2024.

City staff will come back to ACAI with another report with priority recommendation for future assessments/audits of parks and open spaces. |

OPTIONS

1. That the ACAI Committee recommend the following City Recreation Centres receive assessments/audits in 2024:
 - Oliver Woods Community Centre
 - Beban Park Pool
 - Cliff McNabb Arena
 - Nanaimo Ice Centre
 - Nanaimo Museum
 - Vancouver Island Military Museum
 - City Hall/SARC
 - The advantages of this option: Seven City facilities will receive accessibility assessment/audits to provide better accessibility to all users and enable staff to prepare financial planning.
 - The disadvantages of this option: Assessment/audits of accessibility for seven facilities will not be completed and will impact accessibility for all community users. Financial planning will be impacted.
 - Financial Implications: Outcome of assessments/audits will provide staff with valuable information needed to prepare financial plans for facility accessibility upgrades needed.

2. That the ACAI Committee provide alternate direction |

SUMMARY POINTS

- The ACAI Committee 2023-2026 Work Plan supports the committee providing information on reducing barriers and improving equity and accessibility for City residents.
- City staff have identified seven priority City Recreation facilities to do accessibility assessments/audits in 2020.
- City staff will return to ACAI with priority recommendations for future assessment/audits of Parks and Open Spaces.

ATTACHMENTS:

ATTACHMENT A: Power Point Presentation: Update on Accessibility Improvements to City Facilities |

Submitted by:

Mike Bryson
Manager Rec. Facilities & Custodial Services
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Concurrence by:

Darcie Osborne
Director, Recreation & Culture

Richard Harding
General Mgr Community Serv. & Deputy CAO

Dale Lindsay
CAO
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