

NOTICE OF MOTION

Submitted in accordance with Procedure Bylaw No. B-10/2024

Presented By: Councillor Heather Spearman

TITLE: Accessibility Audit

WHEREAS Council endorsed a Focus Area (2023-2026) for a Caring Community, with objectives of advocating for enhanced social well-being and access to opportunities/activities;

AND WHEREAS Council adopted a Social Policy in April 2020 to guide more deliberate, thoughtful decisions on social equity and equitable access to services, along with a definition of 'social well-being';

AND WHEREAS Social well-being is defined as a state of positive relationships in the community – characterized by social acceptance, social contribution, social inclusion, social support, and social capital;

AND WHEREAS Social well-being depends on a diverse, inclusive, connected, equitable and proactive community;

AND WHEREAS Residents have indicated that physical barriers and other barriers and/or stigmas are reducing access to public and private facilities;

AND WHEREAS the City of Airdrie has not previously conducted an *accessibility audit*, or a general review of physical accessibility for public and private facilities, as well as applicable public services (i.e., transit);

AND WHEREAS Determining options to review the current state of physical accessibility to public and private facilities through such an audit may be an important and proactive first step to improving this aspect of social well-being;

AND WHEREAS Community member and business owner participation in overall accessibility guidelines or standards may prove valuable,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Council directs Administration to:

1. return to Council with an understanding what an *accessibility audit* is and what it might achieve toward the Council Focus Area for a Caring Community;
2. describe for Council the current best practices for *accessibility audits* and the options for the depth of review of public and private facilities;

3. research private sector and public sector grants available to fund an accessibility audit and/or implementation work from such audits; and
4. provide Council with an estimated range of the time and resources required for the type(s) of accessibility audits and the ability to offset them with grants for Council to consider before December 1, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted:
Councillor Heather Spearman