

# NOTICE OF MOTION

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

**Presented By:** **Councillor Spearman & Councillor Petrow**

**TITLE:** Development of a Policy for Inclusive and Accessible Playground Standards

**WHEREAS** Airdrie is a growing community with increasing demand for inclusive and accessible public infrastructure;

**AND WHEREAS** many existing playgrounds contain barriers such as gravel surfacing, high curbs and limited access for children with disabilities or sensory sensitivities;

**AND WHEREAS** the City currently encourages inclusive and accessible features in some park developments, but does not have a formal policy outlining minimum standards;

**AND WHEREAS** a consistent, citywide approach to inclusive and accessible playground design would support equity, reduce barriers and align with best practices;

**AND WHEREAS** residents have advocated for minimum design requirements including accessible surfacing, ramped structures, sensory features and inclusive play equipment such as communication boards, accessible swings and roll-on merry-go-rounds;

**AND WHEREAS** other municipalities, such as Edmonton, have adopted accessible design guides (e.g., Section B.4 of Edmonton's Access Design Guide) to ensure consistent implementation of inclusive infrastructure;

**AND WHEREAS** a formal policy would support long-term capital planning, improve clarity for developers and better reflect Airdrie's commitment to accessibility and inclusion;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council direct Administration to develop a formal policy outlining minimum standards for inclusive and accessible design in all newly constructed and redeveloped playgrounds, including clear definitions, feature expectations, and implementation considerations, with targeted engagement of residents who are directly impacted by playground accessibility barriers, including persons with disabilities and parents of children with diverse mobility and sensory needs.

**Respectfully Submitted:**

**Councillor Spearman & Councillor Petrow**