

Township of Woolwich Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2024 to 2027 Status Update to GRAAC

The following document outlines the various initiatives in the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, as well as a status update on what staff have been able to accomplish in 2024.

2024 Initiatives

Initiative 1 – Ensure Woolwich’s website meets WCAG 2.0 Level AA requirements

Woolwich continues to train staff and meet accessibility requirements for our website. This initiative will continue to be an **ongoing** initiative for Woolwich.

Initiative 2 – Continue to implement online payment systems for more services.

In 2024 Woolwich began the implementation of twelve (12) online payment systems which allows for a more accessible payment option for residents and system users. These include, but are not limited to, Freedom of Information payments, Vendor Licensing payments, and Liquor Licensing payments. This initiative will continue to be an **ongoing** initiative for Woolwich.

Initiative 3 – Consider implementing routine document and website accessibility training for all new staff.

This initiative has been **deferred to 2025**. Our Human Resources staff have been making changes to the onboarding program at Woolwich during 2024 but hit some setbacks along the way which has resulted in a deferral for this initiative.

Initiative 4 – Complete an updated audit for all Woolwich Facilities from the 2007 Facility Building Accessibility Audit.

Complete. Staff were able to successfully complete this initiative and now have an updated audit to help guide future multi-year accessibility plans and continue improving accessibility in Woolwich.

Initiative 5 – Various annual facility improvements.

Every year, staff add various facility and outdoor space improvements to the multi-year accessibility plan to ensure Woolwich is working towards improving accessibility features throughout the Township. The following is the list of projects for 2024 and their status updates.

- Southpark Wood Park: development of a new park to include a multi-use trail, accessible multi-use pad, and accessible playground features. **Completed.**

- Maryhill Park Playground: replacement park to include accessible features (accessible ramp, swing and sensory features). **Completed**
- Bolender Park: paving of the parking lot and installation of accessible parking stall. **Completed.**
- Breslau Memorial Park Splashpad: installation of a splashpad with accessible entranceway and accessible splashpad features. **Completed.**
- St. Jacobs Arena: accessible upgrades to the washrooms and lobby. **Completed.**

Other accessibility improvements completed that were not in the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan:

- Playground upgrades:
 - Riverside Meadows Park (St. Jacobs) upgraded surfacing to be more accessible
 - Valley View Park (St. Jacobs) upgraded surfacing to be more accessible
 - Westfield Park (Elmira) upgraded and removed inaccessible border to playground
 - Southpark Park: installed multi-use pad and pathway