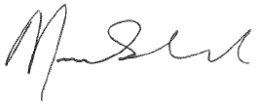




# INFORMATION REPORT

<b>TO:</b>	Mayor and Members General Issues Committee
<b>COMMITTEE DATE:</b>	July 10, 2023
<b>SUBJECT/REPORT NO:</b>	Accessibility Updates to the Temporary Outdoor Patio Program (PED23108) (City Wide)
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	City Wide
<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	Cristina Geissler (905) 546-2424 Ext. 2632
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>	Norm Schleeahn Director, Economic Development Planning and Economic Development Department
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	

## COUNCIL DIRECTION

At the March 22, 2023 General Issues Committee (GIC) meeting, public delegate James Kemp presented recommendations for the Temporary Outdoor Patio Program, specifically for the on-street pedestrian by-pass structures. Following the delegation, Council directed the following:

- (a) That staff consult with the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities (ACPD) at their next meeting and consider recommendations from delegate James Kemp as delivered at the March 22, 2023 General Issues Committee and other best practices.
- (b) That staff report back to the General Issues Committee with recommendations.

## INFORMATION

Since the adoption of the temporary patio program, each year staff has made refinements to the program to reflect community and business feedback. In response to the March 2023 Council direction, staff met with the Advisory Committee of People with Disabilities (ACPD) on July 11, 2023 to discuss the recommendations presented by James Kemp. Staff also consulted with Pop Up Patios, which is a primary supplier of

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OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

**SUBJECT: Accessibility Updates to the Temporary Outdoor Patio Program (PED23108) (City Wide) - Page 2 of 5**

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on-street patios and bypasses in the City. Based on these discussions, staff's response to the delegate's recommendations is outlined below.

**Issue 1 - Decking should follow the path of travel**

The delegate had recommended that decking should follow the path of travel. The floor boards are currently placed horizontally to reinforce the structural strength of the patios (whether they be a patio or pedestrian by-pass). Vertical boards also pose a slipping hazard when wet or with wheels that can get caught in the grooves. For these reasons, staff is not proposing any changes to the decking.

**Issue 2 – Remove ground obstructions for signage**

In the 2022 season, signs to guide pedestrians of the path of travel for on-street pedestrian by-passes were secured with sandbags. The delegate expressed concerns that these posed a tripping hazard. Effective April 1, 2023 City of Hamilton has been attaching these signs directly to the patio structures, eliminating the need for any sandbags.

Before:



After:



**Issue 3 - Clear path of travel markings**

The delegate suggested that high contrast markings be provided to delineate the path of travel along the on-street pedestrian by-pass structures. In response to this recommendation, Effective April 1, 2023, reflective paint (yellow in colour) has been added to better delineate the on-street structures.

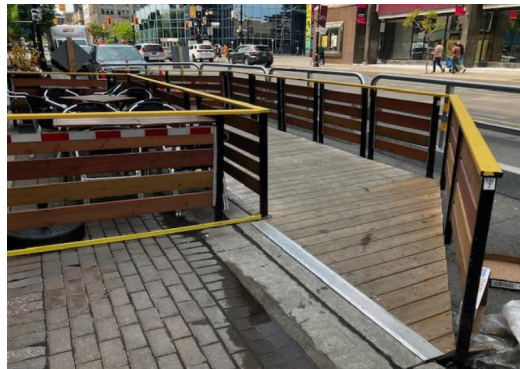
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Before:



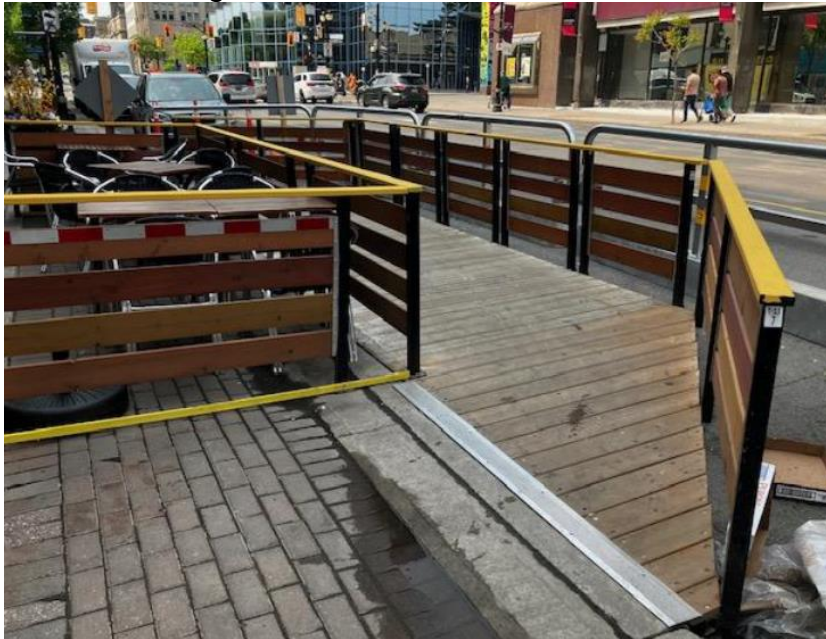
After:



**Issue 4 – Provide high contrast markings on handrails and barricades**

The delegate suggested high contrast markings be provided to delineate the handrails and barricades for people with visual disabilities. Effective April 1, 2023 reflective paint (yellow in colour) and stickers have been added on the rails and posts to better delineate the on-street structures.

Current markings:



**Issue 5 – Elimination of transition strips**

Transition metal pieces are required to fill gaps where sidewalk elevation or concrete conditions do not allow for a flush transition. Eliminating the metal transition piece would add a potential tripping hazard. These metal thresholds are used only in these circumstances, always trying, when possible, to make the transition flush with the sidewalk. These transitional metal pieces are a standard procedure used with other municipalities.



**Issue 6 – Retrofit handrails to end flush with structure**

Effective April 1, 2023 the railings that protrude have been adjusted to make them flush with the frame of the on-street structures.

Before:



After:





### **Additional Measures to Support Accessibility**

As part of the 2023 Temporary Outdoor Patio Program, staff established the “Accessibility Addendum 2023 for Temporary Outdoor Patio Program” to better support the incorporation of accessibility measures by patio program applicants moving forward. This document outlines Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) guidelines for designing their patios for accessibility, including:

- Ensure any barricades/boundaries (railings, planters, pylons, etc.) to identify the patio area are cane-detectable;
- Consider people using mobility devices when determining what type of furniture, you will set out in your patio area, and,
- Advertise whether you have accessible washrooms on your website.

As it is the responsibility of the business owner to comply with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) at all times, this Addendum is included with the approved permit for the Temporary Outdoor Patio Program.

These recommendations have also been added to the city website where the public goes to apply for a Temporary Outdoor Patio Program permit.

### **APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED**

Appendix “A” to Report PED23108 - Accessibility Addendum 2023 for TOP Program

CG/rb