



*Policy Section:* Facilities and Equipment

**800**

*Policy Name:* Accessibility Standards for Design of Public Space

**808**

## Policy Statement

The Keewatin-Patricia District School Board (KPDSB) is committed to ensuring that people with disabilities have the same opportunity of access to public spaces as do all employees and prospective employees. The KPDSB is committed to meeting the accessibility needs of people with disabilities, in a timely manner, in the provision of services related to design of public spaces.

## Rationale

The KPDSB is committed to providing high quality services to our students, parents/guardians, the public and our staff that are free of barriers and biases. The KPDSB strives to ensure that key principles of independence, dignity, inclusion and equality of opportunity are reflected and valued in our learning and working environments. Our conduct will demonstrate our belief in the strength diversity brings to our communities.

## Definitions

1. Accessible Formats – Include but are not limited to large print, recorded audio and electronic formats, braille and other formats usable by persons with disabilities.
2. Environmental Mitigation – Activities that are intended to address any negative effects on the environment caused by the standard.
3. Environmental Restoration – Activities that will benefit the environment.
4. Exterior Paths of Travel – Refers to sidewalks and walkways designed and constructed for pedestrian travel and intended to provide a functional route from Point A to Point B, rather than a recreational experience.
5. Redeveloped – A planned significant alteration to a public space. It does not include maintenance activities, environmental mitigation or environmental restoration.

Cross Reference:  
Policy 325, Access to Schools  
Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA)  
Integrated Accessibility Standards, Ontario Regulation 191/11  
Ontario Human Rights Code  
Workplace Safety and Insurance Act

Adopted: Jan. 9/18  
Reaffirmed: Feb.13/18  
Revised: Mar. 10/20  
Review by: 2024



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## **Guidelines**

### 1.0 General Principles

In accordance with the *Integrated Accessibility Standards, Regulation 191/11*, (IASR) this policy addresses the following:

- A. Outdoor Play Spaces
- B. Exterior Paths of Travel
- C. Off-Street Accessible Public Parking
- D. Obtaining Services
- E. Maintenance
- J. Exceptions
- K. Review

### 2.0 Scope

This policy is intended to meet the requirements of the IASR for the Design of Public Spaces Standard set forth under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA). This policy applies to removing barriers in two (2) areas:

- Buildings; and
- Public spaces

3.0 The KPDSB will establish, implement and maintain and document a multi-year accessibility plan outlining its strategy to prevent and remove barriers and meet its requirements under the IASR. Accessibility plans will be made available in an accessible format, upon request, and will be posted on our website.

The KPDSB will review and update its accessibility plan once every five (5) years. Annual status reports will be prepared that will report on the progress of the steps taken to implement the KPDSB's accessibility plan. This status report will be posted on our website. If requested, the report shall be created in an accessible format.

### 4.0 Training

The KPDSB will provide training for its employees and volunteers regarding the IASR and the Ontario Human Rights Code as they pertain to individuals with disabilities. Training will also be provided to individuals who are responsible for developing the KPDSB's policies, and all other persons who provide goods, services or facilities on behalf of the KPDSB.

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5.0 Outdoor Play Spaces

**Consultation**

Prior to constructing or redeveloping an outdoor play space, the KPDSB shall consult on the needs of children and caregivers with disabilities with the public and persons with disabilities.

**Accessibility in Design**

The KPDSB will ensure that any new or redesigned outdoor play spaces incorporate various accessibility features (e.g. sensory and active play components) into their design and are constructed in accordance with the requirements outlined in the, IASR section 80.20.

6.0 Exterior Paths of Travel

To ensure the health and safety of all pedestrians, any newly constructed or redeveloped exterior paths of travel will meet, and where possible exceed, the technical requirements of the IASR section 80.23, and where applicable, sections 80.24 – 80.28.

7.0 Off-Street Accessible Public Parking

**Types of Spaces and Access Aisles**

The KPDSB will ensure that any newly constructed or redeveloped off-street parking facilities provide the following two (2) types of parking spaces available for persons with disabilities:

- Type A – Parking space with a minimum width of 3.4 m; and
- Type B – Standard parking space with a minimum width of 2.4 mm.

Access aisles will be provided for all accessible parking spaces and will meet the requirements of the IASR section 80.35.

**Minimums**

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The KPDSB will ensure that any newly constructed or redeveloped off-street parking facility meets, and where possible exceeds, the required number of accessible parking spaces based on the size of the lot. The number of accessible spaces will be aligned with the requirements specified in the IASR section 80.36.

**Signage**

The KPDSB will ensure that the proper signage is provided for each accessible parking space. Type A parking spaces will have signage indicating van accessibility.

8.0 Obtaining Services

**Service Counters**

When constructing or replacing any service counters, the KPDSB will ensure that at least one (1) counter is made accessible in accordance with the IASR section 80.41.

**Fixed Queuing Guides**

When constructing new fixed queuing guides, the KPDSB will ensure that they are made accessible to people with various disabilities in accordance with the IASR section 80.42.

**Waiting Areas**

When constructing or redeveloping an existing waiting area, The KPDSB will ensure that a minimum of 3% of the seating is made accessible. The KPDSB will ensure that there will be at least one (1) accessible seat in accordance with the IASR Section 80.43

9.0 Maintenance

The KPDSB shall ensure that our multi-year accessibility plan addresses:

- Preventive and emergency maintenance procedures for the accessible elements in public spaces; and
- Procedures for temporary disruptions to accessible elements.

10.0 Exceptions

There may be times where it is not possible for the KPDSB to meet all technical requirements as outlined within legislation. In these instances, the KPDSB will strive to

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meet the requirements to the fullest extent to allow for accessible use with particular constraints as addressed in legislation.

#### 11.0 Review

This policy will be reviewed regularly to ensure that it is reflective of the KPDSB's current practices as well as legislative requirements.

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