

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NUMBER 2018-002-OP  
RESPECTING UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO MUNICIPAL FACILITIES  
WITHIN THE HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY**

**BE IT RESOLVED AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER** of the Council of the Halifax Regional Municipality under the authority of the *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter*, as follows:

**Short Title**

1. This Administrative Order may be known as the *Universal Access to Municipal Facilities Administrative Order*.

**Purpose**

2. The purpose of this Administrative Order is to ensure that principles of *universal access* are incorporated into the design, construction and major renovation of municipal facilities.

**Interpretation**

3. In this Administrative Order,
  - (a) “barrier” means anything that hinders or challenges the full and effective participation in society of persons with disabilities including a physical barrier, an architectural barrier, an information or communications barrier, an attitudinal barrier, a technology barrier, a policy or a practice;
  - (b) “disability” includes a physical, mental, intellectual, learning or sensory impairment, including an episodic disability, that, in interaction with a barrier, hinders an individual’s full and effective participation in society;
  - (c) “major renovations” means a renovation project on a municipal facility that requires engineering, architectural planning, or contract services, and has an estimated construction cost of at least \$50,000 and an estimated economic life of at least 10 years;
  - (d) “municipal facility” means any building owned or leased by the Municipality; and
  - (e) “universal access” means access to all, regardless of gender or ability.

**Principles of Universal Access**

4. New municipal facilities and major renovations to municipal facilities shall, unless determined by the Manager of Corporate Facility Design & Construction (CFD&C) to be cost prohibitive or otherwise impractical, be designed and constructed to:
  - (a) eliminate barriers facing persons with disabilities;
  - (b) provide equitable opportunity for all users;
  - (c) avoid segregating or stigmatizing any users;

- (d) consider the privacy, security and safety of all users;
  - (e) accommodate a wide range of individual preferences and abilities;
  - (f) use a variety of modes (pictorial, verbal, tactile) for presentation of essential information;
  - (g) make all components comfortable and reachable for any seated or standing user; and
  - (h) provide adequate space for the use of assistive devices or personal assistance.
5. All new municipal facilities and all major renovations to municipal facilities shall be designed and constructed to meet or exceed CSA Standard B651 – Accessible Design for the Built Environment.
  6. All signage at municipal facilities shall meet or exceed ISO Standard 7001 Graphical Symbols - Public Information Symbols.

**Consultation with Advisory Committee on Accessibility**

7. HRM CFD&C staff shall consult with the Advisory Committee on Accessibility at least annually regarding accessible designs for municipal facilities.

Done and passed in Council this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May A.D. 2018.

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Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Municipal Clerk

I, Kevin Arjoon, Municipal Clerk of the Halifax Regional Municipality, hereby certify that the above noted Administrative Order was passed at a meeting of the Halifax Regional Council held on May 22, 2018.

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Kevin Arjoon, Municipal Clerk

Notice of Motion:

May 8, 2018

Approval:

May 22, 2018

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