

Memorandum

Date: Tuesday, May 21, 2019

To: Members of Council

From: Chad Curtis, Legislative Specialist, Corporate Services

Subject: Request for Universal Signage

A Universal Sign is a symbolic traffic sign to warn motorists of various disabilities within residential neighbourhoods. A few examples of Universal Signs include information to alert residents that there are autistic, blind, and deaf persons residing in a geographic area.

At the November 22, 2018 Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) meeting, an inquiry from a resident regarding placing a Universal Sign on their street to give warning regarding an individual who uses a wheelchair for mobility was discussed. This resident noticed a Universal Sign on a different road (Walker Road) in the municipality, and sought clarity on why this sign is posted. Town Staff were asked to look into the matter further.

Staff are aware that there are existing universal signs in Caledon however have no records of the signs being installed. Upon further review there is no process in place to permit these types of signs.

Subsequently a Universal Signage memorandum was prepared for the May 6, 2019 AAC meeting that outlined staff's position indicating that it is not the Town's practice to install such signs as the Ontario Traffic Manual does not provide guidance on universal signage. All previous actions were based on context and character of the roadway and the community. It was confirmed that the existing sign on Walker Road is not a Town sign.

At the AAC meeting when the memorandum was discussed, Committee members were not satisfied and passed a motion that the matter be referred to staff for further information. If referred back to staff, the information and position will not change. Staff is suggesting no further action be taken on this matter.