

Accessibility Barriers and Where They can Happen

The Accessible Saskatchewan Act focuses on several areas where barriers can cause significant challenges to people who face them. A barrier is anything that makes it difficult or impossible for people with disabilities to fully participate.

Built Environments – Physical barriers that prevent individuals, especially people with disabilities, from fully accessing and using spaces.

- Examples include: Ramps, sidewalks, pathways, doorways, parks or playgrounds, washrooms, recreation facilities, elevators, or signage.

Information and Communications – Barriers that individuals, especially people with disabilities, from receiving, understanding, or conveying information in an effective manner.

- Examples include: Printed, digital, or in-person communication, user interface, City’s website, social media accounts, or information about programs, services, or events.

Transportation – Barriers that prevent individuals, especially people with disabilities, from accessing or using transportation systems in an effective and independent manner.

- Examples include: Roads, sidewalks, snow removal, parking, buses, taxis and ride-hail services (e.g., Uber), or Access Transit.

Service Animals – Barriers that prevent people with disabilities from using service animals to assist them, enhancing their independence and safety.

- Examples include: Access to facilities, lack of education, lack of relief areas for service animals, mistaken for pets, or access to transportation systems.

Service Delivery /Civic Goods and Services (Procurement) - Barriers that prevent individuals, especially people with disabilities from entirely using or benefiting from City of Saskatoon programs and services.

- Examples include: Recreation, parking permits, utilities, public transit, or business development.

Employment - Barriers that prevent individuals, especially people with disabilities, from finding and applying for jobs with the City of Saskatoon.

- Examples include: Job postings, recruitment process, offered accommodations, interviews, or applications.

Attitudes – Barriers that are informed by negative biases - beliefs and feelings of City of Saskatoon employees that limit or prevent inclusive environments.

- Examples include: Valuing contributions, commitment to removing barriers, inclusion in activities, or willingness to adapt.