

Accessibility Plan Update

Municipality of Springfield

Date of first approval:

December 5, 2017

Date updated:

February 20, 2024

Years Applicable:

January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2025

Primary contact person:

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Contact Information:

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Dustin Olsen

Contact Information:

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Land Acknowledgement

The Municipality of Springfield acknowledges that we are gathered on ancestral lands, Treaty 1 territory, traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene Peoples, and on the National Homeland of the Red River Métis.

Mission

The Municipality of Springfield provides high quality municipal services to our community through effective leadership, fiscal responsibility, and safe sustainable practices.

Vision

Springfield has it all!

An inclusive “community of Communities” which embraces the views and lifestyles of people of all ages and all walks of life.

We enjoy pristine water resources, a sustainable natural environment, and the unparalleled beauty of Birds Hill Park and a wide range of recreational opportunities including a rich equestrian way of life.

From Rural to small-town living with modern urban amenities, we offer a variety of lifestyle choices.

Our robust and diverse agriculture base is complemented by a thriving economy and a sustainable, resilient infrastructure. This combined with our community-oriented governance and high-quality municipal services. Makes

Springfield the IDEAL place to live, work, play and stay.

Statement of Commitment

The Municipality of Springfield, through its Vision, Mission Statement and core values is committed to ensuring that all community members have equal access to all our services and facilities regardless of their abilities. We are committed to treating all people in a way that allows them to maintain their dignity and independence. We believe in inclusion. We are committed to meeting the needs of people who face accessibility barriers by identifying, removing, and preventing these barriers and by meeting the requirements of the Accessibility for Manitobans Act.

Background

On December 5, 2013, The Accessibility for Manitobans Act (AMA) was passed. This Act provides the process to identify, prevent and remove barriers for all citizens. Part of the act mandates municipalities with a population over 10,000 must have an Accessibility plan in place by December 31, 2016, and must be updated every two (2) years. The act stipulates the development of five (5) accessibility standards that will take place over the next few years. As they are implemented municipalities will have to adopt the standards.

The five standards are:

1. Customer Service Policy
2. Information and communication
3. Transportation
4. Employment
5. Built environment

Recent Achievements

- The Municipality of Springfield adopted an *accessible customer service policy* on October 23, 2018. The Municipality of Springfield, through its Vision, Mission Statement, and Core Values is committed to ensuring that all community members have equal access to our services and facilities regardless of their abilities.
- The Municipality of Springfield adopted an *accessible employment policy* on May 3, 2022. The Municipality of Springfield is committed to complying with the Accessibility Standard for Employment under the Accessibility for Manitobans Act. Our policies, procedures, practices, and measures reflect principles of dignity, independence, integration, and equal opportunity for people with disabilities. We aim to remove barriers in our workplace and if a barrier cannot be removed, we seek to provide reasonable accommodations to affected employees.
- Council meeting minutes are available in alternate formats (upon request).
- Constructed a barrier – free Splash Pad in 2022. This project provides a play space that is accessible to children of all ages and levels of ability.
- Installed accessible rubberized surface at the Springfield Centre playground. The Springfield Centre playground is adjacent to the Springfield Community Splash Pad.
- Installed accessible surface and ground equipment as part of the Anola Community Club playground project.
- Installed accessible independent play pieces as part of the Gilliespie Park playground project.

- Installed accessible washrooms at the Cooks Creek Community Club.
- Installed a ramp at the front door of the Planning Department.
- New active-use pathway from Springfield Road to the municipal offices, enhancing barrier-free trail access.
- Implemented Virtual City Hall. Virtual City Hall is an online software program that allows community members to access various municipal services from anywhere. This service enables community members improved access and alternate means of viewing.

Action Items

The Municipality of Springfield strives to provide accessible environments, facilities, recreation programs, policies and procedures to reduce barriers and provide equal access to municipal services for all community members.

Action 1: Accessible Public Washrooms in the Administrative Building

Purpose

An accessible bathroom ensures that people with mobility challenges can move around with ease and independence. Maintaining emotional well-being and a sense of independence involves the ability to carry out daily activities without relying on constant assistance or encountering undue physical barriers. This is particularly significant for individuals with mobility challenges. Having an accessible bathroom that allows them to independently enter the bathroom and perform routine tasks like washing hands can have a profound impact on their overall well-being and autonomy.

The freedom and dignity gained from having an accessible bathroom can lead to increased self-assurance, lower stress levels, and overall improved happiness. By removing barriers and providing the necessary support and accommodations, an accessible bathroom empowers individuals to take care of their hygiene needs independently.

Project

To install two accessible barrier free public washrooms in the Administrative Building. This will include power door operators at the entrance door; amended mounting height and location requirements for accessories such as towel dispensers and hand dryers; grab bars next to toilet for transfer.

Action 2: Design a barrier – free Multiplex Community Recreation Centre

Purpose

A key priority of the Springfield Community Recreation Centre is to provide both the physical space and opportunities for recreational programs that are fully accessible to individuals in our community with a wide range of abilities and limitations.

Project

Our belief is that a well designed, accessible space will permit integrated and inclusive programming for all our residents to come together. The Springfield Community Recreation Centre will compliment existing recreation facilities in the Municipality and address the gaps identified in the Springfield Recreational Master Plan. The facility itself will be a 75,000 sq ft multi purpose facility that includes indoor turf, an indoor gymnasium complete with a second level walking / running track, meeting room, fitness facility, indoor playground, commercial kitchen as well as a cafeteria / kitchen. The vision is that this facility will serve as a gathering spot for the entire community, offering an array of activities for all ages and tailored to the unique and diverse needs of all community members.

Action 3: Improving accessibility in municipal parks

Purpose

The overriding goal is to build a play environment that permits all users equal access and the opportunity for enriching play and activity. The experience of play in the overall development and health of young children is vital. The Municipality of Springfield is dedicated to providing the means by which this experience can be realized for our community's children. As a thriving municipality, it is imperative that efforts be directed at fostering quality outdoor play experiences which will enhance the development of all children and allow for inclusive interaction.

Project

Park projects will attempt to include the appropriate amount of ground level

play equipment, accessible ramps to access the play structure, rubberized playground surfacing, and accessible swings. The Municipality of Springfield will deliver on a standardized minimum criteria for park accessibility.

Action 4: Improving Customer Service

Purpose

As an organization, to understand the barriers and facilitators of accessible customer service.

Project

Municipal staff have different levels of knowledge and awareness when it comes to the barriers experienced by customers with disabilities, such as how to respond to inquiries and requests for accommodation. Therefore, we will continue to identify, train and develop awareness of current and future staff while seeking solutions the issues identified. The municipality will seek to ensure compliance with The Accessibility for Manitobans Act (AMA) regulations for customer service and The Human Rights Code (Manitoba) on how to serve people with disabilities.

Council Resolution

RM of Springfield

100 Springfield Centre Drive, Manitoba, R0E 1J0

Tel: 1-204-444-3321

www.rmofspringfield.ca

20 February, 2024

RESOLUTION

Resolution # 24-055

Moved by: Patrick Therrien

Seconded by: Melinda Warren

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Springfield approve the 2024/2025 Accessibility Plan as presented.

Carried

Certified True Copy



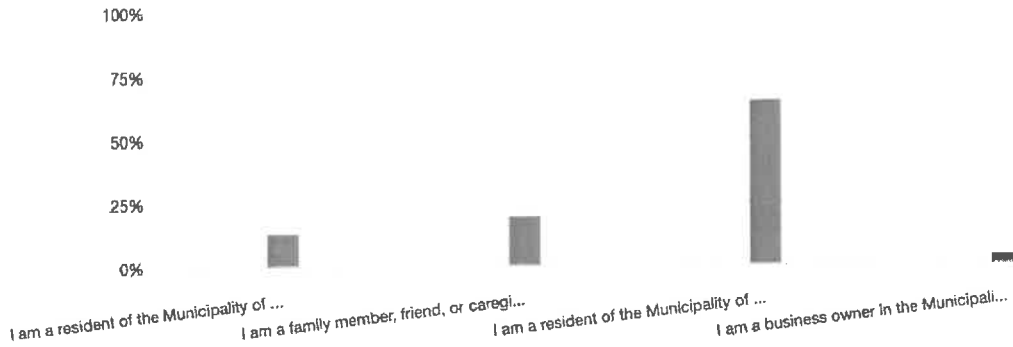
Chief Administrative Officer

Community Consulting

Rural Municipality of Springfield, Canada | January 8th, 2024
Accessibility Survey Results



Please check all the following statements that apply to you.



How often do you visit public buildings which include the following: Springfield Administrative Building, Springfield Planning Department, Springfield Police Department, Public Works / Water and Waste, Anola Community Club, Dugald Community Club, Cooks Creek Community Club, Hazelridge Sports Complex, Oakbank Community Club, Springfield Airport, Springfield Public Library, Cooks Creek Heritage Museum and the Anola Museum.



Have you encountered any barriers to accessing any of the above-mentioned buildings municipally owned facility and/or building?



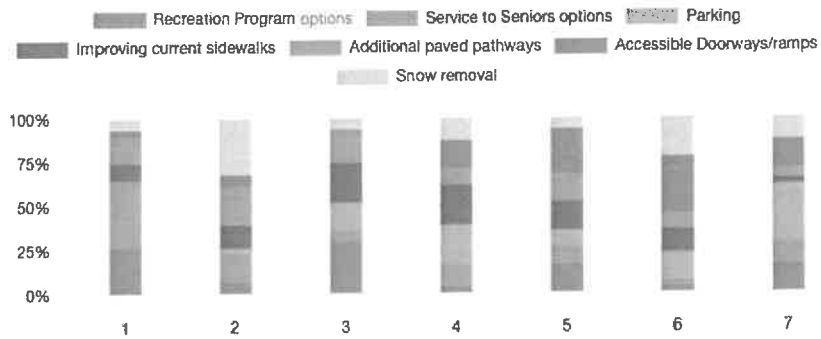
How often do you visit the following municipal parks: Springfield Centre Playground and Splashpad, Jodi Park, Kin Park, Lions Park, Aspen Lake Park, Elm Park, Cooks Creek Community Club Playground, Gilliespie Park, Anola Community Club Playground and Hunter Paar Park.



Have you encountered any barriers to the above-mentioned parks?



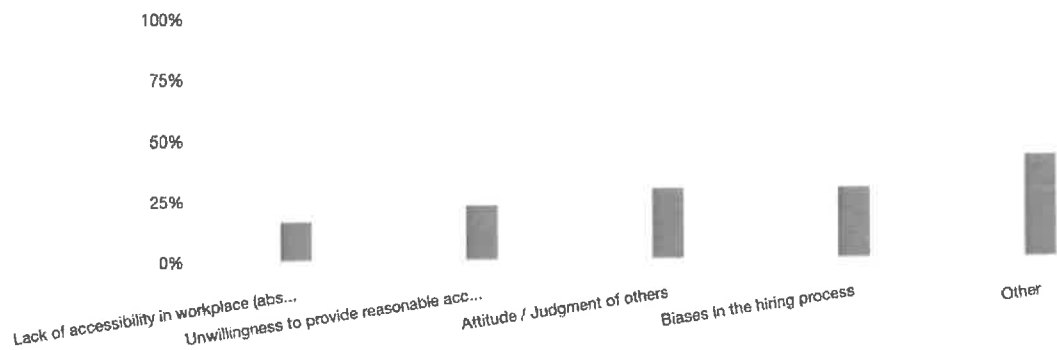
In your opinion, what are the top priorities for improving accessibility in Springfield?



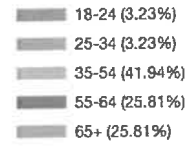
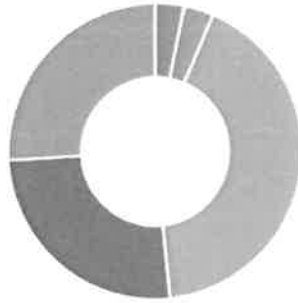
How would evaluate the Springfield Handi Van Service?



What are the barriers to accessible employment?



Please tell us a little about yourself. In which age range do you belong?



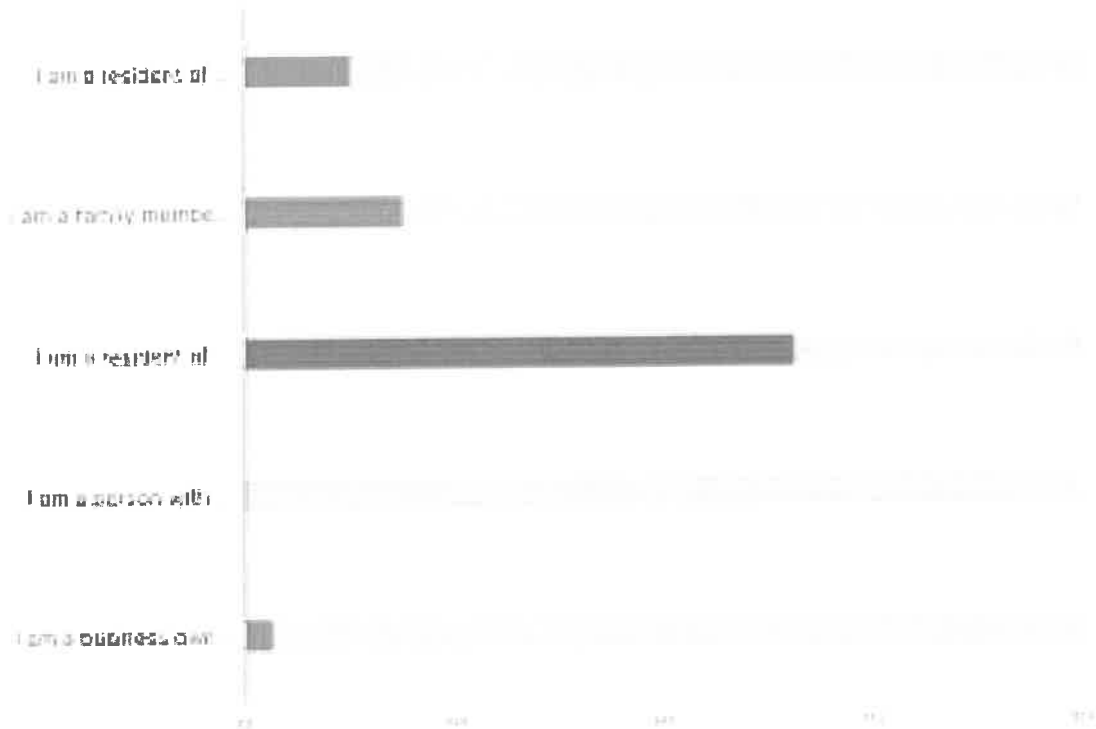
Accessibility Survey

Date range: **Dec 14, 2023-Jan 08, 2024**

Total submissions: **64**

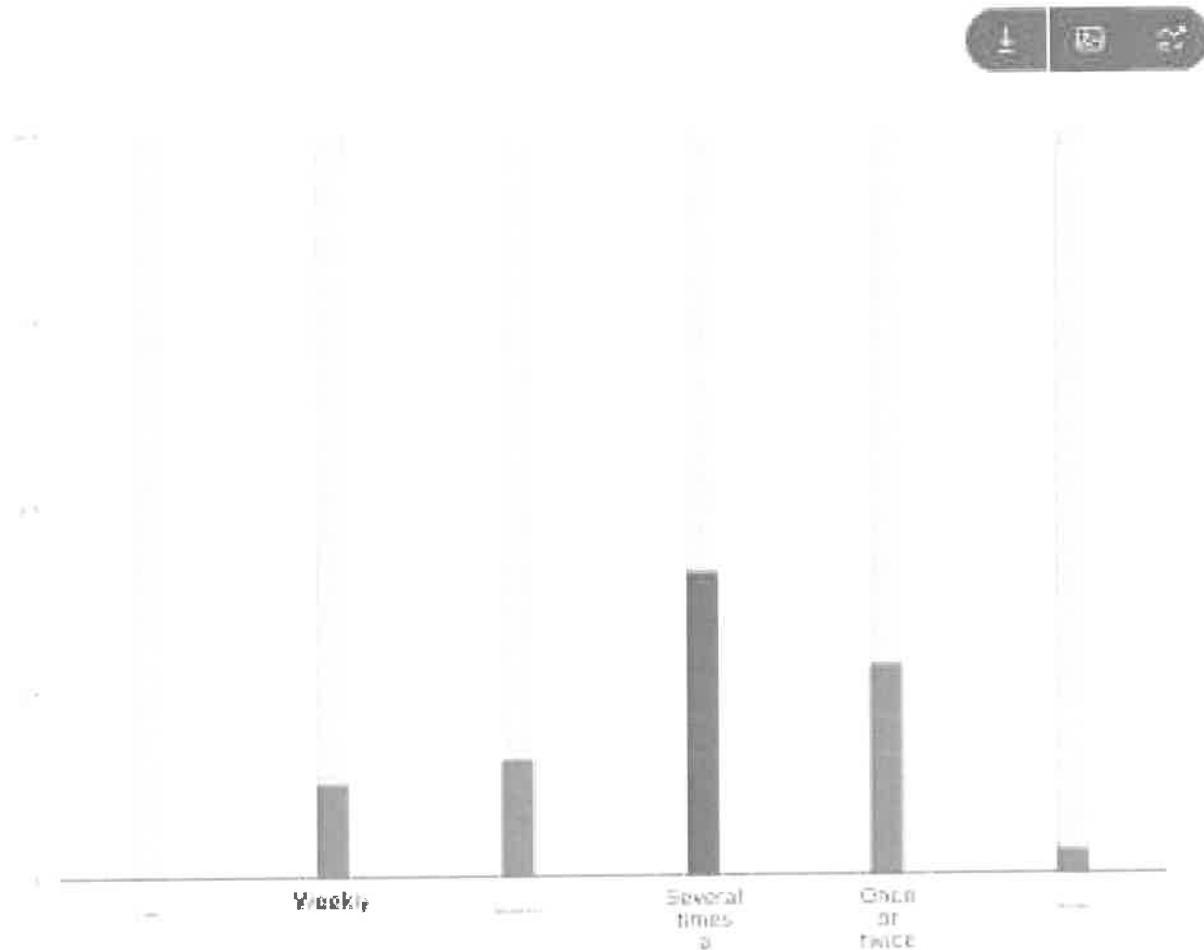
Total responses: **1485**

Please check all the following statements that apply to you.



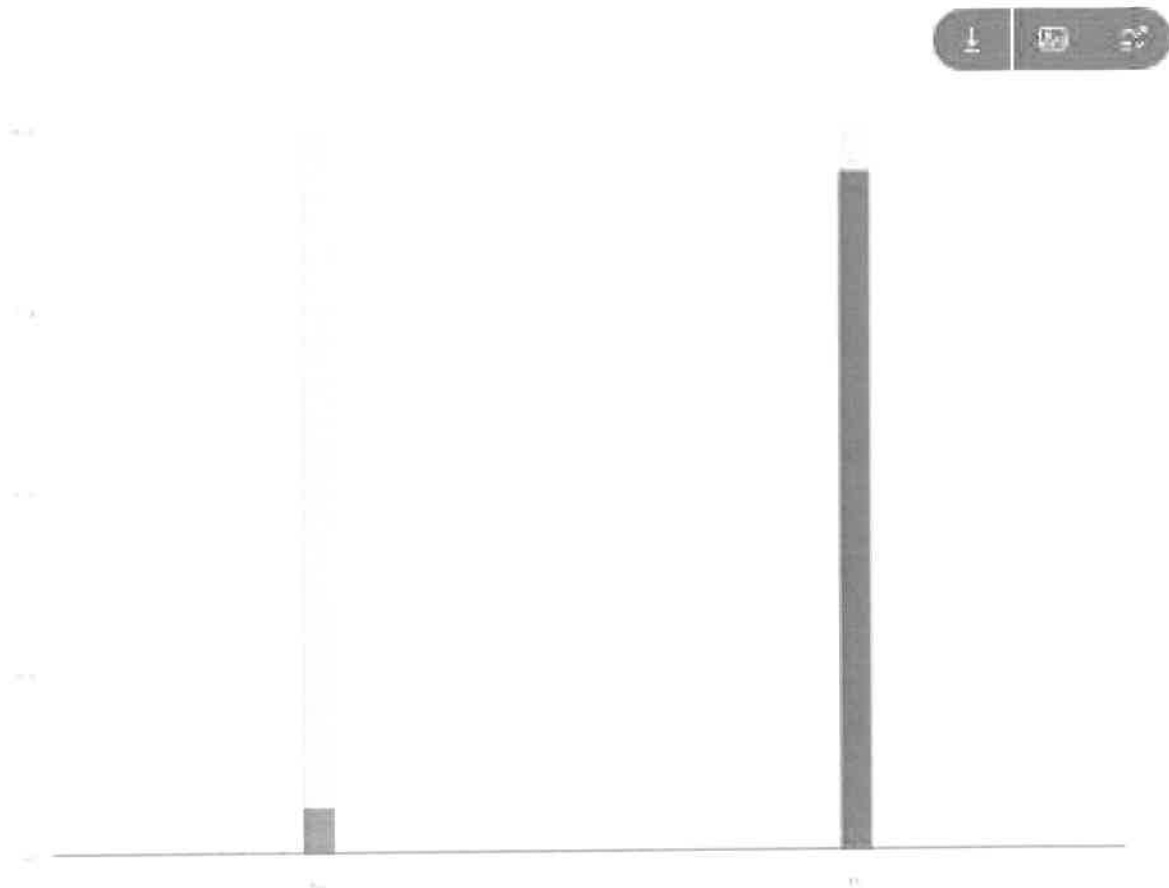
ANSWER OPTION	%	% TOTAL	# OF RESPONSES
I am a resident of the Municipality of Springfield with a disability	12.50%	12.50%	4
I am a family member, friend, or caregiver of a person with a disability that lives in the Municipality of Springfield	18.75%	18.75%	6
I am a resident of the Municipality of Springfield and don't identify as a person with a disability	65.63%	65.63%	21
I am a person with a disability and work in the Municipality of Springfield	0.00%	0.00%	0
I am a business owner in the Municipality of Springfield	3.13%	3.13%	1
Total			32

How often do you visit public buildings which include the following: Springfield Administrative Building, Springfield Planning Department, Springfield Police Department, Public Works / Water and Waste, Anola Community Club, Dugald Community Club, Cooks Creek Community Club, Hazelridge Sports Complex, Oakbank Community Club, Springfield Airport, Springfield Public Library, Cooks Creek Heritage Museum and the Anola Museum.



ANSWER OPTION	%	# OF RESPONSES
Daily	0.00%	0
Weekly	12.50%	4
Monthly	15.63%	5
Several times a year	40.63%	13
Once or twice a year	28.13%	9
Never	3.13%	1
Total		32

Have you encountered any barriers to accessing any of the above-mentioned buildings municipally owned facility and/or building?



ANSWER OPTION	%	# OF RESPONSES
Yes	6.25%	2
No	93.75%	30
Total		32

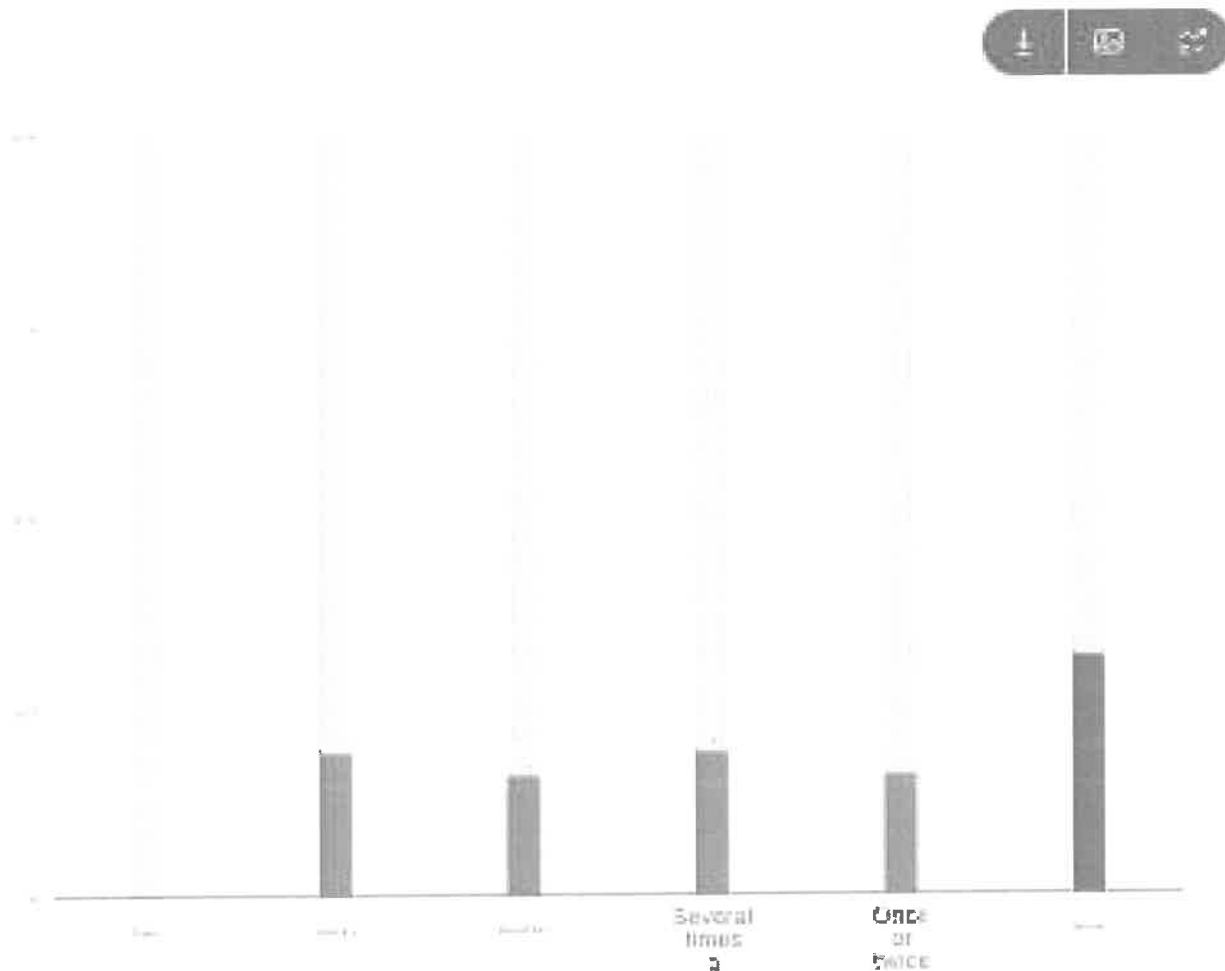
If you answered "Yes" to the previous question, please specify:

Nothing needed except larger print on online information
Jan 6, 2024

Challenging to sit in rink with family benches are hard/impossible to climb if people are in way of stairs
Dec 17, 2023

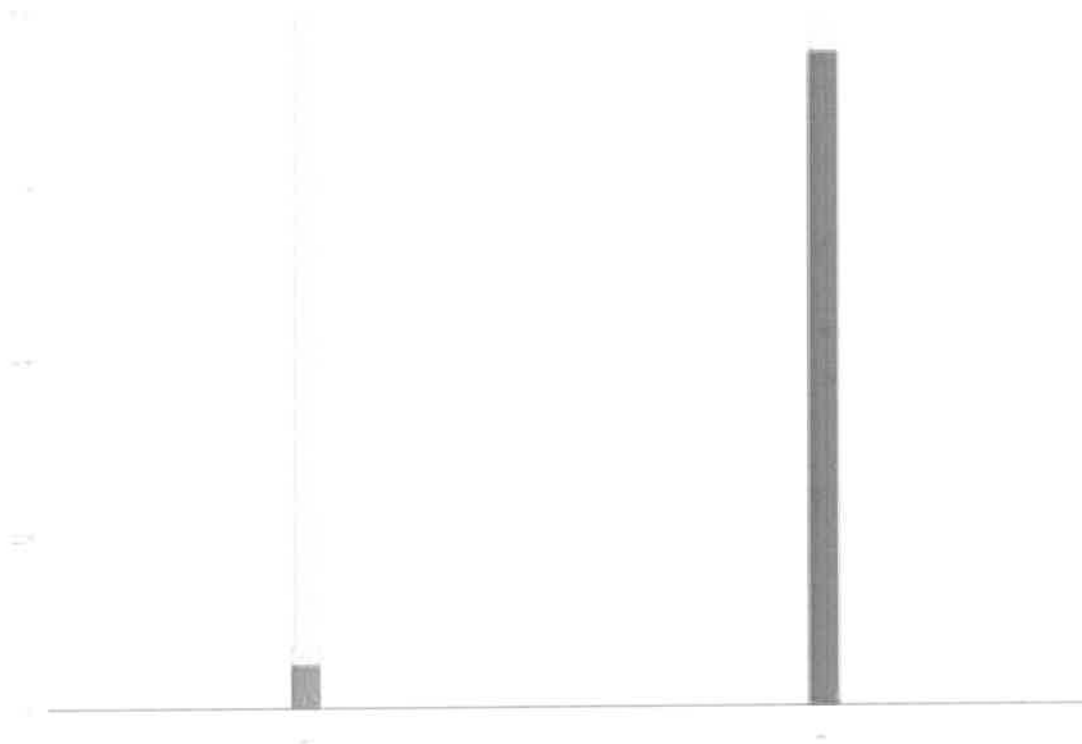
Some of these facilities have very little disabled parking.
Dec 14, 2023

How often do you visit the following municipal parks: Springfield Centre Playground and Splashpad, Jodi Park, Kin Park, Lions Park, Aspen Lake Park, Elm Park, Cooks Creek Community Club Playground, Gilliespie Park, Anola Community Club Playground and Hunter Paar Park.



ANSWER OPTION	%	# OF RESPONSES
Daily	0.00%	0
Weekly	18.75%	6
Monthly	15.63%	5
Several times a year	18.75%	6
Once or twice a year	15.63%	5
Never	31.25%	10
Total		32

Have you encountered any barriers to the above-mentioned parks?



ANSWER OPTION	%	# OF RESPONSES
Yes	6.25%	2
No	93.75%	30
Total		32

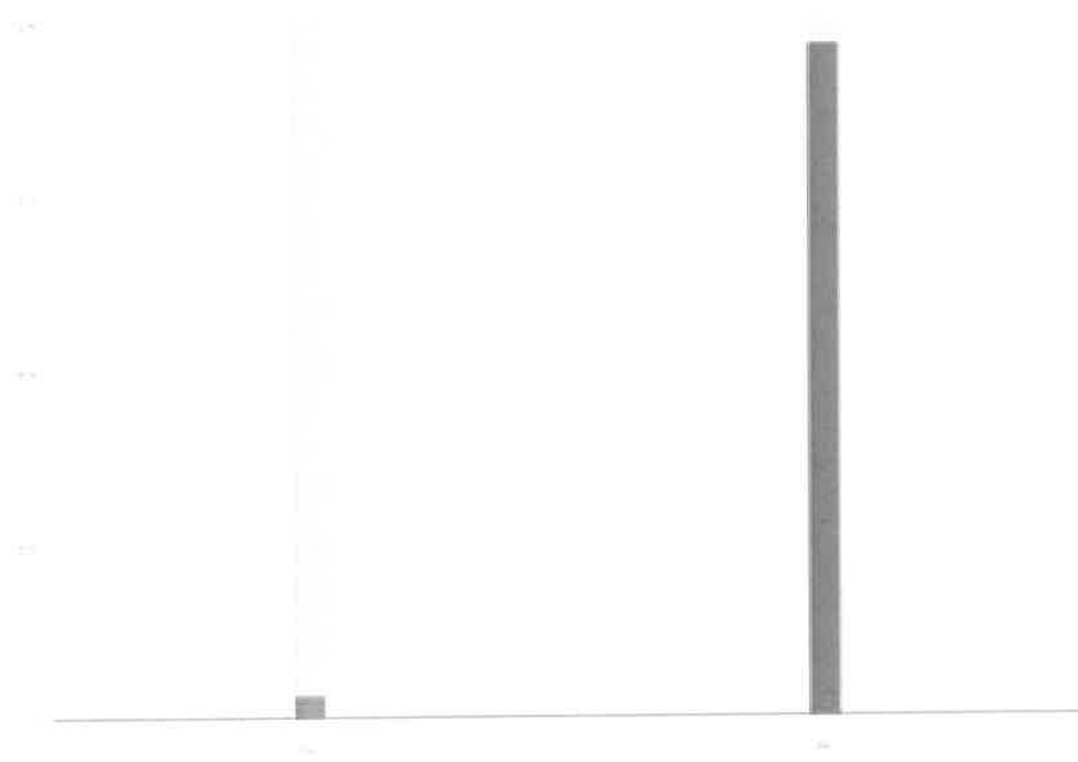
If you answered "Yes" to the previous question, please specify:

Nothing needed except larger print on online information
Jan 6, 2024

Snow removal makes it hard to get around in park
Dec 17, 2023

Not all parks are physically accessible to all our kids friends. Wheelchair access is no good at any of the parks except splash pad and we only have one accessible swing in the entire town of Oakbank. More ramps and better surface and swings is needed
Dec 15, 2023

Have you encountered any barriers to participating in municipal recreation programs or activity?



ANSWER OPTION	%	# OF RESPONSES
Yes	3.13%	1
No	96.88%	31
Total		32

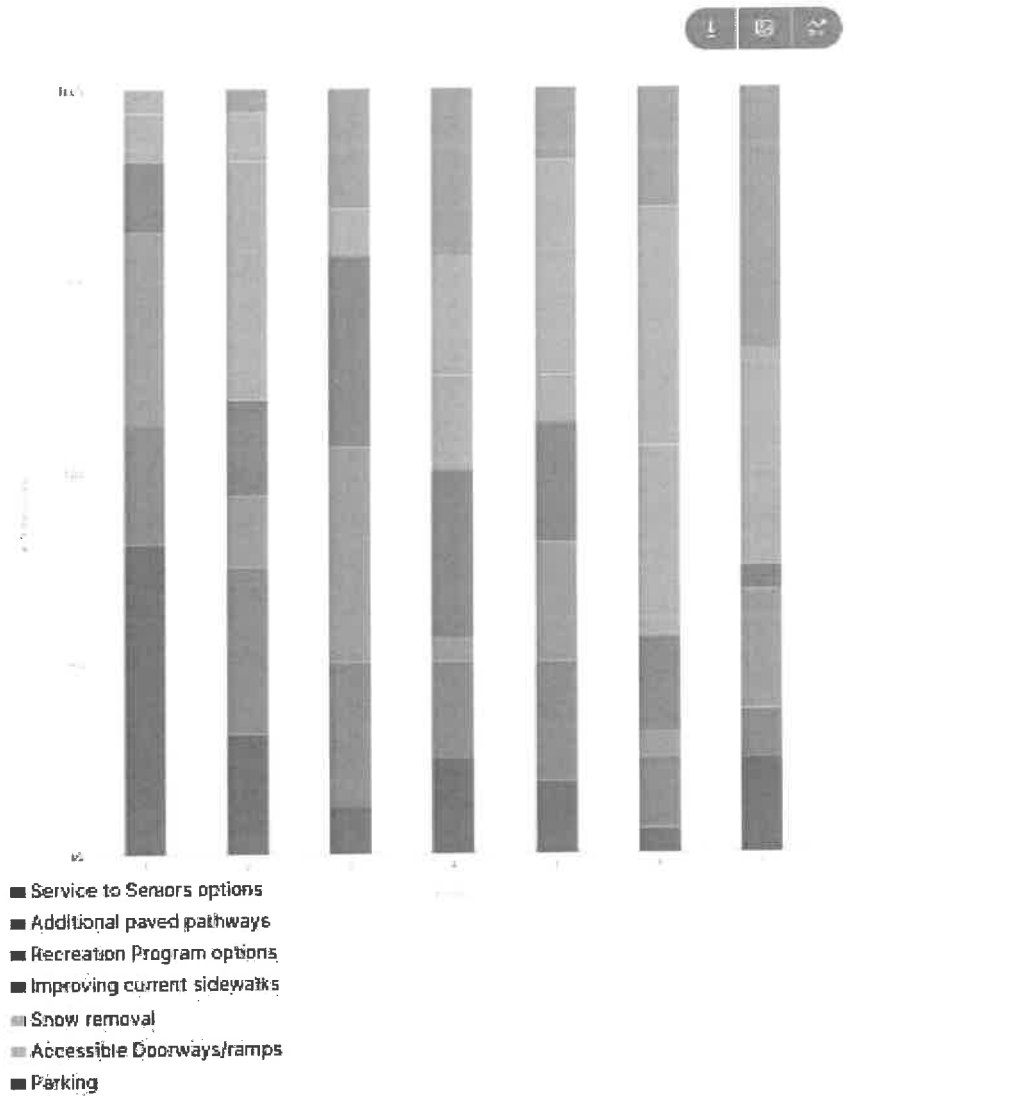
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If you answered "Yes" to the previous question, please specify:

Nothing needed except larger print on online information
Jan 6, 2024

Kids that are neurodiverse need accommodation and a support person. Without this my child can not attend things like activities or camps so we dont
Dec 15, 2023

In your opinion, what are the top priorities for improving accessibility in Springfield?



ANSWER OPTION	1ST	2ND	3RD	4TH	5TH	6TH	7TH	TOTAL	SCORE
Service to Seniors options	40.63% 13	15.63% 5	6.25% 2	12.50% 4	9.38% 3	3.13% 1	12.50% 4	32	2.94
Additional paved pathways	15.63% 5	21.88% 7	18.75% 6	12.50% 4	15.63% 5	9.38% 3	6.25% 2	32	3.44
Recreation Program options	25.00% 8	9.38% 3	28.13% 9	3.13% 1	15.63% 5	3.13% 1	15.63% 5	32	3.47
improving current sidewalks	9.38% 3	12.50% 4	25.00% 8	21.88% 7	15.63% 5	12.50% 4	3.13% 1	32	3.72
Snow removal	6.25% 2	31.25% 10	6.25% 2	12.50% 4	6.25% 2	25.00% 8	12.50% 4	32	4.06
Accessible Doorways/ramps	3.13% 1	6.25% 2	0.00% 0	15.63% 5	28.13% 9	31.25% 10	15.63% 5	32	5.16
Parking	0.00% 0	3.13% 1	15.63% 5	21.88% 7	9.38% 3	15.63% 5	34.38% 11	32	5.22

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If you feel there are any other priorities that were not listed above, please include them below:

Nothing needed except larger print on online information
Jan 6, 2024

A paved path from Oakbank to Dugald was in the plan. I would like to see that happen.
Dec 21, 2023

Improved areas around mail box clusters
Dec 20, 2023

Take better care of the newly planted trees. You have to water/trim and provide proper care, not just plant them and then leave them unattended to dry up and die!
Dec 15, 2023

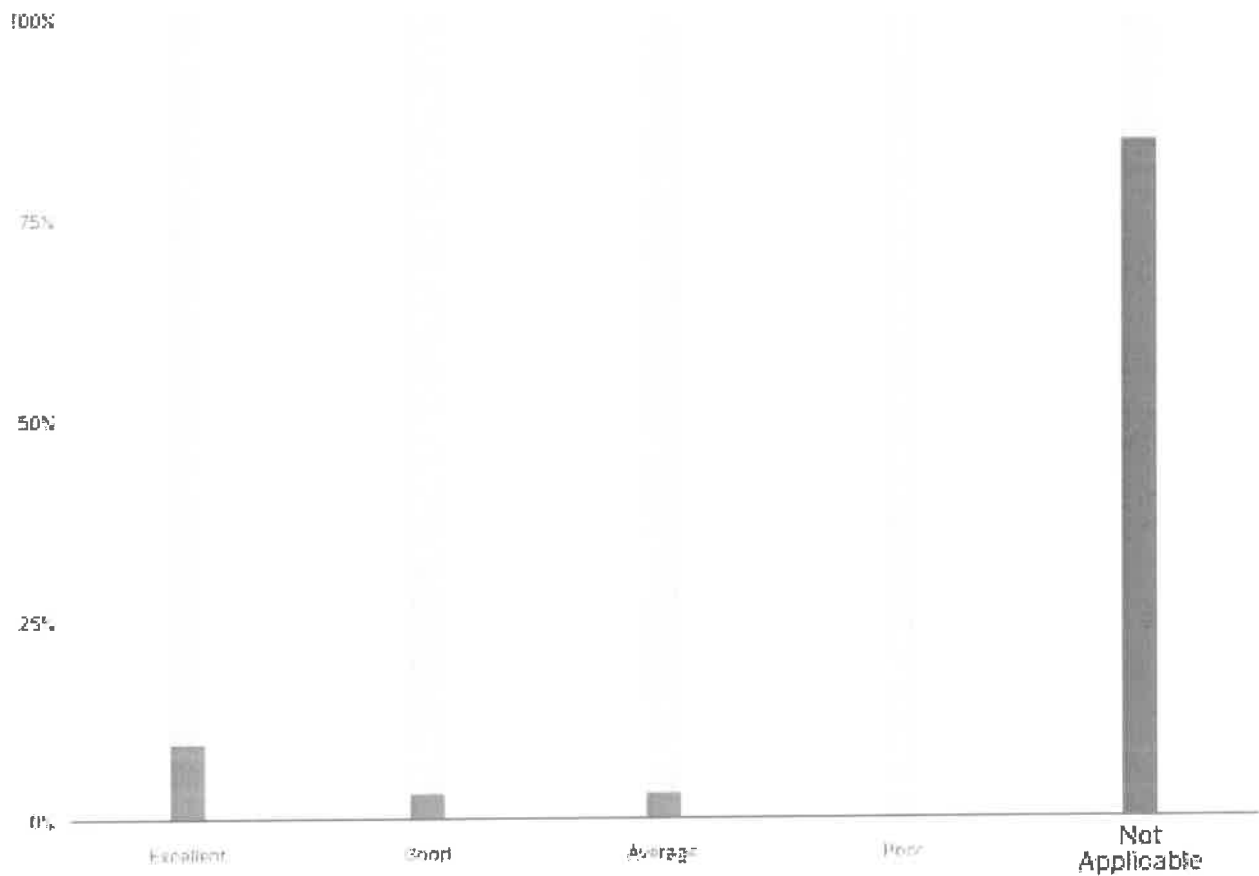
Support for neurodiverse kids during programs
Dec 15, 2023

An indoor pool facility. People with physical disabilities often really benefit from exercising in water. Not all people can get their exercise by walking/skating/running/biking etc.
Dec 14, 2023

There needs to be more adult programming that is not for seniors during evenings and weekends. I find that the RM has very little to offer. I am thinking exercise programs, crafts or hobbies etc.
Dec 14, 2023

please approve the whole McDonalds build and stop listening to the whiners and make it accessible
Dec 14, 2023

How would evaluate the Springfield Handi Van Service?



ANSWER OPTION	%	# OF RESPONSES
Excellent	9.38%	3
Good	3.13%	1
Average	3.13%	1
Poor	0.00%	0
Not Applicable	84.38%	27
Total		32

What are the barriers to accessible transportation?

Nothing needed except larger print on online information
Jan 6, 2024

High speed rail to the city as part of the Plan 2050 Winnipeg Metro Region.
Jan 6, 2024

Don't know
Dec 21, 2023

Availability & time restraints
Dec 20, 2023

none
Dec 19, 2023

No idea
Dec 18, 2023

Not knowing that they are available
Dec 17, 2023

Na
Dec 17, 2023

na
Dec 15, 2023

There is no one to provide trips into Winnipeg for medical appointments.
Dec 15, 2023

nothing
Dec 15, 2023

Don't think there are any.
Dec 15, 2023

NA
Dec 15, 2023

Not applicable
Dec 15, 2023

N/A
Dec 15, 2023

Na
Dec 15, 2023

Don't know
Dec 15, 2023

N/A
Dec 14, 2023

N/a
Dec 14, 2023

Do not use it.
Dec 14, 2023

don't know
Dec 14, 2023

I do not use accessible transportation personally however barriers may include availability of vehicles.
Dec 14, 2023

na
Dec 14, 2023

Proper snow removal
Dec 14, 2023

No response
Dec 14, 2023

unknown
Dec 14, 2023

N/a
Dec 14, 2023

N/A
Dec 14, 2023

No public transportation services.
Dec 14, 2023

NA
Dec 14, 2023

Na
Dec 14, 2023

How can we improve the Springfield Handi Van Service?

Nothing needed except larger print on online information
Jan 6, 2024

Make sure the drivers who operate are regularly reviewed for fitness to drive (ie. they can see, hear and smell adequately).
Jan 6, 2024

Don't know as I don't use the service
Dec 21, 2023

Make vans more available & improve pick-up times
Dec 20, 2023

Another vehicle.
Dec 19, 2023

No idea
Dec 18, 2023

Advertising it more so those that need it are aware of this service.
Dec 17, 2023

How can we improve the Springfield Handi Van Service?

Na

Dec 17, 2023

na

Dec 15, 2023

Engage in a Serving Seniors plan that offers a smaller handi van/taxi for one or two persons requiring trips into Winnipeg or elsewhere for medical or even social appointments

Dec 15, 2023

No

Dec 15, 2023

User pay

Dec 15, 2023

NA

Dec 15, 2023

Repair in a timely mannet

Dec 15, 2023

N/A

Dec 15, 2023

Na

Dec 15, 2023

Don't know

Dec 15, 2023

N/A

Dec 14, 2023

N/a

Dec 14, 2023

No nothing about it.

Dec 14, 2023

don't know
Dec 14, 2023

N/A
Dec 14, 2023

na
Dec 14, 2023

Unknown
Dec 14, 2023

Unknown
Dec 14, 2023

NA
Dec 14, 2023

unknown
Dec 14, 2023

N/A
Dec 14, 2023

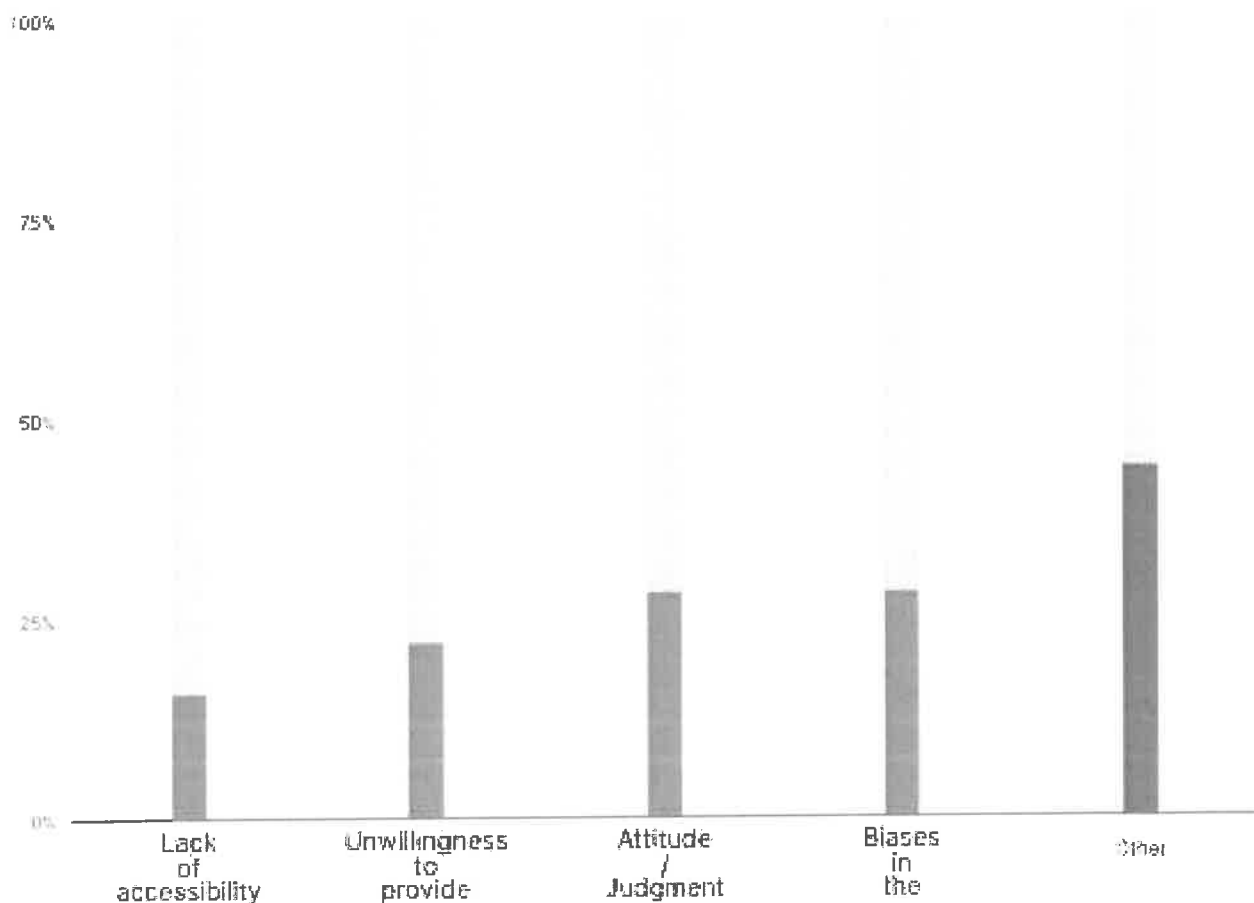
N/A
Dec 14, 2023

Availability and cost to the user needs improvement.
Dec 14, 2023

NA
Dec 14, 2023

Na
Dec 14, 2023

What are the barriers to accessible employment?



ANSWER OPTION	%	% TOTAL	# OF RESPONSES
Lack of accessibility in workplace (absence or availability of wheelchair ramps, automatic doors, and assistive technologies)	15.63%	11.36%	5
Unwillingness to provide reasonable accommodations	21.88%	15.91%	7
Attitude / Judgment of others	28.13%	20.45%	9
Biases in the hiring process	28.13%	20.45%	9
Other	43.75%	31.82%	14
Total			44

If you selected "Other" on the previous question, please specify:

Nothing needed except larger print on online information
Jan 6, 2024

Na
Dec 17, 2023

na
Dec 15, 2023

not applicable
Dec 15, 2023

Haven't heard any problems
Dec 15, 2023

NA
Dec 15, 2023

Lack of understanding of invisible disabilities such as autism.
Dec 15, 2023

N/a
Dec 14, 2023

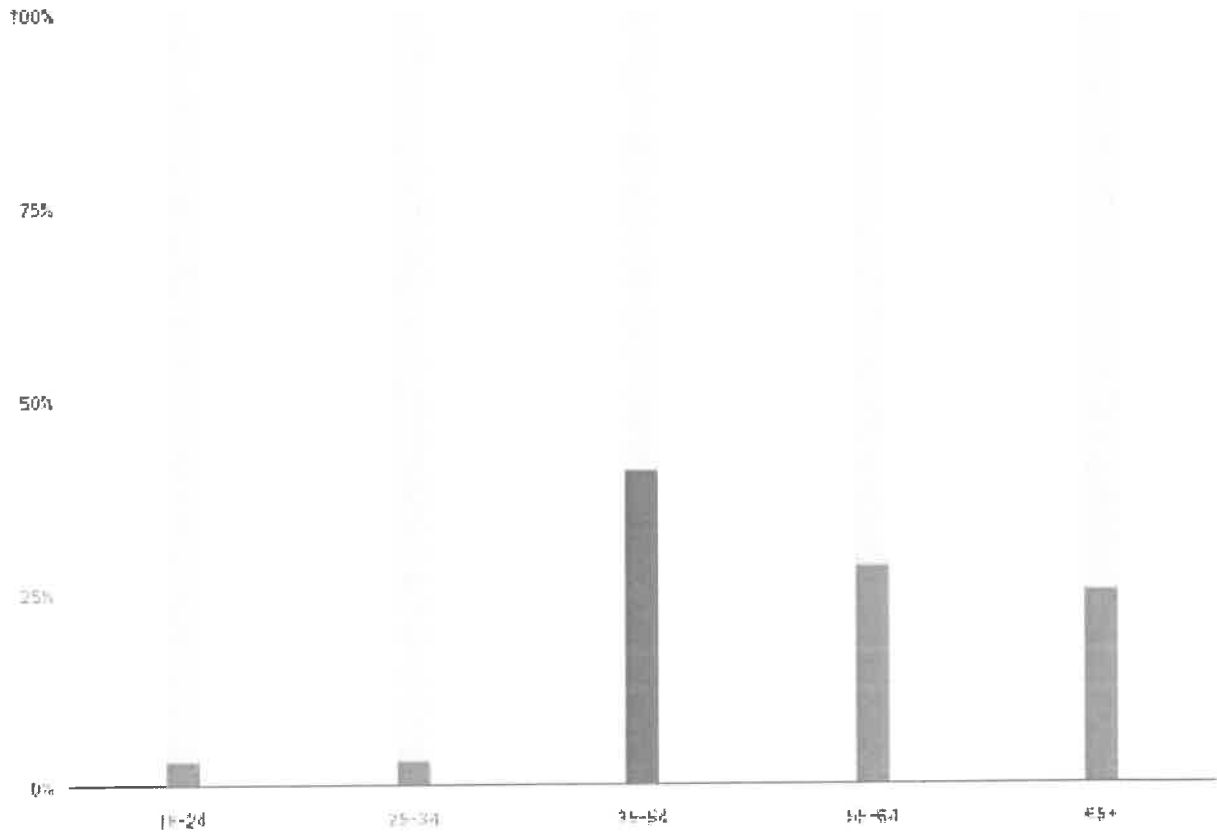
This does not allow for a n/a or non applicable . Seems like your made to put a response
Dec 14, 2023

Lack of understanding of and accommodating individuals with invisible disabilities such as
Autism.
Dec 14, 2023

N/A
Dec 14, 2023

N/A
Dec 14, 2023

Please tell us a little about yourself. In which age range do you belong?



ANSWER OPTION	%	# OF RESPONSES
18-24	3.13%	1
25-34	3.13%	1
35-54	40.63%	13
55-64	28.13%	9
65+	25.00%	8
Total		32