

# COUNCIL EFFORTS ON DOCUMENT ACCESSIBILITY

September 30, 2020



- WHAT DOCUMENT IS ACCESSIBLE?

**Readable** by sighted/low vision/non-sighted reader

Uses **high visual contrast** and do not exclusively use color coding to communicate

Aims for **standard readability**

Passes the **Accessibility Checker**

## Accessibility Checker

### Inspection Results

#### Errors

Missing Alt Text (12)

#### Warnings

Unclear Hyperlink Text (8)

#### Tips

Skipped Heading Level (15)

## GENERAL GUIDANCE

- **Add Alternative Text to Images, pictures, clip art, charts, etc.**
- **Use styles in long documents**
- **Specify column header rows in tables**
- **Use meaningful hyperlinks**
- **Avoid using blank cells for formatting or paragraph marks for spacing between lines or paragraphs**
- **Avoid using watermarks that are images**

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT THAT THE  
DOCUMENTS THAT COME OUT OF THE  
COUNCIL ARE ACCESSIBLE?

- **Eliminate barriers** in information technology
- Make available **new opportunities** for individuals with disabilities
- Individuals with disabilities have **access to** and be able **to use** information and data that are comparable to the access and use by individuals without disabilities
- Americans with Disability Act (1990)
- Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

WHERE ARE WE ON THIS PATH NOW?



## HOW CAN OUR PARTNERS ASSIST US IN THIS EFFORT?

- (Ideally!) provide materials for dissemination by the Council on the listserv or social media in an accessible format – it speeds up our work.
- If running into a difficulty, some are on the next slide or check with us on the resources  
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## RESOURCES

- Plain English Ireland. Test readability using the Flesch Reading Ease Scale. Retrieved on May 15, 2020 from <https://www.plainenglish.ie/plain-english/flesch-r/>
- Section 508 GSA Government-wide IT Accessibility Program. Create Accessible Documents. Retrieved on May 15, 2020 from <https://www.section508.gov/create/documents>

## RESOURCES

- Usability.gov. How To & Tools-Writing for the Web. Retrieved on May 15, 2020 from <https://www.usability.gov/how-to-and-tools/methods/writing-for-the-web.html>
- The Writing Center, Inc., How to Use Your Computer's Readability Statistics Scores-Passive Sentences. Retrieved on May 15, 2020 from <http://www.writingcenter.com/2014/07/12/how-to-use-your-computers-readability-statistics-scores-passive-sentences/>