Brisbane City Council is committed to making Brisbane an accessible and inclusive city for everyone.

Every day, Brisbane City Council works with residents and local communities to help make our city what it is today. To ensure residents and visitors of all ages and abilities can move around with ease and enjoy the lifestyle and leisure opportunities Brisbane has to offer, Council has made a number of improvements across the city, including upgrades to parking infrastructure, public transport and community facilities and venues.

Parking

Council has recently made some changes to parking infrastructure and time limits across Brisbane, making pick-up and set-down easier for people with a disability.

These changes include:

• installing extra kerbside ramps at high-use passenger pick-up and drop-off zones to provide more space and greater access
• extending pick-up times at passenger zones to five minutes (previously two minutes) for vehicles displaying an Australian Disability Parking Scheme Permit and wheelchair-accessible vehicles, such as maxi taxis.

These upgrades are the result of recommendations put forward by the Brisbane Parking Taskforce, an independent review group established by Council in 2014 to provide advice on how to best manage parking in Brisbane.
Public transport

Council has made a number of improvements to Brisbane’s bus and ferry fleets to improve accessibility and provide an easier and more enjoyable journey for commuters with a disability.

- Council provides wheelchair access on its low-floor buses via a ramp at the front door. Any wheelchair with a loaded weight of less than 300 kilograms can easily use the ramp. Each bus has two wheelchair spaces for wheelchairs up to 1.3 metres long and 0.8 metres wide.

- All new Council buses are fitted with high-contrast white on black destination signs, helping to make travel easier for passengers with vision impairment.

- Council has also been working on a number of projects to maximise bus stop accessibility by 2022. These include upgrading boarding points to give travellers a clear and unobstructed space to board and exit the bus, and installing tactile ground surface indicators to help people with vision impairment.

Council facilities and venues

New Council buildings are designed to maximise accessibility, in accordance with the requirements of the DDA and Building Code of Australia.

Upgrades to existing Council venues such as Council-owned pools, community halls, community-leased venues and libraries are also being undertaken to improve accessibility including installing or upgrading accessible toilets, car parking, ramps, lifts and electronic hearing loops.

Other projects and initiatives

Through the Access and Inclusion Partnership program, Council is helping community organisations make their facilities and services more accessible, providing more than $3.3 million in funding to 110 community organisations.

People with vision impairment can navigate inner-city Brisbane using more than 250 tactile street signs at intersections and crossings. Australia’s longest ‘braille trail’ of paving tiles with raised surfaces, and ‘Step-Hear’ audio devices in the Queen Street Mall inform people about their location and nearby features.

More than 40 parks across Brisbane have accessible and inclusive play equipment, including full all-abilities playgrounds in the City Botanic Gardens and at Whites Hill Reserve, Camp Hill.

Visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au and search ‘accessible play’ to find an accessible and inclusive playground in your area.

Brisbane City Hall provides a Changing Places toilet on the ground floor, accessible toilets on all levels, braille signage around the entire facility and hearing loops in all rooms to allow people using hearing devices to listen to presentations and events. Wheelchair lifts are located in the main and Ithaca auditoriums to provide stage access, as well as in the Red Cross community café in the basement.

City Hall’s Mobility Centre offers wheelchairs, prams and walking frames for hire at no cost for use throughout the inner city. The centre also offers free recharge facilities for scooters and powered mobility devices.

Council will continue to ensure Brisbane is a city that all residents and visitors can enjoy. For more information, visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au and search ‘accessible Brisbane’ or contact Council on (07) 3403 8888.