



INFORMATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	August 7, 2020
SUBJECT:	Sidewalk Snow Clearing Engagement (TOM2006)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Edward Soldo, P.Eng. Director, Transportation Operations & Maintenance Public Works Department
SIGNATURE:	

This Information Update is to inform Mayor Eisenberger and Members of Council about the start of the engagement process for sidewalk snow clearing in the City of Hamilton.

The process is in response to the direction given at General Issues Committee (GIC) on February 13, 2020 related to Sidewalk Snow Removal (PW19022(a)) (City Wide) (Item 7.1) (February 13, 2020)

- (a) That staff be directed to expand the existing communications initiatives regarding winter storm activities to include additional information about Bylaw No. 03-296 and on-street parking during snow events;
- (b) That staff be directed report to the General Issues Committee on the benefits and challenges associated with universal winter sidewalk snow removal no later than August 10, 2020, with that report to include the impact of proactive enforcement of sidewalk snow removal and a review of current service levels of sidewalk clearing to determine how it may be improved;
- (c) That staff be directed to engage with the City's Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities, the Seniors' Advisory Committee, and the Hamilton Status of Women's Committee, external interested and relevant stakeholders, including but not limited to, those whom delegated with respect to the sidewalk snow removal matter, as it relates to assisting those with mobility issues (wheelchairs, strollers, scooters, seniors, etc.); and,

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

(d) That staff be directed to communicate with other municipalities that are providing sidewalk snow removal, in order to gauge and understand how it is received in their community and to assess what success is achieved with respect to enhanced mobility of its citizens.

Due to COVID-19 related restrictions, the engagement with advisory committees and the community has been delayed. Staff from Transportation Operations & Maintenance have worked with Community Initiatives and Corporate Communications to develop an online engagement presence for sidewalk snow clearing on Engage Hamilton.

Beginning on Monday August 10, 2020 and running until Friday September 11, 2020 residents will have an opportunity to provide input and share feedback on sidewalk snow clearing by visiting the sidewalk snow clearing project on Engage Hamilton: <https://engage.hamilton.ca/>

The site includes a survey and opportunity for residents to review information and submit questions. As part of the engagement process, a communications package will also be distributed to advisory committees and stakeholders, who will be directed to the engagement site to complete the survey and provide feedback.

The City currently clears 397 km of the approximate 2,445 km of sidewalks across Hamilton including: sidewalks on municipally-owned property, along reverse frontage lots, formerly Ward 12 in its entirety, and sidewalks adjacent to school property, owned by either the Public or Private School Board, in conjunction with By-law No. 03-296 on a charge-back basis.

To integrate an Equity Diversity and Inclusion framework for removing snow on sidewalks, a review of alternative sidewalk winter service level scenarios was undertaken. Three scenarios were developed for analysis:

Scenario 1 – Base Case (existing Service) – Maintaining sidewalks on municipally-owned property, along reverse frontage lots, formerly Ward 12 in its entirety, and sidewalks adjacent to school property, owned by either the Public or Separate School Board, in conjunction with By-law No. 03-296 on a charge-back basis.

Scenario 2 – Priority 1 and 2A Roadways – Maintaining sidewalks in the base case plus the addition of an estimated 783 km of sidewalk.

Scenario 3 – City Wide Roadways – Maintaining all sidewalks in the city.

The City is looking for resident and advisory group input regarding the impacts to inclusivity, accessibility, and the financial implications of increasing service levels.

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Council is encouraged to share this information with residents. A robust communications plan has been developed to promote the engagement and the results of the review will be presented to Council in October.

If you require further information, please contact Edward Soldo, Director, Transportation Operations & Maintenance at extension 4622.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

None