



INFORMATION REQUEST

INFORMATION REQUEST #: IR-015-24

REQUESTED BY: Councillor Carter

TOPIC: SNIC Service Levels

DATE OF REQUEST: November 5, 2024

DATE OF RESPONSE: November 6, 2024

QUESTION:

Bring forward an additional business case for snow and ice removal, as per discussions at Council retreat, and a plan to update Council's snow and ice policy.

RESPONSE:

Public Works requires a change to the operating budget and also a change on the capital plan for snow removal equipment dependent on the operating budget increase.

These increases are required to maintain service levels with the addition of 9 km of sidewalk or an 11.25% increase in sidewalk/path inventory.

BACKGROUND:

Public Works currently has 80 km of sidewalk and path inventory for snow removal.

Current service levels require that snow shall be cleared within 48 hours after the end of the snowfall event.

There are currently 5 snow routes on paths/sidewalks for the city.

The current snow policy needs expanding or broadening of the policy to include the clearing of additional public walkways (or sidewalks) that are now maintained by property owners.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/TAXATION IMPACT:

The operating budget needs an increase of seasonal employee for six months (\$45,000 per year) and another \$35,000 to cover operational costs for fuel, maintenance, consumables and replacement contributions.

The capital plan needs an addition for Sidewalk snow removal equipment for \$100,000.

Contact: Dean Carnduff, Director of Public Works, Sustainable Growth & Development Services, 780-893-9005

Service Expansion of Snow Removal on Public Walkways

Department: Public Works								
Cost & FTE Requirements:								
OPERATING	ONE TIME			ON-GOING			FTE REQUIREMENT	
	2025	2026	2027	2025	2026	2027		
Revenue							Year:	
Expenditure				80,000	80,000	80,000	FTE:	
Net Surplus/(Deficit)				(80,000)	(80,000)	(80,000)		
Start Date:								
Completion Date: Ongoing								
Description: This business case is for the expansion of service through the addition of a six-month seasonal employee to include removal of snow from sidewalks on the side of residential properties.								
Business Need: This business case is added as an enhancement of service to the residents of the City of Spruce Grove who own properties with walkways on the side of the yard. Many of these properties have large lengths of sidewalks that may be burdensome for those with low levels of ability to clear snow from walks. The operating budget needs an increase of seasonal employee for six months (\$45k per year) and another \$35k to cover operational costs for fuel, maintenance, consumables and replacement contributions.								
Options: Increase seasonal staffing and equipment levels to take on 9km of additional sidewalks/pathways into the City inventory. This amounts to an 11.25% increase in this type of inventory.								
Impact if Not Implemented: Some areas of the City will go without proper sidewalk clearing where the property owner does not complete the required work or possible delays if the property owner does not complete the work within the required timeframe required by the bylaw. Other residents could incur slip and falls or slower transit times on uncleaned walkways.								
Strategic Plan Alignment: N/A								

Equipment for Service Expansion of Snow Removal on Public Walkways

Asset Category: Transportation and Roadways						
Start Date: January 1, 2025		Completion Date: December 31, 2025				
CAPITAL	Prior Years	2025	2026	2027	2028+	Total
Revenue	-	100,000	-	-	-	-
Expenditure	-	100,000	-	-	-	-
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Source of Funding:						
OPERATING IMPACTS		2025	2026	2027	2028+	FTE
<i>Net Operating Impacts</i>		<i>25,000</i>	<i>25,000</i>	<i>25,000</i>	<i>175,000</i>	

Summary:
 This project includes the procurement of an additional equipment for snow and ice control operations on sidewalks and pathways. This business case is dependent on the approval of the Service Expansion of Snow Removal on Public Walkways.

Background:
 This business case is added as an enhancement of service to the residents of the City of Spruce Grove who own properties with walkways on the side of the yard. Many of these properties have large lengths of sidewalks that may be burdensome for those with low levels of ability to clear snow from walks.

Risks:
 Without additional equipment, Public Works will not be able to meet existing service levels with an expansion of City inventory for Snow clearing.

Stakeholder Impact:
 Some areas of the City will go without proper sidewalk clearing where the property owner does not complete the required work or possible delays if the property owner does not complete the work within the required timeframe required by the bylaw. Other residents could incur slip and falls or slower transit times on uncleaned walkways.