

Active Transportation Winter Maintenance Plan 2021

Presented To:	Operations Committee
Meeting Date:	August 16, 2021
Type:	Managers' Reports
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Recommended by:	General Manager of Growth and Infrastructure

Report Summary

This report provides a recommendation regarding the plan for winter maintenance services for the active transportation network (sidewalks, bicycle paths and off-road recreational trails) including minor changes to the sidewalk winter maintenance plan, for the upcoming winter season (November 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022).

Resolution

THAT the City of Greater Sudbury approves the winter maintenance plan for the active transportation network as outlined in the report entitled "Active Transportation Winter Maintenance Plan 2021", from the General Manager of Growth and Infrastructure, presented at the Operations Committee meeting of August 16, 2021.

Relationship to the Strategic Plan, Health Impact Assessment and Community Energy & Emissions Plan (CEEP)

This report refers to operational matters.

Financial Implications

There are no Financial Implications associated with this report.

Background

As of May 3, 2018, substantive changes to the Minimum Maintenance Standards for Municipal Highways, O. Reg. 239/02 came into force and effect. The most notable changes impacting the maintenance of active transportation facilities are:

1. The introduction of winter maintenance standards, including patrol obligations, for sidewalks.
2. The introduction of winter maintenance standards for bicycle lanes.
3. The ability for municipalities to declare a "significant weather event" with implications for winter maintenance on roadways, bicycle lanes and sidewalks during the duration of the event.

On August 12, 2019, by resolution (OP2019-14) the Operation Committee passed the “Active Transportation Winter Maintenance Policy” which was subsequently ratified by Council on August 13, 2019. The report recommended the following:

1. Designated cycling facilities be closed by By-law seasonally during the winter months;
2. Any changes to the existing sidewalk winter maintenance routes be consistent with the criteria established in Table 2 of the Active Transportation Winter Maintenance Policy;
3. Winter maintenance of sidewalk and off-road trails be annually approved, through Operations Committee, subject to the annual budget process.

Recommendation:

This report seeks to fulfill the requirements of the Active Transportation Policy by returning to Operations Committee to approve minor changes to the winter maintained portion of the Active Transportation network for the upcoming winter season (November 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022). Table 1 summarizes the said changes. It also lists the off-road trails that are officially being included as part of the winter maintained portion of the Active Transportation Network.

Table 1 – Active Transportation Winter Maintenance Changes for the 2021 / 2022 Winter

Sidewalks			
Additions to Winter Maintenance in 2021 / 2022:	Location of Route	Bus Stops on Route	Reason for Change
1. Sylvio Street, Lasalle to School	Sudbury	None	Meets Criteria #5 of the Active Transportation Maintenance Approach. Connection to a school.
2. Dell Street sidewalk infill, between Laforest Avenue and Melvin Avenue	Sudbury	Yes	Meets Criteria #1, #2 & #7 of the Active Transportation Maintenance Approach. Forms a connected route on a Collector Road and adjacent to a school.
2. Stephen Street, Southview Drive to Robinson Drive	Sudbury	None	Meets Criteria #5 & #7 of the Active Transportation Maintenance Approach. Forms a connected route and is adjacent to a school.
3. Roy Street, Woodbine Avenue to Ridgecrest Park	Sudbury	None	Meets Criteria #4 of the Active Transportation Maintenance Approach. Connection to a playground.
4. Morlock Street (north side). Lakeshore Road to Longyear Drive	Falconbridge	None	Meets Criteria #1 of the Active Transportation Maintenance Approach. Switching winter maintenance to north side in 2021/2022, per Councilors request.
5. Intersection of Hwy. 144 / MR 35 / MR 15	Chelmsford	None	Agreement with MTO. Meets Criteria #6 of the Active Transportation Maintenance Approach. Safety purposes.

Sidewalks			
Deletions to Winter Maintenance in 2021 / 2022:	Location of Route	Bus Stops on Route	Reason for Change
1. Morlock Street (south side). Lakeshore Road to Longyear Drive	Falconbridge	None	Meets Criteria #1 of the Active Transportation Maintenance Approach. Switching winter maintenance to south side in 2021/2022, per Councilors request.
Cycling Facilities			
All 27 centreline-kilometres of the designated cycling facilities (includes multiuse trails, bike lanes and cycle tracks) will not be maintained from November 1 to April 30.			
Off-road Trails			
Continue Winter Maintenance in 2021 / 2022:	Location	Comments	
1. Jim Gordon Boardwalk by Ramsey Lake	Sudbury	No change from past years	
2. Ramsey Lake road multiuse path	Sudbury	No change from past years	
3. Delki Dozzi multiuse path, off Glover Av.	Sudbury	No change from past years	

Schedule 1 provides a complete list of sidewalks that will be maintained during the upcoming winter season (November 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022).

Next Steps:

If approved, staff will conduct the following:

1. Update By-law 2020-152 that will temporarily close all unmaintained portions of the Active Transportation network during the winter months (November 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022).
2. To ensure the public is made aware of any approved changes to the winter maintenance of active transportation facilities, staff will ensure that all relevant information, including lists of closed sidewalks and cycling facilities be posted to the City's website, be communicated by Public Service Announcement (PSA) each year as well as by sending letters to residents (directly adjacent to the active transportation infrastructure) who will be impacted by the changes to the active transportation winter maintenance plan.

Resources Cited

1. City of Greater Sudbury, Operations Committee Resolution No. 2019-14, Active Transportation Winter Maintenance Policy
<https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?documentid=2484>
2. City of Greater Sudbury, Council Ratification No. 2019-238
<https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=30057>
3. Minimum Maintenance Standards for Municipal Highways, O. Reg. 239/02:
<https://www.canlii.org/en/on/laws/regu/o-reg-239-02/latest/o-reg-239-02.html#document>