

Executive Summary

This report provides the Committee with pothole claims data from 2015 to the end of August 2020.

Background

Given the weather conditions experienced within the City of Greater Sudbury, pothole claims are inevitable. The harsh winter conditions along with numerous freeze/thaw events; potholes do develop in the roadways. However, the City has experienced a downward trend in 2020. The number of claims submitted has been significantly reduced from the previous year.

The following chart reflects the pothole claims history from 2015 to present by identifying the number of claims, claims paid out, adjuster costs, amount paid to claimant and total cost of the activity.

| Year | Total Number of Pothole Claims | Number of Paid Claims | Adjuster Fees \$ | Paid to Claimant \$ | Total Cost \$ |
|----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 2015 | 106 | 10 | 28,362 | 9,698 | 38,060 |
| 2016 | 111 | 27 | 24,452 | 9,380 | 33,832 |
| 2017 | 128 | 10 | 28,318 | 3,895 | 32,231 |
| 2018 | 234 | 26 | 78,435 | 13,032 | 91,467 |
| 2019 | 553 | 72 | 154,392 | 33,517 | 187,909 |
| 2020 to Aug 30 | 84 | 6 | 24,069 | 4,150 | 28,219 |
| | | | | | |

The reasons for the reduction in claims deals with the amount of investment made to our road system as well as fewer drivers on the road due to COVID-19. The total investment to our roads; both capital and operational in 2018 and 2019 was approximately \$140 million.

The spike in 2019 could be caused by both the extraordinary winter conditions experienced and the excessive media attention given to potholes. With added investment to the road system, it is anticipated that claims will continue to decline. Graphs in *Appendix 'A'* provide a good visual perspective on the history of claims data.

Summary

Staff will continue to provide data to the Committee on a regular basis regarding pothole claims.