

Background

This report provides the financial results of the 2017 winter roads operations up to and including the month of December 2017. As depicted in Table 1 below, the results for 2017 is an over expenditure of approximately \$1.9 million. Certain estimates were necessary to account for outstanding invoices.

Table 1			
2017 Winter Summary			
As at December 31, 2017			
	Annual Budget	Actual	Variance
Administration & Supervision	2,479,180	2,649,119	(169,939)
Sanding/Salting/Plowing	6,885,895	8,915,030	(2,029,135)
Snow Removal	603,086	482,144	120,942
Sidewalk Maintenance	1,027,728	1,004,742	22,986
Winter Ditching/Spring Cleanup	1,762,369	1,915,667	(153,298)
Miscellaneous Winter Roads	4,275,342	3,982,411	292,931
Totals	17,033,600	18,949,112	(1,915,512)

2017 Winter Control Activities

As shown in Table 2 below, the City received approximately 297 centimeters or 116% of the average annual snowfall. From January to April approximately 93% of the average snowfall was received. Extremely high snowfall of 186% and 118% of the average snowfall occurred in November and December, respectively.

The above average snowfall and freezing rain contributed to an over expenditure of approximately \$1.9 million in winter control activities. Large over expenditures occurred in sanding/salting/plowing (\$2 million). Freezing rain during the year required an increase use of sand/salt. The over expenditure was partially offset by the miscellaneous winter maintenance and snow removal activities.

The enhanced winter sidewalk maintenance option approved in the 2017 operating budget was executed for the 2017/2018 winter control season. The sidewalk maintenance and snow removal budget includes approximately \$0.15 million for the period of January to April, 2017.

Table 2							
2017 Snowfall							
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Normal 30 Year Avg. (cm)	60	52	35	17	30	63	257
2017 Actual (cm)	56	66	37	8	56	75	297
% of Actual to Normal	93%	128%	105%	48%	186%	118%	116%

Miscellaneous Winter Roads

The annual budget for the miscellaneous winter roads cost centre totals approximately \$4.28 million, and the major expenses in this cost centre are outlined in Table 3 below.

Table 3	
2017 Miscellaneous Winter Roads	
Expense Type	Annual Budget (millions \$)
Employee Benefits	\$ 1.4
Asphalt Patching	\$ 0.9
Internal Recoveries (HR, Finance, IT)	\$ 0.7
Standby (Contracted Service)	\$ 0.7
Health & Safety	\$ 0.2
Other (Road Patrol, Emergency Response, Tool Repair, Property Restoration, etc.)	\$ 0.4
Total	\$ 4.3

Summary

In summary, winter roads operations for 2017 resulted in an over expenditure of approximately \$1.9 million. As per the Reserve and Reserve Fund policy, any annual over/under expenditures in winter roads operations may be funded/contributed towards the Roads Winter Control Reserve Fund. The details will be included in the Year-End Operating Budget Variance Report.