



ROADS, PARKS AND FLEET DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

TO: MAYOR J. LEHMAN, AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

FROM: D. FRIARY, DIRECTOR OF ROADS, PARKS AND FLEET

NOTED: R.J. FORWARD, MBA, M.Sc., P. Eng., GENERAL MANGER OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT

M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RE: ENHANCED WINTER CONTROL SERVICING OPTIONS

DATE: JANUARY 8, 2018

Council has asked staff for information on providing enhanced winter control services to our current secondary class roadways and secondary/tertiary class sidewalks. The intent of the inquiry was to provide 24/7 snow plowing service to our lower maintenance class roadways and sidewalks.

Option 1 – Internal Full Time Hybrid Staff

Option 1 includes the hiring of 22 new full time permanent Hybrid Roads – Parks Staff. This option provides a second shift for secondary roadway winter maintenance, secondary/tertiary sidewalk winter maintenance, and a variety of other service potentials.

Advantages:

- 24 hour coverage of secondary road plows and secondary/tertiary sidewalk plows.
- During events where plowing is not required, staff are available to provide the following services where contractors are currently utilized:
 - respond to smaller winter events after regular operating hours (drifting, salt runs, pretreatment of roadways)
 - Removal of snow from downtown, sightlines and parking lots
 - Pothole repair and other minor infrastructure repairs
- Reduced claims and increased Maintenance Standard compliance
- Increased response to urgent or emergency maintenance issues that may have been previously delayed due to staff availability issues without affecting normal operations
- Adequate service to address proposed 2019 Maintenance Standard (Municipal Act) additions of sidewalk winter maintenance and bicycle lane winter maintenance
- Increased service levels
- Reduction in number of casual staff hired annually by Parks/Forestry Department
- Cost relatively fixed and generally limited to wage increase and growth

Disadvantages:

- Increased funding required
- 24 hour service on weekends and statutory holidays may be a challenge

Total Annual Projected Cost Option 1: \$1,284,000



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Option 2 – Contracted Services

Option 2 includes the procurement of contracted vehicles and operators to provide additional winter maintenance on secondary roads and secondary/tertiary sidewalks.

Advantages:

- 24 hour coverage of secondary road plows and secondary/tertiary sidewalk plows
- Reduced claims and increase Maintenance Standard compliance
- Adequate service to address proposed Maintenance Standard (Municipal Act) additions of sidewalk winter maintenance
- Increased service levels
- Mandatory response to all call-ins on weekends and statutory holidays

Disadvantages:

- No efficiencies considering overall cost projections
- Cost fluctuations are unavoidable given the nature of the contracts
- Increased funding required

Total Annual Projected Cost Option 2: \$1,268,000

Option 3 – Additional Heavy Equipment and Operators

Acquisition of a new road grader and loader mounted snow blower and hiring 2 Full Time Heavy Equipment Operators. The option provides the ability to enhance some winter operations activities.

Advantages:

- Road grader to proactively cut accumulated snow pack from secondary roads
- Loader mounted snow blower for downtown snow lifts, bank cutting and sightline clearing
- Reduced reliance on some contracted services
- Increased service levels

Disadvantages:

- While providing some enhancements, this option does not address overall maintenance issue
- Does not assist with secondary roadway plowing
- Does not assist with sidewalk snow clearing
- Increased funding required

Total Projected Annual Cost Option 3: \$122,000

Total Projected Capital Cost Option 3: \$455,000