



Notice – Item for Discussion

Submitted by:	Councillor, C. Riepma
Subject:	Stairs from Kempenfelt Drive sidewalk to North Shore Trail at Rodney Street
Reference Committee Name:	Executive Committee
Reference Committee Date:	September 24, 2025
General Committee Date:	October 29, 2025
City Council Date:	November 5, 2025

Motion for consideration:

That staff in the Operations Department be directed to leave the stairs from the Kempenfelt sidewalk to the North Shore Trail unchained in the winter and place a “no maintenance in winter” sign on the stairs instead.

Reason or Rationale in support of the motion:

1. Locking the stairs in winter is dangerous and contrary to keeping the community safe. People either slide down the hill beside the stairs or trip over the chain as they climb over it to use the stairs.
2. Because of the design of the stairs there is almost never any accumulation of snow on the steps.
3. The large concrete Rodney stairs (80 steps) does accumulate snow and is cleared by City crews and is used all winter but this stair (10 steps) does not accumulate snow but is blocked off in winter.
4. Locking the stairs is dangerous and unnecessary and unlocking it will not increase liability or maintenance costs.