
CITY OF KELOWNA

MEMORANDUM

Date: September 26, 2006

File No.: 5400-01

To: City Manager

From: Roads & Equipment Superintendent

Subject: **WINTER SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE**

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council approve the list of sidewalks to be exempt from Section 2.5.1 of Traffic Bylaw No. 8120;

AND THAT an amendment to Traffic Bylaw No. 8120 to include the list of exempt sidewalks be forwarded for reading consideration;

AND THAT Council Policy 332 "Snow & Ice Control" be amended to provide that the City will be responsible for maintaining the sidewalks listed under the exemption to Section 2.5.1 of Traffic Bylaw No. 8120, as outlined in the report of the Roads & Equipment Superintendent, dated September 26, 2006;

AND FURTHER THAT the 2007 Base Budget for snow removal on sidewalks be increased by \$12,927.

DISCUSSION:

On January 9, 2006 Council asked staff to reconsider the current requirement for abutting homeowners to be responsible for sidewalk snow and ice clearing in areas where such maintenance by the homeowner would be unreasonable because of topographic conditions, and report back to Council.

The geometric standards in the Subdivision Bylaw states the maximum allowed grade for walkways is 15%. Staff completed their review using this criteria for any elevation difference of 1.5 meters or greater for the entire length or width of the property and determined there are 19.3 kilometres of sidewalk at various locations within the City which would meet the criteria for this exemption.

Staff also considered looking at sidewalks adjacent to City owned land, Parks, undeveloped land, gated or walled communities and noise wall fences. It was determined that by the time we exempt all these locations we might as well eliminate the Bylaw which would be too onerous on the City.

We currently budget to clear up to seven snowfalls from sidewalks per year. We estimate this increase in service level will mean clearing the Bylaw Exempt sidewalks up to 35 times, which would have a budget impact of \$12,927.

We receive several minor snowfalls (less than 2 cm) which melt off within the next 48 hours; therefore, we are recommending we use a wait and see approach for these smaller snowfalls. If the snow does not melt off within 48 hours, crews will be dispatched to deal with the snow and/or ice remaining.



Dale Beaudry
Roads & Equipment Superintendent

Approved for inclusion
John Vos
Director of Works & utilities

Attachment