

Memo



Date: March 17, 2010
File: 5400-11
To: City Manager
From: Darryl Astofooroff, Transportation Services Manager
Subject: Council Policy 276, Snow and Ice Control on Private Roads and Lanes

Recommendation:

THAT Council receive for information the report from the Transportation Services Manager dated March 17, 2010;

AND THAT Council rescinds Policy 276, Snow and Ice Control on Private Roads and Lanes.

Background:

In 1999 Council approved a policy which provides for snow and ice control on private roads and lanes. At that meeting it was noted by the Roads & Equipment Superintendent that if requests for providing this service created an impact on staffing and equipment, staff would return to Council to have the policy rescinded. Today, the City provides this service to 19 properties, 3 of which are strata developments and total to 50 units.

Our maintenance area in regards to lane kilometers within the City has grown by 60% since 1999 and combined with today's economic climate, our staff and equipment resources are stretched to capacity. As a result, providing this service has a negative impact to the remaining street network during significant snow events.

There are currently 14 private contractors listed in the Telus Yellow Pages which provide snow removal services and coupled with our growth in road inventory this service on private land would best be provided by the private sector. In 1999 there was a shortage of such service providers, prompting the City to consider the current policy.

The current policy offers the service of plowing and sanding/salting at a response level consistent with our lowest class of roads. Although property owners are made aware of the level of service they can expect prior to paying for this service, there is an expectation from many that the City should be clearing their areas more regularly. Staff adheres to current policy which leads to frustration by the owner of the private roads. If a snow event lasts for several days, it could be 3 or more days before these areas are attended to which explains why the private owner gets frustrated. The private sector could provide a much more frequent service.

Internal Circulation:

Tom Wilson, Communications Supervisor, Community Relations

Legal/Statutory Authority:

Section 517, Local Government Act

Existing Policy:

Policy 276 Snow and Ice Control on Private Roads and Lanes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials "AW".

Communications Considerations:

Upon rescinding Policy 276, affected property owners will be notified immediately so that they can make alternate arrangements for snow clearing during the 2010/2011 winter season. The correspondence would include a list of all private contractors listed under 'Snow Removal Service' within the Telus Yellow Pages directory.

Considerations not applicable to this report:

Legal/statutory Procedural Requirements:

Financial/Budgetary Considerations:

Personnel Implications:

Technical Requirements:

External Agency/Public Comments:

Alternate Recommendation:

Submitted by:



Darryl Astooroff,
Transportation Services Manager

Approved for inclusion:



Joe Creron, Director, Civic Operations

Cc Gord Murrell, Roadways Supervisor



CITY OF KELOWNA

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COUNCIL POLICY MANUAL

APPROVAL DATE: 1999/04/19
RESOLUTION #: R303/99/04/19
REPLACING #: N/A
DATE OF LAST REVIEW: November 2008

SUBJECT: SNOW & ICE CONTROL ON PRIVATE ROADS AND LANES

To offer each and every resident an opportunity to have their main access kept clear of snow build-up, the City will offer to provide snow and ice control on private roads and lanes.

Before a private road or lane will be considered, it must meet the following criteria:

- The road or lane is the only access to the house.
- The road or lane is used for waste collection.
- The Roads & Equipment Superintendent deems our vehicles can enter and exit the road or lane safely.
- The Roads & Equipment Superintendent deems our vehicles can perform this task without causing property damage.

If the above criteria is met, the private road or lane will be added to the snow and ice control route subject to the following conditions:

- Each property owner will pay, in advance an annual fee, determined by the Roads & Equipment Superintendent, which will cover all costs related to the snow and ice control.
- The fee is received at City Yard Office by October 15th.

The service offered will include:

- Plowing and sanding/salting at a response level consistent with our lowest class of roads.
- Spring sweeping to pick-up winter sand at the same service level and time as other roads in the immediate area.

REASON FOR POLICY: To provide an option snow and ice control for residents whose property fronts on a private road.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY: Section 517, *Local Government Act*

PROCEDURE FOR IMPLEMENTATION: Requests to be sent to the City Yard. The Transportation Division will provide an estimate (per lot) for doing the work. If the applicant wishes to proceed, the applicant will solicit the neighbours, collect funds and drop the funds off at the City Yard Office.