



City of Port Moody

Report/Recommendation to Council

Date: November 26, 2024
Submitted by: Engineering and Operations Department – Operations Division
Subject: 2024-2025 Winter Road Maintenance Plan

Purpose

This report and its attachments outline the 2024-2025 Winter Road Maintenance Plan.

Recommended Resolution(s)

THAT the Roads Priority Map (Attachment 2) and the Pedestrian Areas Priority Map (Attachment 3) be endorsed as attached to and recommended in the report dated November 26, 2024, from the Engineering and Operations Department – Operations Division regarding 2024-2025 Winter Road Maintenance Plan.

Background

Staff typically prepare an annual plan that outlines winter road maintenance priorities and levels of service and present this plan to Council. This practice has been in place since 2017, when a revised winter road maintenance strategy was introduced.

To ensure that the City's winter road maintenance practices are supported by a core policy, a corporate policy that contains winter road maintenance priorities and levels of service was implemented in 2022. This policy is **Attachment 1** to this report. The policy balances operational resource availability, budgets, and customer demand in the establishment of a level of service for winter road maintenance. This policy applies to roads and pedestrian areas that are not maintained as part of the maintenance of parks or City facilities and does not supersede or replace the Sidewalk and Boulevard Maintenance Bylaw No. 2426.

Discussion

The road and pedestrian area maintenance priorities seen in **Attachment 1** and **Attachment 2** have been implemented successfully since 2017, with operational adjustments to optimize service made on an ongoing basis. These priority classifications are generally applicable to most road maintenance activities such as vegetation control, street sweeping, asphalt repair, and other common tasks. The City also follows the practice of prioritizing all road maintenance responses according to critical safety issues that threaten life, property, or the environment. Road maintenance priorities are to be considered general guidelines, and may vary according to weather conditions, operational requirements, or other unforeseen factors.

Updates on the most recent changes to winter road maintenance practices and capabilities are outlined below:

Roads

Winter Parking Restrictions

In 2023, the City established seasonal parking restrictions on portions of April Road, Burrard Crescent, Sycamore Drive, and View Street. They apply during snowfall events, with parking allowed as per normal parking regulations when no winter road maintenance activities are taking place. There are no changes to the restrictions for the winter 2024-2025 season.

Equipment

Following the Mayor's Town Hall on Snow and Ice in February 2023, Council approved \$450,000 in funding (Resolution FC23/030, May 16, 2023) from the Growing Communities Fund to support improvements in levels of service for responses to snow and ice across all departments and facilities.

Road Maintenance

A previously leased three quarter-ton pickup truck was replaced with a one-ton pickup truck that is equipped with a plow, salter, and brine unit that allows for the expansion of the use of brine to multi-use paths. This truck will be used to plow multi-use paths more efficiently and provides an additional resource for plowing and salting Priority 3 routes.

Brine Making Facility

The City's brine making facility is operational. It allows for more frequent use of brine for anti-icing, including on pedestrian areas. The use of brine in appropriate conditions allows for reduced salt consumption costs and limits the environmental impact of winter road maintenance.

Pedestrian Areas

Bylaw Enforcement

Building, Bylaws, and Licensing staff typically enforce the requirements for sidewalk clearing laid out in the Sidewalk and Boulevard Maintenance Bylaw No. 2426. Building, Bylaws, and Licensing has the capability to make adjustments to staff scheduling to allow for enforcement activities during and immediately following cessation of snow events. Additionally, the Manager of Operations is identified as a designated bylaw enforcement officer for the Sidewalk and Boulevard Maintenance Bylaw No. 2426 in the Municipal Ticket Information Authorization Bylaw No. 3218. If operationally feasible, Engineering and Operations staff that are typically not involved in winter road maintenance may be reassigned to respond and conduct warning and enforcement action for sidewalks that have been uncleared in contravention of the bylaw. This measure will provide additional resources for enforcement of the bylaw.

Attachment 2 and **Attachment 3** outline the application of winter road maintenance priorities to the City's current inventory of roads and pedestrian areas.

Other Option(s)

THAT staff be directed to report back with alternate proposals for winter road maintenance policies.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with implementation of this policy. It summarizes the City's existing approach to winter road maintenance within a policy document, and provides further details related to the specific methods in which winter road maintenance is completed.

The City has two snow clearing reserves; LRN Snow Removal, and MRN Snow Clearing. Both reserves are funded by transferring operating surpluses (budgeted expenditures less actual expenditures) into the reserve through the City's year-end process. In circumstances where the reserves are in a deficit (when actual expenditures for the year are greater than the annual budget) funds are transferred from the reserve to offset the deficit.

Communications and Public Engagement Initiatives

Information about the City's winter road response is included in the Focus newsletter, on the portmoody.ca/snowandice webpage, in the Good Neighbour Guidelines, and on social media channels. New winter parking restrictions will be shared directly with residents on impacted roads, as well as with the general public. The Snow Stars program, which is outlined on the portmoody.ca/snowstars webpage, is a volunteer recognition program to help encourage and thank volunteers who remove snow from sidewalks on behalf of neighbours in need.

Communications and Engagement has developed a communications plan for the City's response to winter weather conditions, including winter road maintenance.

Council Strategic Plan Goals

The recommendations in this report align with the following Council Strategic Plan Goal(s):

- Strategic Goal 1.1 – Prioritize core services;
- Strategic Goal 1.2 – Ensure financial sustainability; and
- Strategic Goal 2.2 – Advance climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Attachment(s)

1. Corporate Policy – 11-5400-2022-01 – Winter Road Maintenance.
2. Roads Priority Map.
3. Pedestrian Area Priority Map.

Report Author

Jeff Little, PTech
Manager of Operations

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	2024-2025 Winter Road Maintenance Plan.docx
Attachments:	- Attachment 1 - Winter Road Maintenance Corporate Policy.PDF - Attachment 2-Roads Priority Map.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Nov 17, 2024

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Jeff Moi, General Manager of Engineering and Operations - Nov 12, 2024

Stephanie Lam, City Clerk and Manager of Legislative Services - Nov 12, 2024

Lindsay Todd, Manager of Communications and Engagement - Nov 13, 2024

Paul Rockwood, General Manager of Finance and Technology - Nov 13, 2024

Anna Mathewson, City Manager - Nov 17, 2024