



Motion Memorandum

SUBJECT: Options for Enhanced Windrow Clearing
TO: **Community Planning, Regulation & Mobility Cttee.**
FROM: Mayor Marianne Meed Ward and Councillor Paul Sharman
Date to Committee: March 28, 2022
Date to Council: April 18, 2022

Motion for Council to Consider:

Direct the Director of Roads, Parks and Forestry to explore costs and options for enhanced city wide windrow removal program, including:

- Revised cost and criteria in the existing Windrow Clearing Program
- Increase the program from the current maximum of 200 homes to minimum 500
- Other relevant options; and

Report to Environment Infrastructure & Community Services with costs, options (including those ruled out) and any recommendations by Q3 advance of 2024 budget deliberations.

Reason:

The Mayor and Councillors' offices have received a significant volume of complaints from residents about windrow clearing this year, partly due to the wet and heavy snow creating large chunks at the end of driveways when the plow has passed. Residents have shared that the size and weight of the windrows made it difficult if not impossible to leave their homes as they were blocked in and unable to easily remove the windrows.

Residents have privately and on social media suggested a range of options to address the issue.

This staff direction is in response to community input, to explore the feasibility and cost of these options, or others that staff may be aware of, and report back to council to allow council to make an informed choice during budget about whether or not to deploy any/all of the available options.

The city has an existing windrow clearing program provided for persons who are physically unable to clear the windrows left at the bottom of their driveway by the road plow. The program is limited at 175 spots, with demand for more. Staff will occasionally increase that to about 200. The program is funded approximately 50% by the tax levy with a service fee of \$61.84 plus HST per driveway.

There is an opportunity to review the cost and criteria and include any additional costs in the 2024 Budget.

There is also an option to review available machinery and consider any additions to the fleet during 2024 budget discussions.

Outcome Sought:

By asking staff to provide costs and options related to enhanced windrow clearing, council will be able to make an informed choice about which options are most feasible, and include any associated costs or revenues in the 2024 budget. This will respond to community input asking for additional research around what can be done to improve windrow clearing.

Vision to Focus Alignment:

- Increase economic prosperity and community responsive city growth
- Improve integrated city mobility
- Support sustainable infrastructure and a resilient environment
- Building more citizen engagement, community health and culture
- Deliver customer centric services with a focus on efficiency and technology transformation

Motion Seconded by: Councillor Paul Sharman, Ward 5
Share with Senior Staff

Approved as per form by the City Clerk,

Reviewed by the City Manager - In accordance with the Code of Good Governance, Council-Staff Relations Policy and an assessment of the internal capacity within the City to complete the work based on a specific target date (quarter/year).

Comments:

City Clerk: Approved as per form.

City Manager: Approved