



Accessibility Advisory Committee

**Tuesday, June 29, 2021
4:00 PM**

Henry Baker Hall, Main Floor, City Hall



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

**Public Agenda
Accessibility Advisory Committee
Tuesday, June 29, 2021**

Approval of Public Agenda**Minutes Approval**

Minutes of the meeting held on April 26, 2021.

Administration Reports

ACC21-7 Sidewalk Snow Clearing Provisions in The Clean Property Bylaw- Mitigating Accessibility Challenges

Recommendation

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee receive and file this communication.

ACC21-10 Ashley Nemeth: Accelerating Access Conference Summary

Recommendation

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee receive and file this communication.

ACC21-8 Jon Hayward: Accelerating Access Conference Summary

Recommendation

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee receive and file this communication.

ACC21-9 Community Advisory Group for the City of Regina Energy & Sustainability Framework

Recommendation

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee receive and file this communication.

Resolution for Private Session

AT REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN, MONDAY, APRIL 26, 2021

AT A MEETING OF ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
HELD IN SPECIAL MEETING SESSION

AT 4:00 PM

These are considered a draft rendering of the official minutes. Official minutes can be obtained through the Office of the City Clerk once approved.

Present: Sandra Palandri, in the Chair
Jennifer Cohen (Videoconference)
Bonnie Cummings-Vickaryous (Videoconference)
Jon Hayward (Videoconference)
Dylan Morin
Ashley Nemeth (Videoconference)
Allard Thomas (Videoconference)
Councillor Lori Bresciani (Videoconference)

Regrets: Michelle Busch
Chris Mbah
Judy Winship
Councillor Terina Shaw

Also in Attendance: Council Officer, Tracy Brezinski
Executive Director, Citizen Services, Kim Onrait
Director, Roadways & Transportation, Chris Warren (Videoconference)
Manager, City Projects, Dave Slater (Videoconference)
Manager, Open Spaces Services, Russell Eirich (Videoconference)
Manager, Paratransit & Accessibility, Lynette Griffin (Videoconference)
Manager, Roadways Preservation, Nigora Yulyakshieva (Videoconference)

APPROVAL OF PUBLIC AGENDA

Dylan Morin moved, AND IT WAS RESOLVED, that the agenda for this meeting be approved, as submitted.

COMMUNICATION MEMO

ACC21-6 Downtown Design Standards

Recommendation

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee receive and file this communication.

Russell Eirich, Manager, Open Space Services, made a PowerPoint presentation, a copy is of which is on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

Jon Hayward moved that this report be received and filed.

The Clerk called the vote on the motion.

	In Favour	Against
Ashley Nemeth	✓	
Allard Thomas	✓	
Bonnie Cummings-Vickaryous	✓	
Dylan Morin	✓	
Jennifer Cohen	✓	
Jon Hayward	✓	
Sandra Palandri	✓	
	7	0

The motion was put and declared CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

Ashley Nemeth moved, AND IT WAS RESOLVED, that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary



Memo

June 29, 2021

To: Members,
Accessibility Advisory Committee

Re: Sidewalk Snow Clearing Provisions in The Clean Property Bylaw- Mitigating Accessibility Challenges

RECOMMENDATION

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee receive and file this communication.

BACKGROUND

At the City Council meeting of September 30, 2020, Council approved report *CR20-85* to consider enhancements to the Winter Maintenance Policy through the 2021 budget process as well as to direct Administration to bring options to amend *the Clean Property Bylaw* (Bylaw) with respect to sidewalk snow clearing in Q3 2021.

Administration is recommending that an amended *Clean Property Bylaw* include provisions related to the responsibility of all property owners in the city to clear the sidewalks adjoining their properties and, in failing to do so, the City would initiate an enforcement process against the property owner. If approved by City Council, the *Bylaw* amendments and enforcement will take effect January 1, 2022.

Administration is consulting with the Accessibility Advisory Committee to receive feedback on the options considered in a sidewalk clearing bylaw.

DISCUSSION

Accessibility Impact:

The proposed amendments to the *Bylaw* will ensure enhanced snow clearing on sidewalks across the community, making them more accessible for all users. Administration aims to further strengthen existing community programs like the Snow Angels Program to provide snow clearing support to property owners

that may have difficulties and physical challenges.

Policy/Strategy Impact:

A more consistent approach to snow clearing from sidewalks around the city would support the *Transportation Master Plan* (TMP) and the *Design Regina: The Official Community Plan* (OCP), specifically:

Section D3, Transportation:

- *Goal 1 – Sustainable Transportation Choices; Offer a range of year-round sustainable transportation choices for all, including a complete street framework.*
- *Goal 2 – Public Transit; Elevate the role of public transit.*
- *Goal 3 – Integrated Transportation and Land Use Planning; Integrate transportation and land-use planning in order to better facilitate walking, cycling, and transit trips.*
- *Goal 4 – Road network Capacity; Optimize road network capacity.*
- *Goal 5 – Active Transportation; Promote active transportation for healthier communities.*

The recommendations continue to support City Council's resolution to continue providing winter maintenance that effectively supports the health, attractiveness, and economic viability of our community.

Existing Sidewalk Clearing Approach:

Currently, the City of Regina (City) encourages residents to be a good neighbour and clear their sidewalks. Unfortunately, this does not always happen, and it creates inconsistent snow clearing by property owners, thereby causing accessibility challenges for all pedestrians and users of our transit system. Current provisions in *the Clean Property Bylaw* only require a small per cent of the property owners to clear snow from sidewalks adjacent to their properties, primarily including sidewalks adjacent to businesses and apartment buildings.

Amendments to *the Clean Property Bylaw*:

In March 2020, a residential survey was conducted as part of the Winter Maintenance Policy review. Many respondents to the survey had indicated the need of an enforcement approach to achieve higher levels of consistent sidewalk snow clearing across the community, in line with other municipalities in Western Canada.

Administration is proposing that amendments to the *Bylaw* should include provisions requiring all property owners in the city to clear the sidewalks adjoining their properties within specified timelines, as well as enforcement activities should the property owner fail to clear the sidewalk.

If a violation is found, the intention is that a notice would be given to the property owner to remedy the violation within a certain period. The City would have the authority to issue a violation ticket if there is no compliance and could take action to have the sidewalks cleared.

Other Jurisdictions: Sidewalk Snow Clearing Bylaw and Community Programs:

Research of other jurisdictions in Western and Eastern Canada indicated that cities like Saskatoon, Edmonton, Calgary, Medicine Hat, Vancouver, Windsor, and Hamilton have established sidewalk snow

clearing bylaws requiring residents and businesses to clear snow and ice from adjoining sidewalks in a stipulated timeframe, failing which fines are charged. Many of these jurisdictions have community-based programs like the Snow Angels Program for people with physical challenges. Although many of these jurisdictions do not charge the program users, some of the programs do include a low cost of service. Further details on the jurisdictional review can be found in Appendix A.

Strengthening Community Programs, like Snow Angels Program:

Currently a \$50,000 grant is provided by the City for the Snow Angels Program. The Snow Angels Program was piloted in the winters of 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 by the Al Ritchie Community Association, Cathedral Area Community Association, and Eden Care Communities. These groups submitted proposals in the fall of 2019 and went through an adjudication process to distribute funding. Both Al Ritchie Community Association and Cathedral Area Community Association targeted residents within their community, and Eden Care Communities targeted Para-Transit users.

To further strengthen and expand such community-led programs across the City will require an additional annual contribution and new pilot. Additional funding for enhancing this pilot may be considered out of the winter maintenance annual operating budget if required.

Communications:

Administration will develop a comprehensive communications strategy to create awareness about several updates in the Winter Maintenance Policy, as well as changes in *the Clean Property Bylaw*, relating to sidewalk snow clearing. The cost of the enhanced communication plan would be funded by the winter maintenance annual operations budget and was approved by City Council as per report CR20-85.

Administration will collaborate with external stakeholders and community partners to help share the messaging about the changes to the Winter Maintenance Policy and *the Clean Property Bylaw*.

An annual expenditure of \$35,000 has been approved by City Council to enhance communication efforts towards educating residents and businesses on various updates in the policy, including the changes related to sidewalk snow clearing.

COMMITTEE ENGAGEMENT

Administration would like to engage with the Accessibility Advisory Committee to receive feedback on options to consider in a sidewalk clearing bylaw and how we might strengthen the current Snow Angel program.

1. What do you think is an appropriate timeline for property owners to clear their sidewalk?
2. What do you think are reasonable end conditions for sidewalk snow clearing?
3. What criteria should be considered for someone to be eligible for programs that support sidewalk snow clearing such as the Snow Angels program?
4. What barriers do you anticipate Regina residents will encounter with clearing their sidewalks?
5. Are there any suggestions for additional supports the City can offer in conjunction with Snow Angels?

6. Do you know of any other community led initiatives that assist people with maintenance tasks such as snow removal?

Respectfully submitted,

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Chris Warren, Director, Roadways & Transportation

6/9/2021

A black ink signature, appearing to be 'K Conra', written over a horizontal line.

Kim Conra, Executive Director, Citizen Services

6/16/2021

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A

Appendix A - Comparison of Sidewalk Snow Clearing Bylaws of Other Jurisdictions

Sidewalk Snow Clearing Bylaw- Comparison -Other Cities										
	Regina	Saskatoon	Edmonton	Calgary	Moose Jaw	Winnipeg	Sudbury	Ottawa	Halifax	Vancouver
Bylaw	The Clean Property Bylaw, 1997 - Section 6(1,2)	The Sidewalk Clearing Bylaw, 2005	The Community Standards Bylaw 14600 -Section 7	Bylaw 20M88 - Section 67(1)	The Clean Sidewalks Bylaw, 5514	No	Fouling, Obstruction, Use and Care of Roads - 2011-219, Section 9	Property Maintenance By-law No. 2005-208, Section 5	BY-LAW NUMBER S - 300, Section 4	Street and Traffic By-law 2849, section 76
What is the Bylaw	(1) Every owner, operator or occupant of land inside the area shown on Schedule "B" appended to this Bylaw shall maintain the public sidewalks adjoining the land (2) Every owner, operator or occupant of any Commercial Building, Apartment Building, Commercial Parking Lot and Vacant Property that is situated outside the area shown in Schedule "B" shall maintain the public sidewalks adjoining those properties - Schedule B area refers to the downtown locations	The owner or occupant of adjoining property, shall clear or remove or cause to be cleared or removed all snow or ice or other loose debris from any sidewalk adjoining the property within twenty-four (24) to forty-eight (48) hours of the time when the snow, ice or other loose debris was formed or deposited thereon.	A person shall maintain any sidewalk adjacent to land they own or occupy clear of all snow and ice.	The owner or occupant of a private parcel of land adjacent to a Sidewalk or Pathway that runs in front of the property or along the side of the property where: (a) such Sidewalk or Pathway runs parallel to and directly adjacent to a Street, or (b) such Sidewalk or Pathway runs parallel to and adjacent to a Street, where the Pathway or Sidewalk and Street are separated only by a grassed or otherwise covered boulevard: shall remove ice and snow from that portion of the Sidewalk or Pathway adjacent to the parcel so that the Sidewalk or Pathway is cleared to the bare surface, within 24 hours after the ice and snow has been deposited.	Every owner or occupant of any premises that lies between the designated boundaries in Schedule A and B (i.e. certain areas in downtown and south hill) and any other property zoned Commercial or Industrial shall clearly remove and clear away all snow, ice, dirt, debris and other obstructions from the sidewalks of the adjoining property owned by them.	N/A - Winnipeg has a Snow Clearing & Ice Control Policy which priorities snow clearing on sidewalks on major roads. The City does not clear sidewalks and driveways on private property except for residents with accessibility issues	No owner of private propey abutting a portion of a highway listed in Schedule A (specific location in the downtown area) shall fail to remove or cause to be removed, snow/ice from that portion of the sidewalk that is contiguous to the owner's property line	Every owner or occupant of a building shall keep the roofs of the building and the surrounding lands free of accumulations of snow or ice that might create an accident hazard. This bylaw is applicable to private sidewalks as the City does not clear snow from driveways or private sidewalks leading to a residence.	Owner, except where snow removal service is provided by the Municipality, shall remove all snow and ice, (a) from any sidewalk which abuts any side of their property ; provided , however, that where a property containing a detached one-family dwelling unit, a duplex dwelling or a semi-detached dwelling unit as defined in the Land Use Bylaws has frontage on a street at both the front and rear of the property, the owner shall not be required to remove the snow and ice from a sidewalk which is part of the street at the rear of the property, where the street at the front of the property is defined as the street on which the property has its civic address, and (b) from any pathway leading from a sidewalk abutting their property to the roadway, and (c) between any sidewalk abutting their property and a crosswalk	The owner or occupier of any parcel of real property shall, not later than 10:00 a.m. every day, remove snow and ice from any sidewalk adjacent to such parcel for a distance that coincides with the parcel's property line and for the full width of the sidewalk.
Timelines in the policy	24-48 hours	48 hours generally except in certain locations where the timeline 24 hours as specified in the Bylaw	The Community Standards Bylaw #14600 does not provide a timeframe for snow removal but as a guideline, the City recommends within 48 hours of a given snowfall.	Removal should be within 24 hours	Removal should be before 9:00 am in the winter and 8:30 am at all other times except when there is a heavy snowfall. In such cases, removal should be within 48 hours	N/A	Timelines were not mentioned in this bylaw	When any lands are not maintained pursuant to the requirements of this by-law, the Director shall send a Notice, by registered mail or direct delivery of the Notice by hand to the owner or occupant's last known address, requiring the owner or occupant to make the lands conform to the requirements of this by-law, and the Notice shall specify the time allowed for compliance.	within twelve hours after the end of any snowfall or, where the snow stops falling during the night, six hours after daylight	10 a.m every day
Fine	not exceeding \$2000 for individuals and \$5000 for corporations	-for a first offence, of \$100 -for a second offence, of \$200; -for a third or subsequent offence, of not less than \$200 and not more than \$1,000 in the case of an individual or \$2,000 in the case of a corporation.	\$100.00	-The cost is a minimum flat rate of \$150 plus GST and an administration fee. The amount will be added to the owner's annual property tax if not paid by the invoice due date. -A fine of \$250 to the property occupant for a first offence. Repeat offenders may be fined \$500 for a second offence and \$750 for a third offence and each offence thereafter within a 12-month period.	\$100 for first offence, \$200 for the second offence and \$300 for the third or subsequent offence	N/A	Specific fines were not mentioned.	A person who is convicted of an offence under this by-law is liable, for each day or part of a day that the offence continues, to a minimum fine of \$500.00 and a maximum fine of \$10,000.00 and the total of all daily fines for the offence is not limited to \$100,000.00 as provided for in subsection 429(3)1. of the Municipal Act, 2001. (By-law No. 2013-383)	The Municipality's cost in removing the snow and ice pursuant to subsection (2) shall constitute a lien against the property which shall be applied and enforced in the same manner as for rates and taxes under the Assessment Act.	not less than \$250.00 and not exceeding \$2,000.00.
Enforcement Process	Where a person fails to do anything required by this Bylaw, the City or any Bylaw Enforcement Officer may, in default of its being done by that person, do the thing at the expense of the person in default, and the City may recover the expenses of doing so with costs by action in any Court of competent jurisdiction, in the same manner as municipal taxes or by adding the expenses to, and thereby they form part of, the taxes on the land on which or with respect to which the work is done.	The administration and enforcement of this Bylaw is delegated to the General Manager, Community Services Department for The City of Saskatoon who is authorized to further delegate the administration and enforcement of this Bylaw to bylaw inspectors.	A ticket is issued as a bylaw offence for failing to remove snow and/or ice from the sidewalk. The invoice is for the cost of the snow/ice removal on the sidewalks adjacent the property. The City sends a contractor to remove all snow and ice to ensure the safety and accessibility for all pedestrians.	The Bylaw Enforcement Officer at the City is responsible for ensuring compliance to the regulations once violations are reported	The Director of Planning and Development Services is responsible for this and may delegate enforcement of the Bylaw to Bylaw Enforcement Officers who may issue a Clean Sidewalk Notice to the owner to clear the sidewalk within 48 hours	N/A	The Bylaw Enforcement Officer at the City is responsible for ensuring compliance to the regulations once violations are reported. This officer may levy a fine for the offence in accordance with Ontario's Provincial Offence Act	Manager, By-law and Regulatory Services (otherwise referred to as the Director in the bylaw), in the Emergency and Protective Services Department of the City of Ottawa or authorized representative is responsible for enforcing the bylaw	(1) Where the owner fails to remove snow or ice from sidewalks or structures as required by this By-law, the Engineer or a peace officer may serve an Order to Remove Snow and Ice from Sidewalks upon the owner by posting the Order in a conspicuous place upon the property. (2) If the owner fails to comply with the Order to Remove Snow and Ice from Sidewalks within 24 hours of service of the Order, the Engineer or a peace officer may remove such snow and ice and may recover the cost of such work from the owner.	
SNOW ANGELS PROGRAM: Snow clearing for support for residents in need	Provides grants to the following organizations: Eden Care Communities, Al Ritchie Community Association and Cathedral Area Community Association who help provide these services for free	The City encourages residents to lend a helping hand to those with mobility restrictions. They do encourage residents to nominate residents who voluntarily provide assistance for recognition.For seniors/people with mobility issues, such persons are also referred to Saskatoon Services for seniors, a charitable organization which performs the snow clearing service for a fee ranging from \$25 \$30 per hour	Edmonton used to have a Snow Angels program that rewarded people who shovelled a neighbours' walk with a thank-you letter from the mayor and chance to win prizes. Low participation saw it cancelled in 2016, replaced with a program called Seniors Home Supports Program, that refers seniors to external agencies for assistance. Seniors are not charged for referrals but they will pay a fee to the service provider for completing the work. The City of Edmonton is offering snow removal subsidies to those seniors that qualify through this program. Previously, Community-based 'snow angels' program, community leagues recognize and encourage their community to keep sidewalks clear//Used to be a nomination program (100K/year program)//"Shovelling help for seniors" - Seniors contact a service provider to discuss the work they need done	Community-Based snow removal programs exist across Calgary, and provide assistance to seniors. //Calgary Snow Angels program encourages residents to be good neighbours for older adults and those with limited mobility. A. Adopt a sidewalk program - adopt your own sidewalk and clear when it snows. B. Calgary schools invited to complete volunteer hours through shovelling snow for residents.	Doesn't have a snow angel program	The City itself doesn't have a snow angel program, however, such a program is run by a charitable organization, Take Pride Winnipeg. This organization offers the snow angel program (among other yard care initiatives)//matches student volunteers with seniors, and those with fixed income/disability/Encourage residents to be good neighbours and shovel snow. In the Snow Clearing & Ice Control Policy, Private crosswalks between the sidewalk and the curb shall be cleared to a width of 0.7 metres by City forces/Contractors, after the street clearing operations are completed, for property owners/occupants who sign a declaration on an annual basis to the effect that: the property-owner/occupant is physically incapable of shovelling snow (copy of medical certificate required), no other able-bodied person resides in the property owner's/occupant's house, the property owner/occupant is unable to arrange having this work done by others due to financial circumstances.	Doesn't have a snow angels program	The Snow Go Program provides a matching service for seniors and people with disabilities looking to hire an individual or contractor to clear snow from private driveways and walkways. Residents who participate in this program are responsible for paying the individual or contractor removing the snow.There's also The Snow Go Assist Program which provides financial assistance to eligible low-income seniors or persons with disabilities. And there's a snow angel program where residents can nominate snow angels for recognition by the City	YMCA Senior Snow Removal is a YMCA program – in partnership with the city of Halifax – for seniors, and persons with disabilities which provides a subsidized snow removal service to create safe access. The YMCA pays all service fees directly to the contractor on behalf of program participants. The Halifax Regional Municipality provides an annual contribution of \$400,000 in support of this program which allows the YMCA to serve about 450 households. Once maximum capacity is attained however, the program is closed and individuals will be placed on a wait list.	Has a roster of snow angel volunteers to help out at any point in time. Residents can phone 311 to request a Snow Angel, which will be assigned to clear the public portion of the sidewalk. There's an online registration form for residents who wish to become a snow angel. They have to provide details such as location(s), number of residents they're willing to help, etc
Incentive/Recognition (Snow Angels Program)		Nominated residents will receive thanks from the City, and be entered into prize draw	Snow Angels can win a Boston Pizza Party	Volunteer hours for students//official recognition		Volunteer hours for students		Recognized with a certificate signed by the Mayor and a custom keychain with a snowflake symbol		
Cost/Funding (Snow Angels Program)			2,000 in posters/advertising materials			17K in funding to deliver program				
Model Type (Volunteer Match, Non-profit led, Awareness Campaign) -Snow Angels Program		Awareness/Recognition	Awareness Campaign, encouraging people to keep pathways clean	Awareness Campaign//Also have a list of orgs that provide snow removal available to the public		Non-Profit led, volunteer match/awareness. Students are paired with residents closest to them		Awareness Program, provides recognition to volunteers		Volunteer match program. Residents who volunteer are added to an active roster of volunteers, and matched with a resident in need

Other Municipalities

Medicine Hat: They have a Bylaw-Expecting the snow to be cleared within 24 hours. Their model type includes -Note of recognition from the person you have helped (snow angel)//Usually send a thank you card, and \$5 to coffee shop. Awareness Campaign, encourages volunteers to offer assistance to those who need.

Windsor: They have a Bylaw-Expecting the snow to be cleared within 12 hours. Their model type includes -Draws to win tablets, recreation cards//Community volunteer hours for students

Hamilton: They have a Bylaw-Expecting the snow to be cleared within 24 hours, provincial penalties. Their model type includes -Winter hat, gloves, socks, volunteer appreciation event//Volunteer hours for high school students. City coordinated, Volunteer Match program

Memo

To: Accessibility Advisory Committee, Regina SK

Date of meeting: June 29, 2021

Re: Ashley Nemeth attendance summary of Accelerating Access Conference

My attendance at the Accelerating Access Conference was a great insight into the different ways that cities, companies, post secondary institutions are taking on accessibility and making it a priority.

There were great speakers that allowed us to learn how other cities have made their cities more accessible and inclusive. Some of the highlights from the conference for me were:

- Built environment and how there has been more of a shift to creating a built environment for all that goes beyond a ramp.
- Discussing the usability of city spaces and how the spaces created to be accessible to those with disabilities benefit the whole city not just the one community.
- Economically the more accessible that our environment is whether that is digital or built environment it will encourage a economic benefit for the city and those who live in the city.

Respectfully submitted, Ashley Nemeth



Memo

June 29, 2021

To: Members,
Accessibility Advisory Committee

Re: Accelerating Access Conference Summary

RECOMMENDATION

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee receive and file this communication.

BACKGROUND

At its meeting held on February 16, 2021, the Accessibility Advisory Committee approved funding for two members of the committee, Ashley Nemeth and Jon Hayward, to attend the Accelerating Access Conference on March 11 & 12, 2021.

Ashley and Jon will present summaries of their observations and takeaways from the Conference. They will then be available to answer questions of the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Neovard, Council Officer

6/23/2021



Memo

June 29, 2021

To: Members,
Accessibility Advisory Committee

Re: Community Advisory Group for the City of Regina Energy & Sustainability Framework

RECOMMENDATION

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee receive and file this communication.

BACKGROUND

Accessibility Advisory Committee Chairperson Sandra Palandri attended the first meeting of the Community Advisory Group for the City of Regina Energy & Sustainability Framework on June 3, 2021, on behalf of the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Sandra Palandri will present a summary of the key items discussed in the meeting for the Accessibility Advisory Committee and will be available to answer questions from Committee members.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martha Neovard', written over a horizontal line.

Martha Neovard, Council Officer

6/23/2021