

Appendix H

Residential Road General Conditions

Current Policy:

The current policy classifies the residential roads as Category 5 roads and specifies that they are plowed after a snow event greater than 25 centimetres or when rutting exceeds ten centimetres. The City performs ice shaving activity to reduce ruts generally throughout the season to keep rutting to a minimum.

In the previous years, with more snowfall residential roads were generally plowed twice. However, in the last five years, on an average the residential plow was performed only once annually due to reduced amount of snowfall during this period. Currently the length of the residential road network is approximately 541 kilometres. The residential road network is almost half of the entire road network in the community. Plowing the residential roads comes with several challenges like parked cars and narrow streets.

Concern:

Feedback from the survey and Service Requests suggest that general satisfaction is low regarding snow clearing on residential roads.

Recommendation:

Administration is recommending that residential roads that are acting more as collector roads serving over 1500 vehicles per day be classified as a higher priority Category 3 roads and included in systematic plowing operations that starts with five centimetres snow accumulation.

In addition, Administration also recommends that residential roads be included in systematic plowing operations after snow events greater than 15 centimetres. Based on historical data, this will provide one additional residential plow during the season. The City will continue utilizing the Ice Shaving Program to maintain ruts and have discretion to plow all residential roads if there are unusual or extenuating circumstances during the winter.

Cost of Enhancement:

The cost for this enhancement is \$304,000 annually.

Advantages:

- all high traffic residential roads would get enhanced level of service
- significant improvement in general residential road conditions
- increased resident satisfaction during winter seasons
- rutting will be reduced
- more frequent ice control cycles and inspections on major residential roads
- changes in line with municipalities like Calgary, Edmonton

Disadvantages:

- increased cost
- snow ridges created as a result of plowing more often and reducing on-street parking availability