

4.

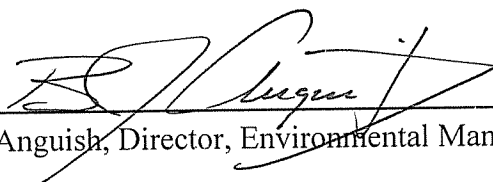


PO Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3A5 Canada

Halifax Regional Council
January 27, 2004

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:



Brad Anguish, Director, Environmental Management Services

DATE: January 12, 2004

SUBJECT: 2002 and 2003 Statistics for Removal of Snow and Ice from Sidewalks

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Request by Councillor Walker during the December 9, 2003 Committee of the Whole discussion concerning the new enforcement policy for Part 1 of By-Law S-300, Removal of Snow and Ice from Sidewalks, that separate reports be provided on the amount of money that was collected in 2002 and 2003. The total collected regarding remedies, fines and payment for work.

BACKGROUND

The data relative to cases on file and remedies performed are as follows:

Item	April 1, 2001 - March 31, 2002		April 1, 2002 - March 31, 2003	
Total Cases	823		1323	
Repeat Offenders	52	44 (2 times) 8 (3 times)	106	83 (2 times) 21 (3 times) 2 (4 times)
		112 cases created		237 cases created
Invalid Cases	315 (38%)		732 (55%)	
Notices Issued	508 (62%)		591 (45%)	
Owner Compliance	392 (77%)		395 (67%)	
HRM Remedy	116 (23%)		196 (33%)	
Total amount recovered through liens against violators properties	\$7,750.25		\$13,624.13	
Average Cost per HRM Remedy	\$66.81		\$69.51	

DISCUSSION

When a complaint is received concerning an alleged violation of Section 4, Part 1 (Removal of Ice and Snow from Sidewalks), of By-Law S-300, a By-Law Officer visits the site of the alleged violation and determines if the complaint is valid. If a violation exists, a notice to remove ice and snow within 24 hours is issued. After 24 hours has expired, Youth LIVE conducts a site visit to determine if the owner has addressed the identified violation. If the property is not compliant, Youth LIVE completes the necessary remedy.

The verification of owner compliance by Youth LIVE has reduced administrative demands on By-Law Enforcement Officers, allowing more time to investigate alleged By-Law violations.

With the new enforcement policy being implemented this year, there is potential for revenue generation by issuing Summary Offence Tickets (SOT's) to violators who repeatedly offend. The out of court settlement amount is \$215.00. This amount consists of a minimum fine of \$100.00, which is outlined in the by-law, plus a victim surcharge of 15% of the minimum fine and a \$100.00 court cost. In addition to issuing a SOT, the municipality will still proceed to remedy any violations not compliant and recover the cost through a lien on the property.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no current year budget implications.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

ALTERNATIVES

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

N/A

Additional copies of this report, and information on its status, can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by:	Andrea MacDonald, Manager, Community Projects, EMS	490-7371
Report Approved by:	Allan Waye, General Manager, Community Projects, EMS	490-6486