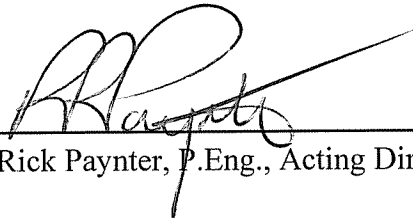

Halifax Regional Council
May 7, 2002

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:



Rick Paynter, P.Eng., Acting Director, Public Works & Transportation

DATE: April 29, 2002

SUBJECT: Sidewalk Snow Removal - Communications to Schools

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Agenda item 11.5.3 at the February 12, 2002, Halifax Regional Council meeting requested staff to provide a report regarding HRM establishing a communications process with schools in the event we are unable to clear snow within HRM's sidewalk snow removal standards, from sidewalks abutting schools and for which HRM is responsible for.

BACKGROUND

The removal of snow and ice from sidewalks in the former Halifax area is regulated by Part I, Articles 4, 5, and 6 of the Halifax Regional Municipality Streets By-law S-300 (copy attached). The By-law generally provides that the abutter, including the Halifax Regional School Board, is responsible for providing for snow and ice removal from any sidewalk abutting their property within 12 hours of the end of any snowfall, or 6 hours after daylight if the snow stops during the night. Consistent with pre-amalgamation services, By-law S-300 does not apply in the East and Central regions of HRM, where HRM provides sidewalk snow and ice services for all sidewalks including those abutting school properties, and the cost of this service is offset by area rates.

DISCUSSION

Council's request for the establishment of a communications process to address this concern has been noted by staff and an appropriate process will be put in place for this year's snow and ice season through the HRM Snow Line (490-SNOW) to advise the public and schools of the status of the sidewalk snow and ice operations in those areas where HRM is responsible for sidewalk snow and ice services.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no 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

There are no recommended alternatives.

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: P.J. Cochrane, Manager, Streets & Roads Services, 490-6034