

Township of Southgate
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Staff Report PW2021-057

Title of Report: PW2021-057 2021 - 2022 Winter Operations Plan
Department: Public Works
Branch: Transportation & Public Safety
Council Date: December 1, 2021

Recommendation:

Be it resolved that Council receive Staff Report PW2021-057 for information; and
That council approves and endorses the 2021/2022 Southgate Winter Operations Planning Document.

Background:

The Public Works Department has implemented the Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) Winter Operations Planning Document templates since 2015. The Public Works Department is required as per the Municipal Act 2001, Ontario Regulation 239/02 to provide Minimum Maintenance Standards (MMS) and Level of Service requirements for winter operations.

Staff Comments:

The 2021/2022 Winter Operations Planning Document (attachment #1) is the document that the Public Works Department is recommending be approved by Council, as it includes all the information required, reflecting current regulations and levels of service. The MMS also allows for municipalities to declare Significant Weather Events (SWE), which means an approaching or occurring weather hazard issued by Environment Canada under the Public Weather Alerting Program. The SWE can be declared by the Chief Administrative Officer, Public Works Manager or the Public Works Foreman. The declaration will be posted on the Township website, community signs, social media, Facebook and My 511. A declaration to end the event must also be communicated to the public and gives the Township more flexibility in handling these events in expanded timeframes and liability defence. Included in the updates are new equipment and staffing changes.

Section 6 Monitoring & Updating indicates that the 2020/2021 winter season compared to 2019/2020 season had 60.47% centimetres more snow accumulation, 10% days less of measurable snowfall amounts, 18.18% less days of freezing rain, and 36.36% more days that required salt application in some of the benchmark areas.

Financial Implications:

The Township of Southgate pays fees annually to OGRA which includes discounts on training and this free service provided template for the Winter Operations Planning Document.

Communications & Community Action Plan Impact:

Goal 5 - Upgrading our "Hard Services"

Action 5: The residents and businesses of Southgate recognize our linear services - roads, bridges, water and sewer works, for example - to be a fundamental purpose of municipal government. This infrastructure needs to be serviceable and sustainable so that our businesses and communities can thrive and grow.

Concluding Comments:

Staff recommends that Council receive Staff Report PW2021-057 for information, and that council approves and endorses the 2021/2022 Southgate Winter Operations Planning Document.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dept. Head: **Original Signed By**
Jim Ellis, Public Works Manager

CAO Approval: **Original Signed By**
Dave Milliner, CAO

Attachments:

Attachment #1 – 2021/2022 Winter Operations Planning Document for Township of Southgate