



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MALAHIDE

Section: **Physical Services**
Division: **Roads**
Subject: **Sidewalk Winter Maintenance**

Policy Number:
Approved by: Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk
Date Approved:
Date Last Reviewed: October 15, 2019
Date Last Revised: October 15, 2019

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to establish a service level and procedures for winter maintenance on municipal sidewalks on the roadway.

To assist the Municipality in meeting its obligations regarding “Minimum Maintenance Standards for Municipal Highways” as set out under Ontario Regulation 239/02 of the Municipal Act, 2001.

BACKGROUND:

Whereas the Highway Traffic Act, RSO 1990, as amended, provides that where no sidewalks are available to pedestrians, they are permitted to use a portion of the roadway. The Township began providing winter maintenance on municipal sidewalks that are located within 1.6 kilometers of a school and that are located on the Elgin County road allowance in 2011.

With the recent revision of the Ontario Minimum Maintenance Standards (MMS) in May 2018 to include winter maintenance requirements for sidewalks, The Township now deems it necessary to provide winter maintenance on all municipal sidewalks identified in the Villages of Avon, Lyons and Springfield. This policy identifies those sections of sidewalks and establishes the service level standards.

POLICY STATEMENT:

Winter maintenance activities will be undertaken on all municipal sidewalks that are located within the Villages of Avon, Lyons and Springfield as identified herein.

LEVEL OF SERVICE:

The Township of Malahide Sidewalk Winter Maintenance Policy shall meet the requirements of O.Reg 239/02 – Minimum Maintenance Standard for Municipal Highways for Snow and Ice Accumulation.

Winter maintenance activities will be undertaken on those sidewalks that are located within the municipal road allowance or Elgin County road allowance as identified. Those sidewalks identified as Priority 1 in the Village of Springfield shall receive priority service. An appendix is attached to this policy showing the location of the sidewalks which fit the criteria for winter maintenance.

Snow Accumulation:

The standard for addressing snow accumulation on a sidewalk after the snow accumulation has ended is,

- a) to reduce the snow to a depth less than or equal to 8 centimetres (3 inches) within 48 hours; and
- b) to provide a minimum sidewalk width of 1 metre (3 feet).

If the depth of snow accumulation on a sidewalk is less than or equal to 8 centimetres (3 inches), the sidewalk is deemed to be in a state of repair in respect of snow accumulation.

If the depth of snow accumulation on a sidewalk exceeds 8 centimetres (3 inches) while the snow continues to accumulate, the sidewalk is deemed to be in a state of repair with respect to snow accumulation, until 48 hours after the snow accumulation ends.

Ice Accumulation:

The standard for the prevention of ice formation on sidewalks is to,

- a) monitor the weather in accordance with MMS section 3.1 in the 24-hour period preceding an alleged formation of ice on a sidewalk; and
- b) treat the sidewalk if practicable to prevent ice formation or improve traction within 48 hours if the municipality determines that there is a substantial probability of ice forming on a sidewalk, starting from the time that the

municipality determines is the appropriate time to deploy resources for that purpose.

If ice forms on a sidewalk even though the municipality meets the standard set out, the sidewalk is deemed to be in a state of repair in respect of ice until 48 hours after the municipality first becomes aware of the fact that the sidewalk is icy.

The standard for treating icy sidewalks after the municipality becomes aware of the fact that a sidewalk is icy is to treat the icy sidewalk within 48 hours, and an icy sidewalk is deemed to be in a state of repair for 48 hours after it has been treated.

For the purposes of this section, treating a sidewalk means applying materials including salt, sand or any combination of salt and sand to the sidewalk.

Municipal Property Damage:

Any damage to municipal property as a result of winter control activities will be addressed at the discretion and to the satisfaction of the Roads and Construction Manager.

Sidewalks may be removed from the winter maintenance program if they have a physical obstruction or are too narrow to be effectively maintained by contracted snow equipment. The Director of Physical Services will be the sole judge as to the removal of the sidewalk from the winter maintenance program.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Roads and Construction Manager, or his designate:

- will manage the sidewalk winter maintenance program;
- will document:
 - o the condition of the sidewalks;
 - o the type and duration of winter events; and
 - o the winter maintenance activities undertaken in response to winter events.

Weather conditions may require actions other than those outlined in this policy, and hence, the Roads and Construction Manager may exercise discretion as local conditions dictate.

DECLARATION OF A SIGNIFICANT WEATHER EVENT:

If a municipality declares a significant weather event relating to snow and/or ice accumulation, the standard for addressing snow and/or accumulation on sidewalks until the declaration of the end of the significant weather event is,

- a) to monitor the weather conditions; and

- b) if deemed practicable by the municipality, to deploy resources to address snow accumulation on sidewalks starting from the time that the municipality deems appropriate to do so

All sidewalks within the municipality are deemed to be in a state of repair with respect to any snow and/or present until 48 hours following the declaration of the end of the significant weather event by the municipality.

Following the end of the weather hazard in respect of which a significant weather event was declared by a municipality the municipality shall,

- (a) declare the end of the significant weather event when the municipality determines it is appropriate to do so; and
- (b) address snow accumulation on sidewalks in accordance with the Minimum Maintenance Standards

REVIEW REQUIREMENTS: Annually by the Director

R. Johnson – Director of Physical Services

M. Casavecchia, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk

APPENDIX 'A' – SIDEWALK LOCATIONS

Location	Road Name	Description	Length
Avon	Avon Drive	South side, from Putnam Road, easterly 175m	175m
Village of Avon Total Sidewalks			175m
Lyons	Imperial Road	West side, from Lyons Line northerly 175m	175m
	Imperial Road	West side, from Lyons Line southerly 140m	140m
	Lyons Line	South side, from Imperial Road easterly 170m	170m
Village of Lyons Total Sidewalks			485m
Springfield	Priority 1 Sidewalks		
	Ron McNeil Line	South Side, from Mun. No. 50939 to Mun. No. 51429	1,210m
	Ron McNeil Line	North Side, from Mun. No. 51102 to Mun. No. 51336	620m
	Whittaker Road	West Side, from Ron McNeil Line to Mun. No. 12471	620m
	Springfield Road	East Side, from Ron McNeil Line, northerly 40m	40m
	Springfield Road	West Side, from Ron McNeil Line to Mun. No. 11627	900m
	Priority 2 Sidewalks		
	Detroit Street	West side, from Ron McNeil Line to Broadway Street	100m
	Broadway Street	South Side, from Whittaker Road to Mill Street	300m
	Broadway Street	North Side, from McIntosh Street to Whittaker Road	95m
	McIntosh Street	West Side, from Ron McNeil Line to Broadway Street	90m
	Pressey Line	North Side, from Springfield Road to Catherine Street	570m
	Springfield Road	East Side, from Pressey Line to Ron McNeil Line	50m
	Whittaker Road	West Side, from Ron McNeil Line to Broadway Street	100m
Village of Springfield Total Sidewalks			4,695m
Township of Malahide Total Sidewalks			5,355m