

Council Policy

Winter Road and Sidewalk Inspections & Maintenance

Established: 2014-11-10

Contact Department: Works & Utilities

Purpose

To provide winter road and sidewalk inspections and maintenance that are balanced against the nature and quality of risks involved and that Council deems is reasonable in consideration of all circumstances including budgetary limitations, available personnel, and available equipment.

Application

This policy applies to:

- public roads within the District of Summerland (the “District”) municipal boundaries, excluding Highway 97.
- public sidewalks that are adjacent to District-owned property.

This policy does not apply to:

- public sidewalks adjacent to private property under Bylaw No. 93-065 ‘A Bylaw to Require the Removal of Snow, Ice, and Rubbish from the Municipality’s Sidewalks & Footpaths’
- public walkways and lanes excluded under Bylaw No. 93-065.

Policy Statements

1. The Director of Works and Utilities (the “Director”), or authorized designate, may, at any time and at their sole discretion, delay or alter winter road and sidewalk inspections and maintenance in order to delegate trucks, equipment, and personnel to other concurrent emergent events.
2. Winter road and sidewalk maintenance in all areas, other than the downtown business core, will not commence earlier than 6:00 a.m., 5:00 a.m. on school days, or continue later than 9:00 p.m.
3. Winter road and sidewalk maintenance in the downtown business core will not commence earlier than 5:00 a.m. or continue later than 9:00 p.m.

4. The Director, or authorized designate, may, at any time and at their sole discretion, extend the hours of winter road and sidewalk inspections and maintenance outside of those hours specified where it is deemed additional winter inspections and/or maintenance is required for public safety or other emergent situations.

Road Inspections and Maintenance

5. During winter months, roads shall be inspected every morning before 9:00 AM for the presence of snow and ice.
6. The Director, or authorized designate, will create individual zones for winter road maintenance based on the current availability of equipment, personnel, and, where operationally efficient, employ the following priorities in order of precedence:
 - a. school bus routes,
 - b. roads that are collector roads,
 - c. roads that have sections with centerline grades over 10%, and
 - d. all remaining roads within each zone, regardless of classification, that are deemed to be dangerous or impassable.

Sidewalks Adjacent to District Property

7. During winter months, those portions of sidewalks that are bordering a District-owned property shall be inspected every morning before 9:00 AM for the presence of snow and ice.
8. Winter sidewalk inspections and maintenance will be performed by the District exclusively on those portions of sidewalks that are within the frontage of a District-owned property as identified in the current year sidewalk clearing map as amended from time to time.

Amendments

R/2019-12-09 amended to clarify winter inspections and maintenance of roads and sidewalks.