

## **MEMBER'S RESOLUTION**

### **Committee of the Whole (2) Report**

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**DATE:** Tuesday, February 08, 2022

**TITLE: REVIEW OF REGIONAL WINTER MAINTENANCE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**FROM:**

Regional Councillor Linda Jackson

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**Whereas**, the Regional Municipality of York and the City of Vaughan provide service excellence in its winter maintenance operations;

**Whereas**, sidewalk obstructions, blockages, and ice buildups are not unique to significant snow accumulations and are a regular occurrence during road clearing operations, and that this has been an ongoing issue throughout the region for the past 20 years;

**Whereas**, the Regional Municipality of York received a significant winter event on January 17, 2022 emphasizing current gaps in providing optimized winter maintenance services;

**Whereas**, the Region's response to snow accumulation can include multiple rounds of snowplow clearing from the roadway, including a benching operation to remove snow from the curb line;

**Whereas**, as a result of road clearing operations, bridge deck and monolithic sidewalks will often have accumulation inhibiting the ability for pedestrians to safely pass;

**Whereas**, as a result of road clearing operations, snow placement causes ice buildup on sidewalks, as well as obstructions and blockages on egresses leading to inability to pedestrians to safely pass and sightline concerns;

**Whereas**, regional road sidewalks require a disproportionate amount of time to clear creating delays in clearing residential neighbourhoods;

**Whereas**, the Region has undertaken snow clearing operations on boulevard bicycle lanes adjacent to regional roads; and

**Whereas**, it is important and useful to improve the effectiveness of the City's and Region's operations, as part of our quest for continuous improvement in providing a demonstrated consistency of services to our residents, businesses, and emergency care centres.

**It is therefore recommended:**

1. That Vaughan Council endorses a Notice of Motion that will be put forth by Regional Councillor Jackson to York Region Council to request that a review be undertaken regarding York Region assuming all winter maintenance including snow clearing on sidewalks adjacent to regional roads, with the Region of York reporting back to York Region Committee of the Whole on June 16, 2022, including:
  - a. Implementation plan, for delivery effective January 1, 2023;
  - b. Required service delivery policies and procedures; and
  - c. The anticipated financial impact to the Region.
2. That this Member's Resolution be forwarded to all York Region municipalities for their review and consideration.