

Subject: Snow Clearing on the Steve Bauer Trail**Recommendation:**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive Report #2021-0068 "Snow Clearing on the Steve Bauer Trail" for information;

AND THAT Council approve the clearing of snow on the paved portion of the Steve Bauer Trail between 1106 Line Avenue and Port Robinson Road during the winter season.

AND THAT Council approve the initiative in principal and refer the clearing of snow on the paved portion of the Steve Bauer Trail between 1106 Line Avenue and Port Robinson Road for consideration in the 2022 Winter Operations Budget.

Background:

This report is written to satisfy a Council approved Notice of Motion on April 6, 2021, to provide a report outlining the estimated additional costs that would be associated with including the portion of the Steve Bauer Trail between 1106 Line Avenue and Port Robinson Road in the snow clearing contract.

Analysis:

Municipal sidewalks and paved multiuse trails receive snow and ice clearing services in accordance to the Town of Pelham Winter Operations Policy S802-04 through the use of a local contractor. The Steve Bauer Trail is designated as a recreation trail and does not receive this service. The Steve Bauer trail has been signed accordingly to warn users of the lack of winter maintenance.

It is generally believed that the newly paved portion of trail has experienced an increase in use since the hard surfacing was completed, and as a result of the covid-19 pandemic as people seek outdoor activities and recreation opportunities. The trail also provides an important link between neighborhoods in South/East Fonthill and the Downtown area throughout the year.

Through a quote provided by the contractor currently engaged by the Town to

perform the snow clearing on sidewalks and trails, the cost of completing winter service on the 1.6km paved portion of the Steve Bauer Trail is \$125 per event.

The Town of Pelham ranges between 25 and 35 winter events per year. The cost of providing this service is estimated at \$3,750 annually based on an average of 30 winter events. This cost represents 0.78 % of the total winter operations budget of \$476,650.

Financial Considerations:

Due to a relatively light winter season experienced in the beginning of 2021, the additional expenses of providing snow clearing services on the Steve Bauer Trail between 1106 Line Avenue and Port Robinson Road during the remainder of 2021 can be absorbed in the existing 2021 Operating Budget.

Winter seasons in Southern Ontario are highly variable from year to year. To allow for the continuance of this service beyond 2021, an Operating Budget increase of \$3,750 is required to be applied to the 2022 Winter Operations budget.

Alternatives Reviewed:

Because of the increased use of the trail, the low cost of providing winter maintenance, and the Pelham Active Transportation Committee's support of the initiative, no alternatives were reviewed in the preparation of this report.

Strategic Plan Relationship: Build Strong Communities and Cultural Assets

Having a strong and accessible active transportation network throughout the Town helps build strong communities and promotes healthy living for the residents of Pelham.

Consultation:

This report was written in consultation with the Pelham Active Transportation Committee, the Town's current contracted service provider for winter snow clearing, and the Manager of Public Works.

Other Pertinent Reports/Attachments:

Report 2020-0069 Confirmation of Levels of Service for Winter Maintenance and Winter Operations Policy Update

Report 2020-0080 Steve Bauer Trail Hard Surfacing between 1106 Line Avenue and Port Robinson Road

Prepared and Recommended by:

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