



CITIZEN COMMITTEE REPORT

To:	Emergency and Community Services Committee
From:	Seniors Advisory Committee <hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> (Penelope Petrie, Chair)
Date:	December 16, 2020
Re:	Snow Removal Recommendations and HSR Services

Recommendation:

The Seniors Advisory Committee requests that the City of Hamilton sidewalk snow plowing be fully implemented by the winter of 2020/2021.

Background:

The Seniors Advisory Committee carried unanimously the following motions at the March 6, 2020 committee meeting:

WHEREAS, in 2012, Hamilton City Council endorsed the development of the 2014 - 2019 Age Friendly Hamilton plan as a strategic priority for Hamilton which included the frame work for Getting Around Hamilton;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton received a detailed report from city staff in 2014 providing information regarding the snow removal from all city-wide sidewalks which Council has yet to act on;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton has once again sent back the latest report on sidewalk snow removal for further study;

WHEREAS inaction in snow clearing is contrary to the City's vision statement; and,

WHEREAS the Seniors Advisory Committee deplores the action of reduced HSR services and requests that full HSR service be reinstated.

This is the Corresponding Citizen Committee Report.

Analysis/Rationale:

A lack of snow clearing on the City owned sidewalks is affecting the mobility of older adults in Hamilton. Private vendors are charging upwards of \$1000 to clear sidewalks for the winter season. As a result, seniors are becoming shut-ins and are not able to move about or access resources in Hamilton.

The Seniors Advisory Committee do not believe the City has taken enough action to ensure City owned sidewalks are cleared during the winter season. They believe that the committee has presented reports such as the 2010 – 2014 Age Friendly Plan to support the motions and, has been met with inaction. Therefore, the Seniors Advisory Committee implores the City of Hamilton to fully remove snow from all City owned sidewalks.

With Respect to the reduction in HSR services, the Seniors Advisory Committee reports that a reduction in HSR services, will affect the most vulnerable populations as they depend on the services the most. Reduced mobility will negatively impact the quality of life of seniors. Therefore, the Seniors Advisory Committee implores City Council to fully re-instate HSR Services.