

ACPD's Built Environment Working Group Meeting Notes

May 06th, 2025

Virtual Teams Meeting

4:00PM – 6:00PM

Members in Attendance: Paula Kilburn, James Kemp, Hargun Kaur

Also in Attendance: Peter Sniuolis, James Moore, Camila Grullon

Members Absent: Lance Dingman, Cara Hernould, Levi Janosi

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of May 06th Agenda: Agenda was approved.

3. 2024-2025 Snow Removal Season Review: Chair prepared a slide deck with a chronological overview of the season highlighting problems discovered during travels. Chair pointed out that it isn't as extensive as he would like due to the fact we were snowed in

rather heavily this year with no relief. Peter recognized that this year was especially bad and the strange combination of storms and different snow conditions created significant problems for all snow removal crews across the province and highlighted that the city didn't remove the snow emergency status until fully two weeks after the worst snowfall in February. Chair then reviewed each slide and pointed out the deficiencies one at a time. Staff appreciated the slide deck and descriptions as they are reviewing the snow removal season with the contractors within the week and asked to use it with others. During the review, Paula raised out several issues for persons with vision loss and the inability to tap or trail with a white cane properly. Staff pointed out that they are to bring sidewalk to snow pack conditions with a treatment on top according to directives and Paula explained why this isn't good enough. Paula also explained how it is difficult to use the guidelines when filled with snow and other detritus. Chair compared similar pictures from this year and from two years previous to highlight the issues discussed are an ongoing problem with little improvement. Staff agreed that there are many areas of snow removal that are deficient and hope to work with the contractors to improve this. Chair asked if there is less snow clearing vehicles on the road and staff explained the

numbers are the same as in recent years. Chair also inquired about driver training and they explained that driver training has been made more extensive to make up for retirees and potentially lost institutional knowledge.

4. HSR/City Snow Removal Review: Chair prepared a second slide deck to review problems with snow clearing at bus stops. Chair began by explaining that we had been told that HSR contracts out their snow removal and issues should be raised with them, however, when we speak to HSR about it, they tell us it is done by the City and we should talk to them. Peter explained that both are true except that when we were told it was done by a different group at the City; his department is responsible for both areas. We went through each picture and highlighted the deficiencies in each. Staff agreed that there is a lot of work to be done in getting the snow removed properly, but they were unaware of some of the issues, for example, that it actually takes a minimum of 2.25 metres to disembark a mobility device from a deployed ramp. As most snow removal is only 1.5 metres, this creates significant problems for us. We also showed the need for the nearest curb cut being cleared to the bus stop and demonstrated that the back door is not being cleared and people are

disembarking on snow banks. Also demonstrated the problems that arise when sidewalks and bus stop are not cleared as a whole leaving small windrows that turn to ice barriers.

5. Other Business: Chair related a story of how he almost drove off the King and Kenilworth bridge due a poorly placed rock and a lack of guardrails. Chair contacted the City to report it the next day and an emergency crash barrier was erected the same day followed by a shiny guardrail within two weeks. Chair thanked Peter for his department's quick response to a serious oversight in design and suggested if any other members have similar issues, they shouldn't hesitate to report it for everyone's safety.

6. Adjournment