



Councillor Paul Ainslie
Toronto City Council
Scarborough East - Ward 43

Chair, Government Management Committee

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Date: April 21, 2016
To: Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
Re: Bike Lane Snow Clearing

PW13.16

Recommendations:

The Public Works and Infrastructure Committee request the General Manager, Transportation Services report to committee on June 20, 2016.

- a) Report on the bike lane winter maintenance program implemented during the 2015/2016 winter season as adopted by City Council on June 2014.
- b) Provide information on the equipment employed to clear/remove snow and ice on bike lanes in comparison with options utilized in other Canadian jurisdictions such as Ottawa.
- c) Map bike lane winter maintenance on the City of Toronto winter maintenance map provided on the cities website, the information is to be provided in an open data format relevant to APP downloads.

Council adopted that beginning in the 2015/16 winter season, winter maintenance of cycling facilities, including priority routes with appropriate signage be implemented. In its first season, I received feedback from residents to better our efforts including requests for the city to introduce alternative tools to clear/remove the snow and ice to achieve more success.

Acknowledging that bike lanes are narrow the City of Ottawa's website states that "... Equipment utilizing a mechanical sweeping broom, plow and snow blower will clear snow. Following this a liquid anti icing spray will be applied to the bike lanes while the use of roadway rock salt and grit will be minimized", the Toronto report suggested "...all downtown on-street bike lanes would be salted to a higher frequency than adjacent arterial roads. When necessary, they would also be plowed using a 'slusher' blade..."

It would be beneficial to review our efforts to determine how they require enhancement as we prepare for the 2016/2017 winter season including an analysis of snow clearing equipment used by Transportation Services to determine if it successfully cleared narrow-width bike lanes

Sincerely,

Councillor Paul Ainslie
City of Toronto
Scarborough East Ward 43

2014.PW31.1 - Confirmation of Levels of Service for Winter Maintenance of Bikeways, Windrow Opening, Sidewalks and Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) Compliance
<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2014.PW31.1>

PLOWTO
http://www1.toronto.ca/wps/portal/contentonly?vgnextoid=e00aa24f6a05f410VgnVCM10000071d60f89RCRD&WT.rd_id=plowto

Confirmation of Levels of Service for Winter Maintenance of Bikeways, Windrow Opening, Sidewalks and AODA Compliance – Supplementary Report
http://www1.toronto.ca/City%20Of%20Toronto/Transportation%20Services/Snow%20management/Files/pdf/Service%20Level%20PDFS/April%2028,%202014_pw1438%20Staff%20Report%20on%20Winter%20Service%20Levels.pdf