

Councillor Request Inquiry

23-2019

2019

What would be the costs associated with moving from a 5 year weed spraying program to a 3 or 4 year program in the urban park areas?

Dear members of Council,

The information provided is in response to the following question brought forward at the June 25, 2019 Council meeting.

“What would be the costs associated with moving from a 5 year weed spraying program to a 3 or 4 year program in the urban park areas?”

Anticipated costs are as follows:

Cycle	Number of Hectares Per Year	Spraying cost per year	Increase in annual funding required
5 year	95	\$48,450	
4 year	119	\$60,562	\$12,112
3 year	158	\$80,750	\$32,300

Weed management is comprised of “prohibited noxious and noxious weed management”, which is mandated by the Province and “non-noxious weed management”. The prohibited noxious and noxious weed management program requires weeds be dealt with in an efficient and timely manner. Our non-noxious weed management program includes dandelion weed management. The dandelion weed management program is done on a five year spraying cycle in the following areas:

- Arterial boulevards
- Park spaces
- Sports fields
- School sites

Other Considerations:

- Increased pesticide use in the community
- Public feedback and reaction
- Increased costs associated with more frequent applications

If you require any further information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thanks,

Arlene McWilliam-Protz
Manager, Outdoor Services Maintenance & Infrastructure