

Sidewalk snow clearing

Transportation and Agriculture Services

MOTION

THAT administration prepare a report by the end of September 2019 on possible amendments to Bylaw 36-2013 – Removal of Snow and Ice from Sidewalks within the County, the report to include:

- Feasibility of requiring that owners must clear sidewalks within 48 hours.
- Feasibility of the County assuming responsibility for clearing sidewalks on side yards on roadways.
- Information on best practices from other municipalities, including priority systems for clearing different types of sidewalks and trails.
- The costs associated with the options provided.

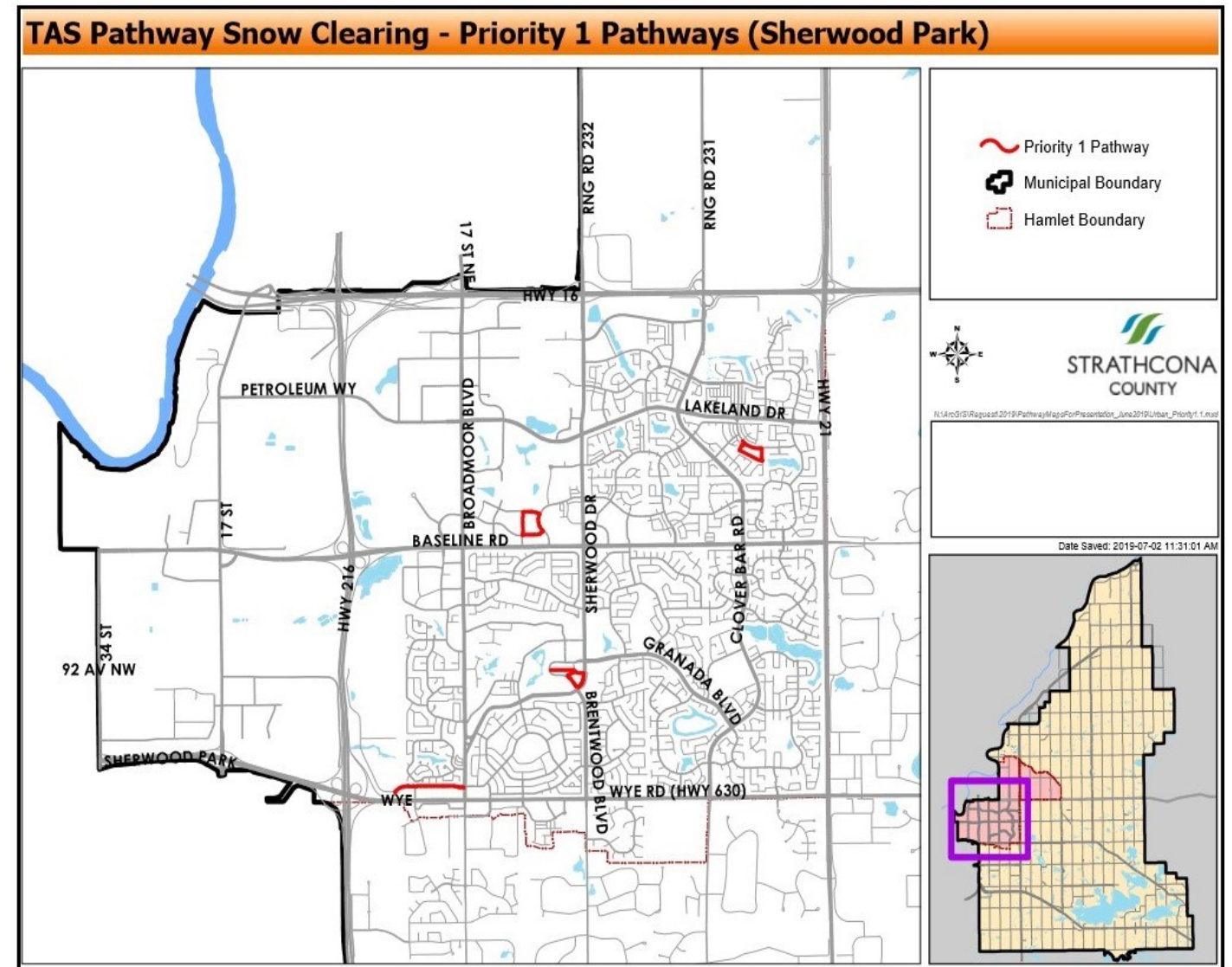
Current trail clearing

- 220.36 km of trails and sidewalks are currently cleared
- Clearing begins within 2 cm snowfall accumulation
- Trails ranked from priority 1 to 4
- Homeowners responsibility to clear side yards

If snowfall restarts before all priorities are completed, crews will go back to Priority 1 and restart.

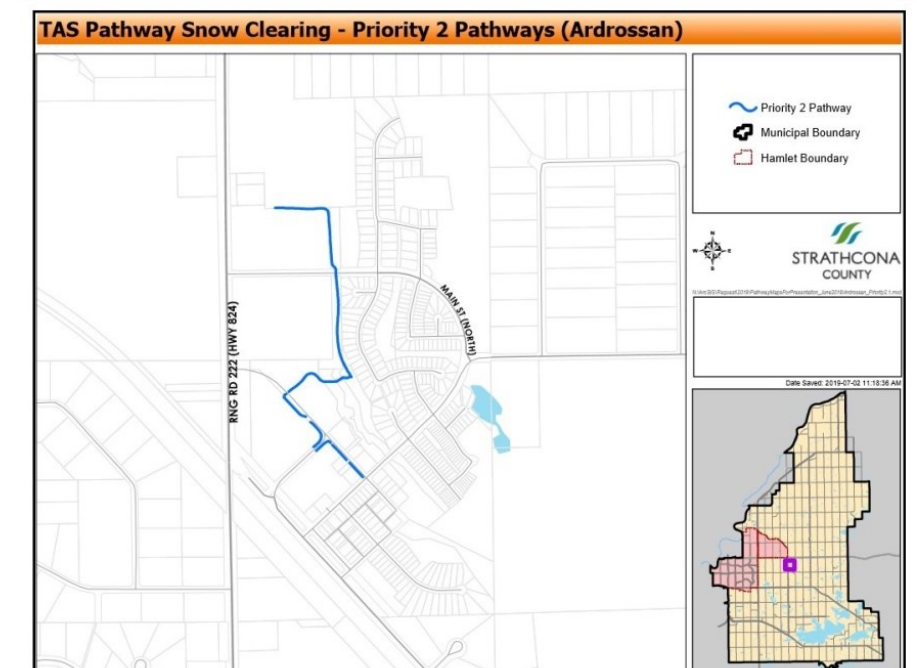
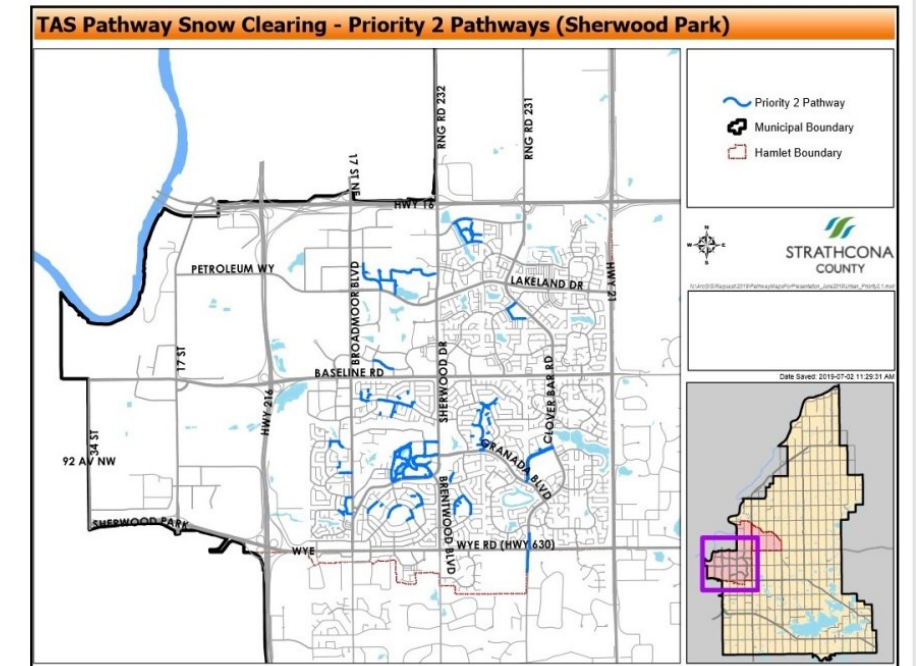
Priority 1

- Centre in the Park
- Transit park and ride facilities
- Trails adjacent major and high volume minor arterial roads and collector bus routes
- Total of 3.38 km
- Completed within first 24 hours of snowfall



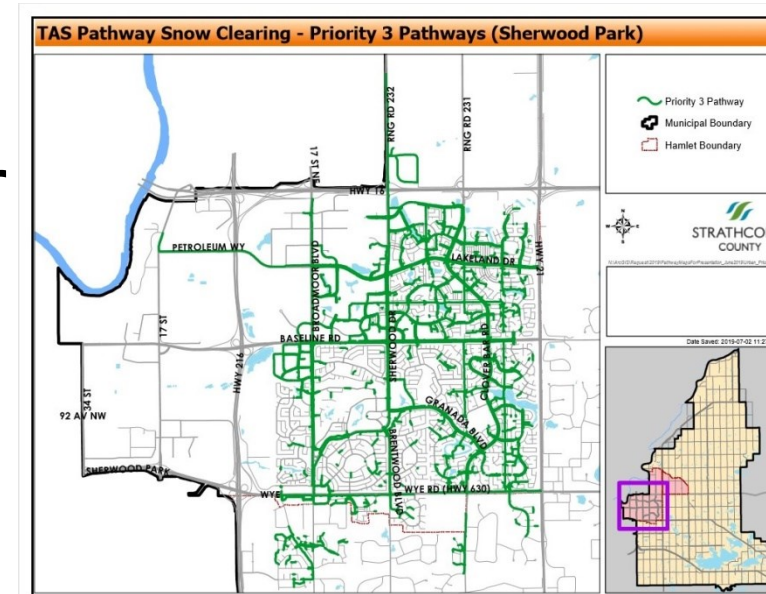
Priority 2

- All hard surfaced sidewalks and trails (including transit stops leading to public recreation facilities)
- School parks
- School transit zones adjacent minor arterial
- Collector bus routes
- Rural hamlet roadways
- Total of 22.14 km
- Cleared within 48 hours



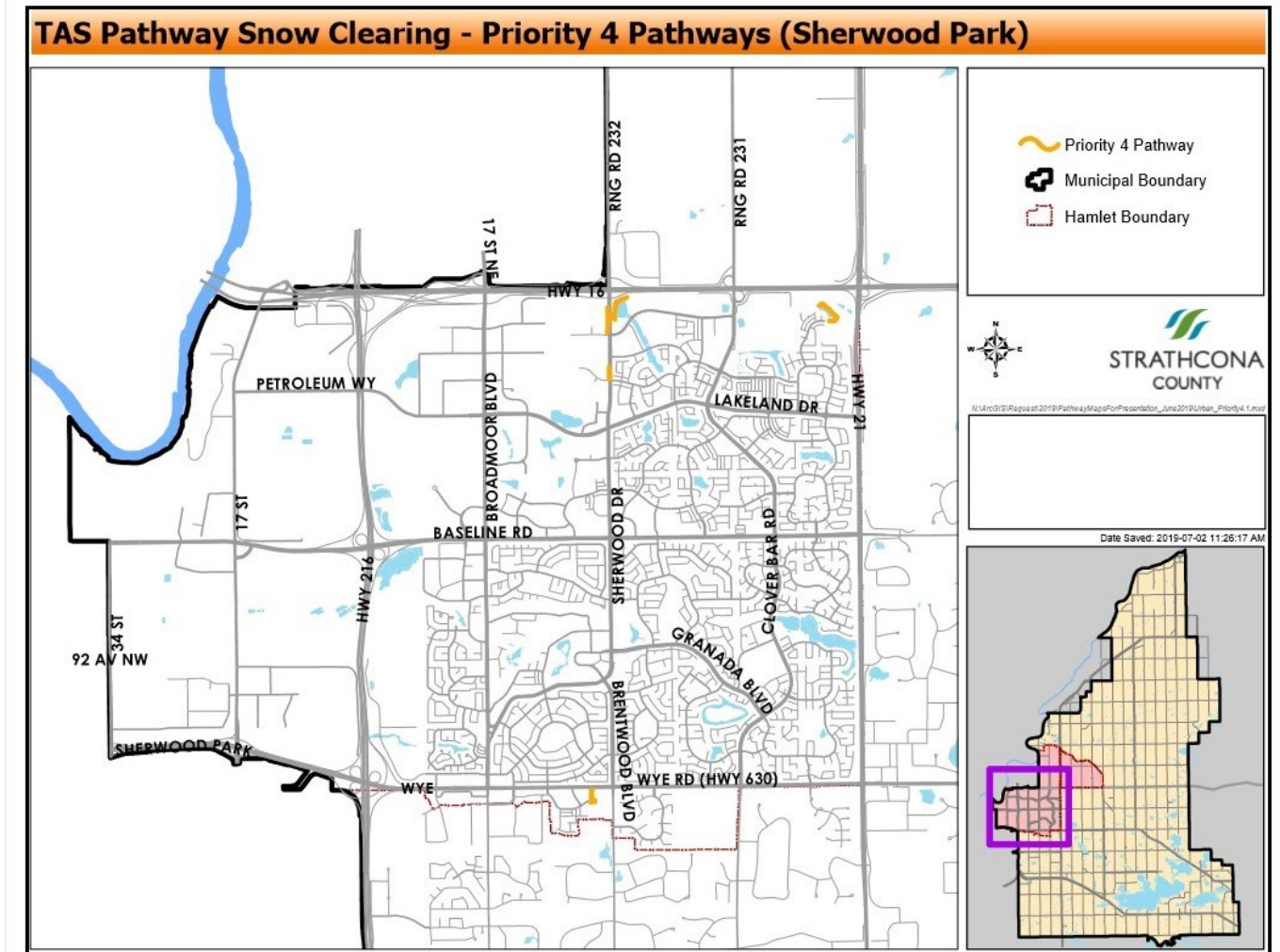
Priority 3

- All remaining hard surfaced sidewalks along major and minor arterials, major and minor industrial roadways or in rural hamlets or public parks
- Total of 187.37 km
- 72 hours to complete following P1 and P2



Priority 4

- Pathways between residential streets and parks
- Current practice is to avoid clearing after 10 p.m.
- Total of 7.47 km
- 72 hours to complete following P1 and P2



Ice control

- Current ice control is to apply rock chips after clearing when necessary.
- In extreme weather events a mixture of rock chips and ice melt is used around schools, recreation facilities, as well as other high traffic areas when required to ensure pedestrian safety.
- Salt/Sand mixtures are hard on pets feet as well as adjacent landscaping, so is used only sparingly and to ensure safe mobility.

Current bylaw and inspection statics

All owners of a parcel in the urban service area shall be responsible to remove all snow and ice from any sidewalk along the frontage and/or side of the parcel within 8 days following the initial snow accumulation.

Year	County Connect cases	Sidewalk inspections	Friendly reminder letters	48 hour notices	Enforcement
2018-2019	61	78	48	5	1
2017-2018	59	94	49	9	4
2016-2017	53	82	53	0	0

Capital region sidewalk bylaw survey

	Residential snow clearing bylaw	Enforcement	Timeframe	Penalty
Strathcona County	Yes	Reactive	8 days	Cost of remedial work (plus 50% administrative fee)
City of Edmonton	Yes	Proactive /Reactive	48 hours	\$100
City of Fort Saskatchewan	Yes	Proactive /Reactive	48 hours	Warning and then fine of \$100
City of St Albert	Yes	Reactive	48 Hours	\$100

Capital region trail policies

	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3/ Priority 4
Strathcona County	24 hours	48 hours	72 hours
City of Edmonton	24 hours from end of snowfall	48 hours from end of snowfall; includes bus stops	No defined service level
City of Fort Saskatchewan	Within 24 hours of snowfall	Within 48 hours of snowfall	Once priority 1 and 2 are completed Monday to Friday
City of St Albert	8 hours after 1 cm of snow accumulation	48 hours after 2-5 cm of snow accumulation	72 hours after 2-5 cm of snow accumulation

Costs

Budget comparison – current vs 48 hour	
Time to clear all trails	Budget
Current service level - 8 days	\$946,400
Proposed service level – 48 hours	\$1,425,000

Side yard cost breakdown if completed after proposed 48 hour period	
Side yard options	Budget
Side yard walkways adjacent to collector roadways – 6.11 km	\$132,393
Side yard walkways adjacent to residential roadways – 13.98 km	\$377,848
Both side yard walkways on collector and residential roadways	\$510,241