



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

NOTICE OF MOTION

From: Mayor Barbara Desjardins and Councillor Meagan Brame

Introduced: Council Meeting – June 22, 2020

Subject: **Streets and sidewalk cleaning**

WHEREAS: Esquimalt is a mature community with mature street infrastructure, aging sidewalks, curb and gutter, cracked sealing on streets,

AND WHEREAS: ongoing Maintenance helps prolong infrastructure and reduces frequency of costly repair,

AND WHEREAS: Council has in the past increased the operational budget to allow for vegetation to be cleared twice a year on Esquimalt road but subsequently stopped allocating funds for this ongoing maintenance, and did not provide funds for other streets which have developed considerable vegetation,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: Council request a staff report providing options for a program for maintenance of weeds in sidewalks, and concrete curb and road interface, including options how to maintain, priority of maintenance, frequency of maintenance, and cost of implementation of such a program for council's consideration

STRATEGIC RELEVANCE and PRIORITIES:

Help develop a Healthy, Livable and Diverse Community.

We efficiently and effectively provide local services and infrastructure to achieve high-quality results.

Approach our work with conviction and enthusiasm to achieve excellence in public service.

The Township of Esquimalt works to make our economic, cultural, social and environmental community a better place for today and for the future.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Yes

BACKGROUND:

Our aging infrastructure requires ongoing maintenance to slow the need for costly replacement. Weeds in concrete sidewalks and separated curb/gutter can increase breakdown of the roadway and reduce the lifespan of the undersurface as well as the roadway/sidewalk. There are also occasional hazard challenges with weeds in these places.

Several years ago, council increased the budget to allow for vegetation removal along Esquimalt road providing this twice a year for a 2-year period. Funding was not provided for secondary or local streets at that time. Funding was discontinued resulting in reoccurrence and growth affecting our streets again.

Within the adopted Economic Development Strategy:

https://www.esquimalt.ca/sites/default/files/docs/business-development/eds_esquimalt_web_jan_2015.pdf

and the recent report from SIPP (Power point presentation engagement results council meeting 2020-05-04) updating input and assessment of the strategy, it was identified that beautification, and image were important for the Township of Esquimalt. In the same manner as removal of graffiti shows pride in community, management of weeds along roadside can improve our community.

Township of Esquimalt's **BYLAW NO. 2826**, the Bylaw to regulate Maintenance of Property, Unsightly Properties and Nuisance "Unsightly Property" includes, plants, bushes, hedges, shrubs, and trees that are decaying, dying or dead or are demonstrating uncontrolled growth. No Owner or Occupier shall cause or permit Weeds or other unintended plants to grow or accumulate on the Land of that Owner or Occupier. No Owner or Occupier shall cause or permit the lawn on the Land of that Owner or Occupier to grow in height beyond the prevailing standard in the neighborhood, but in any event, not beyond 25 cm. (10 in.) in height.

