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| TO: | CHAIR AND MEMBERS CIVIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING ON JANUARY 6, 2014 |
| FROM: | EDWARD SOLDI, P. ENG. DIRECTOR, ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION |
| SUBJECT: | SNOW PACKED ROADS AND SNOW DUMPING FROM PRIVATE PROPERTY |

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| RECOMMENDATION |
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That on the recommendation of the Director, Roads and Transportation, the following report **BE RECEIVED** for information.

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| BACKGROUND |
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At the Municipal Council meeting held on December 3, 2013, Councillor D. Brown enquired about what could be done to address concerns about roadways rutted with snow and situation where people are removing snow from their property onto public roadways or onto neighbouring properties.

The Chair directed that Councillor Brown’s enquiry be referred to the Civic Works Committee for consideration.

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| DISCUSSION |
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The City of London maintains roadways in accordance with the Provincial Minimum Maintenance Standards for Municipal Highways (MMS), Regulation 239/02. This Provincial regulation under the Municipal Act specifies minimum maintenance standards for roads, bridges, luminaries, road shoulders and signs, including the maintenance related to snow removal.

Snow Ruts on Roadways

Snow can bond to a road that is not treated with a salt or saline solution. The City of London only treats high volume roads with salt which helps to eventually clear-off with the presence of traffic while low volume roads remain snow packed and are treated with sand at curves, hill and intersections. Snow packed roads can become rutted and City staff monitor and address only the most severe and impassable sections. The MMS do not require roads to be cleared to bare pavement. The City’s Winter Maintenance web page at <http://www.london.ca/residents/Roads-Transportation/Road-Maintenance/Pages/Snow-Removal.aspx> is one tool that is used to relay such information to residents. The following information is provided:

The plow came by. Why is there still snow on my street or sidewalk?

A cleared street is one where the plow has been through once, regardless of whether there is a 'snowpack' left on the street. In other words, the street will not necessarily be totally bare of snow and showing asphalt.

Sidewalk plows, because of the way they operate, will often leave sidewalks with a layer of 'snowpack'.

Snow Dumping from Private Property onto Roadways

Under the *Highway Traffic Act* (Section 181) and the City of London Streets By-law (Section 8), placing snow or ice on a roadway is prohibited. This information is also part of the FAQ’s listed on the City’s Winter Maintenance web page. The following messaging is provided:

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Is it okay to push snow onto the roadway or to the boulevard area across the street?

Don't place snow from sidewalks or driveways on the street. Because it creates a hazard for vehicles, the **Highway Traffic Act** and the City of London Streets By-law prohibit the placing of snow or ice on a roadway. Anyone having questions or concerns, or wishing to report a problem, should call our Public Service Line at 519-661-4570.

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| SUMMARY |
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The City of London continues to maintain roadways as per the Minimum Maintenance Standards and does not have a bare pavement policy.

Road and Transportation staff will continue to educate residents that the dumping of snow onto roadways is prohibited and will work with enforcement staff to encourage those residents/contractors who are in violation of the Highway Traffic Act and Streets By-law to modify their practices.

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| PREPARED BY: | RECOMMENDED BY: |
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| JOHN PARSONS DIVISION MANAGER TRANSPORTATION AND ROADSIDE OPERATIONS | EDWARD SOLDO, P.ENG. DIRECTOR – ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION |
| REVIEWED AND CONCURRED BY: | |
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| JOHN BRAAM, P.ENG. MANAGING DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING SERVICES AND CITY ENGINEER | |

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cc: George Kotsifas, Managing Director, Development & Compliance Services & Chief Building Official