

	TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH STORMONT
	Title: Significant Weather Event Policy Schedule "A" to By-law No. 2021-094
	Policy Category: Public Works and Municipal Services
	Effective Date: November 24, 2021
	Revision Date:

Policy Statement

Public safety is of the utmost importance to the Council and staff of the Township of South Stormont. During severe winter weather conditions, it may be necessary to declare a Significant Weather Event to assist the municipality in meeting its obligations under the Minimum Maintenance Standards.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish a protocol for the declaration of a "Significant Weather Event" as defined in the Minimum Maintenance Standards for Municipal Highways (the "Maintenance Standards") from Ontario Regulation 239/02 under the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001 c. 25. Upon the authorized staff declaring a significant weather event, all roadways and or sidewalks in the Township of South Stormont are to be deemed in a "state of repair". Roadways and sidewalks deemed in a "state of repair" may take longer for the Township to achieve the Minimum Maintenance Standards with respect to snow accumulation and/or ice. The Township of South Stormont will maintain the roadways and/or sidewalks as per the levels of service identified in the Ontario Regulation 239/02 under the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001 c. 25. with respect to snow accumulation and/or ice conditions once the Significant Weather Event has ended.

Scope

This policy applies to all roads and sidewalks falling under the jurisdiction of the Township of South Stormont that will be maintained by the Township following the Ontario Regulation 239/02, Minimum Maintenance Standards for Municipal Highways.

Objectives

During a Significant Weather Event, township roadways and sidewalks will be deemed in a state of repair with respect to snow accumulation and/or ice conditions. The Public Works Department will return the roadways and sidewalks to conditions approved by maintenance standards however, this will take longer to achieve.

Policy

A significant weather event is declared in response to an alert issued by Environment Canada under its Public Weather Alerting Program for an approaching or occurring weather hazard or by authorized staff as a result of significant snow and/or ice formation on roadways and sidewalks, extreme cold temperatures where de-icing

operations are not effective, or due to a declaration of a Significant Weather Event by the SD&G Counties and/or the City of Cornwall.

If a Significant Weather Event is declared, all roadways within the municipality are deemed to be in a state of repair with respect to snow accumulation until forty-eight (48) hours following the declaration of the end of the Significant Weather Event.

It is the policy of the Township of South Stormont that once declared, the public will be made aware through one or more of the following:

- By posting a notice on the Township website.
- By making an announcement on the Township Facebook Page.
- By notification through the Ontario Provincial Police.

Weather will be monitored in accordance with the Minimum Maintenance Standard and if deemed practicable by Authorized Staff, resources will be deployed to address snow and/or ice accumulation on roadways and sidewalks.

Applicable procedures have been developed to support his policy. The Director of Public Works is authorized to amend the Significant Weather Event Policy Procedures from time to time, as necessary.

Monitoring and Compliance

The Director of Public Works is responsible for the Significant Weather Event Policy and any future updates. The policy will be reviewed and updated as required by the Director of Public Works.

Authority and Related Policies

Section 4.1 of Ontario Regulation 239/02 under the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001 c. 25, provides the authority for the Township of South Stormont to declare a Significant Weather Event. A Significant Weather Event may be declared at the discretion of the Director of Public Works, the Chief Administrative Officer or their designate (the "Authorized Staff").

Legislated Requirements:	Ontario Regulation 239/02 under the <i>Municipal Act, 2001</i> , S.O. 2001 c. 25.
Related Policies:	Winter Maintenance Level of Service Policy

Definitions

"*Significant Weather Event*" - means an approaching or occurring weather hazard with the potential to pose a significant danger to users of the highways within a municipality.

"*Weather Hazard*" - means the weather hazards determined by Environment Canada as meeting the criteria for the issuance of an alert under its Public Weather Alerting Program.

"*Authorized Staff*" - means the Director of Public Works, the Chief Administrative Officer, the Public Works Supervisor or his/her designate.

Keywords

- Significant Weather Event
- Winter
- Minimum Maintenance Standards

Contact

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