

Winter Trails Maintenance What We Heard Report

Report prepared by
Communications
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I. Introduction

The Winter Maintenance Policy is due for review in 2022. Transportation and Agriculture Services would like to review the trail clearing priorities and timelines to ensure they are meeting community needs.

The public engagement plan was developed to provide opportunities for residents and internal/external stakeholder groups to share their feedback on the County's approach to clearing trails and pathways.

The overall purpose of the public engagement was to:

- Ensure trail clearing approach meets the needs of internal stakeholders.
- Provide opportunities for residents and key external stakeholders to give feedback on the current priority system.
- To better understand trail use, both frequency and purpose.
- Educate residents on the current priority system.
- Create better awareness of winter maintenance services and priorities.

Input from residents and stakeholders will be used to update the Winter Maintenance Policy and inform potential changes. Feedback will be used alongside technical and financial information to ensure efficiency, accessibility, safety and value for tax dollars are all considered in final decision-making for this project.

II. Methodology

This project involved two phases of public engagement. The first phase involved a series of six online meetings with internal and external stakeholders, including Recreation, Parks and Culture, Transportation Planning and Engineering, Transit, School Stakeholders (Elk Island Public and Catholic Schools), the Accessibility Advisory Committee and the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee. These meetings took place in March and April 2022.

The purpose of the stakeholder meetings was to:

- Understand if current maintenance approach is operationally aligned with internal/school stakeholders
- Understand the feedback groups hear from their stakeholders.
- Understand stakeholder perspectives on what is working and what isn't with our current priority approach.
- Understand stakeholder priorities.
- Identify where more information is needed from the community to guide the development of survey questions.

The second phase of public engagement involved the administration of an online survey to the community. The survey was available from April 27-May 11, 2022.

The survey was distributed to the Strathcona County Online Opinion Panel (SCOOP) members, and it was also available as an open online survey. The survey was limited to residents of Strathcona County.

An extensive communication plan was used to inform residents about the opportunity to provide their input through the survey. Given the non-random methods used to implement and recruit respondents for the survey, readers should be careful when applying the results to the broader population of Strathcona County.

III. Engagement results

A. Stakeholder meetings

Groups offered specific feedback and suggestions that will be shared with operations staff in Transportation and Agriculture Services. Several broader themes were also identified across the six meetings:

Connectivity/Accessibility

- Paths and trails are important connectors in our community. They don't exist in isolation. We need to consider the whole system (ie. parking lots, roads, para ramps, etc.). Often connecting facilities are maintained by several different groups. Ideally need a consistent level of service. Lack of clearing at any point in the system can cause accessibility issues. Particularly important to understand needs of those who are disabled and who take transit.

Responsibilities and progress monitoring

- There is often a lack of clarity for residents regarding which group is responsible for clearing at which location (for example, at schools/rec facilities). Often stakeholders hear complaints about County-maintained trails/pathways.
- There is no resource available where residents can go to monitor the progress of trail/pathway clearing or warn of potential hazards.

Lack of understanding of Trail Use

- We have no data on trail use- what do residents use them for? Where do they want to go? It is hard to prioritize without understanding this. Our current priority system is based on a commuting philosophy, but is that consistent with what residents want?

Ice management

- We are all struggling with the new paradigm of ice control. Freeze/thaw cycles are becoming more extreme.

Acceptable level of service

- There is a knowledge gap around what level of snow clearing/ice control our residents expect. Improved level of service is possible with increased funding, but we don't know how much residents want us to invest in improving level of service.

Trails/pathways maintenance are important to meeting many stakeholder goals

- Meeting goals of Integrated Transportation Master Plan (ITMP), Traffic Safety Strategic Plan (TSSP), Recreation, Parks and Culture Master Plan, Trails Strategy and Transit Master Plan are all impacted by trail/pathway winter maintenance. We need to make sure we are operationally aligned. Also encourages kids to walk to school.

These themes were used to identify specific lines of questioning for the public survey, including:

- Gather specific feedback on clearing of transit stops and pathways to access transit stops from transit users.
- Are destination trails or pathways of interest to the community?
- Understanding use of trails – what do residents use them for?
- Understanding accessibility issues and barriers to trail use
- Assessing trail clearing expectations – timing, sequence and quality

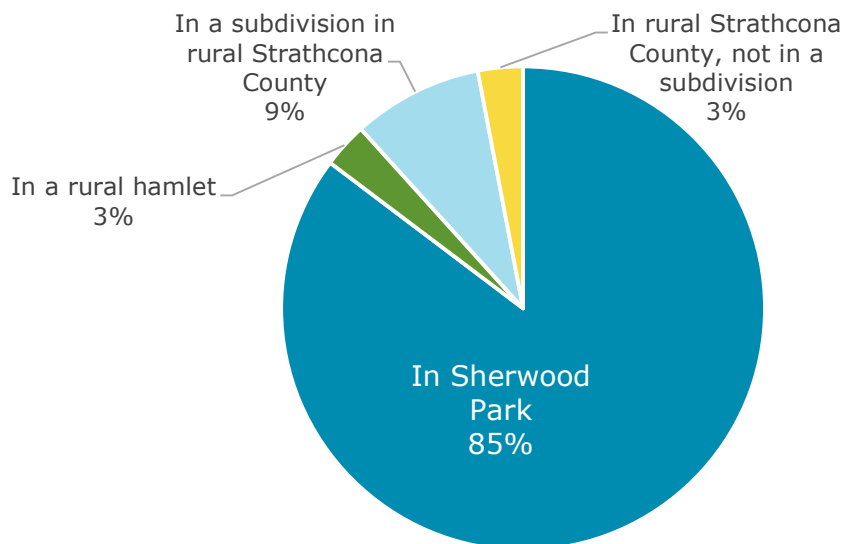
B. Survey results

There were 675 complete responses and 39 partial responses received from SCOOP members. Another 411 complete responses and 38 partial responses were received on the open, online survey. In total, 1163 responses were used in this analysis. As demographic information was not collected in the online survey, no demographic comparisons were completed. The full survey tool is available in Appendix II. For this report, trails/pathways will refer to County-maintained trails/pathways unless otherwise noted.

Location of residence

Eighty-five percent of survey respondents indicated that they live in Sherwood Park. Fifteen percent indicated they live in rural Strathcona County.

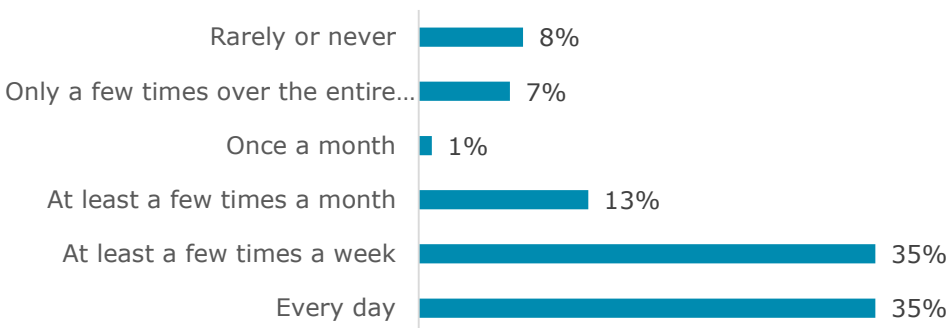
Figure 1: Location of residence of survey respondents



Trail usage

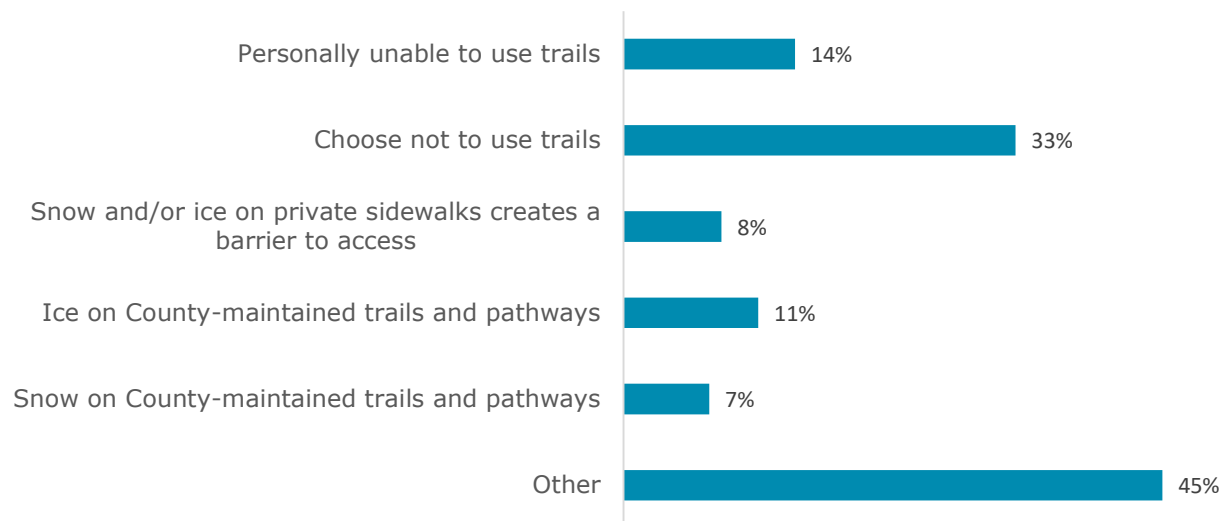
The survey asked residents how often they or the people in their household use County-maintained trails and pathways in winter. The majority of residents reported that they use the trails/pathways a few times a month or more.

Figure 2: Frequency of use of trails/pathways in winter



The eight percent (n=97) of residents who reported they “Rarely or never” use County-maintained trails/pathways were asked why they did not.

Figure 3: Reasons for not using trails/pathways in winter (choose all that apply)



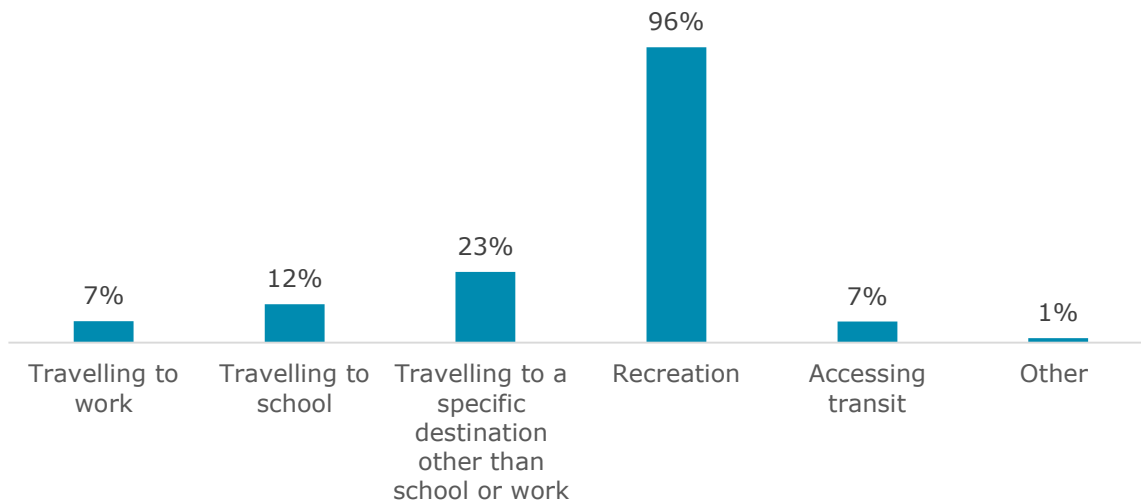
Results suggest snow and/or ice only prevents about 18% of the 97 respondents who reported they don't use the trails/pathways from using them.

Of the 44 residents who chose “other”, half indicated that they were rural residents and there were no trails near their home. Most of the other comments cited personal reasons, such as “getting too old and arthritic” and “we don't like the cold”, for not accessing trails/pathways.

Residents who had reported that they use the trails/pathways (n=1065) were asked what they use the trails/pathways for. “Recreation (including dog walking)” was overwhelmingly the most common reason for use, with 96% of residents choosing this response. Of the 14 comments provided by residents who chose “other”, the majority of these were also recreational pursuits, such as “fitness” and “fun”. Two responses indicated they used pathways to get their mail.

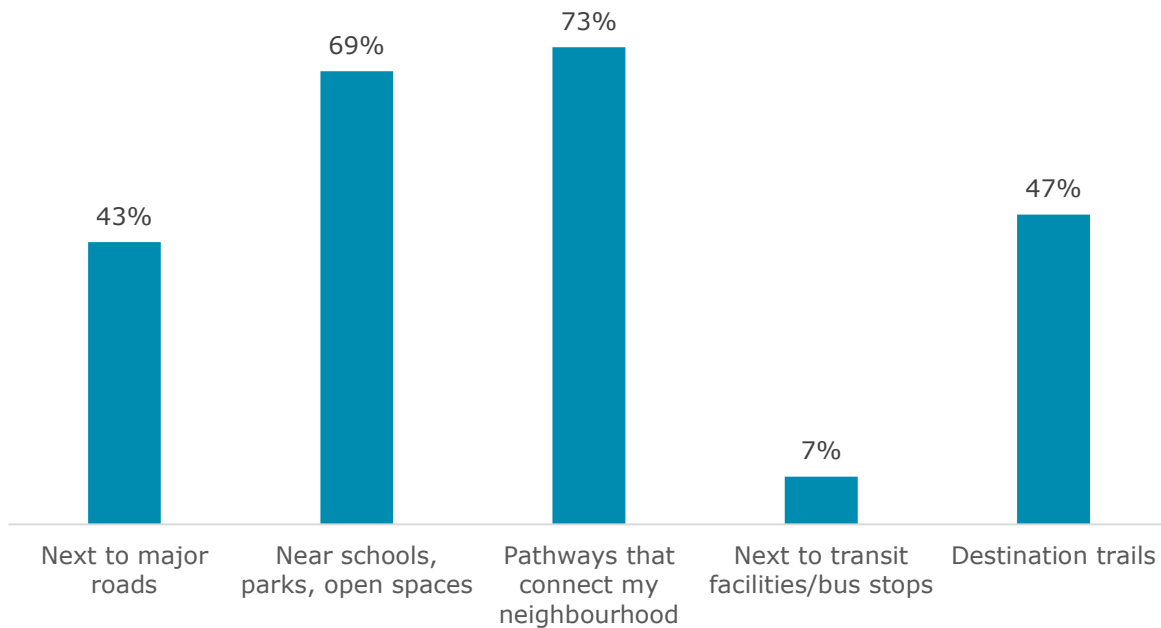
“Travelling to work” and “Accessing transit” were the least common responses, with 7% each.

Figure 4: Reasons residents use trails/pathways (choose all that apply)



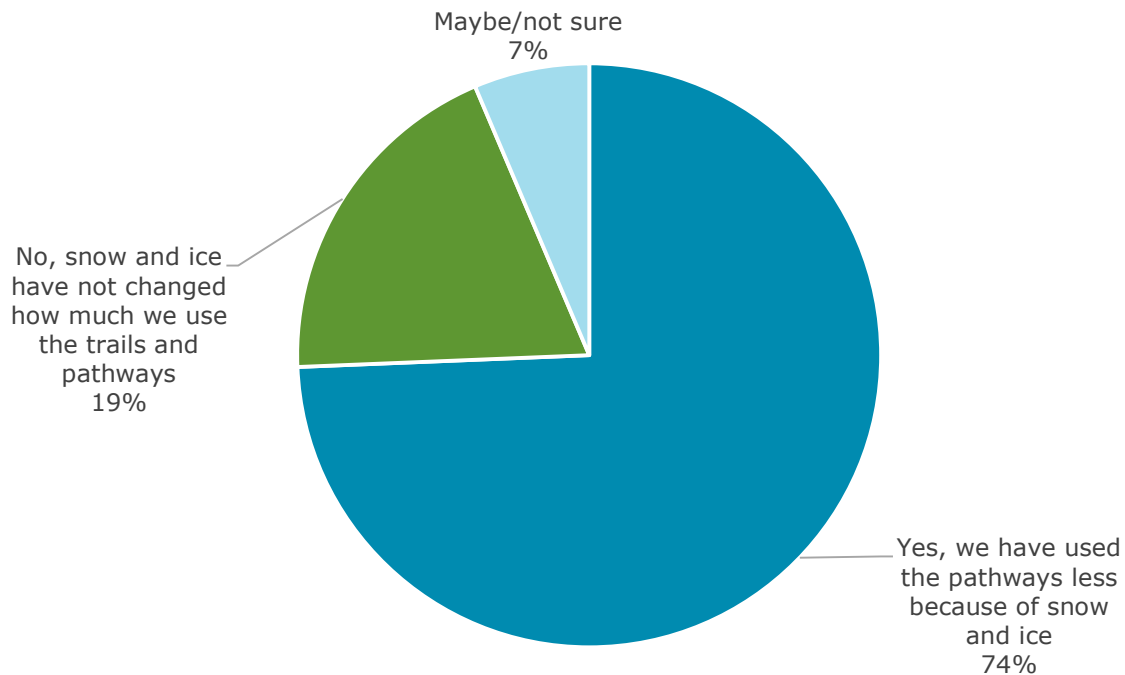
The survey then asked what kind of County-maintained trails and pathways respondents used most often, allowing them to choose up to three responses. "Pathways that connect my neighbourhood" was the most frequently chosen option.

Figure 5: Trails/pathways accessed most often by residents (choose up to 3 responses)



The survey asked residents who use the trails if they would be more likely to use trails/pathways if they were cleared of ice and snow more often? Seventy-four percent of respondents (n=1065) reported decreased path use because of snow and ice.

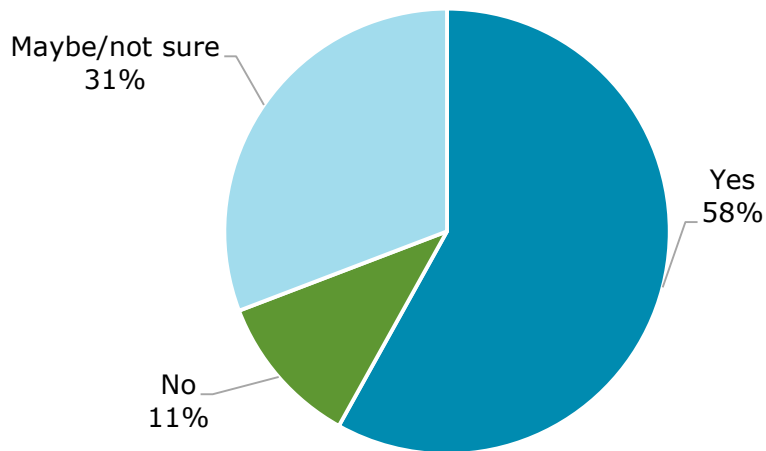
Figure 6: Impact of trail/pathway maintenance on use



Destination trails

The County has destination recreation and leisure trails for walking, running and biking in winter at Broadmoor Lake Park and Broadmoor Golf Course. These trails are maintained to a higher standard than other trails in the community. Residents who use trails (n=1060) were asked, if the County created more destination trails, would you use them? Fifty-eight percent of residents indicated that they would use them.

Figure 7: If the County built more destination trails, would you use them?



Satisfaction with trail clearing

All survey respondents (n=1113) were asked about their satisfaction with the amount of time it takes for the County to clear pathways/trails, as well as the quality of the clearing. Resident opinions on the timing and quality of snow clearing/ice control vary, but more residents express more satisfaction than dissatisfaction with both services. Satisfaction is greater on trails next to major roads than on neighbourhood trails/pathways.

Figure 8: Satisfaction with the amount of time it takes to clear neighbourhood trails and those next to major roads

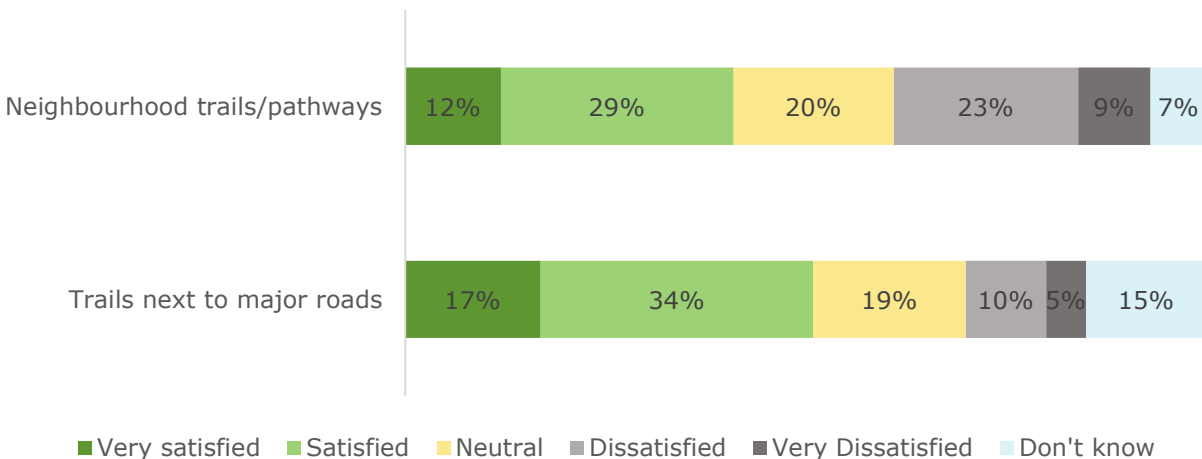
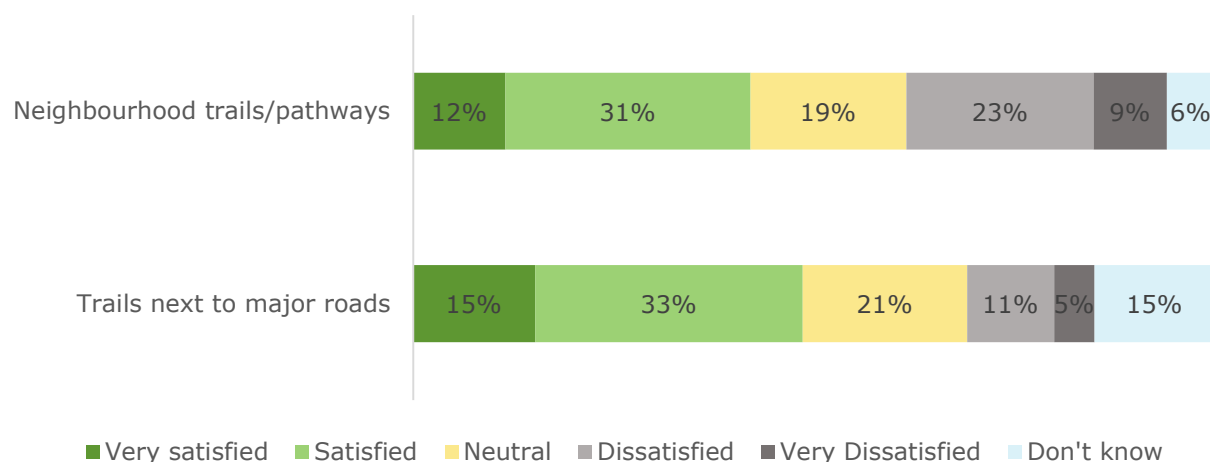


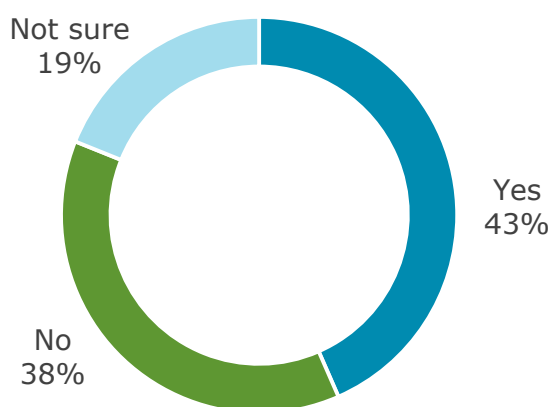
Figure 9: Satisfaction with the quality of snow clearing/ice control on trails next to major roads and neighbourhood trails/pathways



Support for increased use of sand/salt mixture

Bare pavement is a challenge to maintain without some type of de-icing material. A sand/salt mix could be used to remove ice, but this material can be hard on pets' feet and landscaping. Survey respondents were split on their support for increased use of a sand/salt mix to maintain bare pavement on busier trails.

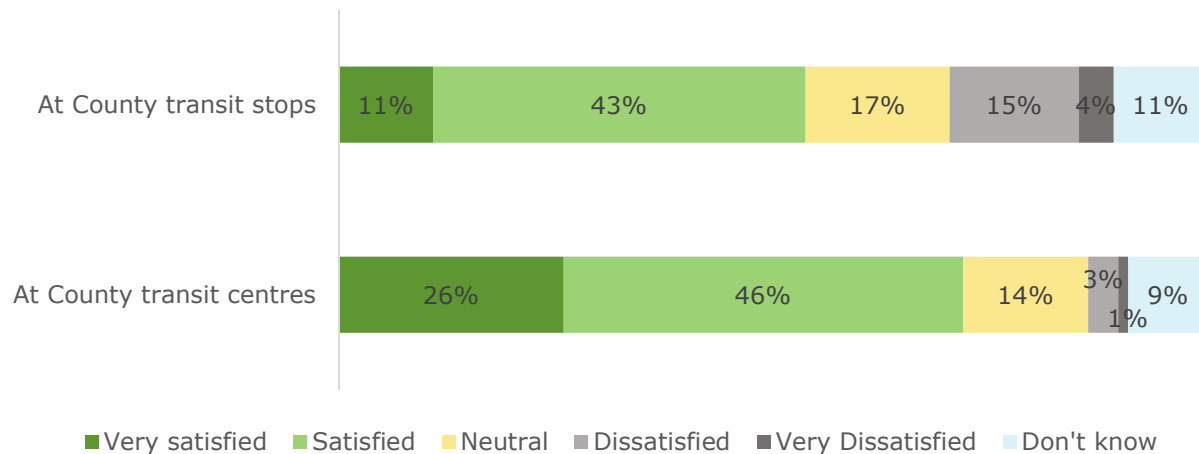
Figure 10: Support for increased use of sand/salt mixture on busier trails (n=1113)



Transit users

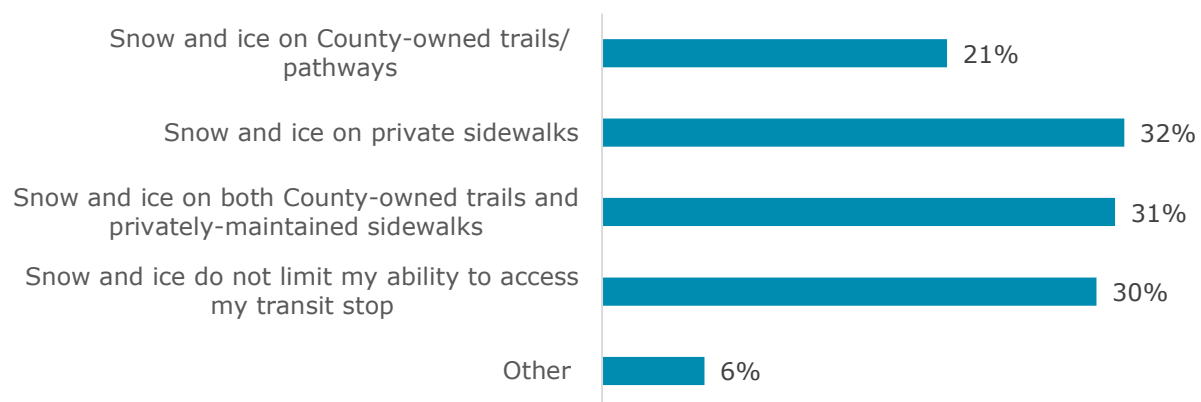
One hundred seventy-six respondents (15%) reported that someone in their household accessed transit during the winter. Transit users reported high satisfaction with the quality of snow clearing and ice control at County transit centres. Satisfaction with snow clearing/ice control at County transit stops was lower, but only 19% of transit users reported dissatisfaction.

Figure 11: Transit user satisfaction with snow clearing/ice control at transit centres and bus stops (n=176)



When asked to identify specific areas of concern with regards to accessing transit stops, snow and ice on private sidewalks was identified as a concern more commonly than County-owned trails/pathways. Thirty percent of transit users reported they had no concerns.

Figure 12: Barriers to accessing transit stops (check all that apply) (n=176)



Eleven transit users who chose “other” added additional comments. Four of these cited windrows left by snowplows at bus stops as a barrier. Other transit users said they used the mobility bus or drove to their transit centre, so snow/ice did not create barriers for them.

Transit users were provided with an open-ended opportunity to provide any other comments about winter maintenance on trails/pathways and access to transit. Fifty-three transit users provided comments; however, only five of them directly pertained to transit use. Four of these comments pertained to lack of accessibility at transit stops due to windrows/uncleared para ramps/greenspace between sidewalk and road when boarding buses. One user commented that the timeframe to clear sidewalks around the Bethel Transit Centre was too long. Other responses were general, varied comments about winter maintenance, with the most common concern being ice on neighbourhood pathways. All comments are available in Appendix III.

Disabled users

One hundred seventy-one respondents (15%) indicated that they or someone in their household was living with a disability that is restrictive or limits access resulting from uncleared trails and pathways. These respondents were provided with an open-ended opportunity to tell the County about barriers they encounter in the winter that limit their ability to access County-maintained trails/pathways. One hundred sixty-four comments were received.

By far the most common theme in the comments was ice on trails/pathways. Many people spoke about their specific impairment and how the icy trails/pathways affected them, mainly in their neighbourhood. Many expressed a fear of falling and indicated the only way they can use the trails is with bare pavement.

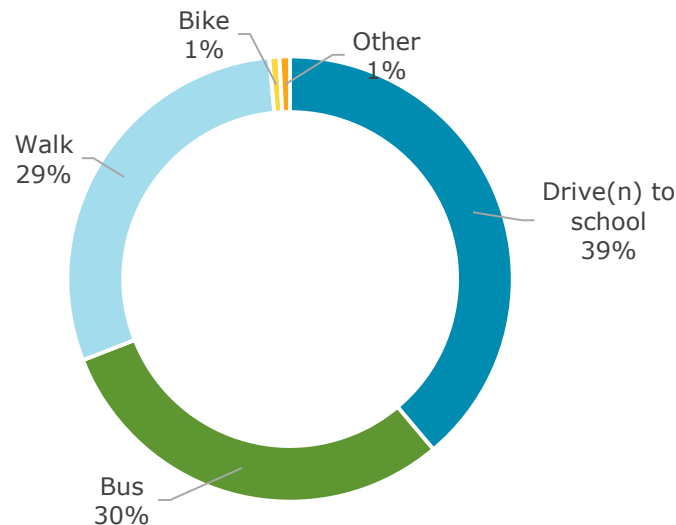
Ten residents identified windrows caused by road clearing as barriers to using the trails. Two comments were received about icy parking lots creating a barrier to trail use.

All comments are available in Appendix III.

Trails at schools

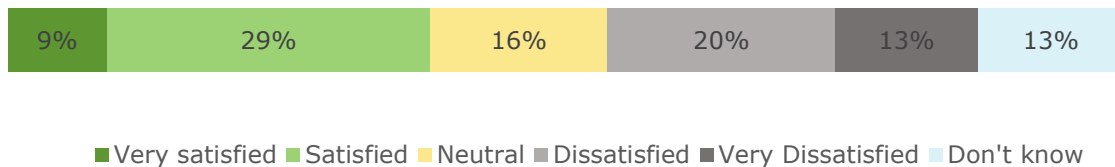
Two hundred sixty-five respondents (23%) indicated they had children who attend school in Strathcona County. When asked how their children get to school in the winter, “Drive(n) to school” was the most common response (39%), with another 30% taking the bus and 29% walking.

Figure 13: How children get to school in Strathcona County in the winter, the majority of the time (n=265)



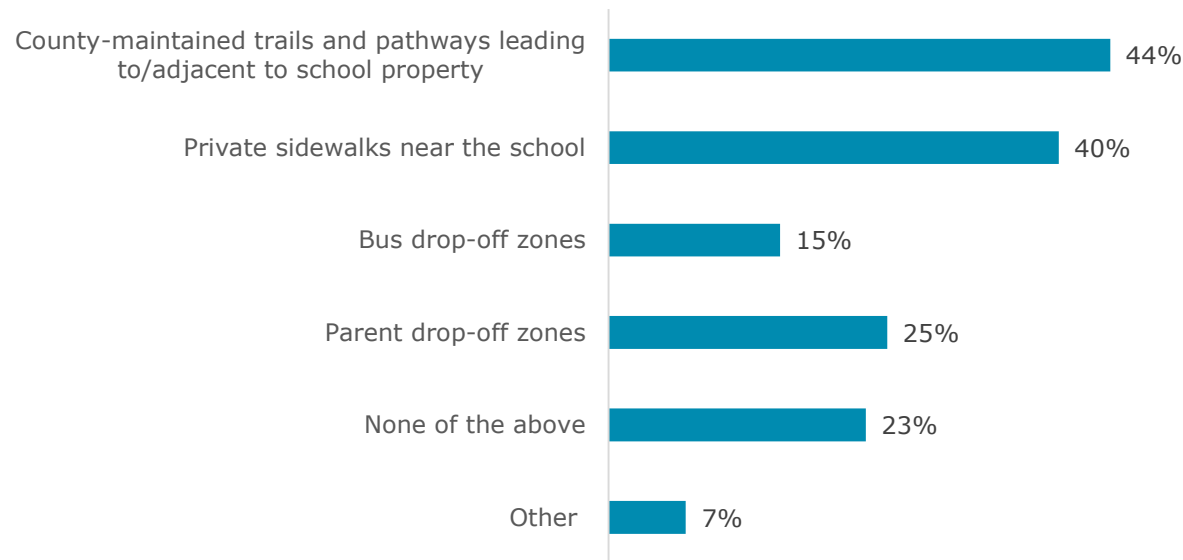
When asked about the quality of snow and ice control near your child/children’s schools on County-maintained trails and pathways, parent opinions were very diverse with 38% reporting they were satisfied/very satisfied and 33% reporting they were dissatisfied/very dissatisfied.

Figure 14: Satisfaction with the quality of snow/ice control on trails/pathways near your child’s school (n=265)



Parents were asked to indicate where snow or ice is a challenge in their child’s journey to school. County-maintained trails and pathways leading to/adjacent to school property and private sidewalks near the school were identified as the most common areas of concern.

Figure 15: Location of snow/ice concerns when travelling to school (choose all that apply) (n=265)



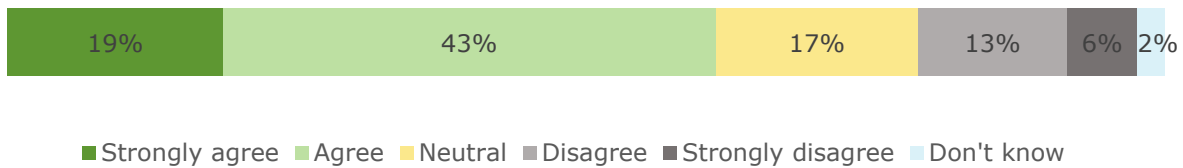
Eighteen parents chose “other” and offered further explanation of their concern. Half of the comments related to ice on neighbourhood pathways used for travel to school or bus stops. A few parents also mentioned private sidewalks. All comments are included in Appendix III.

Support for current priority approach

Strathcona County currently uses a priority approach to clear 232 km of trails and pathways, as well as areas around County facilities and transit centres. Survey respondents were provided with information regarding the priority approach, and then they were asked to rate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statement: The current order of priorities makes sense for our community.

Sixty-two percent of residents agreed/strongly agreed that the current order of priorities makes sense for our community. Nineteen percent disagreed/strongly disagreed.

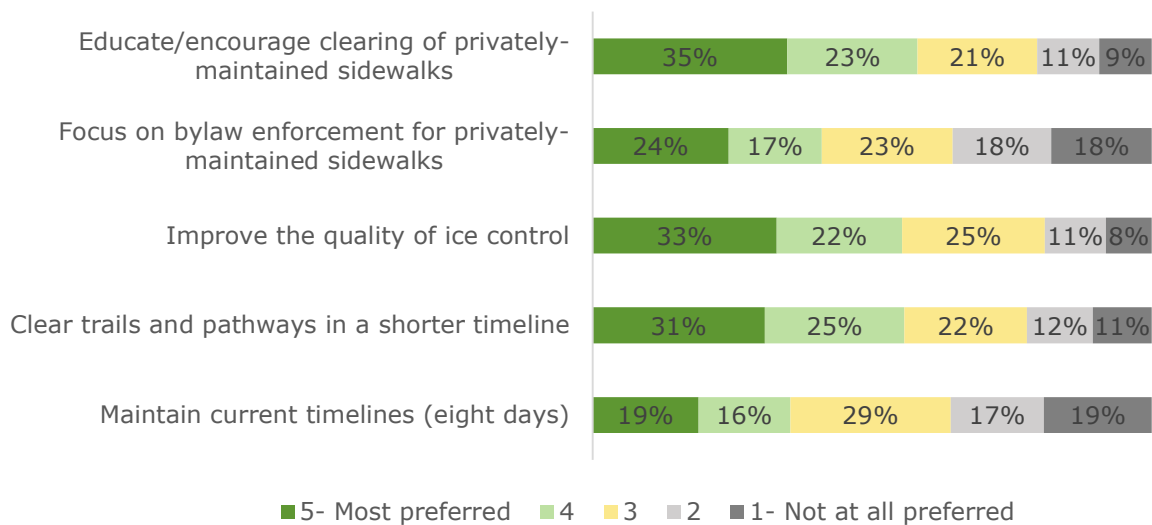
Figure 16: Level of agreement with current priority approach for trail/pathway maintenance (n=1060)



Support for future priorities

Based on use of County-maintained trails and sidewalks, residents were asked to rate their preference for the following priorities on a scale of 1-5, where 1 is not at all preferred and 5 is most preferred.

Figure 17: Resident preference for potential winter maintenance priorities (n=1050)

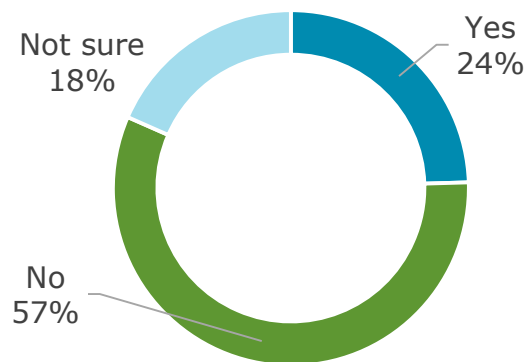


Preference was mixed for all potential priorities. Preference is strongest for educating and encouraging residents to clean their own sidewalks and to clear trails and pathways in a shorter timeline. Preference is weakest for maintain current timelines for snow clearing.

Support for tax increase to support trail clearing

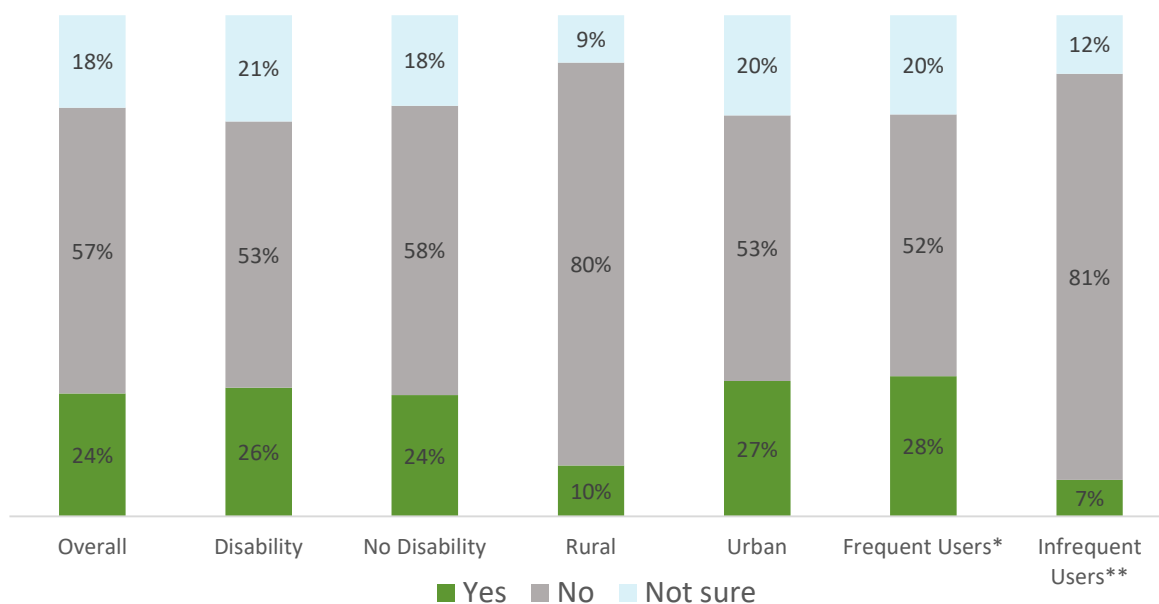
Finally, residents were asked if they would be willing to support a tax rate increase for trails to be cleared in a shorter timeframe. Fifty-seven percent of respondents said they would not support a tax increase to shorten timelines for snow clearing.

Figure 18: Resident support for tax increase to shorten timelines for snow clearing (n=1082)



Support for a tax increase was compared across several demographics, including location of residence, disability status and frequency of trail use. Support was lowest amongst rural and infrequent users, but there was no demographic that showed a majority of support.

Figure 19: Resident support for tax increase to shorten timelines for snow clearing by demographic



*Frequent users= those who use trails/pathways "at least a few times a month" or more

**Infrequent users= those who use trails/pathways "once a month" or less

Final comments

Residents were offered a final open-ended opportunity to provide comments about winter trails and pathway clearing. Thirty-six percent of those who did the survey chose to leave a comment for a total of 422 comments. Seven themes emerged from the comments. All comments are available in Appendix III.

Poor quality service/unacceptable timelines

About a quarter of comments spoke to the respondent's disappointment in the quality and/or amount of time required for snow clearing. In particular, neighbourhood paths were commonly singled out as poorly maintained.

Understand the County does its' best but sometimes it is frustrating when paths are not cleared quicker. They may be just between neighborhoods but they are still used to get to a destination, just not a County facility.

Some residents noted that maintenance was poor last winter, but also noted that the recent winter was particularly challenging.

I know clearing and maintenance was harder to do this year because of ice. However, I am not happy with the time it takes to clear our walking paths near home. Mostly Broadmoor Lake area is consistently the best alternative for use during winter.

Many of the comments that expressed dissatisfaction with winter trail/pathway maintenance also tied into the next theme about the Sidewalk Bylaw.

Some of your timelines are way past the new 48 hours bylaw for residents to clear their sidewalk? I live close to a pathway between houses to a park and it took days for you to clear that path but I only get 48 hours hardly fair.

Sidewalk Bylaw comments

Many comments referenced the newly updated Sidewalk Bylaw, that requires residents to clear sidewalks within 48 hours of snowfall. Comments in this category were split between those who feel the County should be held to the same standard and those who feel there should be greater enforcement of the bylaw.

As a homeowner, I have to clear snow within 48 hours, the county should be held to the same standard.

Wasting money on education of maintenance of personal property sidewalks is silly. Every homeowner knows they are responsible for it. Start ticketing people who doesn't. That money would pay for extra staff to clear paths connecting neighbourhoods faster.

Ice control

Several comments were about ice this past winter. These comments suggest ice is the main concern, rather than snow removal. Many of these comments recognize that last winter was an exception, but also that we need to address the more common freeze/thaw cycles.

We had lots of freezing rain this past winter. Please have a plan in place for unusual weather.

County is doing a good job

Several of the comments offered kudos to the County for the good job that they do clearing the paths.

The county did an amazing job with snow clearing this winter. Exceptional as compared to Edmonton and other municipalities.

No tax increase

Twenty comments specifically spoke against a tax increase to fund improved winter maintenance on trails/pathways.

We need to stop thinking it is an one or the other option regarding tax money and services. How about using that priority budgeting system and moving money from lower priority areas to cover increased services for snow removal? It makes this survey seem a bit one-sided.

Priority feedback/recommendations

Several comments provided feedback on the current priority framework used for winter maintenance. Other comments suggested specific locations in the County that they feel should be a higher priority.

Why would County Hall be prioritized over transit stops and school zones? That seems pretty ludicrous.

Commuter pathways should be the county's number one priority. As a daily cyclist to and from Salisbury CHS (from Clarkdale) it is incredibly frustrating to see the "Shell Plaza" and Prairie Walk Way cleared to the pavement and still have days of snow on the Clover Bar, Baseline, and Sherwood Dr. pathways (as well as the path between Wes Hosford and St. Nicholas). Students and commuters, need to have clear paths to their schools, there are hundreds who will use those paths twice a day, yet it is only a priority 3 which means cleared within 5 days. I doubt that the same number of people use the "Shell Plaza" or Prairie Walk Way at the same volume as the commuter paths.

Recommendations on snow/ice removal practices

Several different recommendations were suggested for the County to try to better manage winter maintenance. A number of these comments mentioned harm to pets and landscaping.

Please do not use salt and harmful chemicals... the environment will suffer and animals burn their paw pads. Sand is a good option.

IV. Summary/Conclusion

This report summarizes information heard from residents and stakeholders regarding winter maintenance on County-maintained trails/pathways in our community.

Feedback collected during this process suggests trails/pathways in Strathcona County are widely used by residents, particularly for recreation. Overall satisfaction with these facilities is fairly high or neutral for timing and quality of clearing.

The majority of residents think the County's current order of priorities makes sense for the community but would like timelines to be shorter (less than eight days) and are not supportive of a tax increase. Concerns about private sidewalks were common showing that overall connectivity of the system is important.

Input from residents and stakeholders will be used to update the Winter Maintenance Policy and inform potential changes. Feedback will be used alongside technical and financial information to ensure efficiency, accessibility, safety and value for tax dollars are all considered in final decision-making for this project.

V. Appendix I- Survey questionnaire

Strathcona County is reviewing its approach to clearing County-maintained trails and pathways in the winter. Feedback from residents and stakeholders will help us understand whether the current approach is meeting community needs, and where improvements can be made. The goal is to ensure our trail clearing approach balances community needs, accessibility, efficiency and safety. Any proposed changes and potential budget amendments will be brought to Council for approval in fall 2022. This survey will take approximately 5 minutes to complete.

This survey is focused on the approach to clearing County-maintained trails and pathways. Privately-maintained sidewalks are covered under Bylaw 1-2022. Under the bylaw, residents have 48 hours following a snowfall to clear the sidewalk around their property.

1. Where do you live?

- In Sherwood Park
- In a rural hamlet (such as: Antler Lake, Ardrossan, Collingwood Cove, Half Moon Lake, Hastings Lake, Josephburg, North Cooking Lake and South Cooking Lake)
- In a subdivision in rural Strathcona County
- In rural Strathcona County, not in a subdivision
- Outside of Strathcona County (disqualified if chosen)

2. Trail use We'd like to learn about how you and the people in your household use trails in the winter. How often do you/people in your household use County-maintained trails and pathways in winter?

- Every day
- At least a few times a week
- At least a few times a month
- Once a month
- Only a few times over the entire winter season
- Rarely or never

(If Rarely or never) 2.a. Why don't you/people in your household use trails and pathways in the winter? (Check all that apply) (then skip to Q7)

- I am personally unable to use trails and pathways
- I choose not to use trails and pathways
- Snow and/or ice on private sidewalks creates a barriers for me to reach County-maintained trails and pathways
- Ice on County-maintained trails and pathways
- Snow on County-maintained trails and pathways
- Other (please explain) [open ended]

3. What do you/people in your household use trails or pathways for? (check all that apply)

- Travelling to work
- Travelling to school
- Travelling to a specific destination other than school or work (e.g., grocery store, restaurant, friend's house)
- Walking, running or biking for recreation (including dog walking)
- Accessing transit
- Other (please explain) [open ended]

4. What kind of County-maintained trails and pathways do you/people in your household access most often? (Choose up to three responses)

- Trails next to major roads (e.g., Baseline Road, Clover Bar Road)
- Trails and pathways near schools, parks, open spaces and playgrounds
- Pathways that connect to other streets and parks in my neighbourhood
- Trails and pathways next to transit facilities and bus stops
- Destination trails, such as those at Broadmoor Lake
- None of the above/I don't know

5. Would you/people in your household be more likely to use them if they were cleared of ice and snow more often?

- Yes, we have used the pathways less because of snow and ice
- No, snow and ice have not changed how much we use the trails and pathways
- Maybe/Not sure

6. The County has destination recreation and leisure trails for walking, running and biking in winter at Broadmoor Lake Park and Broadmoor Golf Course. These trails are maintained to a higher standard than other trails in the community. If the County created more destination trails, would you use them?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe/Not sure

Snow is cleared using various equipment to ensure the route is passable, but not necessarily cleared to bare pavement. Rock chips are used to provide traction, as needed. Clearing trails and pathways to bare pavement, with no ice, is a challenge in the winter due to changing weather conditions, freeze/thaw cycles and freezing rain events. In extreme weather, a combination of rock chips and ice melt are applied in high traffic areas only. A mix of sand and salt is used sparingly as it can be hard on pets' feet and surrounding landscaping.

7. How satisfied are you with the amount of time it takes for trails next to major roads to be cleared (e.g. along Baseline Road, Clover Bar Road)?

8. How satisfied are you with the quality of snow clearing and ice control on trails next to major roads (e.g., along Baseline Road, Clover Bar Road)?

9. How satisfied are you with the amount of time it takes for trails and pathways in your neighbourhood to be cleared?

10. How satisfied are you with the quality of snow clearing and ice control on trails and pathways in your neighbourhood?

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very Satisfied	Don't know/Not sure
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11. Bare pavement is a challenge to maintain without some type of de-icing material. A sand/salt mix could be used to remove ice, but this material can be hard on pets' feet and landscaping. Would you support increased use of a sand/salt mix to maintain bare pavement on busier trails?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe/Not sure

12. Does anyone in your household use public transit during the winter?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

If yes,

12. a. How satisfied are you/people in your household with the quality of snow clearing and ice control at County transit centres (Bethel and/or Ordze)?

12. b. How satisfied are you/people in your household with the quality of snow clearing and ice control at County transit stops (the area where you get on and off the bus)?

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very Satisfied	Don't know/Not sure

12.c. Are there specific areas of concern with regards to accessing your County transit stop? (check all that apply)

- Snow and ice on County-owned trails and pathways makes it difficult to reach my transit stop.
- Snow and ice on private sidewalks makes it difficult to reach my transit stop.
- Snow and ice on both County-owned trails and privately-maintained sidewalks makes it difficult to reach my transit stop.
- Snow and ice do not limit my ability to access my transit stop.
- Other (please explain) [open ended]

12.d. Do you have any other comments about winter maintenance on trails/pathways and access to transit? [open ended]

13. Are you and/or anyone in your household living with a disability (visible and/or invisible) that is restrictive or limits access resulting from uncleared trails and pathways?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

If yes,

13.a. What are the barriers you encounter in the winter that limit your ability to access County-maintained trails and pathways? Please explain.

14. Do you have children who attend school in Strathcona County?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

If yes,

14.a. How do your children get to school in the winter the majority of the time?

- Walk
- Bus
- Bike
- Drive(n) to school
- Other

14.b. How satisfied are you/people in your household with the quality of snow and ice control near your child/children's schools on County-maintained trails and pathways (i.e., off school property)?

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very Satisfied	Don't know/Not sure
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14.c. We'd like to understand any areas of concern with travelling to school. Please indicate if snow or ice is a challenge in any of the following locations (check all that apply):

- County-maintained trails and pathways leading to or adjacent to school property
- Private sidewalks near the school
- Bus drop-off zones
- Parent drop-off zones
- Other (please explain) [open ended]
- None of the above

Trail and pathway priorities Strathcona County currently uses a priority approach to clear 232 km of trails and pathways, as well as areas around County facilities and transit centres. The priorities are ranked one to four and include timelines for how quickly they are cleared. It can take up to eight days to clear all trails and pathways after snowfall ends.

15. Please rate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statement: The current order of priorities makes sense for our community.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
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Based on your use of County-maintained trails and sidewalks, please rate your preference for the following priorities on a scale of 1-5, where 1 is not at all preferred and 5 is most preferred.

16. Maintain current timelines (eight days)

17. Clear trails and pathways in a shorter timeline

18. Improve the quality of ice control

19. Focus on bylaw enforcement for privately-maintained sidewalks

20. Educate and encourage residents to clear their own privately-maintained sidewalks

21. Would you be willing to support a tax rate increase for trails to be clearer in a shorter timeframe?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

22. Do you have any other comments about winter trails and pathway clearing?

VII. Appendix III- Survey comments

Why don't you/people in your household use trails and pathways in the winter? (Other- please explain)

- Don't live in Sherwood Park
- Not many trailer around us
- None nearby
- I care for someone who is unable to use trails
- not interested
- Limited outdoor activity in winter
- Time, daylight hours
- not interested
- easier to be out in nature at home
- distance
- we don't have any trails/pathways here
- Tend to not go out much in the winter
- No trails in our area
- Does not fit into my everyday movement
- No trails near
- They're too far away, I'd have to drive a half an hour to get to one
- No real need.
- I don't like cold weather
- Don't care to be on them in the winter
- Only use Ardrossan complex for exercise in winter
- I don't know where they are in rural areas
- Don't use trails as walk in my subdivision only
- hate winter, hibernate
- We have never used trails or pathways.
- There are no trails or walkways for us to use
- I live rurally, so rarely go on the paved trails. If I do go on trails, I prefer the more rugged trails like the Trans Canada Trail
- acreage life doesn't allow for a lot of walking time in town
- Pandemic not over yet... I stay at home unless shopping for groceries and other necessities.
- not a convenient facility
- don't live in Sherwood Park
- No trails/pathways near
- I live in rural Strathcona
- I enjoy my own property
- None out where we live
- Handicap
- Distance from the Hamlet, on roads that are poorly maintained.

- None in my area
- Getting too old and arthritic.
- We don't like the cold.
- We don't have any trails in our subdivision. When I go for a walk I walk on the road and it has been safe to walk on most of the winter
- too busy with individuals and meet individuals with dogs off leash and a some dog owners don't pick up after dog.. so not interested in walking in such an area
- I don't live in town
- I drive
- Really not sure where these paths are??

What do you/people in your household use trails or pathways for? (Other-please explain)

- Walking our dog.
- Getting to mailbox
- Recreation
- Fitness
- fun
- getting the mail
- my wife is in a wheelchair
- Accessing County Owned Facilities
- my children deliver flyers
- Clear snow for seniors
- Walking to the playground
- walking the dog
- Use mobility scooter on trails
- Walking

Are there specific areas of concern with regards to accessing your County transit stop? (Other-please explain)

- Had to use ice cleats numerous times this winter but that is mother nature (and global warming) and residents snow clearing abilities not just the county.
- I use Mobility Bus
- not applicable
- I have to walk through a back alley to access my bus stop and there are no sidewalks, so the ice and snow can make it difficult.
- PARKING LOT ICY
- get to bethel by driving
- When getting on or off of the bus, there is ice snow piles
- At transit stop

- We do not have a transit stop just mobility bus
- The stops themselves in residential areas are not fully cleared. I have to climb over piles of snow to get to the stop, and have slipped several times at the stop. Though the sidewalk is slippery it's the stops themselves that are a major problem.
- windrows always left on bus stop curb, par ramps continually blocked by snow plow windrows

Do you have any other comments about winter maintenance on trails/pathways and access to transit?

- I feel that the freeze / thaw cycles during winter 2021-2022 made it challenging for both home owners and the County to keep up with snow clearance on trails and sidewalks. This winter, on both Strathcona trails and privately-maintained sidewalks, I have witnessed several falls and 3/4 family members fell at least once due to slippery conditions. We use the trails and sidewalks daily and found on multiple occasions the sidewalk leading to our transit stop was not cleared within 48 hours of significant snowfall. This made access a challenge with significant drifting occurring on the sidewalk. As a result people would jay-walk across the road to the transit stop as the privately-maintained sidewalks were in much better condition.
- I don't care how good or bad a job you all do on the paths. They can't be perfect so do not waste money on it. The same should go for homeowners. Scrap the bylaw. Ice and snow is too hard to clear. You don't. Why should we.
- Do not use the calcium hydroxide? Mixture
- Many people do not clear within 48 hours, some never do all winter long in our area
- "It is frustrating to see the trails that are already cleaned (clover bar road/baseline) being scraped over and over again, when not even snow covered, since they are close to the storage site but trails used daily by kids walking to schools etc never plowed or rarely plowed to the point of snow drifting for weeks"
- You need to clear sidewalks next to parks on the same schedule as pathways
- I have walked my dog on the trails in the Craigavon, Foxhaven, SAP and Glen Allen Area twice a day for 25 years. The County does a fabulous job with snow clearing on these trails. Those who walk the trails regularly know these have to use ice grips on their boots in the Winter. This is Alberta. This is what happens in the winter time. We do not need to spend more money on clearing trails. Just do like you have been doing in the past
- Only sand should be use for the trails; rock chips and ice melt should be eliminated.

- As mentioned above, I have to use a back alley that doesn't have a sidewalk or trail. As it rarely gets cleared, the ice and snow (and lack of lighting) can make it difficult.
- the ice this year was worst than usual Salt is not a option due to animals feet etc. Timely clearing would help
- The area between the sidewalk and the transit stop (usually grass) needs to be cleared as well. This area should be a hard surface. A clear and accessible pathway from sidewalk to bus needs to be maintained. What's the point of wading through knee deep snow between the sidewalk and the transit stop? God forbid someone with mobility issues tries to get on a bus.
- Pathways should be a priority over road clearing to promote active transportation in the winter to help reduce our carbon footprint. County far too often promotes the use of automobiles instead of active transport.
- If we are expected to clear off in 48 hours, the County should have to do the same. More attention to accessible areas such as access to bus stops for those who rely on it for work. If you were in a wheelchair and used transit, you would be hooped.
- No
- A path that leads into Glen Allan park on Greengrove Crescent starts off as cement sidewalk and then changes to a gravel path. The snow is plowed to the end of the cement sidewalk and piled up onto the gravel path. This creates a snow "wall" that makes it difficult to travel down this path.
- From the quality of clearing on the path by out house this winter it seems the residents are held to a much higher standard than the County. Also instead of salt can you find some more eco friendly ice melters
- Clearing was better in prior years. Much more ice to navigate this year
- Could the county use deicer that is pet friendly?
- We recognize that this past winter was particularly challenging with respect to freezing rain
- Would like to see the path(s) at Broadmoor maintained to a higher standard. It's either very icy and in spring underwater.
- When the bus stops there are ice pipes right where you get on or off. Specifically in front of Sherwood heights. The cement for one is not wide enough to accommodate both the in AND out doors of the bus. Usually getting off the bus using the rear exit you are taking your life into your hands. There is no cleared area and usually an ice pile in the winter (no cement). Try getting off the bus in front of Sherwood heights at oak street . Using the back door you step into the grass. Fine in the summer, hazard in winter. This is all around the park.
- It seems to me that the county has done a great job in clearing road ways and trails. I am happy with the job that you are doing.
- Fill the neighborhood boxes with gravel - the piles are a pain to access and it was frozen

- For many icy days this winter it seemed it took too long to put gravel on the main walking trails. The path to the outdoor bike park seems to be cleared before other access paths first which is strange and useless.
- It is icy conditions that keep me home. Do not support chemical options to remove because it is hard on dog paws, and walking my dogs is why I go out.
- Please please stop clearing trails near homes after 10pm. It is so loud, and workers take breaks in parks to text or whatever and the noise echos off the houses and is even louder. They have been "cleared" at 1am in the morning! Please stop that - it violates the noise bylaw!
- It's stated that residents have about 48 hours to do something about clearing their path after a snowfall but I can tell you that a good chunk of people never do anything about it. I have slipped many times this winter because of residents not even bothering to at least shovel the snow and making the ice worse and not even bothering to do anything about it. Something needs to be done properly then about people who won't clear their sidewalks because it's been a hazard for people like me who can't even walk around my neighbourhood without fear of falling. There is also a park near the stop I take the most and it's a slip and slide at times and most certainly took ages for anyone to do anything about it.
- I feel the county is achieving the best practical level of clearing trails.
- My spouse broke ankle on county sidewalk that was poorly maintained from ice.
- Just like the roads ...please maintain with vigor the main trails next to main roadways
- No extra comment
- Enjoy Broadmoor golf course. Ice was a big challenge this winter and sanding /ice melt is inconsistent.
- I fell and broke my wrist and county of could care less. I asked for a sand box by the trail or by the mailbox to put sand down. They said no I told them that I take the bus. They told me I could take a bucket with me and fill it up with sand
- Because of the very different type of weather this year it was a challenge for the people to keep ahead of clearing and maintainig all the pathways (did a decent job over all)
- plow ridges make impassible routes for assistive mobility. poor drainage makes detours and late for work.
- I have poor balance and a dog so I do take precautions but would really appreciated more effort to clear sidewalks and pathways. I am still mobile but those with more severe mobility issues have no options. There were many time this spring that even with poles and spikes on my boots I was still uncomfortable walking even broadmore on the far side near salto.

- It was unacceptable how the County handled the snow clearing on roads and trails this past winter. I paid my taxes every month and snow clearing so I can walk and drive safely in the county is very important so more tax dollars should be allotted to that. residents are falling and breaking bones in county owned parking lots because the county did not do their job. Disgraceful
- On crimson drive there is a walking trail around a drainage pond - this was not well maintained - excessive ice packing. This is a well used trail and I could not walk my dog here for months due to perceived danger of fall risk.
- If the plow is making a windrow maybe try and not block a sidewalk with snow when they exit the path onto the street.
- The sidewalks around the bethel transit take a few days after a major snow fall to be cleared.
- Trails along Wye road from Brentwood Blvd to Cloverbar road and Wye rd to Salisbury greenhouse were poorly maintained. Wye road plowing tended to push snow onto trails that was never cleared by trail maintenance. Ice was an issue once the trails were plowed, with little grit spread on trails. Bus stop at Sherwood estates and Wye road was practically inaccessible for most of the winter.
- I would not like it if you used products that will hurt my dog
- operators need to pay extra attention to fully clearing crosswalks, and para ramps as well as the placement of windrows.
- If people who had dangerously un cleared side walks, would actually get fined. Multiple people do not shovel or remove ice making walking a hazard in neighborhood
- As a northern city we are way behind in this area. We are trapped by Snow and ice.
- Broadmoor Lake park trail can be cleared almost immediately after a snowfall, but I fail to understand why the sidewalk next to the entrance on Sherwood Drive and Oak Street that loops north to the bus stop on Oak Street can't be cleared at the same time.
- Priorities need to be more clearly communicated. The speed that snow is removed from the Plaza, Festival Place and Centre in the Park is maddening, particularly when there are areas (Broadmoor Lake) that don't receive that treatment. 2. Snow removal on high pedestrian routes (such as Glenallan elementary to GARC and the southside of Granada) should be given more priority than walkways that have low pedestrian traffic. 3. School foot traffic, commuter walkers/bikers and transit should have priority over recreational walkways.
- County doing a good job clearing snow in Centennial Park/ball diamonds/east of soccer fields/LakeLand Dr walking trails. Thank You
- My household uses trails/pathways for recreation and to access transit to go to school. Solutions for better ice management would be helpful during seasonal thawing. Half thawed icy sidewalks, pathways and crosswalks were

the main reason I did not use these for recreation on some winter days due to concerns about falling even though I usually wear shoe spikes. Crossing the icy cross walks in my residential neighborhood was quite difficult over this last year. My kids and I had a few falls this year due to icy sidewalks and road crossings in our residential community.

- I fell 7 times this winter on Country sidewalk and trails due to ice
- More enforcement of private walks
- Really appreciate when there is snow clearing at Lollipop park and Glen Allan School and St Nicholas school and past GARC and on main road to Facey. Thank you County staff who do these winter jobs. Be sure these are fairly paid staff not contracted out. A request from someone who does not work for the County. We need our own continuous dedicated staff. Pick hard workers who can start on the work as soon as it snows.
- As a cyclist salt and sand turn the trails into a mess to commute on. It causes corrosion and difficulty riding in the resulting mush.
- When paths are being cleared, snow blade should be lowered to have contact with the path rather than just levelling out the snow causing a significant layer of ice to build. I walk 7 days a week and the paths were terrible this year. Clean up of the excess gravel on some paths the spring was also very poor!
- Wish that all trails near schools would be prioritized for snow clearing

Disabled Users: What are the barriers you encounter in the winter that limit your ability to access County-maintained trails and pathways? Please explain.

- ice, snow drifts - no clearing at traffic entrance - the snow is too high.
- Knee injury and a fear of falling because of slippery sidewalks
- Don't use them
- Ice and snow covered pathways make it difficult for mobility compromised person to utilize
- When it's slippery it is not an option to use due to a mobility issue
- Icy conditions on walkways and trails, including walking to our community mailbox on the road.
- This winter, after the pathways were cleared, warm weather resulted in melting snow near to the paths that flooded the paths, and then froze. This ice was never cleared by the county and that pathway remained unusable by myself and my family until it melted in April.
- ICE! Snow built-up.
- Physical disability limits my mobility on uneven or slippery surfaces,

- Due to osteoporosis and accident injuries, must be careful not to fall; this has to be a factor for many that use the trails and pathways.
- My husband is wheelchair bound so am unable to take him out much unless trails are cleared
- slippery surfaces are unusable.
- Limited mobility as the result of knee injuries left us unable to use the trail network during the phases of the most severe ice accumulation
- Clearing the trails of snow/ice seems to be a low priority in this neighborhood. Continually over 48 hours. The county should meet the same standards as the people it serves.
- Ice
- Deep snow, icy-slippery walking paths/trails
- The snow & ice on sidewalks & trails makes them dangerous to use when not cleared. The lack of timely clearing inhibits use, particular for residents with mobility challenges.
- Extremely poor balance and coordination that makes walking on later amounts of snow impossible
- snow
- e.g. Broadmoor Lake paths well=cleared, but slopes from parking lot leading up to paths often very icy and difficult for elderly or physically impaired to maneuver. Have seen elderly fall in these places.
- Ice buildup on trails restrict my wife's use of walking trails. This winter has been particularly difficult for the county however.
- Ice, especially during the freeze/thaw cycles we've been seeing this past winter, is a major challenge for my balance (nerve damage).
- The fact that they take upwards of 5-7 days to clear the sidewalk next to our house and when they do they don't even make it sort of level. They use a blade that is too wide for the path, so they chew up the bushes next to the tray and they can't seem to swing the blade more so they can fit the sidewalk and then possibly get the sidewalk level at least. i realize with ice they can't always get to the bare surface, but from what i have seen. They don't even want to. As it would take too much time. They roar thru the neighbourhood and do the least amount possible. They could quite easily move the blade so it fits the 5 ft sidewalk and that way push the snow out of the way. But no that would take too much effort, so they use a 6 ft or more blade straight and can't get down to the sidewalk without chewing up the dirt and trees next to the sidewalk. So they don't bother getting it done right, Just done fast and terrible for the older folks to struggle to use and the those with disabilities like myself make it impossible to use or I have to go and sue my own tools to clear the path
- Seniors and the ice on the county sidewalks along parks and the trails were not well maintained this year.
- General snow and ice

- Loss of balance and muscle control makes ice very challenging. Mounds of snow blocking access makes the trail impassable.
- Because of medical conditions I have lost some of my balance and I have to be extremely careful
- Use a walker and trip easily.
- Vision and mobility issues
- Any snow that is pushed into a pile restricting access - I use a walker - I can lift walker over in summer over low barriers but in winter the piles are usually higher/unstable
- Ice is not removed from the trails that surrounds the parks and trails in town. Snow removal overall is good, ice is the problem.
- Aging and balance
- Heavy or uneven snow/ice is very difficult for one of the children with a disability
- Unfortunately sometimes the road clearing will re-block major intersections with a wall of snow. Anyone unable to climb over cannot use the intersection and even people who can find it difficult and a bit treacherous. Also, as roads are slick, pedestrians wait longer at crosswalks for cars to stop/skid and must walk slower and more carefully. Longer times for the lights at crosswalks would be very helpful. I understand that this would mean cars wait longer, but they are not in outside in the cold. I think the county does a wonderful job of trying to clear sidewalks etc. It just isn't possible to be perfect with our weather. Perhaps a "sidewalk rating" system would be helpful? Or even a board where people could warn others of poor walking conditions? Much like highway road updates or Waze for traffic. For the mobility impaired it would be helpful to have services/volunteer coordination to reach out during those times. I know there are services who do this, but communication between them may prevent overlap and prevent people from falling through the cracks.
- My mom is elderly and afraid to walk to get the mail. She lives with me so I do it
- Residents clear sidewalks in a timely manner, the county takes weeks if at all to clear sidewalks to access mailboxes where they are on Co. Property.
- Difficulty walking and sidewalks not cleared to get to the trails.
- Ice risk of falling
- I have been in the nightmarish wait line for double hip replacement and finally have finished the feat. When I could walk it was treacherous to walk the connector pathways. I will have to stay away from these connector pathways because of the black ice on them. I can't afford to fall and in the winter these pathways are always treacherous.
- Snow removal not maintained for whatever reason, ice on pathways, sidewalks, roadways before you even get to the pathways. As a homeowner,

it is challenging to keep sidewalks especially free of ice during freeze thaw cycles. Snow removal is not as much of a problem.

- arthritis
- Ice
- I have very bad balance and icy conditions are very difficult for me. The problem is mostly private sidewalks I do not like to walk outdoors in the winter time. I have had to complain to Canada Post about the conditions of the area around the community mailbox where I experienced a fall. The melting/freezing cycle we had this winter was very difficult and more rock chips should be scattered or at least a sandbox for community access. I know they exist but don't know the location in our neighborhood.
- Generally satisfactory
- Ice! Packed snow is fine and cleats on boots work better.
- It seemed to me that the time it took to get the trails cleaned were sketchy (took longer) in the early and late winter. They were at times treacherous with the amount of ice that built up before the cleaning and or the chips were applied.
- Ice! I have fallen and had injuries that caused lasting effects
- Possibility of falling due to ice.
- Ice
- County owned sidewalks were covered with snow and ice restricting our ability to walk safely.
- So slippery! This winter was particularly brutal.
- Can't climb over snowbanks or covered curbs
- Balance issues and terrified of falling
- Icy conditions create body balance difficulties with increased risk of experiencing falls.
- I use these trails daily to commute to work to save the environment. Why are the roads cleaned first for ppl with big 4x4 SUV's? Ice isn't a problem for me but a foot of snow for a week before it's cleared is hard to walk through. I see school kids up to their knees in snow trying to get to school on the sidewalk as hockey kids have a clean sidewalk at Sherwood Park Arena at 5 am in the morning? and who commutes to work or school at the golf course as those trails are cleaned daily, and outdoor ice rinks are cleared before the sidewalks? Kids are in school they have all day to maintain the ice surface
- Iciness
- Snow & Ice and the disability itself.
- Heavy snow and ice on pathways that lead from one neighborhood to another. This past winter, I got caught on the pathway half way and could not take another step due to icy/snowy conditions. One neighbor always clears his side of the path, all others do not so he helped me navigate through the snow with a hip injury to get back on the main street.
- Ice on pathways and sidewalks in town

- Can;t see the ice well enough. Poor eyesight and weak muscles
- unless walking conditions are 'bare pavement' I cannot function without fear of falling, I chose not to use the pathways in winter.
- We use walkers and canes and are afraid of falling on ice and uneven snow clearing
- Ice and fear of falling
- Icy trails are treacherous, and with knee issues, are harder to navigate than for someone less hampered.
- Icy conditions after snow being cleared! No traction sand applied immediately
- Ice
- very icy sidewalks
- Repeated freeze/thaw cycles and wide range of daytime temperatures can encourage or discourage trail use. During late winter, daytime melting produces puddles, while overnight freezing temperatures result in dangerous (icy) walking conditions - particularly in shaded areas.
- Icy pathways. Granted, when there is freezing rain, it is difficult to keep pathways safer..
- Ice on walkways. And the transitions between roads and sidewalks are either full of water or snow and are extremely difficult to climb over safely.
- Bad back, and bad legs.
- Limited mobility of motorized wheelchair
- Knee problems prevents walking on ice
- Icy county sidewalks
- If icy I can not use due to a mobility issue.
- family member - excess ice and snow
- Uncleared pathways, ice on pathways without traction aid (gravel)
- I use a walker, enough said.
- They have to be very clear to use
- If not cleared, we can't use them. They get to slippery and hard to travel them. Also changes my walking exercise routes
- snow covered trails, icy trails, trails not maintained in a walkable condition within 48 hours from a snowfall, property owners next to a collector sidewalk that do not shovel sidewalks
- I have to push a walker. When the sidewalks are covered with rock chips I can't walk very far as my arms and shoulders ache too much
- Ice and ice hidden by snow
- If trails and pathways are like skating rinks, it's hard enough for people to walk on but impossible for people with a walking disability but still needs exercise.
- Mobility. If I fall, I may not be able to get up. Deep snow and ice can be dangerous.
- Falls can be dangerous

- Ice, clumpy snow
- Icy conditions that make walking dangerous
- Ice is the biggest barrier as I am handicapped and my walking is impeded. I you make us scrape to bare pavement within 48 hours you must do the same
- Ice on sidewalks
- Fear of falling due to ice
- icy paths keep me inside
- Icy conditions are particularly treacherous for us because if we fall, there is a very high chance we could break bones.
- Range Road 232 is so poorly maintained that it is hazardous to travel into Sherwood Park.
- Snow and ice (mainly ice)
- Gravel can make it hard and deceptively slippery for a disabled walker
- Bad ankle that may need surgery
- fear of falling and breaking brittle bones
- Bubbles
- icy, unsanded/gravelled
- We are older adults, some knee and back issues. We use the trails a lot in the spring, summer, fall but basically avoid them in the winter if there is any ice at all. It is simply too dangerous for seniors to be out on the ice. I understand the challenges, especially with the thaw and freeze cycles..
- Uneven and icy walkways are too dangerous
- Icy conditions.
- High windrows to cross in order to access paths. Clear access not always available and unable to 'step over' packed snow built up or icy areas.
- hip replacement so afraid of falling.
- I cannot negotiate any icy or snowy surface. I walk with a cane and require smooth surface with good traction to walk and maintain balance
- Balance
- Ice build up, no rock chips to prevent slipping
- snow
- If the sidewalks are too icy, or bumpy its really hard and impossible to use them with a walker, wheelchair. A broken ankle leaves you abandoned in your home or only using cleared paths with a designated person to help with mobility as you never want to get stuck in snow with any time of mobility aid and never be found.
- Too slippery and icy to use hard to walk on
- ice and snow covered paths make it difficult to walk while recovering from knee surgery.
- This was a very challenging winter for everyone. Due to the high amount of ice we had, it was hazardous to walk. Sometimes i think it would be better if the snow was left on the trails and just groomed to rough up the trails.

Plowing the trails a little wider would help as well. Overall, they did a pretty decent job.

- Mainly ice on private sidewalks. Complaints go unaddressed. Family member fell and suffered a concussion and no change after complaint.
- ice and and snow, Pathways were very rough this year compared to previous years
- Snow buildup and ice make it very difficult and dangerous for me already having mobility issues
- Ice on trails, snow mounds at intersections making crossing unsafe or basically unable to cross at all.
- Using the power brooms instead of blades makes the walking paths unsuitable the brooms just polish the surface making them hazardous and unsafe.
- spinal cord injury - can walk but risk of fall is constant and very dangerous - icy conditions are difficult
- Fear of falls due to fragile bones
- Icy conditions
- Snow banks
- Snow on trails
- I have a broken shoulder and I have limitation and I also had a broken wrist that I broke on one of your trails. So I use the trail to go to the stores and when they are not cleared I can not do my shopping
- Ice and snow too afraid to go for a walk and such
- Slippery which has cause falls to both of us. And we use crampons.
- Having had several fractures from falling on ice, I am extremely cautious and selective about where I walk. If the path is clear, the road to cross it might not be & there lies the danger.
- Ice and rutted roadways and pathways make it difficult to stay balanced.
- Poor drainage. Snow ridges. Plow debris left behind to long and freezes.
- Fear of falling due to instability.
- Thick ice this year. We are seniors - bought spikes for our boots to cope but still felt very Leary of falling.
- I have poor balance that is made worst when it is dark and slippery.
- I didn't know some were maintained to a higher standard
- Wheelchairs, strollers, walkers can't be pushed through snow on the path next to our home
- Paths are not cleared well enough to make walking easy to bus stop or dog walking on the trails.
- It was too slippery or covered in snow for days after a snowfall
- Very icy/slippery, narrow and uneven (due to poor maintenance) trail surfaces are hazardous for many seniors like me, with mobility issues.
- Cannot walk
- age - 80+

- Use a Walker. If any snow, then difficult
- Trails are pure ice, which make walking on them very treacherous. If snow was cleared properly and in a timely manner, trails would not turn into ice!
- Ice buildup....afraid of slipping / falling.
- When plowed they also need to sand
- The past couple of winters our trails that get us to cloverbar road have been very icy and uneven to walk on. There was not much if any gravel on our trails. One entrance is quite sloped and was shear ice on some days
- Ice buildup was very bad on the walkways of paths beside broadmoor blvd. This winter I and many of my senior friends were housebound and unable to get outside exercise. Even parking lots were unwalkable. Also the walkway beside our house was neglected and only cleaned at night when the operator would have limited visibility.
- Very icy and uneven county maintained sidewalks and trails. The conditions were appalling winter 2021/22. Most of the walks/trails were barely cleared all winter, and when they were, they were not cleared to a level where it was safe to walk on them. It very much restricted how much I could go for a walk which negatively impacted my mental and physical health.
- Large amounts of snow... the big windrows of snow that are left in late spring from multiple clearings from both the street side and trail side makes the pathways increasingly narrower as winter drags on.
- Husband using a walker because of vertigo and brain aneurysm
- Ice and snow
- The ice, something better has to used besides rock chips. I realize after rain and melting this takes time, however the ice doesn't go away with chips.
- Slippery
- dangerous when trails are icy
- Persons using scooters can struggle with snow mounds on sides of roads trying to get to the trails.
- They are power polished with the power broom rather than a blade. Walking like a penguin and hoping that I survive doesn't appeal to me.
- Our parent with disabilities lives two blocks from us and cannot use their motorized wheelchair to visit because vehicles are allowed to inappropriately park on part of the sidewalk widths. As well the turns to get past the barricades needed correctly to keep vehicles out are awkward to traverse.
- My son wears AFOs and has poor balance and coordination. The ice on the trails to school make it hard.
- Unable/afraid to walk on ice. History of falls.
- When extremely icy due to osteoporosis it would be risky for me to walk
- Deep snow not cleared properly or in a timely manner
- not really my wife is disabled but does not like walking in the winter.
- roads and trails off our roads that are too icy to walk. trails sometimes not cleared at all for a whole week.

- There are always 2-3 households on each street that do no snow/ice removal. Equipment used on some trails are too wide, therefore rides on the ground above the trail leaving a few inches of snow that turns to ice.
- At our age (75+) fear of falling is paramount. Too frequently we will not walk because of this.
- Limited mobility. Need bare pavement to safely walk

*We'd like to understand any areas of concern with travelling to school.
Please indicate if snow or ice is a challenge in any of the following locations
(Other-please explain)*

- Rural roads and subdivisions are very slow to be cleared
- right in front of the school was poorly cleared, lots of ice and piled snow
- county maintained trails away from school zones
- My kids bike to school along Cloverbar road as often as possible. Of the sidewalks were cleared sooner and better, they would bike more often. Biking saves us from having to drive to pick the kids up from after school activities. We can't always pick them up so biking is very helpful to our family. The temperature is less of if any issue for biking than clear sidewalks. If even one side of Cloverbar was cleared, it would help a lot.
- County maintained trails thru neighbourhoods on the way to and from school
- Sidewalks on roads with incline
- Hilly sidewalk & crosswalks on the way to the school bus stop
- The transit zone near DCE is often not cleared in 48hrs
- Crosswalk area
- Path behind our house to access bus stop
- Path from Privet Court, crossing Pine Street, to Sherwood Drive to the cross walk. Terrible in winter to
- Private sidewalks on the way to bus stops
- Private sidewalks to the bus pick up point
- Ice on North aspect hills on county trails (eg Meadowview down to Davidson creek school
- Where the school sidewalk and county sidewalk connect you can see the huge difference. School sidewalks are cleared immediately, county takes days to weeks.
- Bike path on way to school
- Pathways within neighborhoods and along major roads not being cleared/free of ice
- Entrances to the school yard at the edge of the school usually has large slippery ice sections coming out of the school.

Do you have any other comments about winter trails and pathway clearing?

- We don't need to pay more taxes for this- the county needs to waste less money on silly things like replacing sidewalks that are fine
- Please educate public works staff to remove the snow properly.
- As we are snowbirds, winter clearing of paths doesn't affect US much. However, we border a heavily used pathway and I have seen the conditions be almost inaccessible, rutted and extremely icy. We dog walkers elderly dog walkers need safer conditions.
- Crews try very hard to keep paths safe. County needs to look at drainage issues and where cleared snow is piled. Also windrows along Baseline that are not cleared, prevent natural flow of water from paths and /or add water to paths in melting season
- Doing a good job! Thank you
- Lots of commuter cyclists use the trail beside petroleum way but it is often snow and ice covered. This trail should be higher priority
- The winter of 2021/2022 was very difficult to maintain from the previous year due to cold and snow mix.
- Overall doing a great job!
- Tax increases? Depends on how much increase to the taxes. If modest, go for more clearing in the winter.
- I've lived out here for 22 years now and Usually it is pretty good. But the us year was absolutely horrible. I don't know if you got new people doing it or not or what changed, but it was absolutely unacceptable. There were paths and trails that's wernt cleared for weeks! One path wasn't done for over a month.
- I think sidewalks and trails in front of community mailboxes needs to be a higher priority than leisure trails
- Priority 3 and 4 should be done within 3 days. If residents have 48 hours to clear their sidewalk then so should the county.
- Just want to reinforce that the issue is less about snow, and more about ice control. Thank-you for investing in the resources to solicit our opinions.
- Trails and pathway clearing should be carefully reviewed. It is not necessary to clear trails and pathways on both sides of a roadway. One side is more than adequate. Poorly used trails and pathways should not be cleared during the winter.
- Along major roads the windrows are pushed up too far onto the boulevards which causes major pooling of water and ice formation on the sidewalks and trails along baseline and clover bar roads especially. Trails this winter were horrendous to say the least and using the brush attachment just made them worse as it polished the icy areas and removed grit, There were times when we had thaws a quick run could have removed the slush and ice off most of

the trail but was not done. If they cannot be maintained it might be better to leave packed snow which gives better traction. This works well at the Deer Mound dog park. Both the residents and the counties lack of clearing of the sidewalks and trails takes away a part of livability of Sherwood Park.

Unfortunately I seem to be in a minority of people who actually use the trails in the winter and do not expect any improvement by the county or residents in regards to making winter walking less treacherous.

- Priority for residential clearing should be the same priority. Fir the county.
- Sometimes leaving a layer of snow helps with traction when there's freezing rain. Has thought ever been given to adjusting snow clearing strategies accordingly? I have a sinking feeling regular freezing rain in the winter will become more frequent :(
- One major thing that bothers me is that when the clearing of trails/pathways/roads are being done...majority of the time due to weather conditions and lack of snowfall the snow removal equipment does not need to be used.
- Not that i use the busses but the bus stop on our street was not cleared all winter and had a windrow from clearing the path.
- The bureaucracy in Strathcona county has a thing for taking some thing that is very simple and making it very complicated.
- How arrogant to pass a bylaw requiring residents to clear their walks within a day or two but allow yourself up to EIGHT DAYS!?!?
- Overall well done. This has been such a challenging winter with slippery conditions and multiple freeze/thaw cycles. We appreciate all the effort that goes into keeping our trails available for use!
- Ice is more of a hazard, clearing to bare pavement creates more issue with ice, compacted snow would be acceptable or even preferred.
- If we have another icy winter like last, you can not expect residents to maintain their sidewalks better than you are willing to do. . I was using a 5 gal. pail of chip twice a week because the sidewalks could not be cleaned to cement even with salt. 48 hrs would have been a joke this last winter. The county couldn't remove the ice on sidewalks along Granada with equipment and you expect me to do it with a shovel?
- Thanks for keeping our community beautiful!
- Scrap whole program.
- Thank you for your hard work during the cold, winter months!
- Stop clearing snow when it has been extremely icy. The snow pack helps to cover the ice!
- Ardrossan gets extremely icy before/if it's cleared.
- Suggest tamping down the walking trails on Broadmoor golf course like the ski trails. The ski trails are never icy and have no runoff from snow melting on sides. Somehow clear the paths or tamp down around Village on lake.

They get extremely icy, the brick surface is uneven and roots and debris on path make walking difficult.

- Use less sand/salt. The paved paths around GARC were nearly 100% gravel before the end of the season. In addition to the county's snow removal efforts, people need to take the responsibility to wear adequate footwear in the winter.
- "Maintain a 5-10km running loop on the Priority 1 or 2 schedule.
- Repeal the private sidewalk clearing bylaw."
- There is a much greater onus on homeowners/property owners than there is on the municipality. They should be equal. A goose/gander thing.
- "1. Forget this education nonsense to get residents to clear their sidewalks. It is the same chronic offenders who never clear their walks. Give them a 24h notice, failing to do so, have the County do it at \$400/hr. 4 hr minimum (\$1600). It will only happen once.
- 2. When the County had more women doing the parks grass cutting and sidewalk clearing, they did a far better job than the men and the recent winter sidewalk trail clearing crews.
- 3. The crews need to slow down and do a better job."
- We pay plenty of taxes for snow clearing. It just need to be coordinated better. Better supervision of those clearing the snow would be of benefit.
- Consider using ice breakers like they have in Ottawa. You'll never keep the ice from the trails completely, but creating a safer surface to walk on, and one that is less likely to be iced over would have greater safety and far more efficiency than working towards bare pavement
- The rain this past winter was challenging. It had an effect on my comments. Ice was a problem that took too long to correct.
- As a homeowner, I have to clear snow within 48 hours, the county should be held to the same standard
- Many private homes were the worst offenders. It was impossible to walk with a stroller this winter in my neighbourhood
- Enforce the sidewalk clearing bylaw. Educate households on corner lots in Lakeland ridge that they are responsible for the sidewalks Nordic g all areas of their property.
- Sometimes gravel has not been added when snow is cleared. In those cases, better not to clear because then pathways are pure ice.
- The challenge for the county is that the timeline of 8 days does not align with what is expected of residents in terms of snow clearing - 48 hours!
- I disapprove of the timeline to clear Private sidewalks. People are busy. They have families and crazy work schedules. Maybe 36 hours? Also, if we are expected to clear a sidewalk in 24 hours, why are the bike and dog walking trails taking 5 days? If it is funding I understand an increase, however those are just as important as my private sidewalks to be cleared for people walking.

- More concerned about private houses, where owners clear the pathway in front of their homes but neglect to clear the driveways where their garages are, usually driving over the snow, creating icy mounds, making it hard for walkers trying to move across these icy strips.
- Overall not a bad job but the ice this year on the trails was brutal
- I find the trail clearing very hit & miss. I'll be running down the trails and it'll be clear then suddenly it's not. I found this year especially bad. I understand the freeze/thaw cycle was awful this year but there were times I'm sure many people fell and hurt themselves. If there is some kind of pet friendly ice melt the County could purchase that would be the best.
- I feel most private sidewalks that don't meet county guidelines for clearing or timelines are due to time restraints (large family commitments etc), health or age issues and need to relax the pressure on them. Overnight snow on a sidewalk to a school is usually trampled pretty hard by the time someone returns home from work.
- I'm so grateful for all the paths and trails we have in SP. it was difficult last winter to keep the ice off and would only agree to increased ice melt products if they didn't harm the environment.
- I think higher traffic trails in neighbourhoods should be more of a priority than lesser used trails like Baseline.
- I walk to work using three different connecting pathways. What I really need is more rock chips or sand when conditions are icy. I drove to work many times because of ice after freezing rain. Also, snow provides decent traction. Clearing pathways of snow down to ice without putting down adequate rock chips or sand is worse than not clearing the snow at all.
- More gravel on pathways is needed. It's much easier to walk paths near my workplace in Edmonton because they use a lot of gravel. I am in my 50s and am increasingly concerned about walking outside due to risk of fall on ice you can't see. I feel safer walking where there is gravel.
- Not a priority for me because I walk on our subdivision road which is cleared by us and our neighbors
- I find the snow clearing timeline to be adequate for the trails in my neighbourhood (Lakeland Ridge) but the quality of ice control is lacking. Each of the last three winters the trails were too dangerous to walk on for days or weeks at a time. My biggest concern is that the bylaw for snow clearing private sidewalks does not appear to be enforced so I find it amusing that there was so much debate by Council this last winter. If bylaws are not really enforced it doesn't matter what is in them - the honour system is not working. There were homes in our neighbourhood that had in excess of 8 to 10 inches of ice on their sidewalks which resulted from no snow clearing whatsoever followed by rain events - and repeat. As the weeks wore on, it was clear what "exceptional" households had chosen not to abide by the snow clearing bylaw as all other private sidewalks were down to bare

pavement. I don't understand why Bylaw Officers are not able to drive through the neighbourhoods, observe these obvious situations and issue tickets accordingly.

- I know we use the least trained people to do these jobs or it appears to be that way and they don't seem to have any training in their equipment or any common sense. As I see it everytime they do the sidewalk next to our house. They send a equipment with a larger blade and even when asked to swing their blade so it fits the 4 or 5 ft sidewalk, they appear not to know how or don't care. They just use the 6ft or larger blade straight and can't get the blade flat to the surface as they are tearing up the bushes and dirt next to the sidewalk. Unable to get down to the portion of the sidewalk as they can't figure out how to move the blade or really don't care as it might take too much effort to do that. They spend more time spreading the snow around then pushing it out of the way for people to walk. The sidewalk next to my house gets almost 300 people using it daily from kids going to school to the older folks walking or going shopping at the mall in Nottingham. and as it doesn't get cleared very often the neighbours have to clear it for the kids and older folks or the disabled like me. You need to help either train or at least talk to the equipment operators and explain who uses these sidewalks and that they should try and understand what their job is. It is not to race around as fast as you can not really clearing the snow, so the neighbors have to do it. If you don't have the time to do it right the first time, how are you ever going to find the time to do it over again!!
- Please do not use harmful chemicals that will harm our dogs and the environment!
- I think that a priority should be made for sidewalks and trails around senior housing and homes. Many were trapped indoors this year as the county did not maintain their sidewalks. Just so they can walk around the block,
- Only issue I have is you're taking a bit long to get to the trails (5-8 days is ridiculous...just do your job), and also some areas cleared once where snow drifts accumulate are then just left after wind piles snow back up making it a mess to walk through (i.e. Florian Park sidewalk along Regency was horrible for at least a week this winter and it's a high use sidewalk normally)
- currently the county is doing a great job and I tell people in EDM to move to Sherwood Park if they do not like what is happening there
- All in all pretty good job. Would prioritize schools and transit over Festival Way
- Less education and more enforcement. I have yet to see someone in my cul-de-sac being told to clear their sidewalks
- The problem is if you can not do it in for 8 days why do the people who have to have sidewalks do it in 48 hours. On the surface that seems unfair. If you have not cleared the trails in 8 days if that is your policy then the County should face monetary penalties as well.

- Place pathways around elementary schools in phase 1
- We have encountered numerous times when walking on trails, that dogs are off leash and scaring other walkers they encounter (especially a danger to children) and dog owners are not picking up after the dogs. This is especially true on trails in the Broadmoor Golf Course. The County should put up cameras along the trails and enforce these violations.
- The trails are often in rough shape not only from falling snow, but blowing snow. Added to the criteria for snow clearing should be an evaluation of drifting snow (e.g. paths inside parks).
- Some private housing have a tough job of keeping their sidewalks clear in thaw and freeze of the Winter due to water seepage across the sidewalk.
- My mentally handicapped son uses walks, bikes and buses. Communication can be
- I normally walk everyday on the trail around Centennial Park. Due to health conditions this year and freeze thaw issues I didn't walk as often but I am still satisfied with the county's approach.
- This past winter I felt the County neglected way too many walking trails and Paths. If you have a 48 bylaw for private walkways, then the county should follow suit
- Please consider clearing at least one side of major arterial roads immediately after the snow falls. I can understand that you want to have clearly of snow around Rec facilities a priority. However most people drive to those locations and will be okay to walk through snow for the short distance from their car to the door. I think more people would bike to work and school more often if the sidewalks were cleared earlier. Biking is better for the environment, more affordable, does not require someone to be 16 and have a vehicle and a driver's licence and is a healthy activity. Our kids do a lot of biking to their activities, work and school. Having trails or sidewalks for them to use allows them to bike longer into the fall and to start biking earlier in the spring. They will bike in winter when it is safe to do so. My husband and I run through the winter. We often end up on the residential streets as people shovel much sooner than the county clears. We would love to see trails cleared sooner. The trails that run from Summerwood to Wye road east of Cloverbar and the trail that runs from Cloverbar to Sherwood Drive north of baseline are very helpful for people commuting to work and school. I would suggest that these trails be prioritized. Thank you!
- While I enjoy these surveys at this time there are more pressing concerns that should be addressed
- instead of tax increase - come up with a creative way to do the job with the budget in hand in a better way
- Since I am on a fixed income that doesn't even allow me to meet all my bills much less buy groceries a tax increase to clear pathways is a luxury. I would prefer the luxury of eating!!!

- Enforce the bylaws for privately owned sidewalks
- Destination trails are great but, if people can't walk on other trails to get there, their use is diminished.
- Obviously this wi tee was extremely icy and I thought more gravel could have been used. I found it quite soarse sometimes
- Fed upwith lazy drivers leaving ruts and barriers at the bottom of our driveway
- Now that residents are required to have their sidewalks cleared and sanded in a shorter period of time, the County should follow their own advice (without raising taxes significantly) and follow suit.
- See previous comments. The trails are cleared perfectly. This from a person who knows are uses the trails....not from an occasional user.
- I am so happy they have been clearing the paths on Broadmoor Golf Course. And I hope it continues.
- Firstly, trails would be better left alone at times, the clearing just makes things icy. Secondly, the short connection walkway from our street exits out to Cloverbar Road and county staff are there to clean it about twice as often as it needs. There might be a skiff of snow and a crew of two are here to blow it off (in two trucks often). I think there is no need to spend more money, and likely some savings on staff.
- The only complaint I have is the delay in clearing major arterial roadsides so I can bike to work (or two years ago, when I biked to work...)
- The icy conditions this winter were beyond our control. Our own sidewalk was terrible and we shovel and gravel so I can't imagine how difficult it was at a county level.
- I live near the marshland off Cloverbar Road and would like to see those trails better maintained. When the snow melts, the trails are nothing but mud in spots which makes them unusable. A new load of gravel would go a long way in improving those trails all year long.
- Our taxes are high enough.. maintain services are they are without raising taxes.
- I think you need to pay more attention to the connector pathways by schools. In Millshaven, there are many families that walk their students to school, and lots of traffic into the playgrounds. These pathways are often treacherous, and that is unacceptable.
- It is difficult for sure, but access to grocery stores and the hospital are also very important. Help with county maintained entrance and exit routes would be helpful. Also, having grocery stores have higher standards for their parking lot clearing (even if just the distance from the handicapped parking spots) would be very helpful as well. It is impossible to even get out of a car safely in some of these places.

- Since Covid I have noticed an increase of people out walking year round in my neighbourhood. I have also increased my own use of pathways, sidewalks and trails. I think it is fair to say that people will continue to access
- This winter exceptional bad with ice. Near impossible to keep up removal. It was really a one off year. Residents should have been given bylaw tax as the county could not even keep up with their part.
- no more tax increases for anything. Due to the ever increasing federal carbon tax (which is useless) and other federal monetary policies that are driving inflation, most people have no extra money for anything.
- Sometimes they are over cleaned during winter. I've seen them cleaned 2 or 3 times when there has been no snowfall or ice buildup. Also, often the pathways by our home are cleaned very late at night or early in the morning (2 am) and the noise disturbs my sleep.
- There other priority areas besides centre in the park/county offices
- Residents should face a penalty if sidewalks not cleared on time.
- Salt that is harmful to wildlife and pet feet is not necessary; it is more costly, but I would be most unhappy if the County did not use pet-friendly melting salt for its trails and pathways. If it isn't used, then signs need to be placed, similar to when you use toxic sprays for weeds.
- I do not have a front street. The pathway is out means of connecting to other streets and neighborhoods on foot. I appreciate response times are dependent on snowfall amounts. When cleared, especially if snow has been compacted, we are generally left with a layer of ice. It would be helpful if the equipment that is deployed to clear snow is also able to lay down sand/gravel to allow for better footing. You don't need to use salt. This past winter was the worst as high snow banks did not allow water to run off the paths and the ice layer was terrible.
- I know clearing and maintenance was harder to do this year because of ice. However, I am not happy with the time it takes to clear our walking paths near home. Mostly Broadmoor Lake area is consistently the best alternative for use during winter.
- Only winter outdoor paths I use are in Blackfoot recreation area.
- This is not a real issue in rural strathcona. I have a hard enough time keeping my own driveway cleared.
- Just a bad winter this year with freezing rain. Took long time to melt in residential pathways but use to walk dog and don't want the salt.
- the job being done is just fine
- Walking paths approach can be darn icy and dangerous. My main complaint trails sometimes so pack with snow and difficult to be on throughout the winter. So many people would use on regular basis if kept in better conditions to walk in.
- Not at this time

- The county should be required to adhere to the same time frame that residents have to clear their sidewalks.
- All pathways should be cleared within 48 hours, same as is expected by home owners around their property.
- Suggestion: after a deep snowfall, put a blade on a pickup truck to do a quick sweep through the residential trails (not the side, offshoot trails). This will make it easier to walk until the regular crews come by. Or, it might be all that is needed. With the freeze-thaw of this winter it was difficult to keep the trails ice free. Sometimes, the crews coming through made it worse for walking because they removed the hard pack that is easier to walk on with cleats. Maybe, leave the hard pack and instruct the crews to make decisions to clear or not clear as they travel the trails. One end of a trail may be nice hard pack and the other end may be sheer ice or rutted.
- Rather than salt or sand use pea gravel.
- I do not want to see the increase of salt/sand. I would rather see a timely removal of the snow.
- I am 78 and love the trails on Broadmoor Golf course and around Broadmoor Lake.
- You are doing good work, this year was much icier than normal and hard to control. I am developing a vision for widespread winter bicycle commuting which would require significantly greater path management. Some infrastructure changes need to be considered like baseline road - west of Sherwood drive. Not all paths need to be cleared down to pavement.
- Enforcement on lazy landowners (private and business) who do not clear their sidewalks is a must-do!
- Path's along schools (outside of dropoff area's) should be higher priority.
- County owned pathways need to be cleared faster. Last winter the sidewalk around GARC was covered in ice. Better enforcement of snow clear bi-laws in residential areas. Some residences never saw a snow shovel.
- This year was crazy with Ice and at times we didnt use the trails for a while but that was to be expected! People need to understand that the environment also effects the ice/snow and Strathcona County cant change that.
- I do think the County does a good job for the most part but I use the paths by my house to walk my dog twice a day. This year I walked on the road quite a bit,
- Sloped curbs at cross walks need better attention while being cleared. They have been difficult to cross with anything wheeled, and would be difficult with those who have trouble walking.
- We live in a rural area and it doesn't mention what the time frame is for clearing. This should be a priority as in the rural area we have no other place to walk in winter that is safe due to secondary highway and volume of traffic

- trail priority needs to change , schools and commuter trails need to be done before hockey arenas and any recreational trails at a golf course
- I think the County does a fairly good job today. With the changing weather patterns in the winter, it can be difficult to keep up. I'm willing to take extra walking time and wear proper footwear to ensure I'm safe while using the trails and pathways.
- Do they all need to be cleared after every snow fall?
- We don't use sidewalks and trails in the winter because of ice, and are very pleased with the current cleaning procedures in Sherwood Park. This town has the best rate of cleaning pathways etc. in AB. We find alternate ways to exercise in the winter. We do use the trails almost daily in the spring, summer & fall.
- I have always meant to ask and someone can call me back *[redacted, personal information]* these surveys are a mere snapshot of what constituents think or prefer and I don't believe they are statistically accurate to make decisions about services. What % of people respond and what is the demographic of that response base?
- This year was exceptionally bad for ice. I think we may have more years like this in the future, but I wouldn't support a knee jerk service level increase based off of last year. The year prior the trails were always great because the weather was better. Maybe the County could build a reserve fund for extra clearing by a contractor on years with significant ice issues (although I'm not sure what they could do to remove some of it), similar to how they handle snow clearing. I also like the idea of having a couple sites like Broadmoor lake that are cleared to pavement, many people drive to that spot to use the trails, maybe one at Centennial park or somewhere else that has a paved loop.
- For the most part I am happy with the current schedule/quality of the trails and pathway clearing. Stronger encouragement of private snow clearing would be helpful.
- "The pathways within a neighborhood was badly taken care of this winter.
- Ask the bin filled with rocks we're not replenished enough.
- It was a difficult winter with all the ice and slow maintenance."
- "I use the walking trails everyday, twice a day, no matter what the conditions are (pet driven.... she HAS to go out). Sometimes our trails (Clarkdale) are cleared very quickly and sometimes it seems to take a week. Generally I adjust to the conditions and use sidewalks where most homeowners are responsible and clear. When it was very cold in January it seemed nothing was clear until it warmed up.
- As a side note, there is a stretch of path on the southeast end of Clarkdale pond that is not paved, Very WEIRD, and this ... 150 feet are never cleared. I suspect it is because of the bridge that goes over the pond and the small pond on the east side. However, many people use this stretch and it should

be paved and cleared. Maybe the 20 foot bridge deck will have to be done by hand..."

- This past year was particularly challenging with all the ice. We did not use the trails as much on the winter because of this. Walking was quite treacherous on sidewalks and trails. It is understood why more ice control is not used, but perhaps more traction material could have been utilized. I think the County does a good job of clearing trails but have come across areas of construction where the developers do not clear sidewalks, there are no homeowners and we had to walk through very deep snow. This doesn't lend to connecting neighborhoods or services very well.
- Why a tax increase? Reallocate from a low need area
- Our neighborhood does not have sidewalks along the roads, forcing us to walk in the road. Several people shovel their driveways onto the road making that much harder. I'd appreciate the educational process including a reminder that this is not allowed
- Some parts of Baseline Road due not have a trail or walking pathway especially going west on the right side after passing Rexall drugs their is no side walk.. It becomes dangerous without a sidewalk.
- Paths were terrible in my area this winter, unusable due to the amount of ice.
- Sidewalks on along secondary roads are major traffic path for kids walking to school. Those on an incline need to be cleared sooner during icy periods or freezing rain as a lot of kids fell and hurt themselves trying to get to school. Such as, Summerland Dr (west side or the loop).
- Absolutely no increases in taxes to clear pathways, etc. Streets for residents should be the priority. Especially when it's the tax payers who is paying for it.
- "There is a disconnect for pathway clearing where the trails/paths meet roadways and there are the ramps down to the roadway. The blades on the path clearing equipment is wider than the ramp . Contrary to the opinion off the *[senior leadership]*, it appears that his staff does not talk to the path clearing equipment operators, who are actually doing the work. Sideways design standards need to be revised. I have also noticed numerous times that equipment is out and about on the paths when there is no snow to be cleared. Aldo there are numerous areas where snow from the path clearing is pushed onto roadways when there is County property immediately adjacent where the snow could be placed. Eg. SE corner of Sherwood Dr and Baseline. North of LDS church. Northbound. Snow could easily be plowed toward retention pond instead of on to N/B-E/B lane. I consider this a failure in training of staff."
- The trails were harder to keep clear in 2021/2022 winter due to the freeze/thaw cycle. It made it difficult to use the pathways without using ice cleats. Also residents struggled to keep the sidewalks clean due to the build up of ice and snow on the roads adjacent to the sidewalks. In 2020/2021

Winter the pathways were cleared well and it was great to be able to use them daily.

- I wish there were more hiking trails in rural areas.
- When I travelled with my child in a stroller, I often came upon areas where snow had not been cleared well enough and it was difficult to travel through (for example, reaching the buttons to push to cross the street; the gradual elevations in these locations were often covered with snow). I would have to stay on the road or lift the stroller up and through. I feel badly for those with mobility issues... it must be so discouraging to get out in winter, and just hope the paths they take will be clear.
- Nice to see that you are monitoring this but the rural roads are more important to us.
- Don't worry about the privately maintained sidewalks; the county walks are always the ones not cleared. You're the worst offender of your own bylaw.
- The pathways into Peacock Park off Hummingbird Court and Starling Drive did not get cleared at all last winter.
- Rank public safety of trail hazards (e.g. new snow, packed snow, new snow on ice, ice, slush). Remediate trails, or sections thereof, where trail hazards result in periodic or ongoing closures. Post hazard warning signage where periodic or ongoing hazards are prevalent on heavily used trails. Provide site-specific responses to site-specific concerns reported via County Connect submissions.
- Why should clearing trails and pathways come with an increase in taxes. The county is top heavy with staff. Put them to work.
- I'd like more skate ways
- County is doing a lot better job than the city of Edmonton
- In winter 2021/22 I did not walk on the golf course or any sidewalks because of the icy conditions. My neighbor fell on the sidewalk near the mailbox and ended up in the hospital.
- Focus should be on which trails and pathways are used the most (i.e all trails leading to schools).
- Broadmoor Lake paths were not as well maintained this winter as last. lots of pure ice patches that were not sanded or salted for long stretches of time Very dangerous.
- We appreciate this is a very tough climate for clearing trails and it's done pretty well. I feel clearing more quickly would lead to less ice build-up. We have a lot of dog walkers in our neighborhood that use the trails and streets several times a day and it is often treacherous. Most of us need to wear cleats to avoid falling a breaking a leg (maybe you could offer a tax break on winter grips or cleats to encourage safety),
- Th snow clearing of pathways works well but what doesnt work is hen the brushes on the clearing equipment is used as that only polishes the paths and makes them more slippery

- Pathways must be a reliable method to support active transport in our community to address climate change.
- The county does a great job keeping the trails and pathways clear in winter.
- The 8 days is not acceptable, during one of these extended periods I slipped on packed snow and ice and fractured a rib.
- It is fine as-is.
- The ice this year was dangerous and we all fell many times.
- It is absolutely ridiculous that you expect residents to have their sidewalks cleared perfectly down to the pavement clear within 48 hours of a snowfall, when county pathways are impassible for WEEKS at a time. There are weather factors that are only going to get worse due to climate change. Your standards for yourselves vs. standards for homeowners are so imbalanced it's ridiculous. Lay off!
- There is a park pathway between my residence and the neighbour's residence. The pathway is cleared often and well. However, the sidewalk that is between the two residences adjacent to the park and pathway is rarely cleared by the county. That is left up to my neighbour and myself to maintain, or it seems it never gets done, even during heavy drifting, etc. This needs to be addressed.
- I prefer rock chips to bare pavement because when the surrounding snow melts it ices up. No need for bare pavement on majority of trails and paths
- We live in a northern community - take a little personal responsibility quit complaining
- We had lots of freezing rain this past winter. Please have a plan in place for unusual weather.
- We need to stop thinking it is an one or the other option regarding tax money and services. How about using that priority budgeting system and moving money from lower priority areas to cover increased services for snow removal? It makes this survey seem a bit one-sided.
- It seems like you are not keeping up with your current time line to clear paths, not sure if that was due to COVID and staffing availability or the weather and repeated snowfalls and ice this past winter
- The pathway around the ponds in the NE corner of Summerwood are high-traffic and should be bumped up to Priority 2
- With the amount of seniors in the county fewer are walking. We have had neighbours fall on public sidewalks and break a bone! we stay home if it is icy. we are both seniors.
- Work on roadways and crescents instead of wasting time with walkways and sidewalk, our winters are usually to cold to walk anywhere anyway. Thanks
- Higher priority on trails where mailbox access. Several mailbox access points are on trails and are dangerous.
- Make sure that the snow and ice are cleared completely away from the sidewalk and road so it's easier for someone to cross the roads.

- If there is a way to clear trails, pathways, sidewalks without using salt, would make it nicer for all four legged and two legged users.
- Thanks for asking for my input via electronic survey.
- This year was very bad for ice in some areas. But, I am walking for exercise and social well being so it is probably not as necessary as for those walking to go to work and school.
- Transit and schools are more important than county buildings
- I think we should reflect that the ice was a problem this winter, but normally, walking on snow isn't an issue. No amount of salt/sand will fix a high thaw then freeze.
- By law enforcement for privately maintained sidewalks. Some households do not do this.
- The transit stop NE of Davidson Creek Elementary often has deep snow and is not cleared in 48hrs. All the private walks will be cleared and that section is often a nightmare and so heavily trafficked by students and parents including at least 1 person who has to drive a mobility scooter through there to drop off their students. This particular stop needs more attention, possibly due to the open field/basketball courts area causing more snow to blow over the walk?
- We have a trail near my home that is unusable in winter it goes from a residential street to a park, it is never cleaned in the winter. I walk my dog through here but people do use it to get to and from elementary schools. It is never cleaned it is the path from Hummingbird Court and Peacock Park.
- Appreciate the concern regarding the use of salt to control ice on trails. It's not environmentally nor pet friendly. Gravel chips are hard on pets paws as well. Would support tax increase for use of pet friendly ice melt.
- Trail access from the hamlet of Ardrossan to the Ardrossan High School & Elementary needs to be considered a priority. Residents of Ardrossan are not eligible for bus service (without additional costs) due to the the radius from the school the students reside. A safe, multi-use pathway that keeps students away from traffic needs to be completed to tie in the rear fields to between the two schools (adjacent to the new playground).. This multi-use pathway would need to be cleared as a priority to ensure students can travel to school safely.
- if ice control is a priority for the County then PLEASE use only pet friendly sidewalk salt. non-pet friendly versions are very hard on dogs feet and make it nearly impossible for dog owners to walk on the paths.
- The county must do a better job of making school crosswalks and their part of school sidewalks less icy. So many kids fall daily
- We don't need bare pavement. This is Alberta winter. Just keep clearing the snow so our boots don't fill up. You're doing a good job. We just need homeowners to clear their snow.

- The belief that sidewalks/pathways should be completely bare is ridiculous. We live in a winter city. People should make better choices with their footwear than expect completely bare walkways.
- In 20 yrs of walking in the park this was the poorest condition of county cleared sidewalks I have seen, the use of snow brush machines that don't have something to put ice chips down right behind them makes for very icy sidewalks? there needs better coordination between road clearing & sidewalk clearing as they pile the snow & onto side walks in many places & onto the islands making it hard to get to the walk buttons, good example was Glenmoor & broadmoor & fir street, also the side walk on south side of baseline from Broadmoor to Sherwood Dr was very bad, very icy & then the melting of snow from the road crew just runs onto the side walk, seems we have a crew driving down the road to clear a bus stop area then going to next one but the sidewalk on either side of it is very bad & then they do same thing in the spring having a crew clear a bit of gravel & then go to the next one eg. this happening on Broadmoor as well as Oak street so seems like a make work project or poor use of my tax \$, why are some pathways into park areas cleared by county equipment & other by home owners, lots of those path ways were very icy in Sherwood Heights & Woodbridge farms & that happens as homes there have there eve troughs running across there fences and dumping onto those walk ways? The side walk on the south side of Sherwood drive from the traffic circle to Brentwood Blvd was very icy all winter & with it being somewhat shaded needed more attention to ice build up, did not seem to me that the machine I'll call a ice breaker was used near enough?
- The quality of snow clearing is terrible. Without an increase in quality, it would be better not to clear the snow at all. A small strip of the sidewalk by Brentwood school gets cleared, making it uneven and dangerous to walk on. This is a consistent issue and not a one time thing.
- The town should be clearing all sidewalks, place grit on natural paths such as Heritage Hills Wetlands.
- The trails should be cleared in the same time period that residents are expected to clear their sidewalks. Actually, the sidewalks we have to clear are the property of the County and should be cleared by the County. A snow cat clearing the sidewalk in front of my house would take 5 seconds. If this was done a few times a year what portion of the annual taxes for a residential property would be used? If the taxes are \$3000 and the total time to clear during the winter is 1 minute, why has the Administration such such an issue about forcing residents to clear county sidewalks?
- Connector paths allow residents to walk/bike to commercial destinations and for 7.9 km they should be upped in priority or combined with priority 3 standards. Though may need different equipment

- I think the new 48 hour sidewalk clearing by-law is unfair and un-necessary. The previous rule was fine for most. It's also unfair for the county to enforce a rule they can't abide by.
- If private citizens are required to clear their walls within 48 hours, the same should apply to the county
- the sidewalks around the perimeter of Broadmoor Lake were atrocious this past winter, even the ones on the interior of the park were terribly icy
- Doing a very good job, ice is a seldom problem on the many routes that I use, use my ice cleats it is. Do not use the large crushed gravel, too hard on the dogs.
- If residents are required to clear their sidewalks within a designated time, so should the county on all the sidewalks / trails they are responsible for.
- Understand the County does its' best but sometimes it is frustrating when paths are not cleared quicker. They may be just between neighborhoods but they are still used to get to a destination, just not a County facility.
- "This winter's ice was particularly challenging and greatly Impacted the walkability in my neighbourhood."
- Forget about the pathways and clear the county roads!
- Hopefully it isn't as icy next year!
- Centre in the Park is overvalued in terms of general use. People want to use the trails in their own neighborhoods, above all others. The County says it wants to build community in subdivisions through summer events such as block parties, but then in the winter, people are driven to leave their neighbourhoods to go on walks or enjoy the outdoors. It makes no logical sense when accounting for Council's stated goals.
- The pathway system in Sh. pk. Is great and encourages alternative transportation and recreation and needs to continue to be supported and maintained.
- Roads first then trails as private vehicles carry more people to work than any other means
- The only issue I have found around Broadmoor Lake has been ice on parts of the trail in Spring. 48 hours is not long enough for cleaning private sidewalks - e.g. on a corner lot. Seniors can only shovel for short periods of time and in a big snowfall it can take a long time to finish.
- No extra comment re County trails but so important for more education and enforcement re private sidewalks, especially in residential areas where seniors also live. Some of the homes in our neighborhood basically did not clear their sidewalks all winter long. It is really dangerous for everyone.
- Interesting how you fine citizens and can't keep the trails and sidewalks clean especially around Broadmoor lake
- I use the trail systems twice a day, 365 days a year. Having them clear the snow makes them much easier to navigate. It has been nice to see that the county typically is ahead of the 5 to 8 days that are set out in the guidelines

for arterial trails. If there is additional funding available it would be great to see the trails cleared earlier to allow those who use them daily easy access. I do know that the ice can be limiting, but simply wearing a pair of ice cleats on your shoes remedies the problem. Perhaps residents could be educated on the use of ice please so that we do not have to put salt down on the trails to make it difficult for pets. From what I see out and about on the trails, the vast majority of trail use in the winter is related to dog walking. At present we avoid many of the residential streets because people do use chemicals on their sidewalks. We appreciate being free to use the county trails because they do not have chemicals on them.

- I'd prefer more sand/gravel than salt on the paths, less salt would be better.
- I feel that this past winter was one of the absolute worst years for ice buildup. I feel that there would have been no way humanly possible for Strathcona County to clear the ice buildup on streets , paths and trails. Our driveway was and back yard had terrible icy sections. Made it very difficult to get outside and walk. I hope every winter won't be like this. We had alot of rain.
- Don't use them
- More clearing at mail boxes please
- I would very much appreciate the walking loop at Centennial be completed in the winter. I can tell from the footprints that the trail is well used in spite of the deep snow. I think it would be more used if even just roughly cleared. The paved path is well done- just would like the cinder path on the south side to be easier walking.
- We dislike the cold, so do our exercising somewhere indoors.
- :You are doing a great job.
- "Bylaw needs to look at neighborhoods in village on the lake for example there were houses
- On village drive that never cleaned their sidewalks once
- All winter. Dangerous to wakk"
- You're doing a great job and we appreciate it. Thank you!
- If residents need to clear sidewalks in 48 hours the County needs the same criteria. When a Councillor finger pointed residents not clearing snow/ice I pointed out in our hood the most treacherous was around County parks and county street intersections. Nobody even bothered to respond. Fire them all
- The trails leading from Amberley Road to ABJ were consistently cleared this past winter, but the paths between the baseball diamonds to the t-junction of the main north south trail behind the homes on Ellesmere Lane/Cove were not often not cleared until much later. There are many students and residents who use that part of the path daily. It was very frustrating.
- According to your Priority list, our pathways are Priority 2 to be cleared in 24 hours and this isn't the normal pattern. Occasionally they are cleared in that time but usually it's at least 3 days.

- Priority 4 and 3 should be switched. Rural roads are not used to walk to work/ transit like the residential connector roads. Typically people who walk to work/ transit use the priority 4 roads rather than the main roads and not being able to use these due to snow and ice makes any foot commute unfeasible. Minor industrial roads should be last. Foot traffic should take priority after main roads
- Sidewalks within neighbourhoods are important so the current bylaw needs to actually be enforced. It is dangerous for everyone when it is not. Also, we understand that snow clearing is difficult, but last year there were large chunks of sidewalks that never seemed to be cleared at the entrance to our neighbourhood and they became pure ice.
- A proactive approach (not waiting for a complaint to be made) to bylaw enforcement for privately-maintained sidewalks is clearly needed. The same minority of property owners have consistently ignored the bylaw for many years without any apparent consequences.
- I have observed a trace amount of gravel being left by unit used for spreading. Seems they could slow down and leave more gravel on the ice and apply more as required based on judgement.
- The county did an amazing job with snow clearing this winter. Exceptional as compared to Edmonton and other municipalities.
- I understand that the melting and refreezing makes it difficult to maintain clear pathways, but maybe not clearing but laying down more sand - and instead of it just in the middle of the path it gets spread out to cover the whole path so that multiple people can walk with each other at one time
- The sidewalks directly around schools seem to be cleared quickly, but the county should consider the major sidewalks that kids use to get to the schools. We walk down Crimson drive (from Jim Common Drive to Lakeland Ridge School/Holy Spirit). The east sidewalk is always terrible. It's in the shade most of the time and there is a steep downhill portion too. There are HUNDREDS of kids and parents that walk that sidewalk every day to and from both schools, and it seems like the county takes a week to remove the snow. So, by the time they get around to it, there is a heavily packed section that ends up turning into ice and isn't scraped up. There should be more priority on sidewalks not just adjacent to schools, but the major sidewalks that kids take to get to schools should be added to that higher priority.
- Unsure why residents are held to a standard of 48 hours to clear sidewalks but the county is not. Snow is a given in winter. It's not a surprise that happens every year. Better planning = better prepared.
- I'm so impressed with the way the county clears snow, deals with ice and strives to make Sherwood Park a wonderful winter community. Thank you for all those that are clearing in the middle of the night, battling the cold and snow to make this community better. Thanks you!!!

- I can appreciate That it takes time to remove snow, etc. but I've been walking, and running and the trails and sidewalks are not cleared according to the schedule that you've shown in these priorities.
- You should be aware that some trails/pathways are along open field and sometimes when it's windy they get packed with lots of snow. If it's nit combined with any snowfall you won't cleared them until somebody complained. You should maybe tag those problematic path and make sure they are always cleared
- More destination pathways are needed for winter walking. Lighting on the pathways is particularly important.
- Clear those places that seniors or those with mobility problems 1st, around county hall, last year you forgot about the sidewalk in front of county hall and seniors walking to safeway were falling like leaves off trees. Got tired of picking them up and driving them to safeway I did it because was so dangerous. We should imagine what we would take the chance walking on what surface, if we feel unsafe, so do others.
- If residents must clear sidewalks within 48 hours it seems a bit hypocritical that the county can take up to 8 days (how is that justifiable?). It seems to me that priority 3 and 4 need to be reversed. The major transportation roads (ie baseline) do not seem to be the highest for pedestrian traffic
- Be more mindful of drainage spots, so large piles of snow aren't blocking waterways when melting occurs. Encourage more people to volunteer to assist clearing private sidewalks - e.g. Snowbusters program
- Overall I'm grateful for the level of service for trail maintenance in the winter. This year 2021/2022 seemed particularly challenging with the rain and melting but it seems that leaving a thin layer of snow on the path is better for traction rather than scraping it to pavement.
- I use a stroller with young kids and although I have not been impacted too much in winter (live near broadmoor so I experience good clear paths) but have observed other mothers at times struggle with their strollers due to inadequate snow clearing so that could be considered under accessibility. It's not a disability but is challenging with stroller wheels.
- Residents do a good job clearing their sidewalks in our neighbourhood - it's the County trails and sidewalks next to the collector roads that are dismal.
- We live in a northern city, without properly maintained residential sidewalks and trails it is difficult safety traverse paths for winter exercise by ourselves or our pets. I would love to walk more, but my neighborhood doesn't shovel and the paths are dangerous. We shouldn't have to drive to Broadmoor Lake just to enjoy a walk
- They do a great job, doesn't seem like the operators have the right equipment though The path beside my house leads to a field with no connecting pathways, I find it a waste of money to have this path cleared. The county snow removal equipment drags snow back over my cleared

sidewalk. They also clear this path very late at night i.e. past 10pm and the back up beeper disturbs the quiet of the neighbourhood.

- I would prefer the use of sand only. Or a pet safe salt alternative. I would also appreciate if it was communicated that salt used was pet safe
- This past winter was brutal. Took many falls on county sidewalks.
- Just a comment on priority 2. Can say that paths at bus routes and parks are not cleared within that timeline often at all. Again, a park that is right where a bus stop is also, has gone several days after snowfall without being cleared nor anything done about ice.
- Love the service the County gives and how quick the roads and trails are cleared. Best in Alberta for sure! Thank you!
- County should review opportunities to utilize appropriate snow clearing equipment to clear gravel paths around parks like Heritage Wetlands. Don't need to clean down to gravel. In heavy snow winters these paths become quite narrow and challenging to walk on. Removing majority of snow would make these gravel trails more accessible for all in the winter.
- Sometimes they fibre put enough gravel down. There will be only one narrow strip done.
- The paths around the pond in Aspen Trails were treacherous due to ice. They could not be used without ice cleats.
- Trails and paths need to be monitored during spring thaw to make sure drainage is proper....horrible ice buildup along Baseline. Most often drainage blocked. Use of just rock chips is not enough
- My husband took a horrible, nasty fall this winter at the entry to Broadmoor Lake Park, in the east end of the parking lot at the Kinsmen Leisure Centre. This point, as well as the area on the north east side of the lake are recurrently hazardous with ice. There should be gravel available for people to use to make it less hazardous. Also, I think the county should handle all snow removal, including private sidewalks. They do this in Quebec and the pedestrian environment is much improved because of it.
- Essential for accessibility!!!!
- While some years ice on trails is a major problem (especially this year at the golf course - which you say is a destination trail), I would need more information about a salt/sand treatment to clear the ice - would not want to support something that is dangerous to pets and / or the environment. While destination trails are good - you are assuming people can get to them in the winter. If I don't drive I can't get there. Or if I want to walk/bike to the destination trails and my connectors are not cleared, then it's useless. Safe and clear trails are important year round, but especially in the winter - to bike, walk, push a stroller etc. they should be as high of a priority as roads. Why do we place cars higher than people? If the trails are cleared to a higher standard, more will use them because they are safe and they can rely on

them. If you never know if the trails are cleared or not - you're not going to risk using them or going on / to them.

- Pathetic If you cannot handle the work, then source it out to a private company who cares. You source out grass cutting, landscaping, etc... You source out street cleaning in the winter and spring.
- Why does your contractor clear pathways in residential at 1:00 am to 3:00 am during weekdays? We have jobs and need our rest.
- The ice and snow removal on the pathways in Ardrossan was very poor compared to other years. wasn't able to go out walking very often this winter because of the pathway conditions
- One section of the trails along the south side of Baseline Road (just west of Sherwood Drive) is below the roadway level and always collects snow, ice and debris during the winter. This section of the trail is shaded from direct sunlight. Then in the spring it tends to be icy with water pools. Perhaps a modification is needed to raise the level of the trail to avoid so much ice build up.
- Been winter here since Strathcona County was created, so why is it so hard for the Country to figure out how to keep the streets and sidewalks clear?
- Who is enforcing the by-law? How do we ensure that other's are doing their share?
- When sidewalks go unshovelled, they lead to ice when they get packed down and with the numerous freeze-thaw cycles we see. These freeze-thaw cycles also lead to heaving and cracking in the sidewalks when there is an unnecessary buildup of ice. In my own household, I have a large, elderly dog that needs daily walks. Unshovelled walks have created a safety risk for me and my dog. The many unshovelled and icy sidewalks have stopped us from being able to safely go for walks in our neighborhood. The snow clearing by-law is difficult to enforce, and clearly doesn't affect peoples' behaviour. There are also some people in the community with barriers to being able to shovel their walks (age, injuries, disability, etc.). Here is my idea to combat the issue: The county has seasonal summer parks crews. Could a crew or two be offered winter employment? These crew(s) would go out 48-72 hours after snowfalls and shovel/scrape the problematic uncleared residential sidewalks. The homeowner would then be billed (possibly on their utility bill or a separate invoice). This billing would essentially pay for the manhours, and encourage people to take responsibility for their property. While on their routes, these crews could also ensure that fire hydrants have proper snow clearance. They could also ensure that street drains remain cleared so that in the spring, Utilities doesn't have to come and steam them free of surface ice buildup.
- If you cleared the trails sooner there would be less problems with ice control. There is no way you should have a bylaw requiring 48 hours (which is actually being too generous) and give the county anything less than what is

required in the bylaw. Strong enforcement is required on residential sidewalks there are far too many lazy people (and not senior citizens that might have some challenges) not clearing their sidewalks at all little own in 48 hours.

- Your priority system which you have identified is not followed. I see priority 3 routes being cleared long before priority 2. And seriously why does county hall/facilities and Broadmoor Lake take priority over schools?
- Pretty disappointing that council decided to push for citizens to clear the sidewalks in a shorter time frame, yet considers 8 days for taxpayers funded sidewalks, trails, pathways as acceptable.
- Instead of sand and salt use the rock chips but make sure the spreaders are working because this year especially with all the ice we had the chips were used sparingly
- The paved pathway, east of Cloverbar Rd., that runs N & S is on the north side of our condo property. It's easier to walk on packed snow with grit than when they try to scrape it down to pavement. That frequently leads to a polished icy surface. It might be better to take it down to 3" of snow, removing drifts and then grit if necessary. The last couple of years have been very icy, due to the weather. I'm happier with no clearing on the gravel trails, then there are fewer bikes to watch out for.
- I don't like the usage of pebble rocks on ice. The pebble rocks are blown onto the grass which to me become a hazard when the county start mowing grass. Plus eventually the grass will not grown on excessive pebble rocks, or will it?
- Please do not use salt and harmful chemicals... the environment will suffer and animals burn their paw pads. Sand is a good option
- There are people with disabilities who cannot do the 48-hour clearance. This should not be mandatory but good manners when able.
- The pathways this winter were not cleared at all..
- I use the trails n paths for running a 3x a week throughout the winter...if it's bladed at min I'm ok with that that's what traction spikes are for
- Sometimes the machines are out very quickly. Sometimes they clean and clean and clean. Why not stop the machines and save on fuel. We do not want taxes raised. We can wear ice cleats. You do not have to clean so excessively. The county service is beyond what is necessary. We have to cope with our weather and conditions as well folks,
- Some of your timelines are way past the the new 48 hours bylaw for residents to clear their sidewalk? I live close to a pathway between houses to a park and it took days for you to clear that path but I only get 48 hours hardly fair.
- Doing a great job!
- My husband walks our dog (husky) three times a day and has several falls due to ice on county maintained residential walkways. He has broken ribs and had a couple sprains and muscle injuries. He prefers county maintained

walkways as opposed to sidewalks. We recognize the need for priorities but would love to see improvement in the time it takes to get these cleared more quickly. We don't believe they need to be scraped to bare asphalt but plotted and salt/gravel applied is appreciated.

- Would actually prefer some trails not be down to pavement but with some snow, easier to keep ice free, pull toboggan, kick sled, pulka. But I realize this make them less usable to other users...
- We bought some cleats to wear as the ice on the trails was more this year than before. We use the trails around Emerald Hills to walk and get groceries all year round.
- Drop the power brooms. They may be suitable for minor early snow removal. They should be retired by December. Can you imagine clearing our roads with power brooms?
- at Broadmoor there are area, well-known to walkers, that are in the shade and build up of ice over a few days. I think if the county mapped these areas and gave them deeper attention, it would be most helpful to us walkers.
- Thank you for keeping the paths at Broadmoor as clear as possible during this challenging winter. Please use more salt and ice melt in the future.
- I shovel for seniors and 2 of the properties have county maintained sidewalks.... But I have done them for years. This year they were driven on by the county making them impossible to clear. I realize this was an exceptionally bad year for ice but one of the sidewalks was driven on to refill the rock chip box. The other was driven on by a snow clearing machine but the tracks made it impossible to clear and the tracks were hard to walk on. With that said I'm not sure there was a good solution this year.
- It was a difficult year with weird weather conditions - overall I think the county does well, but 8 days seems like a long time for me to be able to walk my dog after a snow fall. Would like to see that timeline shortened. *For enforcement - Would really like to see enforcement with business owners - some commercial parking lots and sidewalks were atrocious, for too long. Some education and encouragement, at first and then start fining them if not adhering to the bylaw. Overall - I think most home owners do an adequate job.
- How about some kind of compensation for residents ordered to clear the sidewalks on private property as these are county owned and not property owners, forced by bylaw to do public work without compensation is unconstitutional and I believe illegal in Canada
- The county does not clear priority 2 &3 trails within their timeline. Also, workers should use critical thinking skills when working rather than just working to the rule (it paths down to roads should be cleared, not just the path leaving a windrow to cross to get to the road). Salt is not an option for sidewalks due to burns to animals' feet. Foot friendly options are available.
- What does the county think this will cost?

- The clearing of residential connector pathways was happening very late at night. I'd like to see there be a quiet time in neighborhoods so we aren't being disturbed after 10 or before 7. This used to be the practice I don't know why it changed.
- You say that paths adjacent to school will be cleared within 24 hours. We have been walking to school for 7 years and we have found that this is not the case. The sidewalks take up to a week to be cleared. By that time they are packed down and don't get sufficiently cleared. It is also very dangerous. The cars cannot tell where the road or sidewalk are and are often on the sidewalk. I don't feel comfortable letting my children walk by themselves because of the state of the sidewalks. I have gone on walks where paths around lakes weren't cleared in the morning. Then I went on the same walk in the afternoon and the path around the lake (not Broadmoor) was cleared but the sidewalk next to school was not cleared after school.
- As we maintain our front yard after each snow fall, this winter was particularly frustrating with the freeze thaw and rain, difficult to stay ahead of the problem; extremely frustrating to walk through neighborhood knowing the work we put into maintaining property and see that so many do not making walking treacherous; piling snow in sides of driveways resulted in pools; difficult for water to flow away when snow pack above curb level; was very impressed with the speed of snow clearing this winter
- There are some sections I walk daily that are marked pri 2 along Festival Way (adjacent to Sherwood Care) that are not cleaned on that schedule. They often are left for a week at a time not cleaned. I often wonder if this a problem between the county and the facility as to whose responsibility it is. That said, when notified of the issue the county has rectified the issue quickly.
- Trails along major road. Eg baseline Road should be cleared a lot faster. Not the 5 days it can take
- I realize that 2021-2022 was a very bad winter season for ice. As a person who uses the pathways and trails around the Nottingham Brentwood area to walk our dog, many pathways were thick layers of ice and even the usually well maintained trails to the Ball Lake area sometime is was extremely slippery. . We as property owners have only 48 hours to clear our sidewalks should the county be prepared to change the 5 day timeline to 48 hours as well.
- I think overall the trail clearing has been very well done this winter - keep up the good work
- We live in a winter city. Snow and ice causes injuries.
- Very much appreciate the cleared trails, especially the golf course.
- Work on more coordinated effort for streets as priority
- We have a great trail system.

- The priorities stated need to be re-examined to guarantee access to those that have physical issues!
- I have made numerous calls and county connect requests for action to be taken along Colwill Blvd over the past years. On most snow events, this corridor, which serves both FRH and BF schools is left ignored and is not dealt with as described in the above priority ranking. Perhaps EIPS needs to step up like surrounding property owners and contribute to their own clearing of surrounding property line pathways! I note the school system clears their large staff parking lots within a quick timeline, too bad that they couldn't extend this service to their student populations. Regardless, this area, with one of the highest pedestrian traffic areas is consistently ignored with respect to priority clearing.
- Should consider doing gravel or granular trails
- Most trails are cleared ok, slower this year than in the past, but some spots ie. on the north side of fences have ice most of the year. I think more sand/chips would help but not more salt.
- If the residents have to have the sidewalks cleared in 48hrs the county should also.. Lead by example!!!!
- Something needs to be done about the path that connects Galloway drive to Glamorgan drive. It's a skating rink all winter. This is a path that students take to get to school and it's extremely hazardous.
- I have complain to the county about pathway clearing sometime they clear the snow and it makes it worse they should clear it and put gravel or sand on it.
- Would the council look at adding additional shifts like around the clock as they do for roads when there is a heavy snowfall so paths are cleared sooner than 8 days. By then they are packed down and the equipment just skims the service which only makes it slippery.
- Need to have school sidewalks and transit pathways number one priory not the county centers
- We retired recently and started walking daily. Did not know that the area around Broadmoor Lake was cleared first but once we discovered that we changed our walking destination to almost exclusively that area during the winter.
- Maybe not relevant to this survey, but the County's snow clearing efforts on our roads during the winter is terrific!
- Considering the abrupt different weather patterns I think it was reasonably maintained considering all the kms involved
- I enjoy using the paths and sidewalks in Sherwood Park every day. As a mom, it is vital in order for me to be able to take my toddler outside in the winter. I have purchased all the gear needed to get through the ice and big snow drifts. However, there are many days in the winter that we don't pass another person on our walks. It would be amazing to see ice and snow

removal increased in priority, so people can get out for fresh air and exercise safely, all year round.

- Walks were so poorly maintained that it was difficult to maintain my exercise routine. During the pandemic outdoor exercise is very important. The county failed to recognize this.
- Schools areas should be cleared very quickly due to the amount of students using the paths. Especially in the Heritage Hills area as students also access these trails to get to the fields.
- You need to watch the weather forecasts. When it is warm CLEAR THE SLUSH! It develops rutts with the freeze/thaw. Car damage, difficult to manage with any kind of physical disability. You are building a lot of senior homes to attract seniors in cars not 4 x 4 vehicles. Plow the roads more often - CLEAR the SLUSH. Don't focus so much on the trails. Destination walking paths are great but if the streets aren't plowed and you can't get your car there how is the effective?
- All in all, Fabulous Job Strathcona County
- It's extremely frustrating to see the skating rink near our house cleaned daily, whether it's snowed or not or whether anyone has even used it, while the walking trail nearby can take days to get cleaned even though school kids have to use it every day. Strathcona County's priorities regarding skating rink/trail snow removal are completely backwards. Also, if the county requires homeowners to have snow cleaned within 48h they should do the same with their trails. Doing otherwise is hypocritical and county council should be able to see that.
- On the path I take to school (Workplace) as well as students in the neighbourhood, two days of walking through high drifts of snow is too much. Also, when the path is cleared, a pile of snow is left right in the middle of the path making everyone need to climb it to continue to the school.
- I sure appreciate all the hard work and dedication in our county.
- Thank you for clearing the trails.
- It's worse for walking when it's ice, rather than snow. One can walk in snow with boots on, but we've had to turn around and go home a few times this winter because our paths and sidewalks were so icy, we couldn't walk.
- Our son walks to and from school every day (we live in Ardrossan and he attends Ardrossan elementary) and the path that he is to walk every day takes too long to be cleared after a snowfall. Our children are expected to walk to and from school if we live in town yet the path is not maintained for them to do so. Very disappointed in the time it takes to be done.
- Just that the cleaning would be extended further into spring based on the weather. This year there were a few later spring snows and the paths weren't cleared at all probably in the hopes they would melt soon but they didn't and it made it difficult to use the pathways under 1 foot of snow and ice.

- I run all winter long, and despite the super icy winter, i was impressed with the efficiency of snow clearing by the County this past winter. Thanks so much!
- The walkway between Juniper and Spruce is used by seniors and students and is not maintained without a complaint even though right across the road the pathway through Sherwood Heights School is. One would think the machine could come across and do that walkway too. Sidewalks around Cottonwood Park are not maintained causing people to walk on the road which is not safe with the traffic from Pine Street School
- With the feeze / thaws, sidewalks at bottom of slopes are almost impossible to keep clear of ice. We live on such a slope and will leave snow on top for grip - so we aren't fans of the bylaw. We find it easiest to walk on icy county trails when some snow is left on top - common sense is required by the snow remover. Where water pools don't totally clear the snow, because some snow is good for grip. If the path is higher, it can be totally cleared. It's a real challenge, and the rock chips help, but seem messy and like a lot of effort. I don't think it's worth it to strive for 100% clear walks all the time.
- your snow clearing machine hit the side of our new fence and damaged it. we don't intend to formally complain (it's something we can easily fix ourself), but please be more careful in the future. -we see the county employees out clearing the sidewalks at all hours of the night 1-2 days after each snowfall. We are quite satisfied with the efforts. They do a good job- even considering the fence lol. Considering all the walking trails in Sherwood Park, the current timeline for clearing seems more than reasonable. Things seem to be pretty good in Sherwood Park.
- Do a better job
- Why would County Hall be prioritized over transit stops and school zones? That seems pretty ludicrous.
- I understand the freeze/thaw cycles have been terrible the last few winters but then could we ensure the ice is being looked at? The walking paths have been awful and unusable due to the amount of ice creating a fall hazard. I use boot picks but that is more difficult for kids to use and not always easy to find meaning they are more likely to fall. We have so much pride in the county for the landscape etc- our winter walk ways should be useable to continue to enjoy these amenities
- I love our path system. We use it at least twice a day and much more in the summer. It is an important part of Sherwood Park. The paths get very icy but are manageable with cleats. Thank you for the work that is being done currently, and for the ongoing effort to make our path system better
- Thank you for all that you do.
- We made extensive use of the trails during the winter of 2021, but due to the much poorer weather and icy conditions this past winter we were able to walk on many fewer days. As seniors (over 80) we are vulnerable to falls

and afraid to walk in icy conditions. By contrast to 2021, this past winter when we were unable to walk was a mentally difficult time. That said, we give hearty thanks to the great efforts the county has made, especially in the County Centre, and have high regard for the workers who so politely and conscientiously make this possible.

- Problem areas where water collects and re-freezes, both on trails and sidewalks, need to be identified and rectified.
- This past winter was unusual for ice. I feel that there needs to be a plan to handle that challenge in a more effective way when mother nature delivers more icy conditions - we do use cleats for walking but it was still very tricky at times
- focus on residential areas as first priority, not the area around Millenium and away from Residential
- So, does the Chamber of Commerce parking lot rank higher or lower as a priority than the trail that leads to the school in my neighborhood? STOP clearing their Parkin lot at taxpayer expense. While you are at it, STOP sweeping their parking lot (at taxpayer expense) before clearing public property.
- No
- What drives me crazy is having the path in ardrossan covered in snow and then when I come into Sherwood park I see machines clearing sidewalks that have already been cleaned.
- Our neighbourhood, The Estates of Sherwood Park, has no sidewalks - which should prioritize safe and well-maintained trails over similar neighbourhoods that do have residential sidewalks. Our roads are usually unsafe for all pedestrians, including school-aged children walking to their school busses, or kids and adults walking to get to the residential trails. There should be exceptions to the priority list as noted above based on real risk in specific neighbourhoods. Snow/ice clearing that typically clears only half of the width of the trail throughout the winter is simply unacceptable, as snow drifts frequently make the trails impassable. YES, Strathcona County could/should make significant improvements to their trail clearing in our neighbourhood. Thank you.
- Do they need to do them over 3 times a day in winter
- Use your resources properly. Nothing frustrates me more as a tax payer as seeing the sidewalk cleaner driving around late of a weekend, collecting double time, and not doing any plowing. I have seen them out when we have not had snow for a month. Spend the money wisely, stop wasting it to spend budget. Invest in some decent salt/sanding equipment, in 2021/2022 the sidewalks were extremely dangerous.
- Less service please and no ice control for my dogs feet please
- Last year was awful. I broke my arm on these trails and now have a plate and screws in my arm.

- If the county had 6 bobcats clearing snowfall greater than 4 cm, everything could be complete in 5 days with 8 hour shifts. Shouldn't expect property owners to clear snow in 48 hours if the county cannot clear its own snow for 8 days! Several residential sidewalks intersect with county walks which are excessively snow covered, while residents have done their job, certainly a double standard!
- Pretty good job overall Maybe enforce all the residents that don't shovel their sidewalks
- Would really appreciate paving the path around the Summerwood storm pond. It gets too muddy and icy and is not cleared. It's dangerous
- With the freeze thaw cycle of this past winter most sidewalks a trails were in poor walking condition however generally I am pleased with the trail maintenance and the County does a great job.
- Don't think county buildings such as festival place are more important than the paths leading to schools. Kids' safety is more important.
- This winter was very challenging weather wise. It was very scary and frustrating trying to navigate the icy sidewalks everywhere. Going for a long walk often involved changing course because of the ice conditions.
- I feel the County is fairly good at trying to keep walked paths clear in the winter but realize it's a challenge during the winter, especially with ice.
- Fine people who neglect their walks all winter long. Repeat offenders
- Overnight clearing of paths is very often loud and disruptive to residents who live beside them. Consideration should be given when deciding best times for clearing.
- I definitely agree that the largest challenge for trail clearing, especially this winter, was ice. Attempting to remove all snow down to the pavement when in freeze-thaw cycles just creates a massive skating rink. I'm sure there must be other options that use some packed snow as a natural grip. I realize this could potentially cause issues for those who use mobility aids such as wheelchairs. I certainly don't know what the solution is, but looking to nordic countries and their winter maintenance regimes could be useful (the first example that comes to mind is Oulu, Finland, and their cycling infrastructure maintenance.)
- Do a better job of clearing the trail to road crossing access instead of leaving piled snow on and at these points . Also clear the trail crossing path , across the roadways at these points . Thanks
- There is no consistency in when trails are plowedcleared after snow fall, sometimes the trail is clear as the snow is falling, next time it is cleared in five days, then cleared within a day.....why ?
- I would like to see parks (McGhan Park, Ball Lake Park, etc.) put at a higher priority of service over sidewalks running along streets in neighbourhoods. The sidewalks around the mall should be a higher priority. With our sidewalk

by-law giving residents 48hrs to clean the sidewalks I would expect the county to adhere to their own by-law.

- I feel as though the grit and rock chips used for ice control are very effective at addressing this concern however is there no program to clean them up from the sides of the trails/grass? I see that the trails themselves have been swept and cleaned up but there is still a very significant amount of grit along the edges of many of the trails. Seems silly that all of this product is put down but a large majority of it is left to smother the grass and be an eyesore.
- The ice was a definite issue over the past winter, and the application rock chips was needed for traction, but leaving them on the grass in spring is not good for looks or turf health. The chips address a hazard in winter, but create another in spring/summer. Why can't the County pick up the rock chips as they do in other communities? Fort Sask comes to mind
- The lack of effort to clear paths this winter was brutal. I understand the difficulty with melt and freeze. but the fact they laid traction gravel in a 4 inch pattern doesn't help anyone who uses the paths. they could put more gravel down so you didn't feel like you are taking your life in your hands to go out for a walk with your dogs. Another frustrating occurrence is when you can see tire tracks on the paths but nothing was cleared. it makes it look like they didn't care to do their job. Overall the snow clearing was not done well this year. And if they have 5 days to clear the major paths in town then why must I clear mine in 48 hours. I have less people walk in front of my house then down those paths. Your fine system is stupid and ill thought thru. We don't have foot traffic to our houses any more that we used to.
- Trails / commuter paths between neighbourhoods were pretty icy this year even when cleared. I acknowledge that we had a weird icy year. We found that people couldn't use strollers on the county paths around rainbow junction park because they were not cleared in a timely fashion. A week doesn't leave a great window with the amount of snow that we get here. Education and enforcement of people not shovelling would be excellent. We find that most people are pretty good but some people Don't shovel all winter and it can be hazardous and frustrating on walks to school.
- I live along a path. The grader normally comes through after 10pm, often closer to 2am, is quite loud and wakes up children. Would support longer cleaning times if it meant not being woken up in the middle of the night.
- Use of rock chips/gravel is ridiculous and a huge waste of time and money. The amount of gravel on the trails when the snow melts creates a dangerous situation for bikers and others. Why can't the time and money spent on gravel be used for proper snow removal, then there would not be a need to increase taxes!!!!
- 8 days after a snowstorm is totally unacceptable

- The skill level of some operators of various snow clearing equipment is minimal at best. Too much time and/or sanding materials are not used efficiently. More or better training is required.
- The trails are like driveways. If you don't get the snow and ice off soon, it will be twice the job to get it off later. For some seniors that like to walk each day a snowfall and ice can keep them from walking for days
- County can spend 40 million on a new Bridge that 2% of residents will use. But want to increase taxes To clear existing paths between. Counsel should get priority's straight and focus on what we have and can't maintain.
- Look to Finland for ideas. Healthier more liveable communities year round. Bikes and pedestrian traffic lead to more sense of community and healthier population. Money well spent.
- Update the maps used to clear pathways. Often I have to make a county connection complaint because only part of our neighbourhood path gets done and everytime I file a complaint I am told that the map does not have that marked as a path into a neighbourhood
- We really enjoy winter walking. We are seniors and quite often go down to festival place as the snow is cleared there quite quickly. We enjoyed Broadmore golf course and would be open to different areas. I would like to see strict enforcement of personal sidewalk cleaning next year. It is a shame that abled people can't spent a few minutes clearing their front sidewalks this should be a priority for safety for all walkers.
- Didn't walk all winter due to ice and snow.
- I would like to see a shorter timeline, not an increase in service. Happy trails are cleared in winter
- Hamlet are have no sidewalks Just roads. So clearing roads are more important for residence walk safe clean up as u do in Sherwood park. The same taxes apply every were but service not
- There are too many private homes where snow clearing is never done all winter (eg. vacant lot corner of Hawthorne and Juniper) as well along Oak street north from Sherwood Heights. Lots of pedestrian traffic here all winter. Why is there no enforcement??
- The clearing of these trails also depends on the winter. This Pat wi yet there was a lot of ice do to the thaw freeze cycles that happened. We appreciate the work the county does on the trails to maintain them. *[redacted personal information]*
- Trails and pathways are essential for maintaining mental and physical health. 8 days is a very long time to not be able to go for a walk because it's too icy and dangerous. Unsafe walks contribute directly to isolation and depression.
- My concern is mainly for seniors. They have limited mobility as it is and I do notice that pathways around some of the senior's centres and lodges get missed. They should be top priority for the safety of our seniors. Pathways

near Centennial Park in winter of 2021 were treacherous. Some gravel would have been my preference as opposed to salt and sand.

- Really appreciate the golf course trail system. Thank you.
- Prefer no salt used due to damage it does to pets paws
- My main reason for completing the survey was to participate on the basis of my experience this past winter using trails and pathways for weekly runs. On multiple occasions, trails along and adjacent to Clover Bar Road were not cleared or were severely icy to the point the surface was not safe to run on. I credit part of this issue was due to the specific weather conditions experienced this past winter. Privately-maintained sidewalks were also an issue, resulting in running on the neighbourhood streets instead, which also weren't ideal due to icy conditions and inconsistent clearing. Overall, as a recreational user of the trails and pathways I have been satisfied and grateful for their access, care and maintenance. Thank you.
- Is it possible to look at the order as to which paths get cleaned first. We have noticed that the paths out around Millennium Place on Lakeland Drive west of Sherwood drive are always cleaned first when there is no residential around there and very little walkers.
- County doing OK with snow clearing. After a heavy snow fall county should make clearing roads a priority.
- Commuter pathways should be the county's number one priority. As a daily cyclist to and from Salisbury CHS (from Clarkdale) it is incredibly frustrating to see the "Shell Plaza" and Prairie Walk Way cleared to the pavement and still have days of snow on the Clover Bar, Baseline, and Sherwood Dr. pathways (as well as the path between Wes Hosford and St. Nicholas). Students and commuters, need to have clear paths to their schools, there are hundreds who will use those paths twice a day, yet it is only a priority 3 which means cleared within 5 days. I doubt that the same number of people use the "Shell Plaza" or Prairie Walk Way at the same volume as the commuter paths. *[redacted personal information]*
- Good job in our area considering snow/rain/winter conditions that have to be dealt with
- Path clearing this past winter was appalling. These paths are lifelines for activity and when they are not cleared, they are useless.
- More gravel on residential paths is needed after periods of freezing rain. This winter was bad because there weren't enough materials to promote traction
- The rock that is used during the winter needs to be cleaned up in the spring rather than swept into the grass. Also the trail systems in Ardrossan need work to allow the older neighbourhood walking access to schools. Currently the older area is not connected by sidewalks or trails making it unsafe for students to walk. Parents are then required to pay higher bus fees because they are considered ineligible, so their students can safely get to school. If the trail system included the older area and also went to the elementary

school rather than end at the high school parking lot students could safely use the trail system to get to school.

- I live adjacent to Centennial Ball Park. I was appalled to see maintenance machines driving around but not lowering the blade to clear the path. This happened day after day from January right through the end of February. Ice built up to a thickness of Six inches in many, many areas. Will a tax increase help - I doubt it! I think supervision of workers would help. I'm very unhappy with this past winter clearing of recreational paths!!! Smoking pot and hours parked and on a cell phone does not bode well for the staff being paid by my tax dollars!
- Sherwood Drive and baseline trails are not all adequately cleared. I.e. By the health centre it is cleared to the pavement. By Dairy Queen the snow is only spread. Private contractors should be monitored!!!
- Connector pathways are important and can be very dangerous with ice and snow build up especially for seniors.
- Allow for cleaning all sidewalks and path 24 hours a day, as the bylaw states county equipment and contractors are exempt from the noise bylaw. Roads are done 24 hours a day so should sidewalks. Let's stop catering to the few that complain.
- it is far too dangerous for someone to slip and injure themselves and then the cost goes up exponentially, but not necessarily the county cost
- Need more enforcement for clean up of dog feces during winter and summer.
- The winter of 2021/22 the county had a terrible record of snow ice clearing. There were several days where snowdrifts weren't removed along collectors and the paths people made to get around went out to the street. Over the winter the ice build up on the same walkways had 2 to 3 inches of ice buildup. There was very little in the way of rock chips applied over the winter. The only safe way to walk on county maintained walkways was with ice cleats. At the same time most residents had their walks cleared to pavement within a few days. Recognizing the difficult winter conditions it was difficult to get to clear pavement. But 2 points. 1. Most residents managed to make their walks safe within a few days and 2. Salt and sand were ineffective on 3 inches of ice buildup. Rock chips were by far the best option and safer for pets.
- Perhaps you should look at the crappy residential roads that flood sidewalks EVERY year, then you come and crap on home owners because of an icy sidewalk which is a direct result of roads snow melting into the sidewalks. Not my problem, and I refuse to dump 6 plus buckets of ice melt.
- The response we got to a request to remove ice from county sidewalks in our neighbourhood was mainly just excuses, we watched when crews came back to clean the ice, they just drove over it, did not scrape, or remove any ice. Tax increases for this are out of the question, train the staff you have to do the job right, and efficiently, monitor their work. And enough "educating"

residents on snow removal, green routine, ect. Use our tax dollars more efficiently, stop wasting resources on all these initiatives. Money spent on those can be better put to use to hire people to do the work, or even better it could be a tax savings for residents.

- I work at Lakeland Ridge School and the sidewalk that is along Crimson Drive was not cleared very well all winter. The children were having to climb over mounds of snow when they got off the bus. In fact when I was helping kids off the bus I slipped under the bus. The County did not do a good job on their sidewalks by my house as well as I live by Campbelltown. I feel that the County needs to do a better job of clearing their sidewalks by schools before they can hand out tickets to homeowners.
- Just that when they clear the residential paths. They put all the snow on the road. And it's kind of a hazard.
- Streets also need drastic improvements.
- The paths seem barely clear half the time and I walk everyday. Like 1 small strip kind of. People need to shovel their sidewalks.. it's way worse than any county property in my opinion. It's not the older people either, it seems the younger people don't bother shoveling.
- The paths surrounding Woodbridge Farms school never seem to get cleared within 24 hours. They were very treacherous this winter.
- They need to be marked or somehow located in rural areas. I frequently walk on roadways as I'm not sure where these paths are/
- The trail at the golf course is an amazing trail! Can we add another trail in Woodbridge - between the houses and the highway?
- What do the rural residents receive for services - obviously no walk ways and no snow clearing to walk on roadways
- Wow - Sherwood Park sure does get a lot compared to Rural Residents!!!! What else do I say - we get ZERO and pay same taxes.....,
- We were impressed with the speed of some of the trails being cleared. On the flip side was that Gatewood, and Georgian Way from Gatewood to Granada was done very infrequently. Also the windrows from Granada Blvd were pushed over the sidewalk along the north side Granada almost totally blocking the sidewalk. It was a very snowy winter so I suspect this wouldn't be a problem normally.
- Why do you have up to 8 days to clear the pathways while the home owners have only two days to clear their front sidewalks??? The front sidewalks carry more traffic than the pathways do so why doesn't the county clear the front sidewalks? I used to keep my sidewalk clear of snow & ice until a county grader plowed snow from the road onto my and neighbors sidewalks! MORE THAN ONCE!!
- I typically run 30km a week and the long duration to clear running trails prevented me from running outside many times due to ice this past winter.

- Allowing winter bike commuting has been proven to put back \$3 for every \$1 spent in other benefits, such as healthcare, traffic, auto repairs, etc.
- We recognize the freeze/thaw issues this winter made it difficult to keep pathways safe for walking. We use Broadmoor golf course a lot in the winter and would like to see better ice control on the walking paths. Otherwise we believe the County is doing a great job of keeping paths open for the public.
- In 48 hours have all trails cleared please, just like residents now have to for sidewalks. How do you expect residents to answer Q17 without any substance and how it fits with other things?
- Without greater priority to clear recreational trails in the County, a great recreational opportunity is lost, both in terms of local resident recreation as well as tourism opportunities.
- In Charlton Heights the trails are scraped down to make ice after a snowfall making them worse. All this does is cause ice and make them not walkable. The snow is what gives us traction. And hardly any gravel or sand laid down. Very disappointing.
- Doing a good job. Please keep it up.
- Fully appreciate the challenge of clearing snow, but I regularly see the practice on pathways of using a machine to scrape or brush the snow down to ice, and then not put down rocks on a timely basis. That makes the pathway impassible. I've also seen inconsistent clearing (part of a pathway system but not all) or missing the opportunity to clear snow / ice off when soft, leaving it to freeze to ice overnight.
- Clear more regularly but not to pavement but to flat and with a gripping of snow in case it melts
- Clear the snow soon after a snowfall so as not to let the snow pack down because the snow clearing machines then only scrape the top and leave the snowpack thereby creating slippery and ice conditions.
- The pathway between Haythorne Cres and Parker Drive is in serious disrepair. The pavers are uneven because of roots. They are routinely covered in sticks and debris from the aging trees in neighboring yards. The path slopes down to Park Drive and it becomes a skating rink from 1/2 down the path until Parker Drive. It is a serious serious hazard. It is never maintained. The rocks do nothing. I've seen several people fall on the entrance to this path and also been victim myself. And I'm a fit, cautious, 30 something woman that is aware of the condition on the path...as I use it daily for getting children to school. In -20 weather, that one path is the difference between a 7-8mins walk and a 12-15 min walk to the school.
- I have noticed that the crews/people doing the snow clearing have been polite and quick to acknowledge trail users during their work. When you encounter the equipment on the trail a wave from the operator put the trail user at ease that the operator has seen them. Full marks to the staff.

- This was an abnormally icy year. I feel like it snowed more frequently than other years so I feel like the results of these survey's may only be based on everyone's memory of this oddly icy year. I would not support a tax increase for more clearing based on this year alone. I feel like this survey should be done next year and the one after to really evaluate people's opinion and willingness to see increases.
- Waisting money on education of maintenance of personal property sidewalks is silly. Every home owner knows they are responsible for it. Start ticketing people who doesn't. That money would pay for extra staff to clear paths connecting neighbourhoods faster. My child walks to school, and 8 days is not reasonable for paths to be cleared.
- If residents are being fit red to comply with shorter timelines then the county should be held to the same standards
- I appreciate the timely and efficient maintenance of our community trails. Well done!
- I'm tired of the damage done adjacent to our home by inexperienced or inattentive personnel doing the clearing. Every year I have to repair damage caused by poor clearing caused by blades.
- Yes, I'm tired of seeing patches of grass along the pathways being ripped out by the blades of the snow removal machine. The operators should take more care
- Thanks for checking in. Most important think for us is the use of grit on slippery services. We are currently satisfied with how the County is managing icy sidewalks.
- Clear the paths properly and add sand at the same time to save time and tax dollars
- The pathways that I currently use are also used by many many other people going to school, walking to a bus stop, walking their dogs and especially seniors keeping up their health so clearing needs to be a priority in the winter months
- Overall we are very happy with winter trails maintenance. Your crews did a great job this winter with the icy conditions. I think we are having more freeze-thaw conditions that are a challenge to keep trail surfaces free from ice. Because of this I think we need to spend more operational \$ to keep the trails safe for walking, running and biking in the winter. Great job county of strathcona for making the trails safe for winter use!
- I think all area types are important to maintain throughout the winter. 24 hours would be reasonable for all areas and hold the residents to the same.
- Please pay attention to the trail alongside baseline to Broadmoor. Only safe cycling/walking route but has a deep that is always icy
- Use appropriate sized blades, clean closer to the pavement. Use more salt & rock chips. Enforce bylaws for those ignoring clearing of sidewalks - don't wait for complaints or at least allow for reporting more than one address on

website (like several on one street) then get serious about compliance. Then at least we could walk around the block when the trails are too dangerous.

- In the area that I live, the crew that looks after clearing the trails in the winter time does a fantastic job! Kudos to them! Sometimes, I wish they WOULDN'T try to clear the snow to asphalt as this can make the trails more slippery. A little bit of compacted snow can provide good traction. Overall, I am very happy with the job the County has done.
- The problem is not timing directly. The quality of clearing which results from the methods used is the problem. Use of power sweepers should be considered when the snowfall is not great. (I do not have the limits of practicality. Sweepers will reduce the second pass required for sanding and reduced sand/salt consumption.
- The county should not enforce bylaws that require private walk clearing at a more frequent /shorter time lines than the County is able to accomplish for public trails or pathways.
- I back and am beside one of the "park" walkways and use main walkways daily and I watch the bobcat go through and literally just drives right through. Doesn't drop the blade nor do they drop gravel. I notice some are done and others are not - even on the same roadway. Over the last few years the quality has dropped substantially. I am more likely to walk residential in the winter as the conditions are so poor.
- This past winter the paths that I use were cleared of snow very well. However, the ice was brutal to walk on. Very dangerous.
- The sand/stone sweep up on the trails was done poorly and still have lots of places a bike ride still has to be extra careful.