MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF PEACE NO. 135

PREPARED BY: Erik Fuller **REVIEWED BY:** Brian Allen	**ADOPTED BY:** COUNCIL	**NUMBER:** PW-27
TITLE: Private Snowplowing	**PREPARED:** September 21, 2026	

PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY: To regulate the use of MD equipment and personnel for private snowplowing activities.

POLICY STATEMENT:

The Municipal District of Peace No. 135 may provide snow plowing services of private land and driveways in the municipality. These services can be obtained through the MD's "Plow Flag" program, qualifying for the MD's "Senior Resident Plow Program", or by contacting the administration office during regular hours to schedule equipment at an hourly rate for specialized or large plowing tasks.

GENERAL RULES AND PROCEDURES:

The following rules and procedures apply to all forms of snow plowing on private land, regardless of how plowing services have been obtained and how, when and where they will be administered:

1. Residents requesting private snow plowing are required to sign a "Snow Plow Agreement" prior to the engagement of any services. Municipal equipment shall not enter onto private property without an agreement being signed in advance.
2. Private plowing services will be provided only if MD staff and equipment or not required for clearing public roads. The MD's "PW-22 Snowplowing Policy" details the order of priority for plowing activities, with private land and driveways being the lowest priority.
3. MD equipment operators have the right to refuse to plow any private land. If an operator refuses to plow any private land, they will provide reasoning to the Director of Operations and/or the CAO, who has discretion to make decisions regarding a refusal to plow. If the Director of Operations and/or the CAO are unable to resolve the issue, the matter shall be taken to Council for a decision.

PURCHASED PLOW FLAGS:

Residents requesting private driveway plowing must pre-purchase a plow flag from the administration office in Berwyn after signing a "Snowplow Agreement" with the MD. Plow flag services are regulated by the following:

1. The cost for a plow flag is set by the MD's current "Fees and Charges Bylaw".
2. Plow flags must be placed at the entrance to the private driveway in a location visible to MD equipment operators. Where a driveway entrance comes off a numbered highway or internal subdivision road, the resident must call the administration office to notify the MD that a plow flag has been placed, as MD equipment does not generally travel past these driveway locations. Operators will pick up plow flags upon completion of snow clearing and return them to the administration office.

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3. Each purchased plow flag is good for up to thirty (30) minutes of equipment time. If an operator is unable to reasonably complete snow clearing and must exceed thirty (30) minutes of equipment time, that operator will make note of the additional time required to complete snow clearing and the resident will be invoiced at the hourly equipment rate set by the MD's "Fees and Charges Bylaw" in fifteen (15) minute increments. If plowing activities of a particular driveway consistently exceed thirty (30) minutes of equipment time despite reasonable efforts made by an equipment operator, MD administration may contact the resident of said driveway to discuss options such as reducing the area plowed or setting the resident up with hourly plowing by appointment instead of purchasing plow flags.
4. Graders will be the default equipment used for plowing activities. Other equipment such as a rubber tire backhoe, skid steer, or truck with a plow blade may be used to clear snow if graders are unavailable, or if onsite physical conditions impede the safe operation of a grader. The decision to use equipment other than a grader will be at the discretion of the Director of Operations and/or CAO.
5. The purchase and/or presence of a purchased plow flag does not guarantee an operator will plow the private driveway immediately. Depending on conditions and plowing priorities, operators may not plow private driveways with a visible plow flag until public roads in their sector of responsibility are safely accessible. The MD will make efforts to clear private driveways as soon as possible, but heavy and/or repeated snowfalls may significantly delay private plowing.
6. Purchased plow flags do not expire if unused, regardless of price changes approved in the "Fees and Charges Bylaw".

SENIORS PLOW PROGRAM:

The MD offers snow plowing services at no cost to senior residents whose annual income is below a certain threshold. To qualify for these services, senior residents must show a copy of their annual 'Alberta Seniors Benefit' letter to administration staff at the MD office in Berwyn, and a new copy of the letter must be shown each calendar year to remain on the plow list. MD administration will make efforts to contact previously qualified seniors each autumn to ensure they continue to qualify for the no-cost plowing program.

Senior residents on the no-cost plow list are not required to place a plow flag or call the administration office for plowing services. MD equipment operators will be given a list of qualifying senior resident locations and will plow those private driveways as frequently as reasonably possible.

All general rules and procedures previously detailed in this policy apply.

HOURLY PLOWING BY APPOINTMENT:

Residents who require snow plowing of large or unique areas such as farmyards or internal subdivision roads can call the administration office and request snow plowing by appointment, paid at hourly

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equipment rates as approved in the "Fees and Charges Bylaw". Scheduling and equipment availability will be at the discretion of the Director of Operations and/or the CAO.

All general rules and procedures previously detailed in this policy apply.