

SUBJECT: **Brushing/Clearing of Class 7 Roads or Undeveloped Right-of Ways**

AUTHORITY: **Resolution 121-12**
REVISED: **Resolution 478-14**

Function: Transp.

Background:

Class 7 roads provide access to land (as defined in the North Central Transportation Planning Committee Rural Road Classification Criteria Detail).

Right-of-way means the land owned by the Crown in right of Saskatchewan for the purpose of a public highway for which the property limits are defined by a plan of survey (as defined in *The Highways & Transportation Act, 1997*).

A significant portion of the annual municipal budget is expended on maintenance of the existing road system. Existing undeveloped right-of-ways and Class 7 roads have traditionally been used by landowners as transport routes for farm equipment. The increase in the size of this equipment has resulted in requests from ratepayers that the municipality either pay for or share in the cost of opening and/or widening of these routes. The RM of Parkdale recognizes that these brushing and clearing procedures can be mutually beneficial. However to maintain control over annual expenses and the liability for future maintenance costs, the municipality must ensure that opening and/or widening of them is done on a cost effective basis. In making a decision to widen a Class 7 road and/or to open an undeveloped right-of-way, the municipality must also consider what effect if any this work will have on neighboring property. Each situation is unique and therefore subject to the following policy.

Policy:

1. All requests shall be in writing addressed to the Council of the Municipality.
2. No work shall be undertaken to widen a Class 7 road or open an undeveloped right-of-way without the prior written approval from the Council of the Municipality.
3. The RM of Parkdale No. 498 may as a condition of approval request that the applicant prevent re-growth in a right-of-way by utilizing the right of way in their farming practices.
4. Any work done on the municipal right-of-way shall be subject to inspection by the Divisional Councilor who shall ensure that the right-of-way has been left without any blockage, debris, brush piles or rocks. Once the Divisional Councilor has granted approval of the completed work, payment will be made at the following meeting of the Council of the Municipality.
5. The RM of Parkdale No. 498 shall pay 50% of submitted invoice expenses to a maximum of \$500.00 per half mile per side provided the above conditions are met.
6. If the requested clearing is not adjacent to the persons land requesting the work, permission must be obtained from said landowner prior to commencement of any work.