

Walkway Closure Jurisdictional Scan Summary

Municipality	Approach	Considerations	Costs
Prince Albert, SK	<p>Website states that walkways may be closed if issues such as vandalism or other criminal activity occurs. City allows for others who do not live there to close the walkway with owners' authorization. The City is exploring curfews on walkways.</p> <p>Draft walkway policy would allow residents to purchase the walkway that is near their home. The resident would pay \$500 per application and \$1/sq.ft. for the land. Council will be voting on policy update in April.</p>	Requires justification for the closure and letters of support from neighbours.	<p>\$500 Application + Advertising.</p> <p>Cost of closure (does not state what is all included)</p>
London, ON	In general, the City will not approve the closing of active public walkways under any circumstances as walkways are designed to meet transportation planning standards for pedestrians. The City may consider closing applications where the walkway has been abandoned due to land use changes in the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The walkway must be capable of being declared surplus by the City. • Applications are normally accepted only from abutting property owners. • The applicant must agree to purchase all of the walkway being closed to ensure there are no remnant portions left landlocked. • The applicant may be required to provide consents from property owners that are affected by the closing. 	<p>The applicant is responsible for all costs to close and purchase the walkway, which includes, application fees, survey fees, land purchase, newspaper advertising costs, and legal fees.</p> <p>It is not uncommon for total costs to reach \$5,000 even for trivial closings with nominal purchase value.</p>
North Battleford, SK	No policy on walkway closure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walkway closure requests are brought to Council. Council has voted against walkways closures in the past. 	

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Dawson Creek, BC	<p>Walkway closure is considered if it serves no direct public need and meets criteria in policy. Direct public need includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous walking link or completes/extends an existing link; • A neighbourhood short-cut or enhances neighbourhood access; • Parallels a utility corridor and is required for utility access. <p>Antisocial behaviour should not be the sole reason for closure. Closure due to antisocial behaviour is considered after all other options are tried.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All adjacent owners are willing and amenable to apply for the closure. • All adjacent owners are willing to purchase the land. • All fees and land costs are paid for prior to the application proceeding. • Applicants serve with application, a petition with a significant percentage of signatures and contact information from walkway catchment area. • Will not consider walkway closure for walkways serving as a route to, or in close proximity to a school, playground or a neighbourhood commercial site unless there is a suitable walkway or sidewalk alternative, 80% support from catchment area. 	<p>Application fee = \$500, + plan fees, land transfer fees and advertising costs.</p> <p>Cost for notice in local papers will be invoiced directly to the applicants at current rates.</p>
Surrey, BC	The City has a Road, Lane and Walkway Closure Policy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six step process (Application, Referral, Review, Approval, Bylaw stage, Completion) • If closure is determined to be feasible with no major objections, then the application is given the compensation expectation as part of the Approval Step. • As part of the By-law Stage, public notices are sent to local papers to allow affected parties to make representation to the City. 	The applicant is responsible for the cost.

It appears that Calgary, Edmonton, Regina, and Winnipeg do not have Walkway Closure policies.