



May 8th, 2018

222 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5

His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council,

The Riversdale Business Improvement District (RBID) started in 1990 with ambitious plans to begin revitalizing the commercial corridor of 20th Street West.

A fundamental and core value for the RBID, is the task referred to as Clean and Safe.

With the historic properties and aging infrastructure, it was believed then, as today, that keeping what we have clean and in good repair is a basic value to embrace.

In partnership with the City of Saskatoon, we had welcomed the weekly street sweeping program to the District in order to improve area cleanliness with our high traffic environment.

The installation of 'No Parking' signs from 2am-6am helped crews perform their duties of a curb-to-curb sweep to ensure efficiencies, while businesses cleaned the public sidewalks in front of their properties. Spring flooding was minimal due to leaves regularly removed from the roads, and even with a hard rain the storm catch basins were not as plugged with debris. It worked well.

The bi-weekly sweep was lost and replaced with a monthly sweep approximately six years ago, and where cars were not towed or removed, the units went around parked cars resulting in, at times, a two month long wait for cleaning to occur. Later, frequency was increased to twice per month without a regular date. This has yielded less than optimal results.

We would like to thank City Council for restoring funding to the sweeping program in 2018 to maintain the existing frequency of service. Unfortunately, despite this investment, current sweeping rates are not sufficient to meet the expectations of patrons and businesses on this busy corridor.

As such, the RBID respectfully requests that the City consider the opportunity to return to a weekly street sweep for 2019 in an efficient manner. This reinstatement of service could be achieved with a newer and more compact machine as is being used by the Downtown BID. The Downtown looks great. In addition to added overall capacity, a smaller sweeper can be used off-schedule in advance of festivals



or events to improve the experience while outdoors in our short-lived warm weather season. Patrons of sidewalk cafes and merchants opening their doors appreciate a cleaner environment. The greater utilization by a second sweeper between the four remaining BIDs would be a shared success with all receiving timely and more predictable sweeps that could create the efficiencies for the City and businesses. This will in no way compare to the Winnipeg BIZ for example, who cleans the business areas twice per week, but will markedly improve what we have.

We would request that the Roadways division be supported with the equipment necessary to restore the weekly sweep we need and had proven successful.

On behalf of the RBID Board of Management,

Randy Pshebylo, BDM

**Executive Director** 

Riversdale Business Improvement District