



DDA ACTION SUMMARY SHEET

MEETING DATE: January 21, 2025

TOPIC Snow Removal Discussion/Options

BACKGROUND BRIEF:

Records indicate that over the past 4-8 years the DDA has included in its budget and operations the Village of Lake Orion DPW as the entity relied on and paid to remove snow from the immediate downtown sidewalks and three small parking areas in the Downtown. This was done through a negotiated cost, most recently derived by Joe Young, and the DPW simply performed the work. The funding was not paid on a per push or invoiced basis, rather, the clerks office, like every other Village based line item prior to present leadership, seems to have simply drawn down the funding by transferring it to the Village in installments. Like several other aspects of the working relationship with the village, the removal of snow (and salting of sidewalks and lots) has been suspended in the absence of a new intergovernmental services agreement.

At the commencement of the current fiscal year, the DDA did offer to “maintain the status quo” until a new approach to the work and funding could be accomplished. We thought status quo meant “keep the same operational flow as implemented by prior leadership” and thereby began issuing purchase order(s) to effect payment for PA 57 administrative costs as a draw down of budgeted funds for the Clerk and DPW. It was understood, at least by the DDA, that those services performed in the past would continue until a new approach was determined as part of the new budget cycle. That assumption was wrong, and there is now the need to decide whether the program of snow removal, its costs and purpose, remains a priority for the Board. If so, the approach, and who will perform, requires discussion and objective decisions.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The DDA currently has budgeted in GL 248-260-801-033 (contract service – snow removal) the annual amount of \$12,000. To date, none of that has been spent through requisition and/or purchase order.

Three local snow companies have been contacted to provide pricing to continue the service of snow removal and salting. Two of those, and the DPW, have responded with current pricing.

To Clear identified walks and lots, including salting, on a per push basis

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|---------------------------|---|
| 1. US LAWN & SNOW - | For a 2-3" event - \$2,356 (escalating for larger snowfall) |
| 2. ARROWHEAD HARDSCAPES - | for all events - \$1,932 |
| 3. HI-HILL | No Response |
| 4. LAKE ORION DPW | For all events - \$1,618 |

NOTE: WE NEED TO CONFIRM THAT THE DPW IS IN AGREEMENT WITH OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE SERVICE AREA

At the November 2024 DDA Meeting the Board authorized the offer of a contract to engage the Lake Orion DPW for downtown snow removal services, based on 2021 rates. The DPW has updated its necessary rate charging.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

1. Approve and Authorize the amended AGREEMENT FOR SNOW REMOVAL for and between the Lake Orion Downtown Development Authority and the Village of Lake Orion to affect plowing and salting services defined in the Agreement at a cost not to exceed \$1,618 per event, with funding from GL 248-260-801-033

And

2. Authorize the Executive Director to approve and pay for snow events pursuant to the terms of the Agreement immediately, while Village execution is pending.

And

3. In the event the Village elects to decline the AGREEMENT FOR SNOW REMOVAL, the snow removal program shall be suspended until the 2025-26 season, and the Executive Director is then authorized to secure emergency services for any snow events at a cost up to \$2000 per event, with finding from GL 248-260-801-033, in the Directors sole discretion.