STAFF REPORT ON PROPOSED LEGISLATION

To: Mayor Gavin Buckley

From: Michael Mallinoff, City Manager

Date: May 5, 2025

Subject: O-6-25: Clearing Snow and Ice from City Sidewalks

Purpose of legislation

The purpose of this legislation is to clarify that the City is allowed to clear snow and ice from sidewalks in the City at the expense of the adjacent property owner if the owner fails to do so; require the snow removal be the width of the sidewalk or at least four feet wide for wider sidewalks; update the citation and appeals sections; and generally related to cleaning and clearing of sidewalks.

Impact of legislation on operations

This legislation will reinforce the authority of the Department of Public Works to enforce compliance with City Code regarding sidewalks following major snow events. It also gives the residents and the Department greater guidance on what a “cleared sidewalk” means.

Operationally, the Department will now be expected to do more thorough validation of sidewalk clearing following a snow storm and arrange for clearing if deemed necessary for public health, safety, or general welfare. The Department will also need to consider having agreements with appropriate companies in place ahead of time, which will take time and effort to put in place.

The Finance Department and Office of Law will now be expected to create processes related to billing of residents, collection of payment and follow up on payment timeliness.

Prepared by Victoria Buckland, Assistant City Manager