

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Friday, July 18, 2013				Report Date	Tuesday, July-09-13			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	x	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed
REPORT TITLE									
Missing Link Member Request Report – 18/07/13/1202									

Subject: Request from a member of the Missing Link Snowmobile Club (MLSC) concerning parking in municipal snowplow turnarounds.

RECOMMENDATION: That Council consider the attached solution to a request to bring a matter to council.

WHEREAS a request has been made of Council to change parking in snowplow turnarounds during winter months to accommodate trucks and trailers for trail purposes;

AND WHEREAS our Road Super has explained current practise which is practical and workable;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby agree to allow parking along the specified sides of municipal roads for parking purposes during winter months provided that specifications by the Road Super are adhered to, that proper signage is posted and that advertising is undertaken to educate and explain the process and reasoning for this allowance.

BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: We have received a request from a member of the MLSC to ask Council to consider widening the snowplow turnarounds at two locations for the 2013 year. It was discussed that people park in the turnarounds anyway, even though they have been directed not to. By providing a wider area, we would be making the turnarounds safer for everyone including the plow operators.

The turnarounds on each of Ashport and Mackey Creek Roads could easily be widened based on the flat condition of the road.

The MLSC would be responsible for clearing these areas with their equipment when available and meeting directions of the Road Super. If major challenges arose, which solutions could not be found for, the practise would simply be discontinued.

Options/Considerations: If Council approves, it was discussed that signs would be posted indicating that parking would be allowed but at the owners own risk and in designated areas only. MLSC would be informed that no special or additional snow clearing activities would be undertaken by municipal contractors. MLSC would be informed that they were to clear the parking area when they could with their equipment

according to directions from our road super ensuring that no snow/windrows remain on the road.

Terry explained that the snowplow turnarounds are already plowed as widely as possible in these areas for this purpose, that vehicles parking there are not ticketed provided they park where indicated.

It was explained that so long as people park their vehicles along the left side of the road (left side while traveling in the road – it would be the south side of Mackey Creek Road and the north side of Ashport Road) they are OK.

What happens is that people park on the right hand side of the road and turnaround (again right hand side determined while facing in the road) where the bulk of the snow needs to be plowed.

With the width of our roads, the bulk of snow is plowed on the way in any road – along the right hand side while travelling in the road – with less on the way out. For these reasons, Terry has explained that it is OK to park along the roadway on the left side of the road or perhaps easier to understand – turn around and park on the right hand side of the road while travelling out the road. Past practise has been to plow this area as widely as possible and not to ticket people there. Care is taken by plow operators to not bank these vehicles in with snow.

Our suggestion is to have the Missing Link post this information on their website and advertise to their users. Education is key.

Signs might be posted with arrows to show allowable parking areas with the “no parking in snowplow turnaround” signs in appropriate areas.



Policy Impact: none

Others Consulted: Albert Chartier, MLSC; Terry Lamure, Road Super;

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,
Municipal Clerk

Melinda Reith