



# John Kovac

COUNCILLOR WARD 4 NEWS



WINTER 2021

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## Warmest Winter Greetings

As we begin 2021, I wish for a blessed New Year for you and your family and a successful and positive year ahead for us all. While 2020 proved challenging for all of us - the City of Mississauga included - I appreciated hearing regularly from our neighbours in Ward 4 and treasure the feedback and input that my office continues to receive from our community.

In this 2021 Winter Newsletter, I have included details on our City's annual Winter Maintenance Operations, including an operations chart for your reference. There is a section on how property drainage can be improved, an article on Mississauga's Adequate Temperature By-Law and also information on our Windrow Snow Clearing Program for Seniors. If there are questions of clarity that you might have in relation to these topics, please do not hesitate to contact

me to discuss them at 905-896-5400 or by email at john.kovac@mississauga.ca.

The City of Mississauga has been actively working with the business community, in trying to better understand the unique needs of our local retail and commercial businesses during this challenging period. City Council has heard directly from stakeholders, including the Mississauga Board of Trade (MBOT), local Business Improvement Area (BIA) and various ratepayer groups. The City has established a "Four Pillar" recovery plan for the Corporate, Financial, Economic and Community sectors. These plans are essential for allowing Mississauga to begin its recovery and to rebuild while moving forward. This recovery plan will be aided by "Small Business and Broader Industry Plans" which are being led by our City's Economic Development Office.

Additional information on the City's "Four Pillar" recovery plan and other City initiatives can be found within this 2021 Winter Newsletter, as well as details on Mississauga's annual Business Plan and Budget; this is what helps deliver the services and infrastructure that all of us rely on and use each and every day.

Please feel free to contact me at any time and I would be happy to discuss these and any other City plans or initiatives that are of interest to you.

Yours sincerely,

John Kovac  
Councillor, Ward 4



## When Winter Weather Hits, Keep Parked Cars off Your Street

The City of Mississauga would like to remind drivers - when it snows, keep parked cars off residential streets to leave room for salters and plows to clear the way for emergency vehicles and residents.

Parked cars can block the way for equipment, which slows down snow clearing. Parked vehicles should stay off the street until clearing is complete - from 24 to 36 hours after snowfall ends, depending on the amount of snow accumulated.

To help keep parked cars off streets during snow clearing, the City also cancels temporary parking permits until snow clearing is done.



On-street parking is not allowed from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. at any time of the year. Vehicles parked illegally may be ticketed or towed.

### Keep up-to-date on winter parking:

- Find out if temporary parking permits are cancelled by calling 311 (905-615-4311 if outside City limits) or follow **@MississaugaSnow** on Twitter.
- Follow salters and plows as they move throughout the City with the online **Snow Plow Tracker: [mississauga.ca/snow](http://mississauga.ca/snow)**.



## Improving Drainage on Your Property

Maintaining proper drainage can help ensure that water flows safely away from the walls of your home or other buildings on your property into the City's stormwater system. Property drainage is the responsibility of the landowner.

### Improving drainage

Here are some of the things you can do to improve the drainage on your property:

#### Watch where water goes

The best time to learn about drainage on your property is when it's raining. Watch where the water goes and where it collects.

#### Check lot grading and downspouts

The ground around your house should slope away from the building and other properties.

Roof downspouts should extend two metres away from your foundation and away from your neighbour's property.

#### Keep eavestroughs and drains clear

Keep eavestroughs, downspouts and ditches or storm drains on your property clear of leaves and other debris. If these get blocked, water can start to collect instead of draining and may cause property flooding.

#### Green infrastructure

Green infrastructure is an environmentally-friendly approach to managing stormwater in that it is designed to mimic nature. There

are lots of different ways you can incorporate green infrastructure on residential or commercial properties.

#### Rain barrels

You can place a rain barrel at the end of the downspout from your roof to collect stormwater for your lawn, garden or plants on your property.

You can have a rain barrel next to your foundation, but the overflow hose should be directed at least six feet away from any foundations. In the fall, rain barrels should be disconnected. The water should be diverted to lawns and gardens at least two metres (six feet) away from the foundation.

#### Soakaway pits and rain gardens

A soakaway pit, also called a dry well, is an underground pit filled with stones and lined and covered with landscaping fabric. This helps stormwater soak into the ground faster.

You can plant grass or even a garden over the soakaway pit. Position soakaway pits at least three meters away from any foundation wall and be sure that any overflow drains to the City's stormwater system.

Rain gardens are planted areas that collect stormwater. To make one, choose a relatively flat location away from any buildings or trees and at least 1.25 metres away from neighbouring properties. Rain garden soil is a mixture of topsoil and compost placed over a layer of loose stones.

Native perennial plants that tolerate both wet and dry conditions are best for rain garden plantings. Rain gardens should be large enough to accommodate the water from a downspout and include a safe pathway for overflow to drain to the City's stormwater system in heavy rain.

Before you start digging a soakaway pit or rain garden on your property, contact Ontario One Call (1-800-400-2255) to check where utility lines are buried. Keep any digging at least three metres (ten feet) away from the foundation of all buildings.

With any rain garden or soakaway pit, be sure that the overflow drains safely away from all properties.

#### Permeable pavement surfaces

If you're repaving a driveway or landscaping your yard, the materials you use to pave can impact your property's drainage.

You can use porous concrete and asphalt or precast paving stones that allow water to drain into the ground.

#### Flow-through planters

Even large outdoor planters can be supplied with stormwater provided that they properly drain away from your home's foundation and neighbouring properties. Water from downspouts can be diverted into outdoor containers, provided that they are located at least two metres (six feet) away from your foundation and have an overflow that drains safely to the City's stormwater system.



## Clear Your Catchbasin of Blockages

Stormwater is the rain and melted snow that flows from our properties into more than 50,000 storm drain catchbasins, pipes and ponds that lead to our local creeks and into



Lake Ontario. Our stormwater drainage system helps to make sure that water flows away from roads and properties to reduce the risk of flooding, damage, erosion or wet areas. Keep catchbasins near your driveway or in your backyard

clear of ice, snow or any litter or debris to ensure that water flows safely away from your property.

#### In Mississauga, the stormwater system includes:

- More than 2,100 km of storm sewer pipes. If laid out end-to-end these pipes would connect Mississauga to the territory of Nunavut.
- Over 51,000 catch basins, 278 km of ditches, 32 creeks and 62 stormwater management facilities that help to collect and drain the City's rain water runoff before it enters Lake Ontario.

Learn more at [mississauga.ca/stormwater](https://mississauga.ca/stormwater).

## Mississauga By-Law Ensures Tenants Have Adequate Building Temperatures During Fluctuating Weather

The City of Mississauga wants to remind landlords and tenants that the Adequate Temperature By-Law will ensure buildings are maintained at a suitable temperature during fluctuating and extreme weather.

The by-law requires landlords to provide adequate and suitable heat, meaning the air temperature in a unit is at least 20 degrees Celsius. The by-law also requires landlords to provide adequate and suitable cooling, meaning that the air temperature in a unit does not exceed 26 degrees Celsius when equipped or furnished with an air conditioning system. Additionally, adequate and suitable heat and cooling must also be maintained in all areas of the unit.

When the by-law was updated in 2018, it was to ensure landlords could be flexible when regulating heat in their buildings during these fluctuating and extreme weather patterns. The by-law complies with provincial requirements and responds to changing weather conditions. A violation of this by-law can lead to a fine of up to \$100,000.

To learn more about the Adequate Temperature By-Law, visit [mississauga.ca/bylaws](https://mississauga.ca/bylaws).

## Maintaining Your Property This Winter

#### Snow clearing

Owners of multi-unit residential buildings, commercial or industrial properties must keep all ramps, sidewalks and parking areas clear of ice and snow.

#### Trees

Trees on private property must be maintained so they don't cause a safety hazard. If a tree is causing a problem, and it is on private property, you can report it.

#### Report a property standards violation

To report a property that does not comply with City by-laws, you can call 311 (905-615-4311 outside City limits).



**the right temperature  
for the right weather**



# Mississauga is Ready to Clear the Way This Winter

Colder temperatures and morning frosts have already made their mark in Mississauga. The City's winter crews are ready to take on winter.

Residents can get snow clearing updates using our **Snow Plow Tracker** online and by following **@MississaugaSnow** on Twitter.

Here is what residents need to know about snow clearing in Mississauga:

## Using Salt Responsibly

The City is committed to maintaining road safety while minimizing impacts to the environment by using the right amount of road salt in the right place and time. Salt trucks are equipped with on-board technology to monitor and control salt use. Access to an advanced weather monitoring system also allows winter crews to salt only when necessary and in accordance with conditions.

Residents are also encouraged to minimize the impact of salt on the environment by following manufacturer instructions to only apply the right amount under the right conditions.

Download the Pingstreet mobile app to report over-salting at bus stops.

## Driveway Windrow Snow Clearing Program

A windrow is the pile of snow left at the bottom of a driveway after the plow clears the road. The City offers a driveway windrow clearing program for residents 65 years and older and for persons with disabilities.

The program is available to 300 participants on a first come, first serve basis. The program costs \$200, but it's free for residents who meet financial assistance criteria.

The program does not provide clearing of the entire driveway. Only the windrow at the end of the driveway is cleared.

### In order to qualify, you must:

- Be a resident of Mississauga
- Be 65 years or older, or someone who is physically disabled as verified by a regulated health professional
- Not have an able-bodied person living at the same residence

To qualify for the free program, the total net income of your household must be below the Statistics Canada low income cut-offs.

Only one person per address is eligible for this program. Residents who live on a private road, in a high-rise multi-unit building, condominium or within a commercial property are not eligible to apply.

### How to apply

You can apply for this program between mid-September to early November.



### Required forms and documents

You need the following forms and documents when you apply:

- Driveway Windrow Snow Clearing Application
- Proof of residency in Mississauga. This could be a driver's licence, recent utility bill or lease agreement
- Proof of your age, such as a birth certificate, driver's licence or passport

### If you have a physical disability, you'll also need to submit one of the following forms verified by a registered health professional:

- Driveway Windrow Snow Clearing Health Assessment
- City-issued accessible parking permit
- TransHelp acceptance letter

### Financial assistance

If you're applying for the free program, you'll also need to provide documents that show the total net income or earnings for your entire household.

### One of the following forms will be accepted:

- Notice of Assessment form (T451) from the Canada Revenue Agency
- Ontario Disabilities Support Program (ODSP) drug benefit eligibility card
- Ontario Works drug/dental benefit eligibility card
- Ontario Sales Tax Benefit form or Ontario Trillium Benefit form
- Canada Child Tax Benefit notice
- Harmonized Sales Tax Credit notice

### What's included in the program

The program runs from late November to early March. We'll clear a three-metre space in the windrow at the bottom of your driveway after each time we plow the snow. This may not be the full width of the driveway, but it will be enough space for one car to pass through.

Windrow snow clearing is done after residential and secondary roads have been plowed. It may take up to 36 hours after the end of a snow storm for windrows to be cleared.

Snow clearing does not necessarily mean you'll be able to see bare pavement. There may still be some snow on the ground, but the surface will be safe and passable.

Go to [mississauga.ca/windrow](https://mississauga.ca/windrow) to learn more on applying.

After the snow stops:	< 8 cm	8-15 cm	15-30 cm	> 30 cm & Back-to-Back Storms
Major & Priority Roads	Salted within 12 hrs	Plowing & Salting	Plowing & Salting	Plowing & Salting
Priority Sidewalks* & Designated Multi-use Trails		Cleared within 12 hrs	Cleared within 24 hrs	Cleared after more than 24 hrs
Bus Stops				
Pedestrian Crossings				
Residential Roads* & Secondary Roads	Salted within 24 hrs	Plowing & Salting	Plowing & Salting	Plowing & Salting
		Cleared within 24 hrs	Cleared within 36 hrs	Cleared after more than 36 hrs

\* Residential roads and priority sidewalks are not cleared to bare pavement, but are made passable and safe.

## Safety Tips

- Be a good neighbour by clearing your sidewalk as soon as possible after a snowfall for the safety of others, and offer to help older adults and people with disabilities who may need it
- Drive according to weather conditions and give snow plows and salt trucks lots of space as they clear the roads
- Wear appropriate footwear when outside
- Ensure pets are brought indoors during extreme weather conditions

### Snow Clearing Updates

and Temporary Parking Permit Cancellations

[mississauga.ca/snow](https://mississauga.ca/snow)

- Visit the online **Snow Plow Tracker**
- Call 3-1-1 or 905-615-4311 if outside city limits for concerns about road conditions after snow clearing is complete

Follow us: [@MississaugaSnow](https://twitter.com/MississaugaSnow)



# COVID-19: Mississauga Strong and Ready with Four Pillar Recovery Plans

## Corporate, Financial, Economic and Community

City Council approved the COVID-19 Recovery Framework, which provides a plan for what recovery operations will look like in the City of Mississauga. The Framework supports our community and provides financial stability as the City moves from crisis to recovery.

The framework outlines work in four key areas:

**Corporate:** considers the impacts of COVID-19 on the reopening of City facilities

**Financial:** considers the financial impact of COVID-19 on the City

**Economic:** considers the economic impacts of COVID-19 on the business community

**Community:** focuses on the services, tactics and programs that are public-facing and impact Mississauga’s residents directly

Within the City’s Economic Recovery Framework, the need for five industry-specific plans was identified:

1. Small Business
2. Broader Industry
3. Tourism
4. Creative (film, TV and music)
5. Land development/real estate industries

The Small Business and Broader Industry Plans are being led by the City’s Economic Development Office (EDO). From the onset of the pandemic, EDO has worked quickly to respond to the immediate needs of Mississauga’s business community by delivering much-needed support and services.



In total, the plans endorsed identify 42 unique actions to help small business and broader industry through the economic recovery.

**Key initiatives include:**

- Digital economy inclusion actions that support access to digital technology for small businesses and Mississauga residents;
- Establishing an innovation hub program for early stage entrepreneurs, start-ups and scale-ups to encourage job growth, talent attraction, business investment and economic competitiveness in Mississauga;
- Business recovery placemaking campaigns to restore consumer confidence and attract business investment to the City;

- Kick-starting the development of the Lakeview Innovation District by prioritizing investments to maximize the potential of the site;

- Programs focused on business investment retention, expansion and attraction opportunities emerging during the pandemic and beyond;

Consultation and engagement with the business community continues to be an important part of the City’s recovery efforts. All five industry-specific plans will be reviewed and assessed on a regular basis in consultation with the Mississauga Economic Resilience Taskforce.

**For more information on City of Mississauga Recovery Plans visit [mississauga.ca/covid-19-recovery/our-stages-of-recovery](https://mississauga.ca/covid-19-recovery/our-stages-of-recovery).**



# Mississauga’s Business Plan and Budget

The City’s business plan and budget helps deliver services and infrastructure that people use every day. It also ensures the City of Mississauga delivers value for money and that your tax dollars are spent wisely.

The City of Mississauga is at the Municipal level of the four levels of government:
Federal
Provincial
Regional
Municipal

Property taxes in Mississauga are used to fund services provided by the first three of these levels: The City of Mississauga, the Region of Peel and the Government of Ontario (for the Ministry of Education).

This means about a third of every property tax dollar goes to the City; the rest is split among the Region of Peel and Government of Ontario. For commercial and industrial property taxes, the City only receives about a fifth of the total revenue.



**Business Plan**

Every year the City creates a business plan and budget that Council follows to help deliver and maintain services and infrastructure that residents use every day.

It also ensures your tax dollars are spent wisely and are in-line with the City’s Strategic Plan. The City’s business plan contains a group of smaller, more specific plans for each of the services the City provides, like transit,

library services and community and recreation programs.

A budget is created for each service area and these individual service area budgets combine to make the overall City budget.

The business plan and budget is then debated by the City’s Budget Committee with residents having an opportunity to provide feedback before it’s approved by City Council vote.

Learn more about the City’s Budget and Business Plan by visiting [mississauga.ca/budget](https://mississauga.ca/budget).

