

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Administration

2019-2020 Annual Report

The Peterborough Department of Public Works is comprised of four divisions: Highway, Utilities, Facilities & Grounds, and Recycling. A centralized administrative unit provides support and leadership for each of these divisions. Peterborough's wastewater treatment facility is operated and maintained by the Utilities Division of Public Works.

The general responsibilities and daily maintenance tasks of the Public Works Department range considerably and directly impact many quality of life factors in our community. Some of these responsibilities include, but are not limited to; winter operations, roadway maintenance, care for the public parks and cemeteries, the upkeep of town facilities and the common pathway, water supply and distribution, wastewater treatment and collection, and solid waste and recycling. The administrative unit of Public Works also works on a wide variety of projects related to capital improvement, project management, community efficiency, budget management, community relations, and other public service and infrastructure improvements.

2019-2020 was an exciting year for Peterborough's Public Works Department, with a wide range of projects undertaken and successfully completed. In addition to the many daily functions and smaller scale projects of the department, a range of notable achievements and accomplishments were also realized. A select few of these include:

- Second full year of the construction portion of the Town's Roadway Maintenance and Reconstruction Program, effectively raising the Town's overall roadway rating from a 70 to a 75 from year one to year three;
- Continued work on the Town House as part of our LCHIP grant-funded rehabilitation project;
- Main St. Bridge and Rt. 202 Retaining Wall Reconstruction project entered the construction phase;
- Completed phase 1 of the incorporation of stormwater infrastructure into the Town's GIS/Asset Management System;
- Developed executable plans for infrastructure enhancements in West Peterborough and Cheney Ave. (sewer lift station);
- Continued work on our EPA discharge permit (WWTF) and began exploratory work on lead reduction and pretreatment mitigation efforts;

Our project schedule in 2020 and 2021 is full of many important community enhancing initiatives. Some of these include:

- Main St. Bridge & Rt. 202 Reconstruction project;
- Ongoing efforts relative to lead reduction analysis and implementation;
- Wastewater lagoon closure;
- Stormwater separation mapping;
- Replacement of Cheney Lift Station;
- Cold Springs Well and Distribution;
- Continuation of our enhanced Roadway Management Program;
- West Peterborough infrastructure improvement projects;
- Continued development of the asset management and GIS, in conjunction with the GIS/IT Dept.;
- And many more.

The Office of Community Development's GIS/IT Division continues to provide indispensable support to the Public Works Department by supplying a wide range of important information in support of small and large projects. Some of the data and material support they provide includes: location of all infrastructure assets, and production of high-quality detailed maps and reports of existing infrastructure assets (location, status, mileage, and other pertinent information). GIS/IT continues

to be a leading force in moving the entire Public Works Department forward in the use of technology, helping to enable the Public Works Department to provide exceptional customer service to the residents of Peterborough.

I'm proud of the tireless efforts that all staff members contributed to achieve our department's goals in 2019. The start of this year has been an incredible challenge. However, Peterborough's DPW has risen to the occasion and continued to provide vital services in support of our beautiful community, often going above-and-beyond to ensure we continue to provide the services our residents expect. I am exceedingly proud of the efforts each one of our DPW employees have displayed throughout the past year, and especially since the beginning of Covid-19. Our employees have continued to remain focused on their duties and have given it their all.

Our employees often work difficult hours and engage in many challenging tasks to preserve our community's quality and enhance everyday life for all. The Department of Public Works owes great thanks to all Town employees for their efforts in making this community a great place to live, work, and play. I would also like to thank our Select Board, Budget Committee, Town Administrator Rodney Bartlett, Deputy Administrator Nicole MacStay, other town departments, and most importantly the residents of Peterborough for all their support. I would also like to send a special thank you to the Parks Committee and volunteers for their countless hours of dedication to the Town's parks and gardens.

I know I speak for the entire Department when I say that it is a pleasure to work in the service of such a fine community and among such great people.

Respectfully submitted,

Seth M. MacLean, Asst. Director for the Department of Public Works