

INQUIRY RESPONSE DATE: June 25, 2025**SUBJECT: Mowing Service Levels**

INQUIRY DATE

June 24, 2025

COUNCIL MEMBER

Councillor vanNieuwkerk

INQUIRY

Please provide information on the current service level for the standardization of the 'mow strip' (i.e. width size) that happens adjacent to pathways in naturalized areas.

RESPONDING DEPARTMENT

Infrastructure

RESPONSE

Thank you for your inquiry about the standardization of the "mow strip" adjacent to pathways in naturalized areas.

The standard width for the mow strip next to Trails and sidewalks in Naturalized areas is 1 meter. This standard is applied consistently to all naturalized areas within our jurisdiction.

We recognize that at times, there are exceptions to this standard based upon the area. In cases where an immovable object obstructs the full 1-meter width, our teams make every effort to maintain the mow strip as close to the standard as possible.

Additionally, we understand that natural landscape elements can gradually encroach upon these areas, which may also reduce the effective width of the mow strip. To address this, we conduct an annual review of these areas every Spring. This assessment ensures that the 1-meter mow strip is consistently maintained and not diminished due to natural encroachment.