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Harsh winter weather impacts roads, contracts

By Mark Pavilons

The winter that never ends is testing our resolve. And it will have far-reaching impacts well into the spring.

In King Township, they primarily use their own staff and equipment to handle snow removal.

The only extra money spent in this year's budget would be for overtime.

Sidewalk maintenance is a service provided by King's park's department.

Crews have had to truck snow away this season, simply because of the volume. According to Rob Flindall, King's director of engineering and public works, said this hasn't amounted to very much this season.

The roads, he stressed, will be affected when the frost comes out of the ground. We haven't really had a winter with much thaw, just freeze. The frost is quite deep in the ground, and as it thaws Flindall said ?we can expect considerable amounts of cracking and pot holing.?

So far, there has been a number of frozen water service lines. The sewers have been spared, he noted, since they do not typically freeze.

The extreme cold has affected the garbage and recycling collection, and King has experienced several service disruptions in January due to the extreme cold and the inability for workers to work in the cold safely.

King's construction contracts (sewer and water) have been similarly affected, with numerous days of production lost to cold weather.