NEW TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE POTHOLES

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WHEREAS every year the City of Sault Ste. Marie reconstructs or resurfaces many municipal roads; and

WHEREAS every year new cracks, potholes and damage appear in the municipal roads; and

WHEREAS the potholes are caused, in part, by water entering into small cracks left in the asphalt when it is initially laid, then freezing, and expanding, which, over time, creates large potholes; and

WHEREAS the City of Sault Ste. Marie, like many cities and provinces in Canada, has a significant infrastructure deficit when it comes to road reconstruction and resurfacing; and

WHEREAS research has shown that reducing the number of cracks in freshly laid asphalt lengthens the life of said asphalt; and

WHEREAS new technology is being studied by the Ministry of Transportation to increase the lifespan of newly laid asphalt; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Transportation is also considering water permeability standards for newly laid asphalt to ensure water is not entering cracks, and thereafter creating potholes;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT staff be requested to investigate the new technology being studied by the Ministry of Transportation and offer their support to the development of reasonable water permeability standards in new asphalt as a way to improve the roads for Sault Ste. Marie motorists.