

RESOLUTION 11-02

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL POLICY

WHEREAS, the South Weber City Council wishes to establish a policy by which all residents will know the level of service with respect to the removal of snow or ice and placing of salt material on any City street or road during the winter months; and

WHEREAS, the South Weber City Council believes that is in the best interest of the residents for the City to assume basic responsibility for control of snow and ice on City streets; and

WHEREAS, this policy and level of service are to be implemented within the City's street maintenance budget which is approved yearly by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City will provide such service in a safe and cost effective manner, keeping in mind safety, budget, personnel, and environmental impacts; and

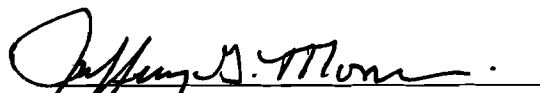
WHEREAS, the Public Works Department is given the responsibility for ensuring adequate snow and ice control on City streets occurs in a timely fashion; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department has prepared the attached Snow and Ice Removal Policy.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of South Weber to approve and adopt the South Weber City Snow and Ice Removal Policy (attached), and that this policy supersedes all previous written and unwritten policies regarding the removal of snow and ice on City streets.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of South Weber this 14th day of December, 2010.

APPROVED


Jeffery G. Monroe, Mayor

Attest:


Erika J. Ahlstrom, City Recorder

South Weber City Snow & Ice Removal Policy

1. Policy

The City of South Weber annually budgets funds for and assumes basic responsibility for control of snow and ice on City streets. The City will provide snow and ice control for routine travel and emergency services in an effort to serve the greatest number of vehicles possible, given safety, budget, personnel and environmental constraints. The City will use City employees and equipment to provide this service. The City's critical mission of access to emergency fire, police and medical services will be maintained during a major snow or ice storm event. In emergency situations, private contractors may be employed to assist in providing this service. The Park & Ride is to be contracted out each year following the city soliciting sealed bids from local contractors.

2. Commencement of Operations

Snow plowing and/or ice control operations shall commence under the direction of the on-call Public Works employee. Notice of plowing need is typically provided from the Davis County Sheriff's Deputy on duty during late night time hours. The snow removal operations will begin in accordance with the following criteria:

- A. Snow accumulations of one inch (1") or less – all hills shall be salted if needed.
- B. Snow accumulations greater than one inch but less than three inches (1"-3") – all hills shall be plowed and salted.
- C. Snow accumulations greater than three inches (3"+) – all streets shall be plowed and salted from curb to curb in accordance with the priority list in #4 Snow Plowing Procedures.

3. Personnel

In the event of a storm, the on-call employee shall respond within thirty (30) minutes of being dispatched or called. Upon arriving in South Weber the employee will immediately assess the situation and determine if additional assistance is needed. If it is determined that assistance is required, the employee shall immediately contact other department employees. Unless approved by the Public Works Director, there should be no more than two employees out later than 5:00 p.m. This is to ensure that each employee is provided adequate time to rest during heavy snow storms, as well as to ensure availability of drivers during long-lasting storms. It is the Public Works Director's responsibility to ensure that department employees are rotated throughout the day/night to prevent fatigue and unnecessary overtime.

4. Snow Plowing Procedures

Streets will be plowed and salted according to the following established priority. Priorities are set based upon traffic volume, public safety, access to emergency response facilities, and schools.

- A. Major Collector Streets:
 - i. 475 East
 - ii. 1900 East
 - iii. 2100 East
 - iv. Deer Run Drive
 - v. Highway 89 Frontage Roads
- B. Minor Collector Streets - all other city owned streets.
- C. Cul-de-sacs
- D. Sidewalks traversing all city owned properties
- E. The Park & Ride is to be contracted out each year following the city soliciting sealed bids from local contractors.

Priority A routes are plowed first. City crews will then proceed to streets identified as Priority B and then lastly, Priority C streets. The City will address Priority C streets as time and equipment availability permits. Severe weather conditions may delay or impact Priority C street cleaning operations. Sidewalks will be plowed last.

Snow will be plowed in a manner so as to provide access as soon as possible and to minimize any traffic obstructions. The center of the roadway will be plowed first. The snow shall then be pushed from left to right to the side of the roadways. It is the Public Works Department goal to have the street system cleaned after a "typical" snowfall in approximately 7-10 hours. Depending on snowfall conditions and duration of the storm, streets will not always immediately be able to be completely cleared of snow and may require multiple passes of equipment. During more severe storms (snowfall in excess of 8" inches) removal may take up to 48-72 hours to complete. In storms of this severity, the City has established an objective to keep the main streets open as "passable".

5. Suspension of Operations

Generally, operations will continue until all roads are passable. Widening and cleanup operations may continue immediately or on the following work day depending upon conditions and circumstances. Safety of the plow operators and the public is important. Therefore, snowplowing/removal operations may be terminated after 12 to 14 hours to allow City personnel adequate time for rest. Operations may also be suspended during time periods of limited visibility, significant winds or drifting snow so as to not jeopardize the safety of city employees and equipment. Any decision to suspend operations shall be made by the Public Works Director based on the conditions of the storm.

6. Use of Salt or Other De-icing Material

The City will utilize salt at locations where there are hazardous or slippery conditions. This provides for traction but is not intended to provide a "bare pavement" roadway service level throughout the City during winter season timeframes or winter conditions. The City will not be responsible for damage to grass or motor vehicles caused by salt or other de-icing materials and therefore will not make repairs or compensate residents for salt damage to turf areas in the street right-of-way or damage to motor vehicles.

7. Property Damage

Snow plowing and ice control operations can cause property damage even under the best of circumstances and care on the part of the operators. The major types of damage are to improvements in the City right-of-way. The intent of the right-of-way is to provide room for snow storage, utilities, sidewalks and other City uses. However, certain private improvements such as mailboxes, landscaping and other private installations are located and allowed by the City within this area.

A. Mailboxes - Mailboxes should be constructed sturdily enough to withstand snow rolling or pushing off a plow. While the installation of mailboxes on the city right-of-way is permitted, the mailbox owner assumes all risk of damage except when a mailbox is damaged through direct contact by a plow blade, or other piece of equipment. If a mailbox is damaged due to direct contact by snow plowing equipment, the City, at its option, will repair or replace the mailbox. Damage resulting from snow rolling off a plow is the responsibility of the resident or mailbox owner.

B. Landscaping - Property owners assume all risk of damage for landscaping, including nursery and inanimate materials that are installed or encroach on City right-of-way. The City assumes no responsibility for damage incurred to these elements as a result of snow plowing and ice control activities.

C. Other Private Installations - The City will assume no responsibility for underground lawn sprinkling systems, exterior lighting systems, underground electronic dog fences or any features privately installed within the City right-of-way.

8. Snow Storage

Ongoing snow and ice control efforts require the use of the entire City right-of-way and easement areas for storage of plowed snow. Depending on the volume of snow, available storage within the right-of-way can become limited and/or create sight obstructions or block the delivery of US postal mail.

9. Residential Driveways and Sidewalks

One of the most frequent problems in removal of snow from the public streets is the snow deposited in driveway approaches during plowing operations. Snow that accumulates on the plow blade has no place to go but into the driveway. Snowplow operators make every reasonable attempt to minimize the amount of snow deposited in driveways, but the amount can still be significant. City personnel do not provide driveway cleaning. Possible exceptions are at the discretion of the Public Works Director for emergency response situations.

City residents are required by ordinance to clear the sidewalks fronting their homes and businesses within 24 hours after a storm. When clearing snow from walks and private driveways it is unlawful to place or cast any substance into a City street as per City ordinance. Furthermore, it is unlawful to place snow removed from a sidewalk or other public place in manner so as to cause a hazard to vehicular or pedestrian traffic.

10. City Sidewalks

The City will maintain sidewalks on City Owned property throughout the City. After completion of the road cleanup, the public works staff will remove snow and ice from city-owned sidewalks, in the following established priority:

- A. City Office
- B. Fire Station
- C. Family Activity Center
- D. Parks

Snow and ice removal of these sidewalks will be completed within 24 hours of completed road cleanup. Scheduling of work is dependent upon the release of personnel from their street maintenance duties. As there are a limited number of personnel available, the City will only maintain these sidewalks after the streets have been plowed.

11. Mail Delivery

Snowplow operators make every reasonable effort to remove snow as close to the curb line as practical in order to provide mail delivery access to mailboxes. Significant amounts of snow will reduce storage capacity of such snow along the roadway and impact the ability of the City to remove excessive amounts of snow and ice. Therefore, the final cleaning of snow adjacent to mailbox(s) is the responsibility of each resident; or group of residents if a community postal box is in service but denied mail delivery due to excessive snow stockpiling parallel to the City right of way.

12. Vehicle Parking

City Code 6-1-4 Section D specifies that it shall be unlawful to park any vehicle or farm equipment on any street in the city *during* ~~between~~ specific hours during winter months. ~~the hours of 12:00 midnight and 12:00 noon from November 1 to March 31.~~ Vehicles parked on the street or abandoned during snow storm events will be cited, and may be towed at the owner's expense.

13. Complaints

Complaints regarding snow and ice control or damage will be taken during normal working hours and handled in accordance with the City's complaint procedures. Complaints involving access to property or problems requiring immediate attention will be handled on a priority basis. Response time should not exceed twenty-four (24) hours for any complaint. It should be understood that complaint responses are to ensure that the provisions of this policy have been fulfilled and that all residents of the City have been treated uniformly.

14. Utility Structures

Except as otherwise provided in any license or franchise agreement, the City will only be responsible for damage to utility pedestals and transformers within the right-of-way resulting

from direct contact by City snow and ice removal equipment. City liability shall be limited to actual cost to repair the damages as documented by invoices submitted to the City by the utility.