

**TOPIC:** SNOW AND ICE CONTROL

**POLICY:** The effective and efficient provision of Snow and Ice control operations is necessary to allow the City to function under winter weather conditions. This policy is necessary to define the objectives and standards by which Snow Clearing and Ice Control will be undertaken in a timely manner in accordance with priorities identified by the City's Council. The City's Council believes that the system of Snow Clearing and Ice Control established by this policy is a reasonable allocation of budgetary resources and the availability of City personnel and equipment considering its other social and budgetary priorities.

This policy applies from the start of the last full week in November to the end of the first full week in March. Winter storms outside this period will not be covered by this policy and will be responded to as resources are available, given the City's resource limitations and budgets.

**OBJECTIVE:** The main objective of this policy is to establish maintenance standards for pre-event, during and post-storm conditions to reduce the hazards of ice and snow conditions for motorists and pedestrians on streets and sidewalks resulting from the accumulation of snow and ice, having regard to the City's limited financial and other resources available for Snow and Ice control Operations.

**DEFINITIONS:**

"Active Transportation" means any form of human-powered transportation, such as walking, bicycling, or rolling using a skateboard, in-line skates, scooter, mobility aids such as a wheel chair, and other modes.

"City" means the City of Salmon Arm

"Director" means the Director of Engineering and Public Works or their designate

"Ice Control" means to treat and/or prevent ice formation through the application of material, including but not limited to salt, sand, anti-icing agent or any combination thereof.

"Passable" means a surface that is passable for vehicles with proper winter tires and driving according to the conditions (driving cautiously – defensively and at a speed appropriate for slippery roads, which is not necessarily the speed limit and could be significantly less than the posted speed limit); this does not mean bare pavement and some accumulations of snow or ice may be present

"Public Facilities" include the following:

- City Hall, 500 – 2 Avenue NE
- RCMP, 1980 – 11 Avenue NE
- Public Works Building, 100 - 30 Street SE
- Salmon Arm Art Gallery, 70 Hudson Avenue NE
- Seniors Citizens Drop-In Centre, 31 Hudson Avenue NE
- Cenotaph, 50 Alexander Street NE
- ROGERS Rink (Ice Rinks), 2500 – 10 Avenue NE
- SASCU Recreation Centre (Pool), 2550 - 10 Avenue NE
- Little Mountain Sports Complex, 250 – 30 Street SE
- SASCU Indoor Sports Complex, 351 – 3 Street SW

- 1.4. The director will direct the commencement of Snow Clearing and Ice Control once the threshold Snow Depth is observed, subject to the policies set out below relating to the applicable area.
- 1.5. Subject to the availability of labor and equipment, the City may Widen Roads to improve two-way traffic movement, provide space for additional snow storage, and address drainage concerns. The decision to Widen Roads is at the discretion of the Director.
- 1.6. In response to the reported or observed presence of ice or compact snow on Roads resulting in slippery driving conditions, the City may apply sand and/or salt to Roads exhibiting such conditions. The decision to sand/salt Roads is at the discretion of the Director.
- 1.7. In anticipation of a snowfall, and if the temperature and humidity conditions are suitable, the City may apply a liquid anti-icing agent before a snowfall to prevent the bond of snow and ice to the asphalt. The decision to apply a liquid anti-icing agent is at the discretion of the Director.
- 1.8. On-street bicycle lanes and Road shoulder/boulevards will not be Cleared and may be used for snow storage.
- 1.9. Snow Removal shall only be undertaken in situations where lack of adequate storage prohibits the reasonable movement of vehicular and/or pedestrian traffic and labor and equipment are available. During most winter seasons, Snow Removal will not be done. All Snow Removal shall be at the discretion of the Director.
- 1.10. Snow Clearing will result in Windrows within or adjacent to access points to private property. Windrow removal is the responsibility of the adjacent real property owner or occupier.
- 1.11. Through Snow Clearing and Ice Control, the City aims to render Roads Passable within the Travel Lanes only, not the entire width of the Road including shoulders and parking spaces.

## **2. PRIORITY #1 – COLLECTOR / ARTERIAL ROADS**

- 2.1. When snow accumulation exceeds 2.5 cm (1”) in Snow Depth, during Roads Department Regular Working Hours, sanding of intersections and roads with steep grades will commence.
- 2.2. When snow accumulation exceeds 2.5 cm (1”) in Snow Depth, outside of Roads Department Regular Working Hours, sanding of intersections and roads with steep grades will commence at 5:00am on the next calendar day.
- 2.3. When snow accumulation exceeds 7.5 cm (3”) in Snow Depth, during Roads Department Regular Working Hours, Snow Clearing and Ice Control will commence as applicable.
- 2.4. When snow accumulation exceeds 7.5 cm (3”) in Snow Depth, outside of Roads Department Regular Working Hours, Snow Clearing and Ice Control will commence at 5:00am on the next calendar day, as applicable.
- 2.5. The City targets to have Snow Clearing of Priority #1 – Collector / Arterial Roads completed within 48 hours of the end of the snow event, however actual times may vary depending on the severity of the conditions, and availability of equipment and equipment operators.

## **3. PRIORITY #2 - CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT ROADS**

- 3.1. When snow accumulation exceeds 2.5 cm (1”) in Snow Depth, during Roads Department Regular Working Hours, treatment of salt to melt snow will commence.
- 3.2. When snow accumulation exceeds 2.5 cm (1”) in Snow Depth, outside of Roads Department Regular Working Hours, treatment of salt to melt snow will commence at 5:00am on the next calendar day.
- 3.3. When snow accumulation exceeds 7.5cm (3”) in Snow Depth, during Roads Department Regular Working Hours, Snow Clearing and Ice Control will commence.

**6. DOWNTOWN SIDEWALKS**

- 6.1. All owners and occupiers of real property, being within the confines of the area outlined on Schedule “A”, of Snow Removal Bylaw No. 2030, shall remove, by 10:00am on each day, Monday through Saturday, Except statutory Holidays, all snow, ice and rubbish from the sidewalks, footpaths and boulevards that border on the real property owned or occupied by them.
- 6.2. Enforcement is done through City Bylaw Enforcement
- 6.3. City owned property within Schedule “A”, of Snow Removal Bylaw No. 2030, is cleared by City Parks Staff during Parks Department Regular Working Hours only.

**7. PUBLIC FACILITIES**

- 7.1. City Parks Department performs Snow Clearing and/or Ice Control as applicable at Public Facilities during Parks Regular Working Hours only, subject to paragraph 7.4.
- 7.2. Salt may be utilized when ice is reported or observed
- 7.3. Snow Clearing at Public Facilities may result in temporary Windrows or snow being piled in various locations until such arrangements can be made to have the snow removed.
- 7.4. ROGERS Rink, SASCU Recreation Centre and Little Mountain Sports Complex may have Snow Clearing and Ice Control completed outside of Parks Regular Working Hours based on the schedule of events.

**8. PARKING BANS**

- 8.1. The Director may implement temporary parking bans on City Roads, as required, providing for operations. Areas where parking is to be banned will be signed in advance. Vehicles that do not adhere to the parking ban shall be towed and the owner of the vehicle will be responsible for all towing costs.

**9. TRANSIT FACILITIES**

- 9.1. Snow will be cleared from all ramps, curb and bus platforms at Transit Shelters upon the completion of all other Roads, Sidewalks, Walkaways and Stairs. Snow Clearing may be delayed if additional events are occurring concurrently. Snow Clearing at Transit shelters will only be completed during Parks or Roads Regular Working Hours.

**10. PARKING LOT CLEARING**

- 10.1. Snow will be Cleared from City owned and operated parking lots within 24 hours of the end of the snow event where 5.0 cm (2”) has occurred. Parking lots will be cleared to passible conditions and salt for Ice Control may be applied. Parking Lot Snow Clearing is contracted out by third party contractors and subject to contractor availability.

**SCHEDULE "A" PRIORITY ROUTES SNOW CLEARING MAP**



Approved by Council: November 12, 2024