

## Town of Fairview

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**Department:** Public Works

**Policy:** Snow and Ice Control

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**Updated:** November 2011

**Approved:** August, 2009

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The purpose of this policy is to establish winter snow and ice control standards for roadways under the direction, management and control of the Town of Fairview. The intent of the Town's snow and ice control program is to reduce snow and ice hazards to provide reasonable road safety and mobility under normal winter weather conditions on roadways within the Town. The Town will endeavor to ensure that roadways are reasonably maintained for winter driving in such a manner as to prevent or reduce accident and injury, minimize economic loss to the community, extend the life of transportation infrastructure and protect the environment; subject always to approved budget allocations, available equipment and staffing resources.

Snow and ice control operations will be managed in accordance with this Council approved policy, relevant Town Bylaws and the *Municipal Government Act*. The standards contained within this Policy contemplate vehicles that are properly equipped for winter driving and operated in a manner consistent with good winter driving habits.

Snow and ice control in the Town of Fairview is provided by Public Works and supplemented with contracted private sector equipment and forces if necessary. Regular day shift hours are 8:00 and to 5:00 pm Monday to Friday. This shift concentrates on all routes. During snow or ice emergencies and major storms, snow and ice control services may be extended to operate up to 24 hours a day, seven days a week, subject to available funding, equipment and staffing resources.

### **ROADWAY PRIORITY SYSTEM**

Snow and ice control operations will generally be undertaken in order of the following roadway priority system:

- Priority 1      Main Arteries/Emergency Routes – 101, 103, 105 and 108 Avenues
  
- Priority 2      Main Street and 102 Avenue between 109 and 111 Streets
  
- Priority 3      Hill Roads – 100, 103, 106, 107, 108, 109, 111, 112, 115, 116 Streets
  
- Priority 4      102, 104, 106, 107, 109 to 113 Avenues
  
- Priority 5      Residential Areas – Beaver Ridge, Bickle Heights, Dunvegan Park, Burkholder Subdivision, Countryview Estates, Northview Estates; the remainder of the downtown area; and alleys

Other factors which will influence how, when and where the Town provides snow and ice control services include: the duration of the storm; the amount of accumulated snow; wind speed

and direction; temperatures before, during and after a storm; and the weather forecast. The order of priority may be altered, for reasons of safety, at the discretion of the Director of Public Works, or his delegate.

## **SNOW CONTROL**

### Snow Ploughing

- Snow ploughing operations will typically commence after accumulations of 10 centimetres of snow or when drifting snow significantly impedes traffic flow.
- Roadways will be ploughed to bare pavement (defined here to mean no more than 2 centimetres of snow cover left on the roadway) with the exception of alleys, which will only be floated/bladed to remove ruts and maintain a level snow pack condition.
- Snow will be pushed from the roadway surface to the sides of the roadway to ensure that travel lanes and turn lands are passable to traffic.
- On roadways with a sidewalk on only one side, snow will be ploughed to the side which has no sidewalk. On all other roadways, snow will be pushed to one side of the roadway, then the other, in alternating years. Exceptions are 102 Avenue between 111 and 117 Streets, 105 Avenue and 108 Avenue which will have snow pushed to the north, and 101 Avenue which will have snow pushed to the south.
- In the event of an abnormally large snowfall, snow may be windrowed on both sides of a roadway, in the discretion of the Director of Public Works or his delegate.
- In culs-de-sac snow will be piled in the centre.
- Ploughed snow will not be piled so as to impede access to fire hydrants, community mailboxes, electrical transformers and the like.

### Snow Removal

- Windrows left behind from ploughing operations on 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue between 109<sup>th</sup> Street and 111<sup>th</sup> Street will be removed as soon as ploughing is completed, followed by Main Street, 102<sup>nd</sup> - 105<sup>th</sup> Avenues and 101<sup>st</sup> and 102<sup>nd</sup> Streets.
- Windrows left behind from ploughing operations that are blocking intersections, lane entrances and driveways will be cleared by the Town as soon as is practical. However, the Town will not be responsible for any damage done to rubber mats, curb grates or any other objects installed by an adjacent property at the driveway curb that have not been removed for the winter.
- Windrows on all other roadways will only be removed on an as needed basis, in the discretion of the Director of Public Works or his delegate, subject to available funding, equipment and staffing resources. Priority will be given to intersections and corners where sightlines are impaired by windrows and roadways where the driving width restricts safe vehicular movement.
- Snow removed from the roadway will be hauled to an authorized snow storage site.

## **ICE CONTROL**

- The Town's ice control program involves the application of rock chips to roadways to meet weather and road conditions. In the event of snowfall, rock chips are generally applied for snowfall amounts of less than 10 centimetres.
- Sand/salt mixtures and other abrasive or corrosive de-icing agents will not be applied to roadways due to environmental concerns and risks of damage to the roadway and vehicles traveling on the roadway.
- Rock chips deposited on roadways and boulevards during the winter months will be removed as part of the annual spring road clean-up.

## **SIDEWALKS**

- Sidewalk snow removal will be in accordance with the Sidewalk Snow Removal Bylaw, being Bylaw No. 937/TR/2009, as amended (the "Bylaw").
- Notwithstanding the Bylaw obligation imposed on property owners to remove snow from adjacent sidewalks, the Town will remove windrows left behind on sidewalks from snow ploughing operations. However, the Town will not be responsible for any damage done to any landscaping or other feature (including but in no way limited to sprinkler heads, landscaping ties/blocks, planters, decorations, etc.) located on or near the property line that is hidden from view under cover of snow.