

TOWN OF PLATTEVILLE

STREET SNOWPLOWING POLICY

- I. Purpose and Applicability. This policy establishes the level of service residents can expect with respect to the plowing or clearance of snow and ice as well as the maintenance of the Town of Platteville's primary and secondary roads during the winter months. This policy shall normally apply from November through April but may be modified accordingly due to early or late snow events. This Policy may be suspended or modified in the event the Governor implements the State disaster plan, or the Mayor implements the Town's disaster plan. If there are any questions, please contact the Public Works Director at (970) 785-6415.
- II. Level of Service. Plowing of snow and applying deicer to icy areas during the winter months is primarily for the benefit of emergency services along with Town residents and is dependent on the following:
- A. Weather & Roadway Conditions. Each storm has individual characteristics and must be dealt with accordingly. The portion of the roadway improved for travel will have upon it from time-to-time snow or ice in loose to compacted conditions. These conditions may be continuous, or they may be more concentrated on elevated roadways, curves, protected areas or intersections. Units will not operate when snow or blowing snow reduces visibility to hazardous levels or when snow drifts are forming faster than they can be removed. The Town is not required to provide "dry" pavement conditions.
- B. Available Resources. Except for emergencies, as determined by the Public Works Director or designee, all snow removal and ice control will be accomplished using authorized equipment and available funding in the budget adopted by the Board of Trustees, taking into the consideration the year-round needs and other legal obligations of the Public Works Department.
- C. Emergency Resources. During extreme snow events, such as a severe blizzard, the Public Works Director may request emergency assistance from authorized contractors to assist with snowplowing or snow removal with prior approval of the Town Manager. The Town Manager will notify the Mayor immediately when emergency resources are being requested or authorized.
- III. Motorist Responsibilities. Motorists should drive their vehicles during these conditions with additional caution and watchfulness, especially with respect to the surface of the roadway and to reduced or impaired visibility and are advised to reduce their speed below that legally permitted or advised limits under normal conditions. With respect to roadways that have only one lane open, further caution and watchfulness should be exercised by the motorist, and their speed should not exceed 10 miles per hour. No additional warning or regulatory signs will be placed warning of impaired sight distances, visibility at intersections, road blockages, one-lane conditions, or that the road surface is slick or slippery or what the advised speed should be.

IV. Sequence of Service.

- A. General. In the implementation of snowplowing and ice control, the Public Works Director or designee will assign operators and equipment to snowplowing and ice control operations, select the actual sequence of roads, and determine when drifting, wind velocity, additional snow, or snowstorms require that operations be temporarily suspended.
- B. Primary Routes. The following primary routes located in town limits will typically receive snow plowing and/or ice control for snow events of two (2") inches or more: Main Street, North & South Front Street, WCR 32, WCR 32.5, WCR 25, WCR 25.5, WCR 34, WCR 30 Division Blvd, River Road & Street, Reynolds Avenue, Goodrich Avenue, Sterkel Blvd (WCR 23.5) and Grand Avenue. The 400 blocks of Salisbury and Byers will be considered Primary Routes due to their locations around the schools. Even though Main Street is a Colorado Department of Transportation roadway the Town will make every effort to plow or remove snow on this roadway for the betterment and safety of the community.
- C. Secondary Routes. All other streets in town limits not listed as Primary Routes are classified as Secondary Routes and will typically receive snowplowing and/or ice control for snow events of six (6") inches or more. The Public Works Director has the discretion to plow snow on Secondary Routes if snow is 4-6 inches and staff or resources are available.
- D. Light snow. For snow events of less than 2 inches, snowplowing and ice control will be provided only at the request of emergency personnel or at the direction of the Public Works Director or designee, in their sole discretion.
- E. Alleys. Snow will not normally be plowed in alleys. If snow is plowed, it will be a last priority, or for emergencies.
- F. Private Drives & Sidewalks. Snowplowing operations may result in snow being deposited in front of private drives. The Town is not responsible for removing such deposits nor for any snow removal operations with respect to private drives and entrances. Snow plowed from private drives by Town residents shall not be placed on the roadways or shoulders and should be placed on the resident's property. All properties and residents are responsible for snow removal from sidewalks adjacent to their properties. Snow is not to be shoveled or plowed onto the streets from driveways or sidewalks but instead onto yards and private property if possible.
- G. *Emergencies*. The Public Works Director may order that any roadway receive snowplowing and/or ice control due to a life-threatening emergency.
- H. Timing. The Town will typically plow snow within 3 business days of the snow event unless conditions prevent removal. The Town is not responsible for snow pushed or otherwise placed in the roadway or shoulders by others. Snowplowing and ice control will typically occur between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, provided that operations outside these hours may occur at the direction of the Public Works Director or designee.

- V. Service Limitations. The entire width of the traveled portion of the road may not be plowed of all snow or ice. The priority of snowplowing is to provide one lane of vehicle travel for emergency responders, typically in the middle of the roadway, and as time allows provide additional plowing to allow two lanes of vehicle travel on all Primary and Secondary Routes. Snow will only be plowed or removed along the curb in business or school parking areas at the discretion of the Public Works Director if available resources allow to promote proper drainage and safer access to these areas.
- VI. Damage to Private Property. The Town's obligation to plow snow and ice from the roadways of the secondary road system takes precedence over accidental damage to privately owned fences or gates. Reasonable care will be used to avoid damage to private property, but due to the conditions of winter, the Town assumes no liability in the event of damage.
- VII. Private Vehicles. The Town will not remove privately owned vehicles that are stuck on the normally traveled portion of the roadway without notifying the owner of the vehicle. If Town equipment cannot get around a stuck vehicle, it may be moved far enough to allow the equipment to pass. All residents are strongly encouraged to not park on the street when a snow event is likely to occur to allow sufficient room for snowplows to plow two travel lanes on each street and prevent vehicles from being stuck or plowed-in with the additional snow.

