

CITY OF RAPID CITY

SNOW POLICY

GOAL:

To provide the motorist with the safest driving surface possible, in an efficient and economical manor, with the resources available.

SANDING AND CHEMICAL TREATMENT OF STREETS:

Initial service of streets during a snow/ice incident will be applications of sand, salt, liquid deicer or a combination of these products. Streets will be treated in the following order of priority: All arterial, emergency and school routes along with those streets having steep grades or other hazardous geometry and major intersections are first response. Followed by collector and sub collector streets, ending with residential streets. To reduce the amount of material used, flat level streets are not treated unless a special situation should exist. There will be no sand used in the downtown core area (E. Bvd. to W. Bvd. & Rapid St. to Columbus St.) except under special circumstances as may be determined by the director of public works or his designee.

Other accepted chemicals may be used alone or in addition to the sand/salt mix for maximum effectiveness.

PLOWING POLICY:

Snow plowing incidents will be divided into three levels of service. The service level will be determined by the director of public works or his designee.

LEVEL A RESPONSE: (approximately 3-5" snow depth)

This level of service will include the plowing of all arterial streets, emergency routes, streets with hills and other hazardous geometry, collector streets and major intersections. May include downtown snow removal.

LEVEL B RESPONSE: (approximately 5-8" snow depth)

Sub collector streets and some high traffic residential streets will plowed in addition to those streets covered in "A Level Service". Also included in this service will be downtown snow removal. Some work may be contracted with the private sector.

LEVEL C RESPONSE: (approximately 8" plus)

This service will include the plowing of all remaining streets in the city. Contractors will be hired so this service may be completed in the shortest period of time.

GENERAL PLOWING POLICIES:

DRIVEWAYS: Entrances will not be opened by city crews

under routine plowing operations. Exceptions can be made to this policy in special situations as may be determined by the director of public works or his designee.

**CURB SIDE WALKS:** Clearing of the snow from sidewalks located at either curb side or property line, shall be the responsibility of the property owner as per ordinance #12.20.070. The city snow policy will be to remove the snow from sidewalks on the public bridges and from those curb side walks meeting the following criteria: four or more traffic lanes, a predominantly residential street and on a school pedestrian route. This work will be done only after street clearing operations have been completed.

**HANDI-CAP RAMPS:** Removal of snow/ice from handicap ramps that abut property other than that owned by the city will be the responsibility of the person or persons in charge of that property, as per ordinance number 12.20.070, regarding "Sidewalks-Snow and Ice Removal". Ramps in the core area (E. Blvd. to W. Blvd. & Rapid St. to Kansas City St.) will be cleared at the time snow is removed in that area. Due to manpower limitations during snow plowing operations, it is recommended the disabled community provide the street department with a priority list of ramps. At the time crews clear bridge walks and curb side walks, those ramps adjacent to city property will also be addressed.

**Mail Boxes:** It shall be the practice of the city to plow the street from curb to curb in order to maintain the surface drainage and the structural integrity of the street. Should mail delivery be halted at a resident because of this windrow of snow blocking a mail box, the city will remove enough snow for mail service to resume.

#### SNOW REMOVAL POLICY:

As per Chapter 10.48 of the "Rapid City Municipal Code" snow removal operations will be performed in the downtown core area, other posted areas, and those areas deemed necessary by the director of public works or his designee. This work will be performed primarily during the night time hours to minimize traffic interference.

#### SEVERE WINTER WEATHER PLAN

When a "Weather Condition 3" is declared (heavy intense storm of prolonged duration) by the Emergency Management Office the mayor or his designee may declare a Snow Emergency. In this case all available personnel will be called to duty. A plow and operator will be dispatched and housed at each fire station for emergency response. The remaining personnel will be housed at the street department facilities until the storm subsides and plowing operations may commence.

Title 12 STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND PUBLIC PLACESChapter 12.20 STREET USE REGULATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS**12.20.070 Sidewalks--Snow and ice removal.**

It shall be the duty of the owner or person in possession or in charge of any lot, parcel or plot of ground fronting or abutting upon any sidewalk to keep such sidewalk free from snow and ice at all times. When it is impossible to take the snow and ice from such walk by reason of its being frozen to the sidewalk the owner or occupant shall sprinkle or spread some suitable material upon the same to prevent the walk from becoming slippery and dangerous to travel. Upon the failure, neglect or refusal of any owner or person in possession or in charge of any lot, parcel or plot of ground fronting or abutting any sidewalk to comply with the provisions of this section, the public works division is authorized and empowered to cause such work as may be necessary to provide for compliance, and may defray the cost of such work, including administrative costs, by special assessment against the property. (Ord. 3403, 1998: prior code § 26-15)

Title 10 VEHICLES AND TRAFFICChapter 10.48 PARKING DURING SNOW REMOVAL**10.48.010 Definitions.**

"Emergency Snow Route." The director of public works or his designee shall have the authority to designate public streets as "emergency snow routes" when, in the director's opinion, such streets necessarily must be cleared of snow more than four inches in depth for the safe and orderly flow of traffic for the safety, health and welfare of the general public. Any streets designated as an emergency snow route shall be clearly marked by uniform signage.

"Primary snow removal area" means that area of the city of Rapid City enclosed within the boundaries of West Boulevard on the west, Rapid Street on the north, Fifth Street on the east, and St. Joseph Street on the south, to include the entire roadway of those designated streets.

"Secondary snow removal area" means that area of the city of Rapid City enclosed within the boundaries of West Boulevard on the west, Omaha on the north, East Boulevard on the east, thence west on St. Joseph Street to Second Street, thence south on Second Street to Kansas City Street, thence west to West Boulevard, and, except for that portion of Second Street between Kansas City Street and St. Joseph Street, the area includes the entire roadway of those designated streets, and further that the secondary snow removal area shall not include the area specifically defined as the primary snow removal area.

"Snow removal alert" means such times as there is a snow accumulation on the public streets of two inches or more, or such times as the public works director or his designee declares that snow removal operations on the public streets will commence and that the provision of this chapter in regard to parking on public streets during snow removal operations are effective and will be enforced.

"Street" means the entire width of any public roadway within the city, and it shall not be limited to those roadways designated as a "street" but shall include all other names by which public roadways are designated. (Prior code § 28-250)

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**10.48.020 Declaration of snow removal alert.**

When the director of public works or his designee determines that snow removal from the public streets will commence, the director of public works or his designee will announce through local news media and whatever other sources are available that there has been declared a snow removal alert and that the provisions of this chapter will be effective and be enforced, designating a particular date and time when such alert shall commence. The determination to declare a snow removal alert will be based on the then existing weather conditions, and the amount of snow then on the ground or expected according to forecasts from the National Weather Service. (Prior code § 28-251)

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**10.48.030 Restrictions--Designated.**

A. Primary Snow Removal Area. During the hours of two a.m., to eight a.m., no person shall park or allow to remain parked any vehicle or trailer on any public streets in the area defined as the primary snow removal areas in Section 10.48.010 when the director of public works or his designee declares a snow removal alert for that area.

B. Secondary Snow Removal Area. When the director of public works or his designee has declared a snow removal alert for the secondary snow removal area as defined in Section 10.48.010, no person shall park or allow to remain parked any vehicle or trailer on any public street within that area between the hours of nine p.m., to eight a.m.

C. Emergency Snow Route. No person shall park or allow to remain parked any vehicle or trailer on any street designated as an emergency snow route as defined by Section 10.48.010 when snow depth exceeds four inches. (Prior code § 28-252)

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**10.48.040 Restrictions--Termination.**

After a snow removal alert has been declared, there will be no declaration of its termination, but such alert shall terminate and the provisions of Section 10.48.030 (A) and (B) become not effective nor enforceable as to any particular street or portion of a street, as soon as that street or portion thereof has been plowed and cleared of snow accumulation, curb-to-curb, and the snow removal equipment is no longer operating in that area, after which normal parking may be resumed until the next declared snow removal alert. (Prior code § 28-253)

Title 10 VEHICLES AND TRAFFICChapter 10.48 PARKING DURING SNOW REMOVAL**10.48.050 Restrictions--Violation.**

Parking contrary to and in violation of Section 10.48.030 shall be deemed prohibited parking and any vehicle or trailer parked in violation shall be subject to a fine of twenty-five dollars. The owner or operator of the vehicle found in violation of this section may, within seventy-two hours of the time when the notice of violation was attached to such vehicle, pay to the office of the city finance officer- treasury, as penalty for and in full satisfaction of such violation, said sum. If the owner or operator fails to pay the sum within said seventy-two-hour period, he may pay to the office, within the next two weeks, as a penalty for and in full satisfaction of the violation, the sum of thirty-five dollars. Upon failure of the owner or operator to pay either of the sums to the office within the time periods indicated, and upon conviction of a violation of this section, the owner or operator shall be fined not less than forty-five dollars nor more than one hundred dollars, which fine shall be collected by the magistrate court. (Prior code § 28-254)