

# Snow & Ice Control Policy and Procedures

## Riverdale City Public Works Department

### Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to establish Department procedures for the removal of snow and ice on city streets, trails and sidewalks in Riverdale City.

### Objective:

The objective of these policies and procedures is to give direction for timely and efficient removal of snow and ice from city streets, trails and sidewalks in Riverdale City and to provide for safe and passable streets for the public. Priority is given to streets which carry the largest traffic volume. Limited resources preclude service on lower priority streets until higher priority streets have been cleared. Motorists should expect snow-packed or icy conditions on lower priority streets during storms of high intensity or long duration and during non-work hours. Salt is generally applied only on hills and at intersections. Plowing will continue until all streets have been plowed or plowing and salting is no longer effective. Trails will be plowed during normal work hours only. Snow plow operators will make every effort to remove snow as close to the curb as practical to allow for future storms, mail delivery, parking and garbage pickup. Sidewalks that the city is responsible for maintaining will be maintained after all streets have been plowed and during normal work hours.

### Scope:

This policy is intended for streets, trails and sidewalk located within the boundaries of Riverdale City. The city maintains more than 32 lane miles of arterial, secondary and residential streets that have been divided into three priorities:

**PRIORITY 1**, Major Arterials – Freeway Park, Ritter Drive, 1500 W –Cozy Dale Drive, Parker Drive, 4400 S, 700 W, 900 W, 300 W, and 4600 S.

**PRIORITY 2**, Minor Arterials –4100 S, 1000 W, 1150 W, 900 W, River Park Drive, 1225 W from 5175 S to 5050 S, 4600 S-1250 W-4575 s, 3750 S from River Valley Dr. to 650 W, Pacific Ave-550 W, Cherry Drive-Highland Drive, 1200 W-5600 S, 5500 S, 5525 S, 575 W from 5400 S to 5450 S .

**PRIORITY 3**, All remaining roads, cul-de-sacs, and trails.

Riverdale Road, 1050 W from Riverdale Road to Hill Field Gate, and South Weber Drive are state owned roads. These roads are maintained and snowplowed by the Utah Department of Transportation.

## Deviations from policy:

Deviations from standard policies and procedures may occur due to unusual or extraordinary circumstances. Each winter storm has unique characteristics. Factors such as storm intensity and duration, timing, wind, temperature and moisture content influence the methodology used to combat each storm. Deviations and exceptions from the general priorities and procedures may be made, when in the judgment of the responsible authority, such deviations will best enable the established objectives to be met.

## Responsibility:

The responsibility for implementing the snow removal policy lies with the Public Works Director or his/her designee during off hours. The Public Works Director will authorize the use of additional resources or overtime as conditions warrant.

## Training:

Prior to the start of snow season the Public Works Department will conduct training on city-owned equipment for all personnel involved in snow removal activities. The training will include classroom and hands on equipment training, including the operation of salters, snowplows and loaders. This training may include a "Dry Run" of each route to locate obstacles and familiarize operators with assigned areas.

## Weather Monitoring:

Public works personnel, using the National Weather Service and local weather stations, will monitor daily forecasts and current conditions and will be responsible for placing snowplow crews on "On-call" status.

## Commencement of Plow Operations:

Public works personnel will monitor road conditions during scheduled work hours. During non-work hours the police department, through the On-Duty Sergeant, will also monitor road conditions. When snow or ice begins to accumulate, or conditions warrant the police department shall notify the public works on call employee. The on call employee shall determine when additional personnel or equipment are needed.

## Equipment Resources:

At the present time, Riverdale City Public Works has assigned 8 drivers for 8 designated snow plow routes within Riverdale City. The routes are shown in the attached map and each is numbered for convenience of referencing.

The equipment resources are:

- (4) Bob tails with salt spreaders.
- (3) Pickups with snowplows.
- (1) Four Wheeler snowplow.
- (2) Side by side ATV with snowplow.
- (3) Snow blowers.

## Parking on the Street:

### 6-4-4: Snow Storms

In order to adequately remove snow and to avoid property damage as far as possible, it is necessary to keep public streets and highways clear of all parked vehicles and other obstacles left on or adjacent to the travel way during snowstorms. Therefore, when snow removal becomes necessary, no person who owns or has possession, custody or control of any vehicle or other object shall park or place such vehicle or object upon or immediately adjacent to any street travelway until the street is cleared. This prohibition does not apply to physicians or other authorized emergency service personnel. Any such vehicle or object so parked or placed is declared a public nuisance. (1985 Code § 12-4-4)

## Sidewalk Maintenance:

### 7-1-1: General Regulations. (Snow removal—Required).

A. Weeds, Litter, Snow And Ice: All owners or occupants, or the agent of any owner or occupant, of real property located within the city shall remove all weeds, noxious vegetation, and any other debris or obstructions from such property, to the curb line of the street. If standard concrete curb and gutter does not exist, the "curb line" shall mean the edge of the driving surface of the street. All owners, occupants or agents of said property are also responsible to keep all sidewalks; meaning any hard surface including asphalt, concrete or pavers; adjacent to such property free from litter, snow, ice and obstructions.

## Public Relations:

Providing information to the public before, during and after a storm is a vital part of the snow removal process. Residents need to know how they can help facilitate snow removal and what they can expect in terms of a response to a winter storm. Information to the public can be found in articles in the Riverdale City News Letter, the city web site, and messages on the city's Facebook page. Each year prior to the first snowfall, information will be distributed through these resources to inform residents of winter requirements for parking, snow removal on sidewalks, etc.

During snow events residents are encouraged to check the priority maps then call Riverdale City Public Works at 801-394-5541 ext.1201, if they feel their street has been overlooked or they have an issue with snowplowing on their street.

Snowplow operators have been trained to follow the priorities set in the policies and procedure section; it would be detrimental to respond to individual complaints before operators have responded in accordance with the Snow Removal Policy. Complaints will be logged and given to supervisors for review and action. Please be patient some storms will take between 12 to 24 hours to completely plow the city.

One of the most frequent concerns in the removal of snow from public streets is snow being deposited in residential driveways during plowing operations. As plows travel along streets, the snow accumulated on the plow blade has no place to go but on the adjacent street boulevards and in driveways. The more snow that has fallen, the greater the problem will be. One way residents can help is to pile snow they have shoveled from their driveways on the right side facing the street, in lieu of placing it on both sides

at the end of the driveways. Doing this will help snowplow drivers avoid carrying piles from the “upstream” side back across driveways.

Blowing, throwing or pushing snow from driveways and walks into the street creates additional work for snowplow operators, and creates a hazard. Some businesses and residents have pushed large piles of snow into the street, hoping it would melt quickly. The snow pile is a hazard itself, but the ice created when the melting snow refreezes can create an even more dangerous situation. Pushing snow across the roadway to the adjacent property creates an additional hazard. This is a violation of city ordinance and citations will be issued. Throw snow onto landscaped areas in the yard or parking lot.

Claims from residents for property damage caused by snowplows should be reported to the city's Risk Manager. The City accepts responsibility for mailboxes, if the damage is caused by impact with a plow blade or other piece of equipment and the mailbox is installed according to post office specifications. Mailboxes should be constructed solidly enough to withstand the force of snow rolling off a plow.

### Safety Tips:

- 1- Trucks are plowing snow and spreading salt. Stay back from the vehicle 100 feet to avoid problems.
- 2- Plow trucks often have to back up. There are blind spots in the mirrors. For your safety, do not pull up directly behind them. They may not be able to see you.
- 3- When cleaning driveways or parking lots, do not put snow in the street. This can cause problems for other motorists.
- 4- Plow trucks generally push snow to the passenger side of the truck (right side when looking at it from the rear). Never attempt to pass a truck on the right since there can be much more snow on that side of the vehicle.