

Appendix E School Unloading Zones

Current Policy:

The current Winter Maintenance Policy for snow clearing in front of schools specifies that snow ridges are removed when they exceed 30 centimeters in the School Bus Unloading Zone and exceed 75 centimeters on the remainder of the road adjacent to the school. However, there are no provisions for snow removal on the side of the road opposite of the school.

Concern:

Leaving snow ridges on the opposite side of the school hinders with the parking of the vehicles especially during pick-up and drop-off times. The snow ridges also pose as a safety hazard for children and others accessing the schools. The snow ridge on one side of the school may impact the road capacity in front of the schools.

Feedback from the survey, stakeholders and Service Requests suggested that snow ridges should be removed from both sides of the road after a snowfall and systematic plowing operations.

Recommendation:

Upgrade the road plowing classification of all school unloading zones to Category 3 or higher and remove the snow ridges completely on both sides of the road adjacent to a school after a systematic plowing event. Removal activity would be performed during off peak school hours.

Cost of Enhancement:

The cost for this enhancement is \$100,000 annually.

Advantages:

- snow ridge free school drop-off zones
- provide safer school unloading zones and would improve road capacity around schools
- no equipment on school zones between 8 am and 4 pm

Disadvantages:

- operational flexibility lost as maintenance work around schools would be restricted during daytime