

Appendix K

Snow removal on Category 1-3 Roads

Current Policy:

The current Winter Maintenance Policy specifies that snow removal will generally take place when snow ridges impact sight lines and lane widths on Category 1 and 2 roads, as well as Category 3 Transit routes.

Concern:

After each snow event greater than five centimetres, a systematic plow is completed and snow is plowed and placed in the parking lanes and centre medians. As the season progresses, snow ridges become higher and wider with each plow and snow storage capacity is reduced and sight lines become negatively affected as motorists cannot see around or over the snow ridge. In addition, lane widths become narrow as the snow ridge becomes wider and, causing traffic congestion and unsafe driving conditions.

Feedback from the survey indicated that the snow removal activities should be further enhanced on major roads after each systematic plow. Removing the snow from all arterial and collector roads that are plowed after each five-centimeter snow event would provide safer winter driving conditions by improving road capacity and visibility.

Recommendation:

Remove snow on all Category 1, 2, 3 roads when sightlines and lane widths are impacted.

Cost of Enhancement:

There is no cost associated with this level of service enhancement as Administration has gained efficiencies in snow removal operations in the last few years and has typically performed this work out of necessity. Administration will utilize existing tools and resources to implement this enhancement.

Advantages:

- safer driving conditions on major roads
- increased visibility at intersections
- maintain regular traffic flow

Disadvantages:

- None