

Submission to the Winter Maintenance Operational Review

**Issue: Snow Removal of the Street
Immediately Adjacent to Bus Stops**

Background:

According to the City of Regina "Winter Maintenance Policy",

http://www.regina.ca/residents/roads-traffic/road-bylaws-manuals-report/winter_maintenance_policy/index.htm

1.) Part 2 Plowing, c) Routine Maintenance, End Conditions, Page 10:

"Normal winter driving conditions are considered to be established on roads when the following conditions are met:

- **Maximum height of snow ridges within transit stops will be 15 cm [1/2 foot] and will not encroach onto the sidewalk.**
- **Transit stops will be a minimum of 12 m in length."**

(Note, according to City officials within the Winter Maintenance Department, operators are encouraged to extend the transit stops beyond the minimum of 12 m whenever possible. As we understand it, the rationale for this is to allow room for future snow storage.)

Further:

2.) According to the City of Regina "Winter Maintenance Policy", Part 2 Plowing b) Systematic Plowing, All Roads, Page 8:

"Snow ridges will be reduced to a maximum height of 30 cm [1 Foot] across driveways, intersections, alleys and signed unloading zones (including for school buses adjacent to schools and in front of senior's complexes with over 20 units in a single building)."

Finally;

3.) According to the City of Regina "Winter Maintenance Policy", Part 2 Plowing, c) Routine Maintenance, End Conditions, Page 10:

"Normal winter driving conditions are considered to be established on roads when the following conditions are met:

- **Snow ridges placed in parking lanes may encroach up to 30 cm [1 foot] on to the sidewalk. The outside base edge of the snow ridge will not exceed 60 cm [2 feet] from the curb face."**

Over the last 27 years that we have lived at 3131 Parliament Ave, we have experienced the City winter maintenance crew follow the above policies. This results in the diligent moving of snow from the bus stop, which borders our property, which is then piled, high and deep in front of our house.

During the winter of 2011/12 the distance between the curb and the edge of the snow ridge on the street was 183 cm [6 feet]. This condition existed from at least 01 January 2012

to at least 07 March 2012, as may be noted from the submitted video.

We neither have a driveway in front or on the back alley, thus, during the winter we effectively have no visitor parking near our property on either side of the street as there is a bus stop across the street and a similar, but not so severe condition exists.

Proposal:

The current Winter Maintenance Policy be amended stating that in circumstances where a City Transit stop is immediately adjacent to a home owner's property, which does not have a driveway, would be consistently plowed past the transit stop sign a distance of at least one car length, or 3 to 4 m [10 - 14 feet]. Further, this distance of 3 to 4 m [10 - 14 feet] will be plowed consistent with the Winter Maintenance Policy encapsulated as 2.) above. That is to say, **"to a maximum height of 30 cm [1 Foot]"** so as to be consistent with the driveway policy.

Rationale:

- 1) It has been our experience that the snow ridge created at transit stops (maximum 15 cm [1 foot]) and driveways (maximum 30 cm [2 feet]) are uniformly less than that specified by the policy. It has also been our experience that the snow piled in front of our property is uniformly more than the specified 60 cm [2 feet] as specified by the policy. Property owners should not be subjected to the storage of excessive amounts of snow in front of their property simply because it happens to be adjacent to a bus stop.

- 2) It is a matter of fairness and equity that if it is policy that driveways are to be left relatively unimpeded by a snow ridge, a property which does not have a driveway should be afforded the same courtesy in terms a single parking spot of an equivalent distance as granted to driveways.
- 3) Now that front street garbage/recycling is coming to pass, Homeowners without a driveway should be afforded a means to access the street. In this regard, a City official in the Solid Waste Disposal department informed me that of the front street garbage pickups, 99% of properties have driveways. We presume a similar number would apply to properties with alley pickup. This being the case, we would submit the implementation of this proposed policy would have a minor cost implication.