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Manager Approved: 
Date: DEC 1, 2009

TOPIC: SANDING AND SNOW CLEARING OF STREETS

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Procedure is to set service levels for snow and ice control on the Town's public roads so as to;

- Reduce the hazards of winter conditions on the Town's roads
- Minimize economic losses to the community resulting from unsatisfactory winter driving conditions.
- Facilitate the response to emergencies by Police, Fire, and Ambulance services during the winter

A. SANDING AND SALTING

1. In an effort to provide a reasonable level of safety for motorists, the Public services Department will be responsible for the application of sand and/or salt treated sand on Town streets.
2. The application of sand and/or salt treated sand will typically follow the routes in priority as indicated on the Town of Redcliff Snow Clearing Routes Map attached to this procedure.
3. The application of sand may be used on all roads and intersections in the Town. The application of salt treated sand shall be used with discretion and only at intersections on the Emergency or High Priority Routes identified on the Town of Redcliff Snow Clearing Route Map.

B. SNOW CLEARING

1. When driving conditions deteriorate and sanding will not be beneficial, the removal of snow will be instituted by similar inspections throughout the town as does occur with sanding.
2. Snow clearing will normally occur whenever the accumulated amount of snow on the streets reaches approximately 75mm to 100mm of loose depth.
3. Snow clearing will occur according to the designated route priorities as assigned by the plan attached to this procedure.
4. Routes shall be cleared in the following order:
 - 1 Emergency - First
 - 2 High Priority - Second
 - 3 Low Priority - Third
 - 4 Residential/Commercial - Fourth

5. Snow clearing on the downtown commercial portion of Broadway Avenue from 1 Street E to 4 Street E shall be cleared from curb to curb and hauled off-site as quickly as manpower and other snow clearing priorities of the Public Services Department allows. During the plowing process the windrow shall be placed in the middle of the street and all intersections shall be opened up at the time of plowing. During the removal process, the Public Services Department will endeavor to open accesses to properties that have off-street vehicle access or public parking.
6. Snow will be cleared from the streets by plowing up onto boulevards wherever possible. In cases where the sidewalk is immediately adjacent to the street, the snow will be plowed up to the sidewalk and left wherever possible. Where it is not possible to leave the windrow the snow will be removed as quickly as manpower and other snow clearing priorities of the Public Services Department allows.
7. Driveways, lanes and sidewalks which are blocked by the plowing operation will be opened by available machines at the earliest opportunity. The intent is to inconvenience the public to a minimum amount.
8. Although it would be appropriate to have cars removed from the streets and avenues, this is not always possible. The Town will endeavor to provide notice to residents in each area that is being cleared, in order for the clearing operation to be accomplished efficiently. Where vehicles are encountered, the windrow around the vehicle shall be minimized as much as possible when there is a large amount of snow to be cleared and it will be eliminated when there is a minor amount of snow to be removed.
9. Snow piles will be placed in such a manner as to not damage any public or private property or to completely impede access to any residence or business. Snow will also be placed to allow visual and physical access to fire hydrants.
10. Snow clearing will be done in a manner to minimize the impact of melting snow upon private property. Precautions will be taken as reasonably possible to keep all storm sewer catch basins free and clear of snow and ice. Where blocked drainage patterns would likely cause flooding, snow and ice will be cleared or removed from the area as quickly as manpower and other snow clearing priorities of the Public Services Department allows.
11. Snow clearing in residential/commercial areas not designated as priority routes will be handled on an as-needed basis. When clearing is deemed necessary, the snow will be removed one zone at a time. The zones are determined as per the zone map attached to this procedure. Due to the possibility that some residents may feel a bias to certain areas being cleared first, a rotating schedule of zones to be cleared has been instituted. This schedule will rotate from storm to storm.
12. Snow clearing of private property will not be undertaken by the Town and requests for this service will be directed to contractors with current business licenses for the Town of Redcliff.
13. Special requests for services will be directed to the Public Services Director or his designate and will be evaluated for an appropriate response.
14. Lanes will not be cleared of snow unless they become impassable for the Town's garbage truck. The reasoning behind this action is that the amount of traffic in the lanes does not justify the commitment of scarce resources during the clearing operation.
15. Allowing for all of the foregoing paragraphs, it is also the responsibility of the Public Services Department to revise any and all protocols as warranted and caused by extreme weather conditions, localized emergencies, staff levels, and budget restraints.

