

Winter Operations Plan

I. Policy Statement:

The Borough's primary objective during the winter season is to provide for safe travel for emergency services, education and commerce during adverse weather conditions. Implementation of the Borough's Snow and Ice Control Plan with the cooperation and assistance of the public will enable the Borough Public Works crews to maximize the effectiveness of snow and ice control operations.

Objectives:

The responsibility for providing snow and ice control for the Borough's state and county roads includes 319 lane miles of streets, 101 cul-de-sacs and 79 streets without turnarounds. In addition, the responsibility for the Borough facilities and the Senior Center property rests entirely with the Department of Public Works. Coordination of snow and ice control activities is the responsibility of the Director of Public Works. In all instances, snow and ice control is considered emergency work because the streets must be cleared at all times. Because of the potential hazard to the motoring public and high incidence of overtime involved in this activity, careful planning and preparation must be done prior to the snow and ice season.

The objective of the Snow and Ice Control Plan is to provide maximum service to the public during periods of snow and ice events while exercising wise management of the Borough's resources and protecting the environment.

1. Priority Streets:

The Borough's goal is to have priority streets plowed within 12 hours from the time after the snow stops falling. The goal on the priority streets is to achieve bare pavement.

2. Neighborhood Streets:

The Borough's goal is to plow neighborhood streets within 18 hours of the completion of the priority streets. The goal on the neighborhood streets is to make the streets passable and provide good traction at stop signs, hills and curves.

II. Winter Maintenance Policies:

A. Pre-season Equipment Preparation

Each year between October 15th and November 15th all snow and ice related attachments will be reinstalled on the snow-fighting equipment and thoroughly inspected for proper operation and calibration. Prior to November 30th crews mount plows and check each truck for the proper salt distribution from the salt spreader.

B. Snow Route Inspection & Preparation

Prior to November 30th crews drive all streets in each snow route to look for obstructions (low

hanging limbs, high manhole frames, etc.) that could impede snow removal operations. The obstructions are logged and reported to the Director of Public Works so appropriate action can be determined.

C. Personnel Training

Prior to November 15th training is completed with all personnel that respond to winter weather activities. Training includes the review of those policies and procedures that pertain to snow and ice control and the operation and maintenance of snow and ice equipment.

D. Weather Forecasting and Subsequent Planning for a Winter Storm

Each year prior to the snow season, the Director of Public Works will review and renew the contract with the Borough's weather forecasting service. The basis for the review will be the cost and the ability of the service to provide the Borough with vital planning information. The information shall include 24/7 alert notification, the opportunity to consult with a meteorologist, air and pavement temperatures, precipitation type, storm arrival time, storm duration and expected rate of snowfall accumulation.

During snow and ice events the Director of Public Works or designee will use the weather forecasting information provided by the weather forecasting service to determine the proper equipment and crews necessary to respond to each individual weather incident.

E. Anti-Skid

The use of PennDOT approved Type I, II or III anti-skid is an effective and economical material for snow and ice control. Experience shows that a 2:1 mix of salt/anti-skid is effective for most events. Higher concentrations of anti-skid may be used for events such as rain to snow transitions, ice storms or accumulating snow that will require repetitive plowing operations.

F. Snow Routes and Street Destinations

The Borough is divided into three (3) geographical zones which correspond to the Police patrol zones. The zones are further divided into thirteen (13) snow routes. These routes have proven to be effective in providing systematic snow and ice control. Designated snow routes are maintained by the Department of Public Works. They are utilized by snow plow operators to effectively perform their duties during snow and ice operations. The routes are reviewed each year to be certain they reflect any required updates. The routes designate which streets are "Priority Streets" and which are "Neighborhood Streets".

1. "Priority Streets" are streets which meet the following criteria:
 - Borough-maintained PennDOT and Allegheny County roads
 - Higher traffic counts and traveled speeds
 - Serve as an access point to emergency services facilities
(hospitals, fire stations, police headquarters, ambulance bases, etc.)
 - Serve as outlets for major subdivisions

Any streets with steep grades

2. "Neighborhood Streets" are Borough streets that do not meet the priority street criteria.

G. Plowing and Spreading Operations

Due to the varied nature of winter storms, the Borough must react to each individual winter storm in a manner that utilizes our resources in the most effective and economical way.

Guidelines and training information from the American Public Works Association and the Salt Institute are used as a foundation for our plowing and spreading operations. These guidelines are not mandatory instructions for action. The guidelines are based on experience and best practices of numerous other agencies engaged in snow and ice control. The Director of Public Works or designee exercises local judgment in determining appropriate snow and ice control methods for the specific weather condition expected in each winter precipitation event. (See Attachment "E" for Spreading Operations.)

Plowing and Spreading Operation Basic Guidelines

Condition	Priority Streets	Neighborhood Streets
Snow or Ice in the Forecast	Pre-treat areas with Salt/Anti-Skid	
Ice	Salt/Anti-Skid based on pavement temperatures and ice accumulation. Carefully monitor conditions for retreatment.	Check hills, intersections and curves for Salt/Anti-Skid treatment.
Less than 2" of fallen snow	Salt/Anti-Skid based on pavement temperatures and forecast to achieve clear pavement.	Check hills, intersections and curves for possible Salt/Anti-Skid treatment.
Greater than 2" of fallen snow	Plow/Salt to achieve clear pavement. Stay on priority streets until snow has stopped and streets are cleared.	Plow streets to achieve passable condition. Check hills, intersections and curves for possible salt or sand treatment to provide traction.

The Director of Public Works and snow shift foremen will closely monitor weather service forecasts and storm development to best plan for and respond to winter weather conditions. Rising and falling air and pavement temperatures, wind, type of precipitation, anticipated accumulation and predicted start and end times are all factors that must be considered when scheduling response. The number of snow crews and support personnel will be assigned to best achieve the desired results.

Number of crews can range between 1-3 trucks to monitor and respond to reports of slick spots and may increase to full snow and ice control operations which require all plow operators and support staff to work in shifts to provide around-the-clock storm response.

It is the Borough's policy to not salt alleys. If, however, there is a need for police, fire or ambulance emergency service vehicles to enter a specific alleyway during snow operations, every effort will be made to clear the snow to allow access based on a request from the Police Chief, Fire Chief or other responding emergency personnel.

When snow and ice control operations are underway and schools are in session, special consideration will be given to the streets around the schools to help assure safe travel for students going to and from school.

The Borough does not plow private streets such as the streets in mobile home parks and apartment complexes.

It is the responsibility of the property owner or neighborhood association to maintain private streets. There are numerous private firms available to offer snow and ice control service on private streets.

H. Emergency Response

Whenever the Director of Public Works is notified by emergency response providers including Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services personnel of the need for special assistance during periods of ice and snow, snow removal crews will assist those agencies by clearing roads and streets to permit access to their destinations.

I. Winter No-Parking Restrictions

Vehicles parked in cul-de-sacs prevent snow plow operators from plowing and treating those areas.

The blowing and shoveling of snow onto the cartway of Borough streets is also prohibited. On-street parking limits our ability to provide the effective and efficient service that is our goal. (Reference Ordinance No. 810-08 – Attachments “F”)

J. Declaration of Snow Emergency

In the event of a major snow storm, it may be impossible to maintain all of the established priority routes. Therefore, it is necessary to declare a snow emergency. (See Attachments “G”)

An emergency situation will be declared by the Director of Public Works or his authorized representative when:

1. A significant amount of snow has fallen in a 24-hour period or snow has fallen to the extent that Borough forces are unable to keep normal priority routes open.
2. A major ice storm occurs.
3. When, in the opinion of the Director of Public Works, the travel of emergency vehicles is severely restricted.
4. When a storm event deposits a continuing accumulation for a duration requiring Public Works forces to be on duty for 14 hours or more.

III. **Snow Routes**

Guidelines for spreading de-icers on Borough streets are as follows:

PRIORITY STREETS

All streets indicated as Priority Streets shall be spread with salt. The intent is to get Priority

Streets to clear pavement. The time and quantity of materials spread will be determined to maximize the effectiveness of the de-icing materials.

NEIGHBORHOOD STREETS

Streets indicated as Neighborhood Streets shall only be spread at problem areas (intersections with stop signs, bridges, hills, etc.) with salt. The intent on Neighborhood Streets is to plow the streets to a drivable condition but not to deice them to clear pavement.

ANTI-SKID/SALT MIXTURE

In the event that air and pavement temperatures are such that salt is ineffective, crews may be directed to spread areas with an abrasive mixture of anti-skid and salt. This mixture is to aid in traction.

SNOW ROUTES:

Snow Route #1	Leechburg Rd/Elicker/Kellywood/East Oakmont
Snow Route #2	Rout 909/Ramparts/Cherrywood/Barking
Snow Route #3	Logans Ferry Heights/Browntown/Crystal Springs
Snow Route #4	Regency park/Garlow Plan
Snow Route #5	Rustic Ridge/Ross Hollow/Highlands/Woodlawn
Snow Route #6	Frankstown Acres/Boyce Park Village/Edgemede
Snow Route #7	Holiday Park (West of 286)/380
Snow Route #8	Holiday Park (Plan 29)/Abers Creek Road
Snow Route #9	Holiday Park (East of 286)/New Texas Road
Snow Route #10	Frankstown Acres/Chavelle Court/Renton Road
Snow Route #11	Center New Texas/Center/Unity
Snow Route #12	Old Leechburg/Rockland Manor/Briarwood Hills
Snow Route #13	Renton Plan/Nike Site/Logans Ferry (Sections)

PRIORITY STREET LIST

**Snow events when less than a full call-out is required
One to three trucks, dependent upon the nature of the event.**

Zone I:

New Texas Road from Saltsburg Road to Murrysville line
Sagamore Hill Road
Saltsburg Road from New Texas Road to Murrysville line
Logans Ferry Road
Holiday Park Drive
O'Block Road
Sandune Drive
Presque Isle Drive
Havana Drive
Abers Creek Road
Mardi Gras Drive
Hialeah Drive
Cayuga Drive
Chapparal Drive
Blue Ridge Road
Tahoe Drive
Surfside Drive
Malabar Drive
Balkan Drive

Zone II:

Saltsburg Road from New Texas Road to Penn Hills line
Center New Texas Road
Renton Road
Old Leechburg Road from Stotler Road to Unity Center Road
Greendale Drive
Beech Road
Oak Road
Francis Road
Elm Road
Maple Road
Boyce Park Drive
Darlan Hill Drive
Davidson Road
Wimbledon Drive
Millers lane
Stirling Drive
O'Block Avenue
New Texas from Saltsburg Road to Leechburg Road
Leechburg Road from New Texas Road to Penn Hills line
School Road

Zone III:


Leechburg Road from New Texas Road to Sardis Road
Shearer Road
Elicker Road
Route 909
Kerr Road
Dinwiddie Drive
Frontenac Road
Ramparts Boulevard
Repp Road
Emeerald Drive
Lynn Ann Drive
Kelly Ridge Road
Entrance Drive
Memorial Drive
Browntown Road
Old Leechburg Road from Stotler Road to Route 366
Rustic Ridge Drive
Ross Hollow Road

NOTE: Public Works Department Zones correspond to Police Department Zones.

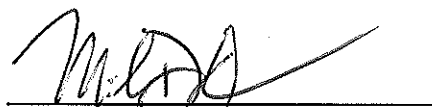
BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED THIS 9TH DAY OF JANUARY 2012

ATTEST

BOROUGH OF PLUM



SECRETARY



PRESIDENT