

STANDARD OPERATING POLICY

CITY OF CARTHAGE SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL POLICY

PURPOSE:

The City of Carthage's purpose is to provide an adequate transportation system for vehicles properly equipped for winter driving conditions in snow and ice events. Optimal conditions will be provided as soon as practicable after a storm. Certain streets have a higher intensity use and thus have a higher priority for snow removal. The City of Carthage has established the following criteria for snow removal.

STATEMENT OF POLICY:

It is the policy of the City of Carthage to provide an appropriate flow of traffic in the City of Carthage during ice and snow conditions, while staying within reasonable financial expenditure limits. The Carthage City Council and staff, with adoption of this plan, is establishing a high priority for maintaining appropriate traffic flow in regards to snow and ice conditions. When snow and ice removal is necessary, first priority will be to open the Snow Route System (Map attached). This will allow a uniform open street grid throughout the City. This pattern also places most citizens within a reasonable distance of a street that has been opened or treated within a rational length of time, depending on conditions. Street crews are responsible for keeping these streets travelable throughout the storm.

PROCEDURE:

The Snow Route System

The Street Commission for the City of Carthage has designated a special network of roads within the city as a snow route system. Snow plow crews will clear and apply deicer materials when applicable to the designated Snow Route first, which include Primary and Minor Arterial roadways, and Collector streets in priority order. The only deviation from these priorities is at the request of Public Safety to assist in providing emergency access or support. In the event heavy, continuing snowfall prevents adequate cleaning of streets, operations will be restricted to the established designated snow routes. This network of roads encompasses more than 28 miles. The goal is to provide emergency response and the maximum level of service to the greatest number of people as quickly as possible when winter weather affects road conditions.

PRIORITY 1: Designated Snow Route including Principal and Minor Arterial roadways and Collector Streets. Arterial roadways are heavily traveled north-south, east-west, cross city routes and thoroughfares; Square/Central Business District: Snow removed from the square as soon as practical after snow event, depending on severity of occurrence; Bridges, Overpasses and Viaducts. These streets are kept travelable at all times by continuous plowing and the application of deicer materials throughout the storm.

PRIORITY 2: "hot spots" (steep hills, dangerous intersections, and bridges). Schools (other than on snow route). Remaining Principal and Minor Arterial roadways and Collector Streets.

PRIORITY 3: Low traffic residential areas. These areas are plowed after all priority one and two streets have been plowed and treated. Anti-skid or deicer materials may be applied as necessary. The

following will also include Public Parking Lots: Plowed as soon as practical after snow event, depending on severity of occurrence. Sidewalks: Sidewalks at City operated facilities shall be cleared within 36 hours of end of snowfall. Clearing snow from sidewalks adjacent to private property is the responsibility of the property owner or resident. Alleys: Alleys will not be plowed except to maintain essential City services.

Citizens are requested to assist in the snow removal program by:

1. Parking off the street during inclement weather.

If street parking is absolutely necessary, do not park directly across from another parked car. Visibility is poor during snow removal and the trucks are large and need room to maneuver. Please give the trucks plenty of room.

2. Trimming low hanging branches from right-of-way trees.

Trees that are located close to the street must have their branches trimmed a minimum of eight feet above the pavement. Snow removal trucks can be damaged by low hanging limbs resulting in equipment down time and a slower snow removal program.

3. Do not allow children to construct snow structures or sled in the right-of-way.

Snow plow trucks move several tons of snow off the pavement. It is extremely dangerous to allow children to play near the road during snow removal. The truck drivers cannot always see children playing and the weight and force of moving snow could cause serious injury.

4. Snow plowed from roads could end up blocking private driveways for some time. The Street Department recognizes the inconvenience this causes. The City is unable to remove these windrows of snow from the numerous driveways within the City. To reduce the amount of snow that might block a driveway, individuals should shovel an open area approximately 15 feet long along the curbline in advance of the driveway.

NOTIFICATION:

The Street Department will attempt to notify the public by radio when plowing snow. Usually the decision to plow is made prior to 6 AM, making earlier notification difficult. The public will be asked to remove their vehicles from the streets to be plowed to improve plowing time, drainage, and public response. It is realized that the City will not be able to maintain a definite time schedule due to snow conditions and possible equipment failure. The City also will ask the local newspaper to give coverage in November of each year of this plan, so that the citizens of the community may be better informed. This Snow and Ice Removal Policy is intended to give general directions for street deicing and snow removal. It is realized that special conditions may arise that will require a response out of the given sequence of this plan. Examples may be drifting snow, funerals, flooding threats, freezing rains, etc.

Please note that it is not the position of The City of Carthage to maintain a bare pavement policy nor to provide snow and ice removal on every city street during or after every snow storm. Therefore,

after periods in which movement of traffic has occurred, snow plows no longer become an option to totally clear snow packed or icy streets, except to remove loose material on top.

EQUIPMENT: The Street Department Snow Removal Program includes;

- 1 Front End Loader
- 1 Loader/Backhoe
- 1 Road Grader
- 3 10 Foot Snow Plows
- 3 UT Spreaders
- 6 Dumptrucks

Seventeen (17) Street Department personnel are available for equipment operations and snow removal. Landfill and Park Department personnel may also assist in the snow removal effort depending on snow/ice severity. When a storm is imminent, Street Department crews are put on notice and assigned times to report to work to begin snow and ice removal operations as conditions dictate. Work continues until streets are travelable.

EFFECTIVE:

DATE:

APPROVAL:

LAST REVISED:

CITY OF CARTHAGE SNOW ROUTE

PRIMARY

NORTH/SOUTH STREETS (Snow Plow)

River Street, from Central Ave to Fir Road
Garrison Avenue, from V Hwy to Fairview Ave
Grand Avenue, from Chestnut to Airport Drive
Baker Blvd, from Central Ave to Fairview Ave
Hazel Avenue, from Centennial Ave to HH Hwy
N. Francis/Civil War Rd, from Central Ave to 71 Hwy
North Main, from Central Ave to Claxton Ave

PRIMARY

EAST/WEST STREETS (Snow Plow)

Chestnut Street, from East City Limits to Baker Blvd
Macon Street, from River St to Wilson Road
13th Street, from Buena Vista to Grand Ave
Oak Street, from Garrison Ave to Country Club Road
Centennial Avenue, from Buena Vista to Baker Blvd
Fairview Avenue, from Buena Vista to Baker Blvd
Airport Drive, from East City Limits to Hazel Ave
Fir Road, from River St to Grand Ave
Central Avenue, from River St. 96 Hwy

MODOT ROUTE (Maintained by State Highway Dept)

96 Hwy/Central Ave, from 96 Viaduct to 71 Hwy
Route 571 (Garrison/Fairlawn/Grand), from Fairview to 71 Hwy
HH HWY/Fir Road, From Grand Ave to West City Limits

CITY SQUARE/BUSINESS DISTRICT (Grader)

Main Street, from Central to Chestnut
Grant Street, from Central to Chestnut
3rd Street, from Garrison to Lincoln
4th Street, from Garrison to Lincoln
Howard Street, from Central to Chestnut
Lyon Street, from Central to Chestnut
Maple Street, from Central to 7th St
Lincoln Street, from Central to Chestnut
2nd Street, from Garrison to Lincoln
5th Street, from Garrison to Howard
6th Street, from Garrison to Lincoln
7th Street, from Garrison to Main St

