



CITY OF WARMAN BYLAW NO. 2023-10
A BYLAW OF THE CITY OF WARMAN TO REGULATE
SNOW REMOVAL FROM STREETS & SIDEWALKS

WHEREAS Section 8 of the *Cities Act* provides, in part, as follows:

“8(1) A city has a general power to pass any bylaws for city purposes that it considers expedient in relation to the following matters respecting the city:

- b) the safety, health and welfare of people and the protection of people and property;
[and]

- g) streets, including temporary and permanent openings and closings.”

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the City of Warman in the Province of Saskatchewan enacts as follows:

1. SHORT TITLE

1.1 This Bylaw may be cited as “The Snow Removal Bylaw”.

2.0 DEFINITIONS

2.1 In this Bylaw:

- (a) “City” means the City of Warman.
- (b) “Occupant” / “Owner” shall have the meaning given thereto by The Cities Act.

3.0 OBJECTIVE & INITIATIVES

- 3.1 To facilitate the handling of emergencies by Police, Fire, and Ambulance services during the winter.
- 3.2 To reduce the hazards of icy conditions for motorists and pedestrians.
- 3.3 To minimize the economic losses to the community and industry resulting from unsatisfactory winter driving conditions.

Handwritten initials in blue ink, appearing to be "DA" and "SP" written together.

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- 3.4 The City of Warman Public Works & Utilities Department is responsible for responding to snow events. It is dangerous to initiate a snow clearing program during a storm when visibilities are reduced. In the event of limited or zero visibility, all operations will cease until conditions improve to safeguard both the public and City employees. It is also ineffective to clear streets that are passable until it stops snowing, as the traffic, additional snow accumulation, and winds tend to nullify any efforts made. Typically, a major snow clearing program is not initiated until the snowfall has stopped.

4.0 SNOW REMOVAL PROCESS

- 4.1 The Snow Clearing Program Map, attached to and forming part of this Bylaw as Schedule 'A', illustrates the order of snow removal priority routes, as well as a general direction of workflow for snow removal throughout the city.

PRIORITY 1 as per **yellow** highlighted arterial streets;

As the term indicates these roads and streets will be graded first; as soon as possible after the abatement of a major storm event. Every effort will be made to maintain priority routes as close to bare pavement as is practicable. If, as the winter progresses, windrows become too large or extend into driving lanes, a windrow removal operation may be scheduled. Typically, this would only be required after repeated heavy snowfalls.

PRIORITY 2 as per **blue** highlighted collector streets;

Streets along this route will be cleared after completion of the priority 1 route. Every effort will be made to maintain Priority 2 routes as close to bare pavement as is practicable. Where secondary routes pass through residential areas with combined curb and sidewalks, an effort will be made to deposit the windrow to one side to keep sidewalks clear on the opposite side as per the sidewalk snow removal route. In some cases, snow will be ridged to the center of the street for removal, pending snowfall amounts. Between winter storm events the route will be maintained according to the standard as required. If, as the winter progresses, windrows become too large or extend into driving lanes, a windrow removal operation may be scheduled. Typically, this would only be required after repeated heavy snowfalls.

4.2 **Residential and Business**

Remaining residential and business street routes not in Priority 1 and 2, snow clearing is to maintain a compacted, drivable, snow packed surface. A bare pavement surface is very difficult to maintain during an average winter due to the extent and narrowness of residential streets, as well as the incremental volume of cleared snow. It would quickly become both cost and manpower prohibitive to maintain bare pavement as windrows would have to be physically removed multiple times during an average winter. Between winter storm events, periodically and as required, the compacted street surface in residential areas will be lightly graded to reduce and flatten ruts to maintain the drivability as per the standard. In residential areas once

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snowpack has reached a depth of approximately 6" and as determined by the Transportation Management, snow will be center ridged and hauled away time and weather permitting.

Residential/Business snow clearing will be scheduled according to the Garbage/Recycling Collection Routes as bins hinder the snow removal process.

Road graders are equipped with a retractable wing which is lowered to pull snow past residential driveways to avoid heavy windrows blocking access. It is unavoidable that some snow will trickle off the edge of this wing, especially in heavy snow conditions. This is considered acceptable, and our procedures dictate that operators will not return to clear this minor inconvenience regardless of complaints received. If it is apparent a driveway is missed completely the operator will be instructed to return and clear the windrow.

4.3 **Lanes and Alleyways (only those highlighted in pink will be cleared)**

Provided that manpower and equipment are available, the city will clear snow in a timely manner from alleys/lanes in the central business district, followed by alleys/lanes where residential properties have a straight curb sidewalk and **no driveway**. Residential properties with an alley/lane accessible garage, will only have the alleys/lanes cleared if there is time permitting, and as deemed necessary by Transportation Management. **These are NOT considered a priority**. Prior to spring and time permitting, alley/lane snow will be removed in areas deemed necessary by Transportation Management. **It is recommended that both residents and/or businesses contract a local snow removal company if they require service to their alley or lane on an urgent timeline.**

4.4 **Sidewalks**

Sidewalks along Priority 1 and 2 will be cleared by the City of Warman as time permits. Remaining sidewalks in residential and business areas will be at the discretion of the home/business owner to maintain.

5.0 USE OF SALT & SAND ON CITY STREETS

5.1 The City of Warman will monitor streets and salt and/or sand as required. In the event of a substantial snowfall, streets will generally be cleared first, followed by application of salt and/or sand.

6.0 WINDROWS

- 6.1 Some of the City streets could have windrows in the middle of the streets in preparation of snow removal. It is obstinate to make turning movements from behind these snow windrows, and caution is advised to both through traffic and turning vehicles. Crosswalk rules still apply following a snowstorm, and motorists are expected to adjust their driving speeds accordingly to allow them to see pedestrians in ample time to stop. Pedestrians are urged to proceed with extra caution, as it is difficult to see them amongst the windrows.

7.0 SNOW PILES

- 7.1 The City's Public Works and Utilities Department will monitor snow piles for safe sight distances at key intersections and remove them at the discretion of the Department. Priorities are given to intersections and open lane entrances in the vicinity of school zones. In years of significantly above-normal snowfall, it may be impractical to remove every snow pile and priorities will be devoted to areas of higher traffic volume at major intersections.

8.0 BOULEVARD WINDROWS OR EDGE RIDGES AFFECTING PRIVATE DRIVEWAY APPROACHES

- 8.1 Some windrows may be pushed to the curb edge of sidewalk in the residential or business areas and when time permits will be removed at the discretion of Transportation Management.
- 8.2 The plough or grader operator will make every effort to drop the wing blade to drag the snow through driveways reducing the edge ridges or windrows along the driveway approach. Normally these ridges do not prevent access and are the homeowner's responsibility to remove. The grader operator may not identify every driveway and may leave a full windrow or ridge across the driveway. During a major snowfall, the city will focus on restoring the transportation grid to the city before returning to clean any boulevard ridges or windrows. If your driveway is missed by the grader wing, and a severely large boulevard windrow or ridge is left, please call City Hall at 933-2133 and leave your address, name and phone number. Public Works staff will inspect locations, and dispatch appropriate equipment when it is available if the ridge meets our criteria.
- 8.3 The City is not responsible for clearing ridges from driveways where residents have constructed multiple driveways without the proper spacing, or wider than normally allowed maximum widths of 7.3 meters (24').
- 8.4 Public Works and Utilities Department will remove snow in the most efficient manner; however, it is at the discretion of the Public Works and Utilities Department as to how the snow will be removed. In certain instances of extreme snow fall, snow may be ploughed across the street covering the sidewalk and flange, leaving the opposite sidewalk clear of snow.



9.0 OWNER / OCCUPANT ACCOUNTABILITY

- 9.1 No person shall place any snow, ice dirt or other obstruction, shoveled, swept or cleaned from private property onto any street, sidewalk or lane.
- 9.2 To avoid a large accumulation of snow on the street, any snow removed off the City sidewalk is to be placed on private property.
- 9.3 Pushing snow into the streets creates more snow for the grader to plough and rough driving conditions for all residents. This may also result in a large ridge left behind in the owners' driveways and adjacent driveway. If this takes place, Bylaw will fine the individual responsible. Moreover, City crews will not assist in the removal of these ridges that are augmented by residents pushing their own snow into the street.
- 9.4 Residents clearing their driveways in a timely manner will greatly assist City crews in identifying private driveway locations and utilizing the wing appropriately.
- 9.5 No homeowner shall construct any fence/flowerbed or landscaping materials such as stones/bricks on City property in front of the easement area that would hinder snow removal.
- 9.6 Loraas bins, both recycling and waste disposal, must be placed no sooner than the morning of designated area pickup, and removed from the street the same day.

10.0 PARKED VEHICLES

- 10.1 It is advised that residents avoid parking their vehicles on the streets during a snow clearing program. It is the owner/occupant's responsibility to dig their vehicle out if it gets surrounded by windrows or snow ridges. It significantly slows the clearing program down, and is hazardous for the grader, as well as other traffic. Residents are to move their cars to an alternate location (driveway), where possible. The city is not responsible for clearing the windrows away from vehicles that are parked in the streets during plough operations.
- 10.2 The Public Works & Utilities Department of the City shall have the authority to request any owner or occupant of property within the municipality to remove any vehicles as defined in The Highways and Transportation Act, 1997 for the purpose of removing snow, ice or debris on any street, sidewalk or lane. Owners and occupants will be given twenty-four (24) hours' notice for removal of all vehicles, or the said vehicles will be removed by the City at the owner/occupant's expense.

11.0 COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL

- 11.1 It is prohibited for any private commercial or industrial property to deposit snow on City property or on windrows that the City creates or maintains. The city will not remove windrows of snow resulting from snow plowing operations from loading zones serving commercial, industrial or apartment buildings. It is the responsibility of the owner to take care of clearing these out.



12.0 INFRACTIONS OF THE BYLAW

12.1 Any person or persons who contravenes the provisions of this Bylaw are guilty of an offence and shall be liable upon summary conviction to a fine of not less than \$100.00 not more than \$10,000.00.

13.0 REPEALED

13.1 Bylaw 2022-11 is hereby repealed.

14.0 COMING INTO FORCE

14.1 This Bylaw shall come into force on the final passing thereof.



Mayor



City Clerk



Read a third time and adopted this 11th day of September 2023.

SCHEDULE 'A'

