

THE RESORT MUNICIPALITY OF WHISTLER COUNCIL POLICY

POLICY NUMBER: A-40 DATE OF RESOLUTION:

NAME: Snow and Ice Control Policy

1.0 SCOPE OF POLICY

To provide for the safe passage of vehicles and pedestrians within the Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) by ensuring that snow and ice control operations are carried out on roads, sidewalks, the Village stroll, and on the Valley Trail in a timely manner and in accordance with the priorities identified by Council, included as Schedule A of this Policy. The system of snow and ice control established by this policy is a reasonable allocation of budgetary resources and the availability of the RMOW personnel and equipment considering its other social and budgetary priorities.

2.0 OBJECTIVE

To provide for the safe passage of vehicles and pedestrians within the RMOW during snow and ice season.

3.0 **DEFINITIONS**

That the following definitions apply to this policy:

- a. **Aggregate:** an abrasive mix of salt and sand or sand applied to roadways to improve traction:
- b. **Bare Surface:** snow remaining on the concrete/pavement after Snow Clearing, shall not exceed four (4) cm;
- c. Compacted Snow Surface: Snow that has accumulated on the roadway, sidewalk, village stroll or valley trail surface and is packed by automotive or pedestrian traffic or leveled by snowplows;
- d. **Ice Control:** Involves the control of the build up of packed snow or ice on roadways, sidewalk, village stroll, and valley trail through the use of equipment, aggregates, or chemicals;
- e. **Passible Condition**: Roadway is passable for vehicles with proper winter tires and driving behavior according to the conditions (driving cautiously defensively and at a speed appropriate for slippery roads, which is not necessarily the speed limit and could be significantly less than the posted speed limit); this does not mean bare pavement and some accumulations of snow or ice may be present;
- f. **Recorded Temperature:** The temperature forecast for the RMOW by Environment Canada:

- g. **RMOW** includes the Resort Municipality of Whistler and its wholly owned subsidiary, Whistler Village Land Co.;
- h. **Roads:** Includes but is not limited to public asphalt roads and lanes, parking stalls and lots, loading zones, transit stops and laybys, but does not include gravel roads;
- i. Roads Snow Clearing Season: November 1 March 31
- j. Road Snow Event: Is a snowfall of greater than 10 centimetres (4 inches);
- k. **Snow Clearing:** means mechanical plowing and may be followed by Ice Control, as needed for icy conditions.
- Snow Plowing: Means to move or push the accumulation of snow from roads, sidewalks, village stroll, and valley trails using equipment, including, but not limited to, graders, loaders and plow trucks. Snow will not be cleared to bare pavement;
- m. **Snow Removal:** Involves the plowing of snow into piles, loading onto trucks, and subsequently hauling snow to snow disposal sites;
- n. **Trails Snow Clearing:** a department within the Resort Operations Department of the RMOW;
- Valley Trail and Village Sidewalks the 3 metre wide paved trail in and throughout the RMOW connecting Whistler neighbourhoods, known as the Valley Trail and certain 2 metre wide paved pedestrian sidewalks within the RMOW boundaries as set out in Schedule A
- p. Valley Trail Snow Clearing Season: December 1 March 31;
- q. Valley Trail Snow Clearing Hours of Operation: 5:00 am to 3:00 pm
- r. **Village or Pedestrian Stroll** the pedestrian promenade linking the various plazas and squares of Whistler designated as the Village Stroll as set out in Schedule A
- s. **Village and Valley Trail Snow Event:** a snowfall of greater than 5 centimetres (2 inches) has accumulated on the ground;
- t. **Village Services** a department of the Resort Operations Department of the RMOW;
- village Services Snow Clearing Hours of Operation: From October to June 7 am to 5 pm; with an additional hour of coverage from 6 am to 7 am during the Snow Clearing Season, as required;
- v. Village Snow Clearing Season: November 1 March 31;

4.0 Snow Control: Roads

- The Roads Maintenance Supervisor or their designate will direct the commencement of Snow Plowing during and after a Road Snow Event;
- Snow Plowing priorities are identified as high priority (Priority 1 Roads), secondary priority (Priority 2 Roads), tertiary priority (Priority 3 Roads), (see Schedule A Snow and Ice Maps for identified priority routes);
- c. During an emergency response, Snow Clearing resources may be utilized to ensure that emergency response route(s) can be maintained to a Passable Condition;

- d. Snow Plowing shall be done in a manner to achieve a minimum five metres width for driving.
- e. Staff will initially plow Priority 1 Roads and maintain Priority 1 Roads to a Passable Condition until the termination of the Snow Event.
- f. Priority 2 Roads will be plowed to a Passable Condition once Priority 1 Roads remain at a Passable Condition;
- g. Priority 3 Roads will be plowed to a Compacted Snow Surface once Priority 1 and 2 Roads remain at a Passable Condition:

5.0 Snow Removal: Roads

- a) Snow Removal priorities are based on the prioritized routes set out in Schedule A; If Snow Removal is required, the snow would be removed first from Priority 1 Roads, and any additional removal would follow the hierarchy of roads that is set out in Schedule A;
- b) Snow Removal may not be done during a Road Snow Event unless Priority 1 roads cannot be maintained passible due to the amount of snow accumulation and is at the discretion of the Supervisor or their designate;

6.0 Ice Control: Roads

- a. The same priority routes identified in Schedule A will be utilized for Ice Control;
- b. Ice Control will be initiated by the Roads Maintenance Supervisor or their designate when the Recorded Temperature is forecast to reach 2 degrees Celsius or lower;
- c. Staff will initially commence Ice Control on Priority 1 Roads;
- d. Staff will commence Ice Control on Priority 2 Roads once Priority 1 Roads can be maintained to a Passable Condition;
- e. Application of Aggregate will take place on the following:
 - i. Hills;
 - ii. Curves;
 - iii. School zones;
 - iv. Bus stops;
 - v. before street signalized intersections; and
 - vi. before stop signs;
- f. Members of the public and staff are encouraged to immediately report any observed icy conditions for Priority 1, Priority 2 or Priority 3 Roads located in the RMOW to the Road Maintenance Supervisor or their designate. Reports of observed icy conditions will be reviewed during the operating hours of 7:30am to 4:30pm.

7.0 Snow Clearing and Removal: Village Pedestrian Stroll

- The RMOW will be responsible for Snow Clearing on RMOW owned Village Stroll areas and Creekside municipal sidewalks on a priority basis in accordance with the route set out in Schedule A;
- b. Snow Plowing by contract will occur in areas identified in Sec. 7.0 a. in the event of 5cm of snow accumulation prior to 6:00 am;
- c. The contractor will make all reasonable efforts to snow clear the Village Stroll between the hours of 6:00 am and 10:00 am, before the Village Stroll becomes too congested with pedestrians;
- d. The RMOW will make all reasonable efforts to snow clear Creekside municipal sidewalks prior to 8:00am
- e. The RMOW will apply Ice Control methods on the Village Pedestrian Stroll as needed after Snow Plowing but prior to 8:00 am whenever possible;
- f. The RMOW will conduct Snow Removal from piled snow locations when time permits and the Supervisor determines that this activity is safe and can be completed without a risk to the pedestrian traffic;
- g. Snow accumulation after operational hours, as defined above, will be addressed in the following shift according to the priorities set out above;
- h. The RMOW encourages staff and members of the public to report icy conditions on the Village Pedestrian Stroll and responds to such reports during Regular Operational Hours, as defined above, within a reasonable timeframe. If icy, the Village Services Supervisor or designate will direct Village Services to apply Ice Control to address the icy conditions.

8.0 Snow Clearing and Removal: Valley Trail and Municipal Sidewalks

- a. Snow Clearing priorities are identified as high priority (Priority 1 Areas) and secondary priority (Priority 2 Areas). See Schedule A for defined priority areas;
- b. That the Supervisor of Trails Snow Clearing and /or their designates(s) will direct the commencement of Snow Plowing after 5 cm of snow accumulation;
- c. Snow Clearing will initially be completed on Priority 1 Areas to a Bare Surface Condition and allow for equipment to complete one passes of all Priority 1 Areas;
- d. Snow Clearing of Priority 2 Areas will be completed to a Bare Surface Condition once Priority 1 Areas can be maintained to a Bare Surface Condition;

- e. That snow accumulation after operational hours, as defined above, will be addressed in the follow shift according to the priorities set out above;
- f. Ice Control will be initiated by the Trails Snow Clearing Supervisor or designate on the identified Valley Trail and Sidewalks identified in Schedule A when recorded temps are forecast to reach 0 degrees Celsius or lower;
- g. Ice Control will commence on Priority 1 trails and sidewalks;
- h. Ice Control will commence on Priority 2 trails and sidewalks after completion of Priority 1 trails and sidewalks;

9.0 Record Keeping

Certified Correct:

- a. The Road Maintenance Supervisor or designate shall prepare and maintain written or electronic documentation including but not limited to:
 - 1. Daily weather forecast;
 - 2. Records that identify the time, equipment, and the operator for Snow Plowing, Snow Removal, and Ice Control operations;
 - 3. Service Requests made by the public and the response to the request.
- b. The Village Services Supervisor or their designate shall prepare and maintain written or electronic documentation noting:
 - 4. Daily weather forecast;
 - 5. Service requests made by the public and the response to requests relating to Village Pedestrian Stroll Snow Clearing.
- c. The Trails Snow Clearing Supervisor or their designate shall prepare and maintain written or electronic documentation noting:
 - 6. Daily weather forecast;
 - 7. Records that identify the time, equipment, and the operator for Snow Clearing operations;
 - 8. Service Requests made by the public and the response to requests relating to Valley Trail Snow Clearing.

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Manager of Legislative Services/Corporate Officer

































































