

Resolution Number: 112612(2)
Resolution Title: Snow Policy
Date Signed: 11/26/12

DAVIS COUNTY Snow Policy Resolution

A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THE POLICY AND LEVEL OF SERVICE IN RESPECT TO CLEARANCE OF SNOW OR ICE MAINTENANCE OF THIS COUNTY'S SECONDARY ROADS DURING THE WINTER MONTHS.

BE IT ORDAINED

BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF DAVIS COUNTY:

SECTION 1 – PURPOSE

The purpose of this resolution is to establish Davis County's policy and level of service in respect to clearance of snow or ice and maintenance of its secondary road system during the winter months, specifically defined as November through April, as provided in Section 668.10(1b), Code of Iowa, and pursuant to the provisions of Section 309.67, Code of Iowa. This policy and level of service are to be implemented within the amount of money budgeted for this service, as contained in Davis County's secondary road budget as submitted to and approved by the Iowa Department of Transportation and adopted by the Board of Supervisors. The clearance of roads at any cost, under any circumstances, day or night, is not the County's policy.

SECTION 2 – LEVEL OF SERVICE

Clearance of snow or ice and maintenance of the secondary road system during the winter months is primarily for the benefit of the local residents of this County. Each storm has individual characteristics and must be dealt with accordingly. The portion of the roadway improved for travel will have upon it snow and ice in a compacted condition. These conditions may be continuous, or they may be more concentrated on hills, in valleys, curves, and/or intersections. The County's existing snow removal equipment will be utilized for this purpose. On occasion County personal may be rendered unavailable due to the requirements of the Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act of 1991. Except for "emergencies" as determined by the County Engineer's professional judgment, or his designee acting in his absence, on a case by case basis, all clearance of snow and ice, sanding, salting, and other maintenance respecting winter conditions shall be accomplished within the amount of money budgeted for this service and as practicable. The entire width of that portion of the road improved for travel may not be cleared of snow, ice compacted snow and ice, or frost. Snow cleared from that part of the roadway improved for travel shall be placed on or in the adjacent shoulder, ditch, or right-of-way. Snow can be expected to accumulate adjacent to the traveled portion to the extent that a motorist's sight distance to both the left and right may be greatly reduced or impaired. The snow removed from intersections will be piled in its corners in piles of unequal height. The line for sight, sight distance, or visibility of motorists approaching these intersections may be greatly reduced or impaired. The County shall not be responsible for snow

pushed or otherwise placed on the roadway or shoulders by others. Motorists shall drive their vehicles during these conditions with additional caution and watchfulness, especially in respect to the surface of the roadway, and reduced or impaired visibility, and are advised to reduce their speed as conditions require. In respect to roadways that have only one lane open, further extreme watchfulness and caution should be exercised by the motorist and their speed should be reduced accordingly. During these conditions no additional warning or regulatory signs will be placed that warn of impaired sight distances, visibility at intersections, road blockages, one-lane conditions, or that the road surface is slick or slippery, or what the advised speed should be.

SECTION 3 – SEQUENCE OF SERVICE

In the implementation of snow and ice removal and other maintenance of the County's secondary road system during the winter months, the County Engineer shall select the actual sequence of roads to be cleared as provided for in this section of this Resolution, and shall determine when drifting, wind velocity, and additional snow or snowstorms require that the snow removal equipment be removed from the roadway, or that additional clearance of paved routes be accomplished prior to the clearance of gravel and dirt roads. The County Engineer's professional judgment shall prevail unless it is clearly erroneous.

A. Paved routes.

1. The initial effort will be to get all routes open to two-lane traffic as soon as possible and / or practicable. During initial snow removal operations, paved roads may only have one lane plowed for a short period of time while making the first pass of the plow.
2. After two-lane travel is possible, subsequent snow removal will be carried on during normal working hours.
3. The truck mounted snow plows and spreaders will not normally be in operation between the hours of 3:30 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. The truck mounted snow plows and spreaders will also not normally be used on weekends and holidays. The trucks may be called off the road if snow and/or blowing snow reduces visibility to hazardous working conditions, in the professional judgment of the Engineer or his delegated representative.
4. When required, due to drifting snow, motor graders may be used to keep the paved roads open and the opening of gravel roads may be delayed.
5. It is not the policy of the County to provide a "dry" pavement condition.
6. After the roads have been plowed, as provided in the section, intersections, hills and curves may, but not necessarily, have placed on them, salt, sand, or other abrasives. These intersections, hills and curves may not be re-sanded, re-salted, or have other abrasives replaced on them between snowstorms.

B. Unpaved roads.

1. The initial effort will be to get all main routes opened to traffic as soon as possible and/or practicable after a storm has passed.
2. After the main roads are open, subsequent snow removal will be carried on during normal working hours.
3. Motor graders and/or truck plows will not normally be in operation between the hours of 3:30 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. The motor graders may be called off the road if snow and/or blowing snow reduces visibility to hazardous working conditions, in the professional judgment of the Engineer or his delegated representative.
4. Removal Operations on unpaved roads may be suspended to assist with removal on paved roads.
5. Snow may not be removed from dirt roads until the gravel roads are clear.
6. Every effort will be made to alternate the sequence of snow removal in order to allow residents equal chances of being cleared on the first day of snow removal. Less traveled road, however, will remain low priority.
7. Snow will be plowed predominately on the East and South sides of gravel roads to reduce drifting of snow on the road.
8. Snow removal from roads designated as 'Level C' will follow the guidelines dictated in each individual 'Level C' road agreement.

C. Private drives.

The County will not clear snow from private drives. Normal snow removal operations may result in snow being deposited in private drives. Snow from private drives shall not be placed on the roadway or shoulders or public right-of-way.

There is no time limit after a snowstorm in which any of the above sequences of clearance, on paved or unpaved roads, shall take place.

D. Mailbox Replacement

The County will assume no liability for mailboxes damaged because of snow removal unless such action can be determined to be malicious. The County will not replace mailboxes damaged or knocked down by the force of snow thrown from the plow.

When it is determined that the County is responsible for damages:

The County will replace the damaged mailbox with a 4"x4" treated wooden post and a mailbox approved by the United States Postal Service. The post, and/or box will be installed by the County in the manor and location approved by the Postal Service.

OR

In lieu of the County installing the mailbox, the property owner will be given the opportunity of \$35 cash payment and assume the responsibility of installing the mailbox to current Postal Service standards.

SECTION 4 – LIMITATION OF SERVICE

The policy and level of service provided for in this Resolution **shall not** include the performance of the following services:

- A. Sanding, salting, or placing other abrasives upon the roadways that are slick, slippery and dangerous due to the formation of frost outside the County's usual working hours.
- B. Sanding, salting, or placing other abrasives upon paved roadways due to freezing precipitation that occurs outside the County's usual working hours.
- C. Placing of additional warning or regulatory signs warning of impaired sight distances, visibility at intersections, road blockages, one-lane conditions, or that the paved surface is slick or slippery, or what the advised speed should be.
- D. Sanding, salting, or placing of abrasives upon any road, except for paved roads. If in the opinion of the County Engineer, or his/her designee, and "emergency" exists and ice has built up on hills and intersections on the gravel system that slope down to another road so as to become dangerous, abrasive material may be applied at these locations as crew and equipment availability allows and only as a last resort. This condition will not, under any circumstances, take a higher priority than placing abrasive material on the paved road system and will only be done after the paved roads are cleared of ice and snow. Abrasive material will also only be placed after the mechanical means have been tried and failed, such as scraping with motor graders.
- E. Sand, salt and other abrasives will not be specially removed from the roadways.

SECTION 5 – EMERGENCY CONDITIONS

Service or the level of sequence of service may be suspended during "Emergency" conditions. An "Emergency" condition shall be considered as one where loss of life is probable, where a serious injury has occurred, or where extensive loss of property is imminent. These conditions should be verified through 911 dispatcher or the Sheriff's Office. The County may respond to all "Emergency" conditions, either during or after a snowstorm. Any

person who makes a false report of an “Emergency” to an officer, Official, or employee of Davis County or who causes a false report to be so made shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not more than \$100 or imprisonment of not more than 30 days in the County Jail. Service or the level or sequence of service shall be further suspended in the event the Governor, by proclamation, implements the State Disaster Plan, or the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, by proclamation, implements the County Disaster Plan. If such occurs, the County personnel and equipment shall be immediately subject to the direction of the governor or the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.

SECTION 6 – REPEALER

All resolutions or parts of resolution in conflict with the provisions of this resolution are hereby repealed.

SECTION 7 – SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

If any section, provision, or part of this resolution shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the resolution as a whole or any section, provision or part thereof adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 8 – WHEN EFFECTIVE

This resolution shall be in effect immediately after its final passage and publication as provided by law.

Passed and approved this 26th day of November, 2012.

Davis County Board of Supervisors

Ron Bride - Chairman of Board Date

Matt Greiner - Member Date

Dale Taylor - Member Date

ATTEST:

Linda Humphrey - Davis County Auditor Date