



## **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

### **STREET DIVISION**

# **S n o w   R e m o v a l & I c e   C o n t r o l   P l a n**

*This version of the City of Union Gap's*

*Snow Removal & Ice Control Plan*

*was reviewed by the City Council Members at the regular  
meeting dated November 13, 2012.*

*Dennis Henne, Public Works Director*

## **SNOW REMOVAL AND ICE CONTROL PLAN**

The City of Union Gap Public Works Department is responsible for snow removal and ice control within city limits.

This plan is provided in order to provide for efficient and effective snow removal and ice control operations on City streets.

Reasonable snow and ice control is necessary for a safe and accessible transportation system, during inclement weather and winter storm events, for both routine travelers and emergency services.

The City will provide such control in a safe and cost effective manner, keeping in mind safety, budget, personnel and environmental concerns.

The City will use City employees, equipment and / or private contractors to provide the service.

## **SNOW REMOVAL AND ICE CONTROL OPERATIONS**

The Public Works Director, or his designee, will decide when to begin snow and /or ice control operations using the following criteria based on public safety.

### *Snow plowing and removal:*

1. Snowfall and accumulation
2. Drifting of snow that causes problems for travel
3. Time of snowfall in relationship to heavy use of streets

### *Ice control and sanding:*

1. Icy conditions which seriously effect travel
2. Freezing rain or snowfall, etc.
3. Ice control operations (sanding) will commence when and where icy conditions occur

Snow and ice control operations are expensive and involve the use of limited personnel and equipment.

A winter storm event is defined as:

1. A snow event yielding greater than three (3) inches of snow
2. Freezing rain causing hazardous driving conditions, or
3. Other like weather conditions.

Snow plowing operations will not generally be conducted for snowfall of less than three (3) inches. When snow accumulation reaches approximately three (3) inches, or more, snow removal operations will begin based on the public safety criteria.



The Public Works Director, or his designee, in conjunction with the City of Union Gap Police Department, may close a roadway as a result of hazardous snow and / or icy conditions. Barricading and signing, for road closures, shall be done in accordance with the "Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices".

Each year, during the month of October, the "Snow Removal and Ice Control Plan" is reviewed and discussed with all Public Works Department personnel; all equipment is prepared and a trial run of equipment is conducted; and safety DVD'S may be viewed and multi-jurisdiction's training opportunities are attended by our crew to ensure a safe winter snow and ice control season.

### **SNOW PLOWING**

Snow will be plowed in a manner that will minimize any traffic obstructions. Snow may be plowed from curb-to-curb and wind rowed to the center of the street, where possible. All intersections will remain opened to allow traffic to proceed through.

City sidewalks, in non-residential areas, will be plowed following street plowing operations. Snow on sidewalks may require City personnel to plow to the back of sidewalk or pulled into the street for removal.

### **SNOW REMOVAL**

The Public Works Director, or his designee, will determine when snow will be removed by truck; the decision to commence snow removal operations is based on public safety criteria.

Snow removal will occur in areas when there is not enough room on the street for snow storage and in areas where accumulated piles of snow create a hazardous condition.

Any large piles located in intersections, or large driveways, will be removed prior to removing snow that has been wind-rowed to the center of the street.

Snow removal operations will commence when snow plowing operations have been completed. Snow will be stored in designated areas.

### **STREET SANDING**

The City will use sand, salt and chip rock when there are hazardous and slippery ice conditions.

All major intersections, bridges, overpasses, and access streets to schools are sanded; streets in front of schools are sanded entirely.

- Main Street from city limits to city limits

- Rudkin Road from Chestnut Street to East Mead Avenue
- South Eighteenth Street from Rainier Place to East Mead Avenue
- Longfibre Road from West Ahtanum Road to city limits
- South Third Avenue from Ahtanum Road to city limits
- West Ahtanum Road from city limits to city limits
- Valley Mall Boulevard from I-82 to city limits
- East Washington Avenue from South Eighteenth Street to city limits
- Rainier Place from Rudkin Road to South Eighteenth Street

## **STREET CLASSIFICATIONS & PRIORITIES**

The City has classified city streets based on the street function, traffic volume and importance to the welfare of the community. Those streets classified as “Snow Plowing”, “Snow Removal” and “Street Sanding”.

The priorities for snow plowing, snow removal and street sanding are as follows:

### *Snow Plowing:*

1. Major and minor arterial, collectors and school access streets
2. All side streets within city limits

### *Snow Removal:*

1. Major and minor arterial, collectors and school access streets
2. All side streets within city limits

### *Street Sanding:*

1. Major and minor arterial, collectors and school access streets
2. All side streets within city limits

The definitions for arterials, collectors, and local streets are as follows:

### *Priority 1 – Arterials:*

Arterials provide a minimum transportation network, which must be kept open, to provide a roadway system covering the major traffic volume streets and providing access to police, fire stations, hospitals, and schools.

### *Priority 2 – Collector Streets:*

Collector streets provide access to Priority 1 thoroughfares. Collectors have a lower traffic volume than Priority 1 arterials and are routes to schools.

### *Priority 3 – Local Streets:*

Local roads, which provide access to collectors and arterials, have low to medium traffic volumes. Local roads provide traffic flow within subdivision and provide direct access to residences and private property. School bus routes not already plowed under Priority 2 are covered under Priority 3.

### **SNOW STORAGE AREAS**

Snow will be hauled and stored at the following locations:

1. Fullbright Park
2. Youth Activities Park

### **WORK SCHEDULES**

Work schedules and shift changes will be done in accordance with the most current Union Contract.

Weather temperatures, total snowfall, snow consistency, and mechanical break downs will affect the timing and completion of snow removal operations.

### **WEATHER CONDITIONS**

Snow removal and ice control operations will not be conducted when weather conditions endanger public safety, city employees, or the equipment.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

All calls regarding snow removal and / or ice control, other than those associated with accidents or emergencies should be directed to the Public Works Department Administration Office as follows:

1. Call 509.225.3524 or 509.248.0432 during regular business hours. Regular business hours are Monday through Thursday from 7:00 a.m. through 6:00 p.m.
2. Call 509.248.0430 for after hours and holiday issues; Public Works Department personnel will be contacted.
3. Call 9-1-1 for all emergencies.