

Winter Operations January Report

Presented by:
Alan Stephen

Winter Operations Report



Approved Service Standard for Winter 2006

For winter 2006 the service standard is as follows:

- for arterial and collector road network (Class 1-3 roads) to have a bare road condition in 3 to 8 hours;
- for residential and rural routes (all other classes of road (4 to 6) to have these roads plowed /sanded in 8 to 24 hours; and
- sidewalk maintenance with a normal four (4) to twelve (12) hour response, up to twenty-four (24) hour response during extreme weather conditions

Winter Operations Staff

- Director, Transportation and Roads – Bob Falcioni
- Operations Manager – Clive Wood
- Operations Engineer – Nathalie Mihelchic
- South-East Section: Tony Fabris
- South Section: Dan Laakso
- North-East Section: Marcel Levac
- North-West Section: Larry Blanchette
- South-West Section: Terry Speirs

3 Shift Option

Winter Operations 2006																																								
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Arterial Routes 1-3							Residential and Rural Routes (4-6)																																	
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04 January Storm

The City was hit with a storm on 04 January which caused the City to execute it's winter operations plan. This was the first opportunity to implement our attack and clean-up to our new City Service Standard.

Storm Planning.

- Each storm is unique and the 5 different sectors of the city are hit in differing degrees.
- To-date we are seeing a difference in the characteristic of storms which have hit the city.
- Rather than seeing heavy snow falls over relatively short periods of time, we are experiencing longer in duration storms with less snow fall. We are attributing this to the above normal temperatures.

Deployment Decisions by 4:30 pm each day for the following days operations. To assist us in this decision making process, we receive City specific forecast every 4 hours.

04 January Storm

The Storm

- The forecast from which decision were made stated that the storm would commence on 04 January at approx 0900 with a 3-hour period of rain and freezing rain. The freezing rain would turn to snow at approx 1200 hrs and the snow would last until about 0600 on 05 January delivering an hourly accumulation of between .25 to 1.5 cm of snow. A maximum accumulation of 8.75 cm of snow was forecast.
- In fact the storm hit the city two hours later than expected but lasted until about 0900 on Thursday morning with a accumulation of 10 cm. The storm hit the city generally as forecast.

04 January Storm

Deployment

- Our deployment catered to the forecast. Our plan was designed to meet the onset of the freezing rain and work through the snow clearance operations. Although schools were not in - we made the decision to attack this storm in a manner we would should schools be in.
- Arterial and Collector routes and roads were attacked and cleaned-up with salting and plowing using our newly implemented 3-shift system as planned with a 85-90% success rate.
- Our residential and rural routes were attacked and cleaned as planned with a 65-70% success rate. We experienced challenges across the city, in varying degrees, on residential and rural routes but the heaviest concentration of challenges came from the NW area of the city.

04 January Storm

Maintenance and Repair.

We maintained a vehicle serviceability of 80-85%. We experienced:

- vehicle serviceability challenges at the beginning of the storm and the beginning of a shift which we have attributed to driver operators not doing end of shift circle checks to ensure faults are passed to maintenance for correction.
- an abnormally high vehicle and plow break-down rate which can be attributed to driver inexperience; and
- a reduction in vehicles on the road when breakdowns occurred and realized we need a more timely system to allow for the re-deployment of spare assets to areas with reduced vehicle capacity.

04 January Storm

Sidewalks and Walkways

- No major problem experienced
- Expectations vs Reality (not bare sidewalk policy)
- Requirement to review entire city sidewalk network

Contractors

- Generally contractors responded in accordance to the plan and we did not experience any challenges with contractors not having a 24 hour capability.

04 January Storm

Action To Be Taken

- re-enforce driver maintenance and circle checks using combined snow operations and maintenance staff;
- ensure drivers continue to do route familiarization (manhole covers, curves, hills, intersections, etc.);
- review salt application percentages to allow these vehicles to spend less repeat time on the arterial and collector routes to enable them to do their adjacent residential and rural routes;
- re-assess the 21 arterial and collector routes and where required because routes were "too long" to recommend the addition of arterial and collector routes to ensure we could meet the 2 hour return window

04 January Storm

- review those critical areas (bridges, curves, hills, intersections) which were currently being covered under the residential and rural policies to treat in a similar fashion as arterial and collector routes
- review the vehicle allocation to ensure we have sufficient equipment to meet the demand
- investigate the creation of a part-time pool of qualified driver operators to ensure that we could maintain coverage on our residential and rural routes for extended storms, sickness, OT, non-availability. Develop a more timely system to allow for the re-deployment of spare assets to areas with reduced vehicle capacity.
- fast-track our “issue manager” pre-cursor to 3-1-1 system to ensure we have a central call answering, work assignment, and follow-up system
- continue the 2006 procurement plan for 8 additional multi-purpose plows and the purchase of area specific weather forecasting and monitoring system

04 January Storm

Summary

- Staff should be congratulated for the work done to-date
- That being said there remains much work to be done to continue refinement
- The aim is to ensure that regardless of where you live in the City you should receive the same level of service (core, business area, residential, rural, remote) to the approved CGS Service Standard.

Problems or concerns call the City Engineering # 560-2022

Questions and Answers

Questions

Winter Operations Report

