

DPW – Bus Stop and Pedestrian Ramp Snow Clearing Report

March 2008



DISCUSSION OUTLINE

- Overview
- Current Practices
- Other Cities
- Options
- Funding

OVERVIEW



- Facilities include 1,415 miles (7,000+ lane miles) of streets, 40,000+ street corners and 4,200 bus stops
- Public safety and emergency response
- Mechanical methods used
- Resolution File Number 071235

CURRENT PRACTICES

General Plowing

- 4 inches or more of snow accumulation
- Up to 350 pieces of equipment
- 18-24 hours to complete after snow
- Clean-up and clearing follows
- Every operation different

CURRENT PRACTICES

Bus Stop Clearing

- Commences 18-24 hrs after plowing
- Prioritized 2,100 of 4,200 locations
- 12-hour shifts over 1-2 nights
- Mechanical methods used
- Shelters – Milw County responsibility
- Current cost \$25,000 per operation

CURRENT PRACTICES

Pedestrian Ramp Clearing

- Property owners required to clear
- City responsible for clearing plowed snow
- Commences 18-24 hrs after plowing
- Mechanical methods - 4 foot opening
- Average 3 days to complete
- Current cost \$80,000 per operation

OTHER CITIES

- Most large cities in snow regions require property owners to clear snow within set timeframes
- Some explicitly include crosswalks and ramps
- Bus stop clearing is inferred
- Smaller communities provide higher levels of service

OPTIONS

Option #1 – All Corners/Bus Stops Using Workforce

- ~44,000 locations
- 1,800 workers for 24 hr response
- Multiple private City contracts
- City monitors compliance
- Cost \$450,000 per operation

OPTIONS

Option #2 – All Corners/Bus stops using Mechanical Methods

- ~44,000 locations
- 125 pieces of equipment for 24 hr response
- City currently has 48 pieces
- Supplement with private contractor
- City monitors compliance
- Cost \$450,000 per operation

OPTIONS

Option #3 – All Corners/Bus stops using Mechanical Methods – Property owners complete

- Same as Option #2
- ~44,000 locations
- Cost \$450,000 per operation
- Property owners responsible for follow-up clearing after City operation
- Revise ordinance

OPTIONS

Option #4 – All Bus stops using Mechanical Methods – Current practice at corners

- Include all 4,200 bus stops
- Expand current private contractors
- Additional 17 pieces of private equipment
- City monitors compliance
- Maintain current practice at corners
- Cost \$135,000 per operation (\$30,000 above current cost)

OPTIONS

Option #5 – Property owners to clear all corners – Current practice at bus stops

- Modify ordinance to eliminate City responsibility to clear plowed snow at corners
- Maintain current practice at 2,100 bus stops
- Use private contractors
- City monitors compliance
- Cost \$25,000 per operation

OPTIONS

Option #6 – Increase inspection

- Increase City inspection for snow clearing compliance
- Increase violations of current or modified ordinances
- Increased violation locations for City to clear and add to tax bills
- Cost \$60,000 per year for any option

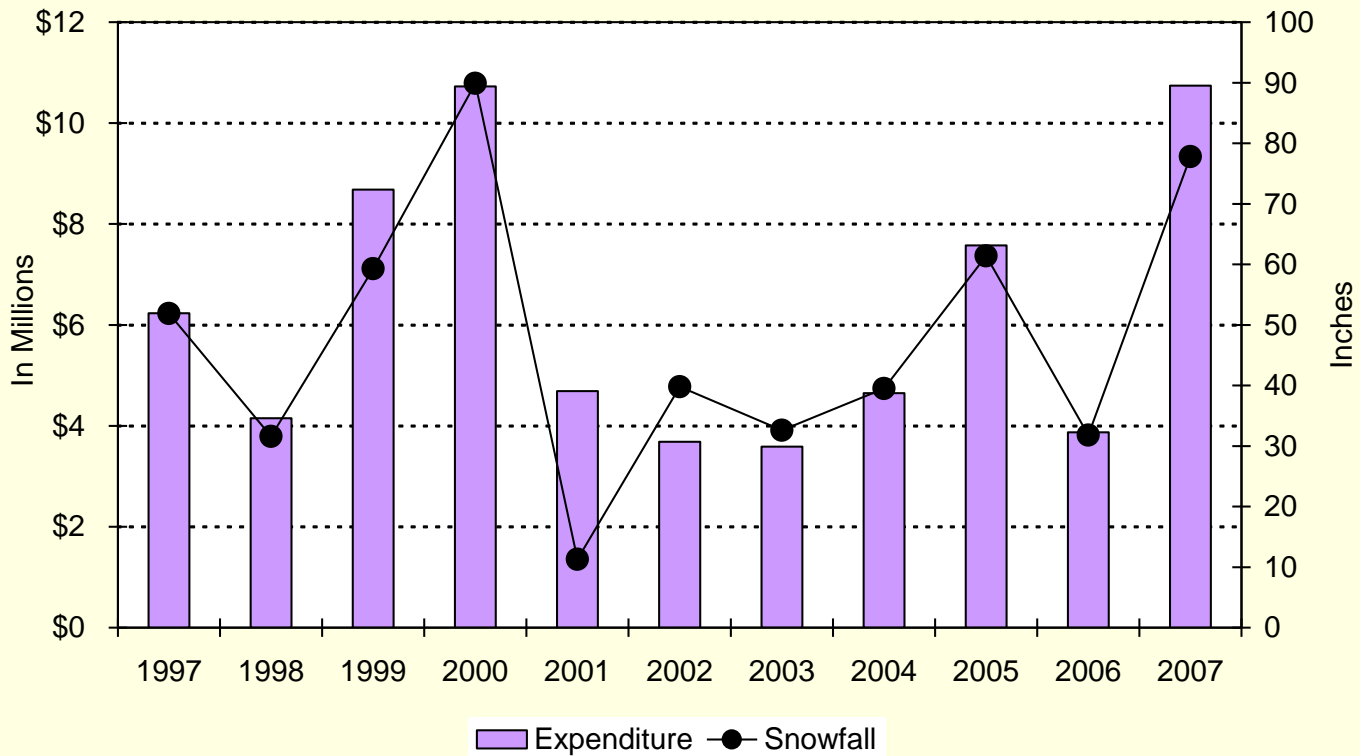
OPTIONS

Option #7 – Maintain existing practices

- Currently 44,000 corner location
- Currently 2,100 of 4,200 bus stop locations
- Mechanical clearing methods
- Commences 18-24 hrs after plowing
- Completed on average 3 days later
- Cost \$105,000 per operation

FUNDING

Snow and Ice Control Expenditures vs Inches of Snowfall



FUNDING

Option	Description	Gross Cost Per Operation	Net Cost per Operation	Additional Annual Net Cost	Total Snow & Ice Fee	Rate	Avg 44 foot Frontage
1	Hand Shovel All curb ramps and bus stops	\$450,000	\$345,000	\$1,380,000	\$5,680,000	\$0.6325	\$27.83
2	Mechanically Clear All curb ramps and bus stops	450,000	345,000	1,380,000	5,680,000	0.6325	\$27.83
3	Mechanically Clear Excess; property owners complete	450,000	345,000	1,380,000	5,680,000	0.6325	\$27.83
4	Mechanically Clear all bus stops; Status quo curb ramps	135,000	30,000	120,000	4,420,000	0.4922	\$21.66
5	Abutting Property Owners responsible	0	-105,000	-420,000	3,880,000	0.4320	\$19.01
6	Increased enforcement of current ord 116-8	165,000	60,000	60,000	4,360,000	0.4855	\$21.36
7	Status Quo- 2,089 Bus Stops and Public Curb Ramps	105,000	0	0	4,300,000	0.4788	\$21.07

2008 Adopted Snow and Ice Control Fee was \$4.3 million or \$.04788 per front street foot.

Current Service Level costs approximately \$100,000 per general plowing operation.

Annual Net Cost based on **four** general plowing operations per year.