



# Public Works Committee – Snow & Ice Policy

January 6, 2015

# Service Level Goals by Street Type

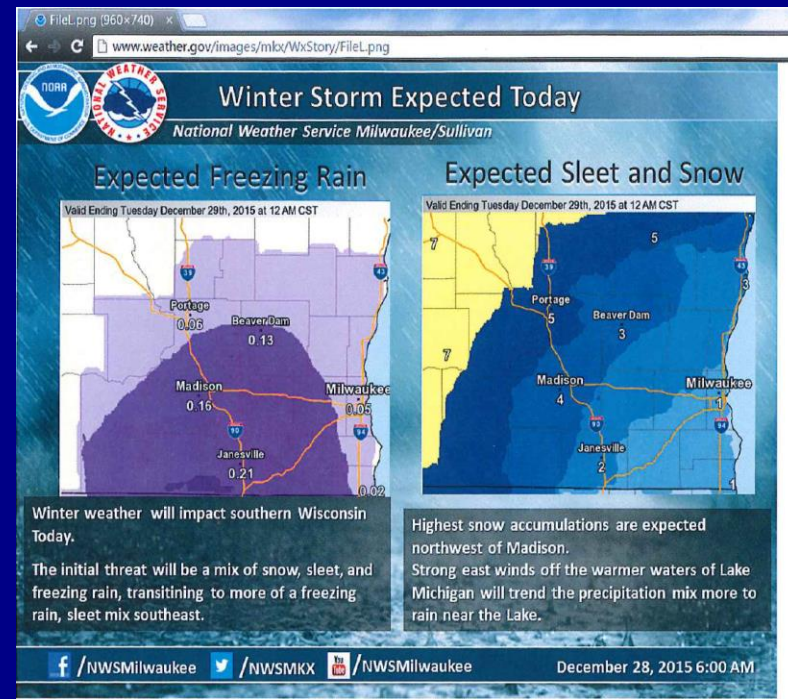
Priority	Street Type	Service Level Goal	Salting Time Goal	Plowing Time Goal
1	Open mass transit routes (includes non tow-away routes).	Bare pavement, curb- to-curb	<b>3-4 hours from start of operation</b>	6-12 hours from end of snowfall or before next rush hour
2	Open main streets, arterials and fire lanes to through traffic.	Bare pavement, curb-to-curb	<b>3-4 hours from start of operation</b>	6-12 hours from end of snowfall or before next rush hour
3	Open residential streets to through traffic (includes the clearing of dead-ends, cul-de-sacs and boulevard openings).	Safe and passable, not bare pavement.	<b>6-8 hours from start of operation</b> <b><i>One pass down center of road. Salt/sand mix may be used.</i></b>	18-24 hours from end of snowfall <b><i>(Center lane only in parking congested districts)</i></b>
4	Alternate side plowing and cleanup.	Safe and passable, not bare pavement	-	24 – 48 hours from end of snowfall
5	Plowing of sidewalks and crosswalks.	Safe and passable, not bare pavement	-	48 – 72 hours from end of snowfall
6	Bus Stop Clearing and Bike Lanes	Safe and passable, one pass down the center	-	48 – 72 hours after plowing completion
7	Snow removal – street and/or intersection widening.	Safe and passable, not bare pavement	-	Several days after end of snowfall

*October 2015 (updated)*

# December 28, 2015

## 2AM – 7AM WEATHER FORECASTS

- Weather Services – 2" snow & sleet, .25" ice
- NWS – Winter Storm Warning – up to 2" snow & sleet with freezing rain, .25" ice, gusty winds (45MPH)
- Local Stations – 1" or so snow, sleet, .25 ice, freezing rain turning to rain in the afternoon



## **1PM – 2PM Updated Weather Forecasts**

- Districts reported 3.5" snow at 2PM
- Another 2"-3" snow & sleet changing to freezing rain late
- NWS – another 2"-4" snow & sleet with potential for 6"-9" west of Madison

## **Actual Recorded Weather**

- 9.1" snow
- .94" sleet and wintry mix
- Strong winds gusting to 47mph



# Operational Timeline

## ■ Monday – 12/28

- 2AM anti-icing on district streets
- 10AM salting main streets as snow falls
- Noon plowing w/underbelly blades – 1.5" snow
- 1-2PM update with weather services
- 4PM general plowing with packers assisting  
sensors on mains for evening commute
- 10PM packers start plowing district streets
- 11PM snow subsides to freezing drizzle



# Operational Timeline cont'd.

## ■ Tuesday – 12/29

- 6AM 83% mains plowed, 55% districts center cut
- 8AM packer operators released
- 8PM 99% mains and 63% districts curb to curb

## ■ Wednesday – 12/30

- 6AM Sidewalks begin, 95% districts curb to curb
- 6PM Bus stop clearing begins. Cleanup continues.
- 6AM Thursday – 12/31 operation knocks off



# Plow Equipment Available

A yellow snowplow is clearing a residential street in winter. The street is covered in snow, and the plow has just finished a pass, leaving a clean path. In the background, there are snow-covered trees and houses. A person is walking on the sidewalk to the left of the plow. The scene is set in a suburban neighborhood with snow-covered lawns and trees.

## ■ City Equipment (183)

- 96 sensors
- 87 packers

## ■ Contract Equipment (45)

- 14 sensor/plows
- 31 end loaders

## ■ Prior Years Equipment

- Dec 2013 (283)
- Feb 2011 (356)
- Dec 2009 (334)
- Feb 2008 (343)
- Feb 2005 (328)

# Post Plowing

- Ice boulders
- Driveway and Sidewalk snow
- Snowbirds
- Pedestrian/Bike Areas
  - City property sidewalk clearing
  - Hardship clearing
  - Bus stops
  - Corner curb cut clearing
  - Bridge & viaduct overpasses
  - Bike lanes & trails



# Improvement Opportunities

- Train more drivers to plow on packers
- Recruit more contract equipment with guarantees
- Explore relief driver pool (retirees, laid off drivers)
- Rest drivers prior to full scale plowing