

DATE: April 4, 2016
TO: Michael O. Geisel, P.E.
Director of Public Services

FROM: James A. Eckrich, P.E. *JAE*
Public Works Director / City
Engineer

RE: Snow Removal for Private Driveways within Public
Right of Way



As you will recall, in 2014 City Council approved the implementation of a program whereby Public Services maintenance personnel will remove ice and snow from the driveway apron of qualifying residents after any snow event with two or more inches of snow. This program was implemented on a trial basis, and was to be assessed annually in order that City Council could determine whether the program should continue on a permanent basis.

The program was advertised in the fall of 2014 and 2015, and to date 220 residences have signed up for the program. In order to qualify for the program, a resident has to provide evidence of a medical condition which limits their ability to remove snow.

Fortunately, the 2014/2015 and the 2015/2016 winter seasons were both relatively mild. During the 2014/2015 winter season there were only two events (February 15 and March 1) within which the City of Chesterfield received in excess of two inches of snow. During these events Public Services maintenance personnel spent approximately 30-40 man-hours removing snow from private driveway aprons within the public right of way. Similarly in the 2015/2016 winter season there were again only two snow storms in excess of two inches (January 20 and February 24). These events provided somewhat more information as maintenance personnel spent only 20 man-hours clearing drive approaches during the two inch (and quickly melting) storm on January 20, but spent 60 man-hours clearing drive approaches after the four inch storm on February 24.

Because there have only been four events, and these snowfalls were relatively low (none in excess of four inches), I do not believe I have enough information to recommend whether this program should be continued on an annual basis. Accordingly, I recommend that this program be continued for one additional year on a trial basis. After the 2016/2017 winter season, this program will be assessed again and a recommendation will be made as to whether the program should be continued.

Action Recommended

This matter should be forwarded to the Planning and Public Works Committee for consideration. Should PPW concur with Staff's recommendation, the Snow Removal Program for Private Driveways within Public Right of Way will be continued for one additional year on a trial basis.