

MUNICIPALITY OF BROCKTON

POLICY #2000-05

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 28, 2000
APPLIES TO: Works Department
RE: Winter Maintenance

IT IS THE POLICY OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF BROCKTON THAT:

The Municipality of Brockton established a desirable level of service for winter maintenance on rural roads and urban streets. The Municipality will attempt to attain snow packed conditions on municipal gravel and hard surfaced roads within 24 hours after the end of a winter storm.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF POLICY:

- a) that the objective of this policy is to establish a desirable Level of Service for winter maintenance on the Municipality's roads and streets;
- b) that the Municipality will not be able to maintain the roads in the same condition as they are in the summer, and traffic will be expected to reduce speed to suit the weather and road conditions;
- c) that we expect that road users recognize the uncertainty and abrupt changes in winter conditions and therefore recognize that they must continue to drive to meet the conditions of the road;
- d) that the Level of Service for winter maintenance on municipal roads has a major impact on the economy and quality of life for residents;
- e) that with respect to hours spent plowing, the rural roads will differ from the urban roads;
- f) that the objective of the Works Department will be to provide a reasonable level of service for winter maintenance, given the resources available for winter control purposes and given the weather conditions;

- g) that it is also understood that the quality of winter maintenance on any road is dependent on the following factors:
1. air and ground temperature;
 2. sunlight;
 3. wind speed;
 4. wind direction;
 5. snow fall;
 6. freezing rain;
 7. topography;
 8. road surface;
 9. traffic volumes;
 10. main power, materials and equipment available to provide winter control services
- h) that there may be substantial variations in the level of service provided due to the factors listed in 1 (g) of this policy.

SNOW PLOWING PROCEDURES:

- a) that the first priority of the Works Department will be to keep the roads open for the passage of emergency vehicles, commercial vehicles, school buses and people travelling to and from work;
- b) that since the highest traffic usage occurs between the hours of 5:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., the Works Department will utilize the majority of its snow clearing resources in these hours;
- c) that during low traffic hours that is 5:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m., roads may be allowed to accumulate snow;
- d) that the Works Department shall attempt to plow all roads (one lane) at least once before 7:00 a.m.;
- e) that during severe weather conditions, when either it is unsafe to plow snow or when the rate of snow build-up occurs faster than the removal of snow, the Works Department may choose to withdraw equipment from the road system;
- f) that snow plowing may not commence until either a quantity of snow equal to 4 inches in depth or greater on roads or at the discretion of the patrolman;
- g) that when a storm begins after 5:00 p.m., no plowing will take place until the next morning, unless an emergency situation arises. The road will be plowed in an emergency situation;

ICE CONTROL PROCEDURES:

- a) that the use of de-icing chemicals (salt/sand mixtures) will be restricted to paved roads and to situations where they are effective and where their use is not likely to cause a build-up of snow on the roadway;
- b) that since de-icing chemicals have reduced effectiveness in low temperatures, light traffic volumes, and in absence of daylight, they may not be used between 6:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.;
- c) that where conditions are not favorable for the effective application of de-icing chemicals; abrasives (sand) may be used in their place;
- d) that abrasives will not be used where their application is likely to cause deterioration in road conditions;
- e) that priority will be given to sanding at stop signs, curves in the road, and grades of more than 5%;
- f) that on gravel roads, ice control will consist of spot sanding at intersections and ice blading after snow plowing is completed.

SUMMARY

- a) that the Municipality's Works Department will attempt to provide the best winter maintenance efforts given the resources available and given the weather conditions;
- b) that during certain hours and under certain weather conditions, roads may become snow covered and slippery;
- c) that drivers will be expected to use extra caution in certain situations.