

Snow Sidewalk Questions

Public Facilities and Public Safety and Transportation Meeting

June 8, 2022

Snow Questions

- 1) The Streets Division will be holding a snow plowing training for all employees and contractors this fall. We always include training on not plowing in intersections and curb ramps. We will also highlight the issue with our snow chasers. We maintain a hot spot list which is address based and contains all snow recurring issues and areas of concern.
- 2) We maintain sidewalk clearing routes within DPW. The priority routes are updated each year. Enforcements are complaint based
- 3) People receive a warning first and are revisited in the next 24-hours to ensure that the sidewalk has been cleared. If has not, a ticket is issued.
- 4) Procuring snow contracts is becoming more and more difficult nationwide. We put out a sidewalk only clearing contract multiple times and received no response.
- 5) More protected bike lanes will require more specialty snow removal equipment.
- 6) These devices are not designed to withstand winter conditions.
- 7) The Senior Center does not maintain a formal list.
- 8) There is no way to prove that it wasn't cleared before the second storm occurred. This is not a regular occurrence – happens once or twice a year
- 9) We are working with Treasury to develop an automated snow ticket collection process through our financial software. The snow ticketing data is provided as part of the backup for this meeting. If a ticket is appealed through court system, it is up to the judge to uphold or dismiss the ticket.
- 10) If new crosswalks are missed, they will be added to the route. As mentioned, we have a hotspot list for recurring issues.
- 11) In the perfect world, yes. Unfortunately, coordination is challenging due to staffing, vehicle equipment breakdowns, changes in priority (accident, emergency), length of storm and conditions.

Sidewalk Questions

- 1) All contractors need to provide alternative pedestrian access when they close a sidewalk. We are meeting with all contractors that pull a permit through the engineering division to discuss pedestrian access during their construction project. A pedestrian access checklist that is provided to contractors is attached as part of the backup.
- 2) Without a sidewalk occupancy permit and closing the sidewalk, the police can ticket for this violation.
- 3) NPD
- 4) We agree and are using the pedestrian checklist during construction projects.