

City of Taylorsville Snow Removal Policy and Procedure

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for the removal of snow and ice on city streets and sidewalks within the City. The City contracts with Salt Lake County Public Works Department for roadway snow removal and road maintenance services.

Objective:

The objective of these policies and procedures is to provide direction for timely and efficient removal of snow and ice from city streets and sidewalks in the City of Taylorsville.

The City contracts for a limited number of public works resources, which requires the assignment of priorities to streets for snow removal. The first priority is given to streets that carry the largest traffic volume and those that have been identified as presenting a heightened danger given snowy and icy conditions. Collector streets with lower traffic volumes have been identified as the next priority, with neighborhood streets and then cul-de-sac streets following in priority once the higher priority streets have been cleared and are deemed safe for travel. Motorists may experience snow-packed or icy conditions on lower priority streets during intense snowstorms. Plowing City streets will continue until all streets have been cleared over the succeeding days following a storm.

Scope:

The city maintains more than _____ lane miles of arterial, secondary and residential streets that have been divided into four (4) priorities:

PRIORITY 1, Major Arterials – 6200 South, 2700 West, 4700 South west of 2700 West, -

These streets are first priority because they are essential to the movement of public safety vehicles in the city and will be cleared first in any storm event.

PRIORITY 2, Minor Arterials – _____.

Streets in this priority are based on volume and the need to provide access to schools, bus routes and other essential services.

PRIORITY 3 and 4, Collector Roads and Local Residential Roads– These priorities cover all additional collector and local streets. Priority 3 will include street networks that serve areas that are major traffic volume generators and areas with trouble spots such as busy intersections and roads on steep slopes or other critical features.

Within the City of Taylorsville borders, the Utah Department of Transportation has the obligation to maintain and plow state owned roads including Redwood Road, 5400 South, 4700 South east of 2700 West, _____.

Responsibility:

The responsibility for implementing the snow removal policy lies with the City Administrator and the Director of Community Services. The City's priorities have been provided to the Public Works Director who will call out snowplow crews to plow or salt when warranted and authorize the use of additional resources or overtime as conditions warrant.

Equipment Resources:

The City deploys 9 drivers to address winter road conditions. The attached map identifies the driver routes and the priorities.

The truck resources are:

Parking on the Street:**City Code:****11.20.130 PARKING PROHIBITED WHEN:**

It is unlawful for any person who owns or has possession, custody or control of any vehicle to park or knowingly allow to be parked any vehicle on any street or highway:

- A. After a snow accumulation of four inches (4") or more, until 24 hours after the end of such accumulation; or
- B. For a period longer than twenty four (24) hours; or
- C. For any period longer than the allowed by appropriate signs, markings or parking meters giving notice of such parking time limitation. (Ord. 06-30, 9-6-2006)

Sidewalk Maintenance:**City Code:****14.32.100 SNOW REMOVAL; REQUIRED.**

It is unlawful for the owner, occupant, lessor or agent of property abutting on a paved sidewalk to fail to remove or cause to be removed from such paved sidewalk and any existing curb ramp all hail, snow or sleet falling thereon, within twenty four (24) hours after the hail, snow or sleet has ceased falling. (Ord. 04-07, 2-4-2004).

14.20.105 PLACING SNOW UPON HIGHWAY PROHIBITED:

It is unlawful for any person removing snow, ice or other material from a sidewalk or driveway to place or deposit said snow, ice or other material upon any city road or highway in such a manner as to interfere with the proper use of the same or so as to obstruct travel or to endanger property or persons upon the same. (Ord. 96-17, 6-19-1996)

During snow events residents are encouraged to check the priority maps then call the City of Taylorsville (801) 963-5400 if they feel their street has been overlooked or they have an issue with snowplowing on their street.

Snowplow operators have been trained to follow the priorities set in the policies and procedure section; it would be detrimental to respond to individual complaints before operators have responded in accordance with the Snow Removal Policy. Complaints will be logged and given to supervisors for review and action.

Claims from residents for property damage caused by snowplows should be reported to the city's Administration.

City of Taylorsville
Snowplow Ordinance Discussion

While there have been some discussion about proposals and alternatives to winter parking on the streets to accommodate snow removal, most of the comments about a more restrictive ordinance, one that would ban overnight street parking, seem to ignore is the fact that our current ordinance restricts parking on City streets at anytime:

"After a snow accumulation of four inches (4") or more, until 24 hours after the end of such accumulation; or

"For a period longer than twenty four (24) hours; or

"For any period longer than the allowed by appropriate signs, markings or parking meters giving notice of such parking time limitation." Ordinance 06-30, 9-6-2006

Many have asked how can we help with snow removal when half of their street is left unplowed. My answer is:

Don't wait for the accumulation of 4" to move your car. Consider, On-street parking is automatically banned – whether it's 2 p.m. or 2 a.m. when the snow starts to accumulate on the roads.

The question that is often asked about proposals that would ban overnight parking between November and March each year is "where do we park, if not on the street, if our driveways and garages can not accommodate the number of cars owned by the occupants of a residence? The question should be asked, "Where do they park now during a snow storm?"

It is evident that within our City we have many violators of the existing Parking Ordinance, by the fact that snowplows cannot get down some streets, or leave streets in a compromised position.

Some of the calls the administration has received are from home owners who protest the fact that their taxes are paid with the expectation that their streets will be cleared (curb to curb) to accommodate emergency vehicles, and residential vehicles during the winter. Those individuals who are in violation of the current or the proposed ordinance by parking on the street while snowplows are attempting to clear the streets are abridging the rights of those taxpayers, and putting the public's safety in jeopardy.

Modifications to consider to the Ordinance proposed for discussion by John Inch Morgan.

1. Vehicles parked on unplowed streets will receive an Administrative Citation.
2. If the vehicle is not moved within 12 hours of being Cited (ticketed) the vehicle can be cited a second time or towed if the vehicle presents a public safety hazard.
3. Citation and towing charges can include any of the following, and may be higher depending on the circumstances”
 - a. \$30 parking citation.
 - b. \$115 towing charges plus administrative fees (additional charges may be assessed if the vehicle must be shoveled out before towing can occur).
 - c. \$50 storage fee per day.

Avoid the risk of being ticketed or towed by not parking on the street, regardless of the anticipated depth of snow; park in a driveway or in your garage or in a neighborhood parking lot with permission from the owner.

If you are plowed in or ticketed, dig your vehicle out immediately and move it to a driveway, or garage.

Additional potential modifications to the proposed ordinance:

Change the ban on overnight parking as follows:

November 1 through April 30.
December 1 through March 30.

11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m.
1:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.

On-Street Parking and Snow Removal Discussion Options and Alternatives

On December 18, 2013, Draft Ordinance 13-40 was considered by the Taylorsville City Council. The Council tabled consideration of this ordinance to the January 23rd regular City Council Meeting. In preparation for that meeting the Mayor Johnson has asked that options and alternatives be presented in the City Council Work session to be held on January 16, 2014.

Ordinance No. 13-40 proposed for discussion the following changes:

CHAPTER 11.20

STOPPING, STANDING AND PARKING

11.20.130: PARKING PROHIBITED WHEN

It is unlawful for any person who owns or has possession, custody or control of any vehicle to park any vehicle on any street or highway:

- ~~A. — After a snow accumulation of four inches (4") or more, until 24 hours after the end of such accumulation; or~~
- A. For a period longer than twenty four (24) hours; or
- B. For a period longer than the allowed by appropriate signs, markings, or parking meters giving notice of such parking time limitation.
- C. During any snow storm nor shall a vehicle be parked on the street within twenty-four (24) hours after the end of such storm.
- D. From November 1 to April 30 for a period of time longer than 1 hour between the hours of 12:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. on any day, except during emergency calls. Overnight parking on any street, during the period herein specified is hereby prohibited.

Whenever any police officer finds a vehicle upon a street in violation of the provisions of this section, the officer is authorized to have the vehicle removed.

Alternative No. 1

STOPPING, STANDING PARKING

11.20.130: PARKING PROHIBITED WHEN

It is unlawful for any person who owns or has possession, custody or control of any vehicle to park any vehicle on any street or highway:

- A. ~~After a snow accumulation of four inches (4") or more, until 24 hours after the end of such accumulation; or~~
- A. For a period longer than twenty four (24) hours; or
- B. For a period longer than the allowed by appropriate signs, markings, or parking meters giving notice of such parking time limitation.
- C. During any snow storm nor shall a vehicle be parked on the street within twenty-four (24) hours after the end of such storm.
- D. After a snow accumulation of one inch (1") or more, until 24 hours after the end of such accumulation.

Whenever any police officer finds a vehicle upon a street in violation of the provisions of this section, the officer is authorized to issue a citation the owner of the vehicle or have the vehicle removed from the street if the parked vehicle is determined to be a safety hazard and an obstacle to the removal of snow from the public street.

Alternative No. 2

STOPPING, STANDING PARKING

11.20.130: PARKING PROHIBITED WHEN

It is unlawful for any person who owns or has possession, custody or control of any vehicle to park any vehicle on any street or highway:

- A. ~~After a snow accumulation of four inches (4") or more, until 24 hours after the end of such accumulation; or~~
- A. For a period longer than twenty four (24) hours; or
- B. For a period longer than the allowed by appropriate signs, markings, or parking meters giving notice of such parking time limitation.
- C. During any snow storm nor shall a vehicle be parked on the street within twenty-four (24) hours after the end of such storm.
- D. From December 15 to March 15 for a period of time longer than 1 hour between the hours of 12:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. on any day, except during emergency calls. Overnight parking on any street, during the period herein specified is hereby prohibited.

Whenever any police officer finds a vehicle upon a street in violation of the provisions of this section, the officer is authorized to issue a citation the owner of the vehicle or have the vehicle removed from the street if the parked vehicle is determined to be a safety hazard and an obstacle to the removal of snow from the public street.

Alternative No. 3

STOPPING, STANDING PARKING

11.20.130: PARKING PROHIBITED WHEN

It is unlawful for any person who owns or has possession, custody or control of any vehicle to park any vehicle on any street or highway:

- ~~A. After a snow accumulation of four inches (4") or more, until 24 hours after the end of such accumulation; or~~
- A. For a period longer than twenty four (24) hours; or
- B. For a period longer than the allowed by appropriate signs, markings, or parking meters giving notice of such parking time limitation.
- C. During any snow storm nor shall a vehicle be parked on the street within twenty-four (24) hours after the end of such storm.
- D. On the West and North sides of any public street from December 15 to March 15 for a period of time longer than 1 hour between the hours of 12:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. on any day, except during emergency calls. Overnight parking on any street, during the period herein specified is hereby prohibited.

Whenever any police officer finds a vehicle upon a street in violation of the provisions of this section, the officer is authorized to issue a citation the owner of the vehicle or have the vehicle removed from the street if the parked vehicle is determined to be a safety hazard and an obstacle to the removal of snow from the public street.

Parking Standards in Other Municipalities

Sandy City

(1). No person shall park a vehicle (car, truck, trailer, RV) on any street from November 1 to April 30 for a period of time longer than 1 hour between the hours of 12:00 and 7:00 a.m. of any day except during emergency calls. Overnight parking on any street, during the period herein specified, is hereby prohibited.

(2). No person shall park or leave a vehicle on any street during any snow storm nor shall a vehicle be parked on the street within twenty-four hours after the end of such storm.

(3). Whenever any police officer finds a vehicle upon a street in violation of the provisions of this section, the officer is authorized to have the vehicle removed.

Murray City

Snow Emergency Routes Parking Prohibited (Code 10.08.040)

- A. It is unlawful to park, leave or abandon a motor vehicle on any street after one hour from the commencement of snowfall until the completion of snow removal operations on the street.
- B. A violation of this section is an infraction. A vehicle in violation of this section may be impounded (Ord. 03-41ss2; Ord. 94-47 ss1)

Police will tag the car with a notice to remove the vehicle within 24 hours or be impounded.

West Valley City

When do I need to move my parked car off the street in a snow storm?

City ordinance requires residents to move their cars off from the street when there is a **one inch** accumulation of snow or ice on the roadway. Cars parked on the street make it extremely difficult for snow plows to clear snow and ice from the pavement, especially in cul-de-sacs and on dead-end streets.

Salt Lake City

- When possible, park vehicles off the streets during a storm and for up to 36 hours after the storm abates.
- You must move your vehicle every 48 hours from where it is parked. See ordinance 12.56.520 (Using Streets For Storage Prohibited).
- If you must park on the street, try to coordinate with your neighbors and alternately park on the same side of the street. Also, do not park directly opposite another vehicle on the other side of the street, to avoid a "bottle neck".
- Avoid leaving windows open on your vehicles, plows going by may put snow and ice into the open window.

Remove snow from around your vehicle after every storm.

South Salt Lake City

City ordinance requires residents to move their vehicles off of the street while there is an accumulation of snow or ice on the roadway. Vehicles parked on the roadway make it very difficult to plow the roads effectively. Vehicles not moved under these guidelines are subject to ticketing.

Farmington City

Park all vehicles, trailers, and boats off of streets, until the snow is removed. Ridges of snow around vehicles parked on streets will freeze and prevent or slow down future snow removal and may cause accidents when any vehicle hits them. City ordinance states that from November 15 to the last day of February no vehicles of any kind may be parked in the street right-of-way from 1 am to 7 am. Tickets will be issued to those who are not in compliance.

Bluffdale City

Information regarding the city's snow removal ordinance can be found in Title 7, Chapter 2 of the city code, with excerpts from 7-2-4 and 7-2-5 as follows:

Parking

No overnight parking or obstruction is allowed on city streets from November through March during the time of one o'clock (1:00) A.M. to six o'clock (6:00) A.M.

No parking during a "snowstorm", as defined in section 7-2-2 of this chapter, and for a period of forty eight (48) hours after a snowstorm. Any person causing or responsible for vehicles, trailers, dumpsters or other obstructions to be left on city streets during a snowstorm or for a period of forty eight (48) hours after a snowstorm, as specified herein, shall be guilty of an infraction, subject to penalty as provided in section 1-4-1 of this code. Any vehicle or obstruction in violation of this chapter may be towed or removed at owner's expense.

Logan City

"No person shall park a vehicle on any street without it being attended by someone able to immediately remove the same, between the hours of 1:00 A.M. and 5:00 A.M. of any day from November 1st to March 31st. The fine for the citation is \$15. The reason behind the ordinance is for the snowplows that need to move swiftly through 600 miles of Logan roads. During the winter there are about 4 to 6 storms that require the full city effort.