

**VILLAGE OF ELBOW**  
**SNOW REMOVAL POLICY**

<i>Section</i>	Transportation	<i>Classification</i>	Policy 400-15
<i>Subject</i>	Snow Removal	<i>Pages</i>	3
<i>Authority</i>	Council	<i>Effective Date</i>	March 11 2024
<i>Approved (date)</i>	March 11 2024	<i>Motion No.</i>	#80-2024

**Responsibility:** Village Foreman

**Policy:** To describe the manner in which snow and ice removal will be conducted.

**Purpose:** To provide:

- Vehicular traffic with adequate mobility under prevailing weather conditions within the Village’s financial resources.
- Parking in front of Village-owned buildings, educational, religious institutions and services operated by other levels of government

**Definitions:**

- Compacted snow surface – snow that is compacted either by traffic or has been leveled by plows
- Ice ridges – ruts developing in snow after a freeze-thaw cycle
- Opened – the plowing of snow from the driving lane to the side
- Ruts – any ridge or dip that exceeds 6 inches above road surface that impacts driveability of the road
- Sanding – means the application of a material to improve traction
- Snow piles – piles of snow left in parking lanes on Village roads
- Snow dump – approved location for dumping snow
- Snow ridges – ruts occurring in driving lanes from wheeled path traffic

**Preamble:**

The Village in establishing this policy, sets priorities that provide the greatest benefit to the majority of the travelling public while recognizing:

- Funding limitations
- The limitations of the Villages’ equipment
- That operator safety is paramount
- The operator’s regular work day, and
- The need to prevent damage to the road surface.

### **Priorities and Standards:**

The Village has set 4 priority ratings for roads, as well as clearing standards for each road priority group:

1. **Priority 1:** Main arterial roads and roads used to access emergency and water treatment equipment.
  - The entire length of Saskatchewan Street
  - Railway Ave between Industrial Drive and Putters Lane
  - Aberdeen Street in front of the Fire Hall and Water Treatment Plant
  - Additional as identified by the Foreman as Priority 1

**Standard after a storm:** The standard shall be to have the driving lanes of the main arterial roads covered in compacted snow and able to be driven within 48 business hours after the cessation of a major storm event.

**Standard to prevent the development of snow ruts and ice ruts:** removal of snow throughout the season when it softens and can be moved without damage to the road surface.

2. **Priority 2:** School bus routes (Stanley Street from Pacific to Railway Ave)

**Standard after a storm:** The standard shall be to have the driving lanes of this road covered in compacted snow and able to be driven within 72 business hours after the cessation of a major storm event, if school is in session.

**Standard to prevent the development of snow ruts and ice ruts:** removal of snow throughout the season when it softens and can be moved without damage to the road surface.

3. **Priority 3:** Roads used to access Village-owned properties, educational and religious institutions and businesses.

**Standards:** these roads shall be opened and/or plowed as determined by the Village Foreman.

4. **Priority 4:** Residential roads and back alleys.

**Standards:** these roads shall be opened and/or plowed as determined by the Village Foreman.

**Snow and Ice Ruts:** Snow and ice ruts will be dealt with on a complaint driven process. Complaints must be submitted to the Village in writing. Snow and ice ruts will be evaluated on impassibility defined as (six inches) and action will be taken at the discretion of the Village Foreman.

### **Sidewalk Snow Clearing:**

- **Businesses:** it is the business owner's responsibility to keep all sidewalks clear of snow and ice. All businesses should endeavor to keep sidewalks open and clear of snow and ice during business hours.
- **Residences:** it is the owners' responsibility to maintain the sidewalks and driveways adjacent to their property in a snow and ice-clear state.

**Parking:** it is the responsibility of the property or business owner to clear parking in front of their residence or business if they wish to have it cleared.

**Windrows:** it is the responsibility of the property or business owner to remove windrows left in the vicinity of their property by the Village snow removal operations.

**Snow removal rates:** Once all the snow removal priorities have been addressed, the Village of Elbow offers custom snow removal from business and residences, etc. The cost of this service is as per the current Fee Schedule. There is a minimum 1 hour call out.

**Disclaimer:**

Notwithstanding this policy, the Council of the Village of Elbow reserves the right to respond to any individual snow event or emergency on a case-by-case basis.