

## **Snow Policy Purpose:**

The purpose of the Cities snow and ice plowing policy is to effectively communicate to the residents and employees, the expected level of service for snow and ice plowing and removal that the City of Kemmerer Public Works and Parks departments will provide to its residents.

The City streets will be assigned a level of priority: main arterials, schools, hospital and court house, also bus route streets will receive first priority level, and they will be plowed and deiced first. This assures each residential area that is in close proximity of plowed streets that emergency services and transportation can be provided. Winter storms can be trying for all of us, motorists, residents and snow plow drives alike. The goal for Public Works and the Parks departments is to remove the snow and ice from our roadways and City owned properties as rapidly and efficiently as possible while keeping roads open for safe travel.

This does not mean bare, dry pavement should be expected after every snowstorm. The aim of snow and ice control operations is return most road surfaces to safe winter driving conditions as soon as feasible within the limitations of this policy, our limited resources and weather conditions. With proper use of storm forecasts, personnel, equipment, and sanding materials, the desired result can be attained. However, flexibility is needed to adapt to the variety of circumstances and conditions during all snow storms or wind blowing events.

**The Public Works Department would like all of our residents to know that we strive to get our job done as safely and efficiently as possible. One of the best ways for our residents to help us in this effort is to remove, when at all possible, any trailers, parked vehicle, or any obstruction from the City Right of Way before the storm hits, this way our crews can push the snow more efficiently. This will allow the crews to work less hours and help clear the City streets faster and safer. Help from the residents will help the departments bring down costs so we can provide better services and repairs to our roads and parks in the future.**

*“If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of its self” ~ Henry Ford ~*

## **Severe Conditions Alerts and Services Levels,**

There will be times when the snow is just coming too fast and the crews will struggle to keep up. We ask for even more cooperation from the residents in these conditions.

**There will be levels set for the severity of a storm, these levels will be set for inches received during a snow event and inches forecasted, also the length of storms forecasted.**

In the event of a severe storm the City will provide notification on the City's Web Site, Facebook, Radio, and Emergency Alert System on how the City will be conducting snow removal services. All conditions will vary. **Only during Severe weather forecasting and conditions will the City be stringent that all vehicles and obstructions be removed from the street, and ask you to limit driving to as needed bases until the roads can be plowed and deiced.** Please understand that the crews will be able to do a more efficient job of removing the snow which in turn will save on expenses and resources, in these conditions it is even more important to have our citizens' help.

### **Delay of Services and Plowing:**

Delay of Plowing and removal of snow and ice is a difficult task; it is extremely rough on equipment and personnel. Some delay of services is inevitable. At least one or more of the following situations may delay all or some of the services provided during snow storms or blowing events:

- **Vehicles parked and blocking roadways or getting stuck.**
- **Equipment break downs. The Public Works Department provides most of the emergency repairs on snow plowing equipment.**
- **Manpower shortages due to sickness, injury or failure to respond to call may leave some routes temporarily unmanned which will result in delays of service.**
- **Operator breaks for rest, meals, refueling, or changing cutting edges.**
- **Operator fatigue and drive time limits.**
- **Severe conditions that result in calling in drivers for safety reasons.**
- **Unforeseen conditions and emergencies.**

### **Drivers Duties:**

All plow operators will be assigned an area of coverage. They will be tasked to complete their area of coverage in the most efficient and safest manner possible. The Public Works department during a snow storm or blowing event has a lot to complete, so we please ask that you don't harass or scream and yell at the operators while doing their duties. If you have a complaint or an operator is driving in an unsafe manner, or you need some assistance in any way, please call City Hall or the department head.

Each crew member will be assigned areas of coverage it is important for this policy to work that crews stay in their areas until completion, Crews are not allowed unless prior consent and approval from the Mayor and Council, to plow private entities of any kind. We ask, that if you have concerns to please contact the Public Works Director or City hall

Operators have a lot of roads to open for everyone, we would please ask you not to stop the operators or jump out in front of them so they don't plow your driveway in. The equipment may not be able to stop in time which may result in possible accident and/or injury and or possible death. The crews will do their very best to limit the amount of snow pushed into driveways, but understand it just can't be helped in most situations the crews job is to clear the streets as fast and safely as possible. There are ways you can limit the amount of snow that ends up in your driveway, shovel snow to the end of your driveway and to the right side in the gutter area when the truck passes by most of it doesn't end up in your driveway.

Sometimes the operators will be called away from their coverage area due to an emergency or to cover for another operator, be assured someone will return to finish plowing.

Help from you, the resident, is greatly appreciated. If we work together as a community, we all win.

## **When Will We Start Plowing?**

Call out will begin at two inches and more coming or under hazards like blowing snow or icy conditions. The first call out crew may consist of only one operator to start, and more to be called out as conditions change.

Crews will work until conditions improve, in some cases there may be a down time for operators to rest. They will come back out and resume plowing when they are well rested, if conditions have had crews working long hours.

## **Snow Berms:**

Snow berms will be piled up in residential neighborhoods above 3<sup>rd</sup> West, until such conditions exist that create hazards in traffic flow, Crews will maintain berms and plow them tight daily until conditions call for removal.

Below 3<sup>rd</sup> West (old part of town) snow will be pushed to the sides one pass during severe storms and then be pushed back tight until such conditions exist that call for pull out and removal, this will only be done in heavy snow build up times and will be a low priority as conditions call for removal.

Berms will be removed from roads and streets that have a high service level. For instance: Pine, Moose, Lincoln Heights, Upper Elk Street, 5<sup>th</sup> West, Antelope, Holland, Parts of 9<sup>th</sup> west, Sorenson, 7<sup>th</sup> West, Garnet Street. 3<sup>rd</sup> West south of Emerald to Antelope, Sage, and Cedar will be included in this level for removal. When the storms have cleared enough, or crews have conditions under control enough to pull off plowing for hauling away snow.

If conditions get to a point that crews can't all pull off from plowing and berms on Pine, Moose, Lincoln Heights, Upper Elk, 5<sup>th</sup> West and Antelope, will be removed with a small crew. This will only be in conditions that will persist for long period's of time.

We would ask all residents that plow out to the berms, to please make sure you plow all the way out to the berm and make sure to push snow up tight so traffic can pass safely.

Anytime you can keep snow on your own property and clear sidewalks as soon as possible in front of your home makes clean up safer and more efficient, this also saves on resources and wear and tear on equipment.

## **Storm Priority Levels:**

### **Level 1 Storms**

During a level one storm it will be business usual, up to 10" of snow.

Storms in this priority level will bring out only the first line trucks until accumulations reach 6 inches and more snow forecasted. After 6 inches or more snow accumulations then all street crews will be called

out. Crews will work in rotating 8 hour shifts until the storms have moved out of the area, then crews will resume normal operating hours. When storms have moved out of the area then crews will start-cleanup and push back. **If enough snow has built up during this time then removal from high priority streets will take place. If there is going to be a lull in storms the cleanup will be the main priority.** If there are back to back storms in the forecasts, then depending on expected accumulations hauling off of high priority roads will take first priority. **Lower priority streets will not be removed at this time, unless there is enough time during normal operating hours, and there is a significant amount of time between storms and crews have time for removal.** The Parks & Building crews will not be called out during this level, they will work normal shifts, at this time they will start plowing City owned properties.

### **Level 2 Storms**

During a level 2 storm, snow accumulations above 10" to 16" can be expected.

**All street crews will be called out at this point. Plowing and making high priority roads passable will be the main priority. Crews will be moving through their assigned area just pushing snow to get lanes to a more desirable traveling fashion. Lower priority roads will be only pushed until the storms pass through the area. There will be higher and wider berms at this level, until storms decline and crews can come back through and push back. As soon as possible crews will start removing snow, starting with high priority roads first. Depending on how much snow and how soon the next forecasted storm will be hitting will depend on how much snow is removed, if a storm rolls in back to back at this level crews will be split and a slower pace of removal will take place, unless the next storm is strong and brings higher accumulation then crews will be but back on plowing. When the storm has left the area removal will resume at last location stopped.**

**The City will put out notices to residents through means of: Emergency Alert System, Face Book, Web Site, and Radio. To have residents assist the City crews by removing all: Trailers, Vehicles, and Obstructions from the City Rights of Way. Kemmerer PD will be doing door to door courtesy reminders at this time.**

It is very important for residents to know the street crews will be able to do a much faster cleanup and removal of the snow if we get your cooperation at this level of severity. We all will be inconvenienced at this level, please understand that the crews just want to complete their tasks as fast and safely as possible so the City can resume a normal pace. With storms at this level conserving the departments' resources is very important.

### **Level 3 Storms**

During a level 3 storm, snow accumulations above 16' to 24" can be expected.

**All streets and parks crews will be called out. Plowing high priority roads will be the only focus until**

the storm slows or moves out of the area. Crews will remove snow from high priority roads first, there will be two trucks assigned to start pushing mid-level priority roads just as soon as possible. At this level, if it is possible, at least one truck or piece of equipment will be assigned to push through lower level- streets and alleys. Some City owned facilities will not be plowed until crews get the City streets at least pushed through. City Hall & Old Town Hall will be pushed. Crews will do their very best to get the Rec Center parking lot opened as soon as they can. Having complete cooperation and understanding during this level of storm from the residents is critical. The crews will be over whelmed with getting the City cleared. Stress levels will be very high for everyone involved. With a storm of this magnitude some services will be delayed until streets can be pushed. Garbage will be one of these services. The driver will be assisting in snow removal. Expect garbage to be delayed at least one day at this level of storm. Garbage pickup will resume just as soon as possible.

Removal of all parked: vehicles, trailers and obstructions from the Cities right of way in a storm of this magnitude is a requirement by the City. Help and understanding from the residents in this matter is crucial. The crews will be able to get their very difficult task of getting the City up and running much faster and efficiently.

Same as level 2 storms in a level 3 category the City will be putting out notices of services to community in the same manner through means of: Emergency Alert System, Face Book, Web Site, and Radio. To have resident assist the City crews by removing all: Trailers, Vehicles, and Obstructions from the City right of ways. The Kemmerer PD will enforce the moving of vehicles by door to door or may have to resort to towing of vehicles.

#### Level 4 Storms

During a level 4 storm, snow accumulation above 24" can be expected.

All crews will be on duty at this level of storm, things can get critical for emergency crews to provide needed services to the community. The focus of the street crews will be plowing and removal of snow from high priority streets first. There will be no resources to do plowing of mid and lower level streets until the removal of snow can be accomplished from high priority streets. Crews will focus on mid and lower level streets just as soon as possible. There will be an emergency truck at the ready to assist the FIRE, EMS and PD, to plow them through as needed for emergencies at residences and business.

All crews will be working in 24 hour shifts to plow and remove snow from all City streets. We hope for accurate weather forecasts before any storm of this magnitude were it to ever hit, so the community will have time to prepare and have all vehicles removed from City right of ways. If in the case that some freak storm hits, and dumps this much snow in a short period of time there will be notices all the way through levels so we can be prepared as a community. Be assured the Public Works department watches weather patterns and forecast very closely thru- out the winter months. We take a **fight it**

**attitude** from the earliest flake that drops from any storm that hits. We hope that this level doesn't catch any of us by surprise.

At their discretion, the Mayor and Council can declare a snow emergency in this level of storm.

If this happens, there will be a need to get the roads cleared of all parked vehicles, the **Mayor and the Police Chief have designated the little league and golf course parking lots to be emergency parking areas for the residents to park their vehicles in a snow emergencies.**

The community will have to come together and help.

Resources and manpower will be truly tested at this level of emergency. This will become an all community effort to get the job done fast so the City can resume normal life. All of the departments of the city will need your complete cooperation at this level of event. The crews will be working long hours and be fatigued. The faster we all do are parts the faster things return to normal.

### **Road Priority Levels:**

#### **Roads Priority Level #1**

Pine Ave, Canyon Road, Dell Rio Drive from Canyon to HWY 30, Moose, Garnet from Canyon to 3<sup>rd</sup> West, Sorenson between Garnet and Elk, Lincoln Heights to include Elk up to Canyon, 5<sup>th</sup> West from Elk to Antelope, Berry Drive, Holland, 9<sup>th</sup> West from Dell Rio to Antelope, 9<sup>th</sup> West to Garnet down to Canyon, Antelope from 9<sup>th</sup> west to 5<sup>th</sup> West, 7<sup>th</sup> West, Emerald from Pine to 3<sup>rd</sup> West down 3<sup>rd</sup> to Antelope in front of high school Triangle, J.C. Penny Drive, Klondike.

The roads at this level will receive first call out priority. They are the highest level and take first priority for plowing, deicing, and removal.

#### **Roads Priority Level #2**

Beech, Cedar, Sage, Onyx, 1<sup>st</sup> West, 2<sup>nd</sup> West, , Elk, Antelope between Pine and 3<sup>rd</sup>, Walnut, Ash Ave around hospital, Opal, Garnet, Topaz, Sapphire, Pearl, Agate, Quartz, Ruby, Carbon, Lignite, Upper and Lower Sunset, Ash, Park Drive, Aspen Ave, Willow Ave, Fir Ave, Beryl, Emory Street, Mica, Spinal street, Blue Grass Lane, Hams Fork Drive.

The roads at this level will receive second call out priority. They are also a high level of priority for plowing, deicing, and removal. These roads will be completed only after level one priority roads for removal of snow.

#### **Roads Priority Level #3**

Coulson Ave, Coulson Circle, 6<sup>th</sup> West, Uinta Drive, 4<sup>th</sup> West, Sorenson Drive from Garnet to 5<sup>th</sup> West to include 5<sup>th</sup> West, Sunlight Drive, Ridge Place, Rolling Hills, Basin Drive, North Sunlight. Industrial Park roads,

The roads at this level will become lower priority. They will only be pushed through during storms and then pushed back when level one and two roads have been completed. These roads are set for removal after level one and two level roads have been completed or unless there is a dire need.

#### **Roads Priority Level #4**

All dead ends roads and alleys, Top of Emerald, Sapphire, Topaz, Moose Court, Quartz East of Pine, Troy Court, Nations, Antelope Court, 5th West Court, Top of Antelope, Opal East of Pine, Moose East of Pine, Elk East of Pine.

The dead end roads, and alleys will be set at lowest priority level. These roads will be pushed through and will become priority when the crews can get to them. This will all depend on the severity of the storms and duration. At this level garbage service will most likely be delayed.

**Please understand the Public Works Departments best intention is to address every road as quickly as humanly possible. The citizens should understand we are not the department of the past, with lower resources and man power, the City leaders will be using every department at its disposal to complete the snow plowing and removal as quickly and efficiently as possible. We will need your understanding and help; we ask that you follow these guidelines to help us when and where you can.**

**Thank you**

**Your Public Works and Parks Departments.**

