

From: "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>

To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL" <CCDTMACDL@vancouver.ca>

Date: 12/8/2016 4:07:52 PM

Subject: Memo - Mayor & Council - Snow Mitigation

Attachments: [MEMO - Snow Mitigation - December 8, 2016.pdf](#)

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Jerry Dobrovolny on Engineering Services plans to activate the Engineering Emergency Operation Centre (DOC) in preparation for heavy snow conditions this week. A short summary of the memo is as follows:

- The DOC will be activated at 5am on Friday, December 9th until such time as the weather forecasts change.
- Crews have been dispatched through the week to salt and plow main routes and priority hills, to clear seawall paths and sidewalks, priority bike routes and to manually remove snow at bus shelters and gutters that lead to catch basins as well as sidewalk let downs at intersections.
- Crews also respond to “hot spots” and requests that came in through 3-1-1.
- The Engineering fleet includes 44 trucks that salt roads and there are 1,500 tonnes of salt in stock.

Best
Sadhu

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ENGINEERING SERVICES
Jerry Dobrovlny, P.Eng.
City Engineer/General Manager

MEMORANDUM

December 8, 2016

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Sadhu Johnston, City Manager
Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager
Janice MacKenzie, City Clerk
Lynda Graves, Manager, Administration Services, City Manager's Office
Rena Kendall-Craden, Director, Communications
Kevin Quinlan, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Katie Robb, Director, Communications, Mayor's Office
Naveen Girn, Director, Community Relations, Mayor's Office

FROM: Jerry Dobrovlny, General Manager of Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Snow Mitigation

City of Vancouver Engineering Services in partnership with other city departments are responding and preparing for the anticipated winter weather events this week.

Preparation for Snow Mitigation

Since Sunday, City of Vancouver crews have continued to add salt to roads and sidewalks to mitigate icy conditions for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists. The Engineering Emergency Operations Centre (DOC) was fully active on Monday, December 5th from 2pm to 7pm. The DOC functions to fully coordinate operations logistics during extreme weather events such as storms or snow, or as needed. The DOC will be activated at 5am on Friday, December 9th until such time as the weather forecasts change. It will be assessed at that time if the DOC needs to remain active over the weekend, but it is also anticipated the DOC will re-activate on Monday, December 12th based on current forecasts. In addition to priority routes such as arterials streets and separated bikeways for snow clearing, the DOC actively monitors 311 calls and prioritizes urgent calls for snow, and ice.

Resources Deployed

Crews have been dispatched through the week to salt and plow main routes and priority hills, to clear seawall paths and sidewalks, priority bike routes and to manually remove snow at bus shelters and

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gutters that lead to catch basins as well as sidewalk let downs at intersections. Crews also respond to "hot spots" and requests that came in through 3-1-1.

The City takes snow removal seriously and has a comprehensive snow response plan in place. Our fleet includes 44 trucks that salt roads and there are 1,500 tonnes of salt in stock. We added four new brine units this year that can spray more area in less time. Specialized equipment is also available to salt bikeways. It is anticipated that when the DOC is active, up to 44 salters will be available to clear priority hills, streets and bikeways.

Communications for the Public

In addition to actively monitoring 311 correspondence, communications and media ads have been placed in Metro, the "Van Matters" City-themed ad in the Vancouver Courier, and translated in Ming Pao. The ads will run this week and late next week. These ads remind the public that Vancouver property owners and occupants (tenants) are responsible for clearing snow and ice from sidewalks that surround their property by 10 a.m. the morning following a snowfall. This responsibility is in effect seven days a week. Property owners and occupants who fail to remove snow and ice may be subject to fines. Snow and ice on the sidewalk can be a barrier for many people, particularly seniors and people with mobility challenges. Residents are encouraged to lend a hand to those who are unable to shovel their own sidewalks by adopting their sidewalk. City of Vancouver Engineering staff are monitoring and enforcing the by-laws via 311 complaints as well as proactively monitoring locations.

The public can continued to stay informed via the VanConnect App and 311, accessible via vancouver.ca/vanconnect. More information about how to prepare for winter weather is also available at vancouver.ca/snow.



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