

From: "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>
To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL" <CCDTMACDL@vancouver.ca>
Date: 2/2/2017 7:34:57 AM
Subject: Snow (again)

Greetings Mayor and Council,

City staff are preparing for another possible snowfall, anticipated at this time to begin as early as Friday.

Weather reports:

Weather reports from WeatherNet and [Environment Canada](#) present different weather reports. Environment Canada is predicting as much as 60% chance of snowfall in the lower mainland starting on Friday. WeatherNet, which provides more localized weather reporting for Vancouver specifically, predicts snow flurries turning to rain by Friday evening. City staff are monitoring the weather reports 24 hours a day from both networks, as well as from local meteorologists from local news outlets.

We will continue to monitor in order to activate as quickly as possible.

Preparatory work:

In anticipation of snowfall, City crews are brining the streets. Brine will help the snow to melt once cars begin to travel over the snow. Salt is fully stocked in anticipation of possible needs.

To respond to ice and snow, City staff refer to a comprehensive snow plan with 6 levels of fleet activation. This plan is used to correlate weather predictions with fleet preparation. However, in order to ensure we are ready for whatever weather this week brings us, the full snow response fleet including staff is being queued up to respond, and we will scale back resources if there is a less snowfall than anticipated.

As freezing weather is anticipated to last for several days, residents will be asked to ensure that snow is removed from driveways and sidewalks as soon as it falls in order to prevent freezing.

Garbage, Green Bin, and Recycling Collection:

If it is snowy and icy over the weekend, our sanitation collection groups will be work closely with our street crews to get salt and sand distributed on icy residential lanes. We anticipate that if there is freezing, there may be some service delays, as the areas serviced on Monday and Tuesday are the areas with the steepest laneways. We are working with MMBC to help ensure that they can benefit from sanding or salting that takes place.

Warming Centres

The City, in partnership with the Park Board and supported by staff and volunteers, will continue to provide additional warm and welcoming space for anyone who needs to get out of the cold as this unusually cold and snowy winter weather continues.

Planned for Tuesday, January 31 to Friday, February 3, three community locations will be open overnight as warming centres including: West End (11pm-6:30am), Britannia (10pm-9am), and Carnegie (11pm-7am).

Communications:

A communications plan is being prepared to let residents know of the city's planning, as well as remind residents to clear sidewalks, sign up as a Snow Angel, and have appropriate tires and shoes for traveling in the icy weather.

- **News Release:** We will issue a news release about preparation as early as Thursday.
- **Facebook:** We will post to Facebook morning 8:30am and evening 5pm each day with an update on anticipated /current weather and response
- **Facebook:** We will post to Facebook each evening at 7pm to confirm which warming centres will be open
- **Twitter:** We will queue up the Twitter posts about what the city is doing, what residents can do & encouraging sign ups for the Snow Angel program
- **Web:** We will activating the yellow banner on [Vancouver.ca](#)

We will provide an update to Council at the end of day today, Friday end of day, and when snow and ice response commences.

All the best

Sadhu

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

6/7/2017