

SAFE ROADWAYS

SNOW, PEDS, BIKES, & CITY OPERATIONS

OUR PURPOSE

- To advise the City Council on transportation-related issues including, but not limited to, pedestrian and bicycle facilities and safety, traffic issues, and transit services.
- To encourage Takoma Park residents to use alternatives to driving, including walking, bicycling, and transit.
- The Committee shall advise and assist the Council with respect to developing and implementing policies to increase transportation safety and accessibility in Takoma Park, especially for pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit riders.

BOULDER COMPARISON

BOULDER PEDESTRIAN SNOW CLEARING

- It is against city code for any person other than City of Boulder snow crews to deposit snow into streets, sidewalks or alleys. All snow removed from sidewalks must be kept on the property.
- Boulder's Code Enforcement officers can issue a summons to persons failing to comply with the snow removal ordinance. The fine for a first offense is \$100. The maximum fine is \$1,000 and 90 days in jail. (ours \$200 & \$400 for repeat offenders)
- Seniors and disabled residents who are physically unable to remove snow from their sidewalks may receive volunteer assistance through the Boulder County CareConnect IceBusters program.

BOULDER BIKE SNOW CLEARING

- Snow removal crews begin plowing the city's major multi-use paths at the same time as other crews begin plowing the major streets.
- On-street bike lanes are cleared as part of street snow removal operations.

KEY FINDINGS

- Public Works devotes less effort to ensuring sidewalks in front of City and County Parks, sidewalk access ramps, and bike routes are clear
- City snowplows created linear barriers of snow blocking the ramps to sidewalks
- City employees pushed snow down a City street and piled it on a County-owned pedestrian & bike path, blocking a crosswalk
- snowplow drivers piled snow in a way that blocked crosswalks, and that these piles remained about a week after the storm

KEY FINDINGS

- many icy patches remained in the streets after City plowing and salting efforts, creating biking dangers
- Resident compliance with the City sidewalk clearing requirement was spotty. Where cleared, frequently cleared frequently only narrow path
- at least one large apartment complex plowed its parking lot snow onto the adjacent sidewalk

































RECOMMENDATIONS

- Re-allocate some car-directed resources to ensuring safe pedestrian and bike access during and after snowstorms
- Refocus snow clearing to equally emphasize clearing for pedestrians, bikes, and differently abled users
- Sidewalk & ramp clearing teams should follow plows

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Plow wider lanes on streets without sidewalks to accommodate pedestrians & bikes
- Increase enforcement of clearing laws after storms
- Establish bike-snow routes to receive extra clearing of ice and snow

RELEVANT CODE

- Every owner and occupant, jointly, of every parcel of real estate adjoining a public sidewalk shall keep the sidewalk adjoining the property free from snow and ice and for the full paved width of the sidewalk. Code § 11.20.020
- City Code also requires that any snow removal be done “in a way so as not to obstruct the free passageway of any street, avenue or roadway” and that blocking such a street is a Class C offense. Code § 11.20.080

RELEVANT CODE

- “Chief Police Officer [to] ascertain whether the public sidewalks have been cleared of snow and ice” after storms. Code § 11.20.050
- “The Director of Public Works shall direct the removal or treatment of snow and ice ... from the portions of the public sidewalk with respect to which this chapter has not been complied with.... Code § 11.20.060
- The Clerk shall promptly present to the owner of each parcel a bill for the removal or treatment of snow and ice, as certified by the Director of Public Works, with respect to the sidewalk adjacent to the owner’s property. Code § 11.20.070

IF PEDESTRIANS HAD CLOUT ...



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