

Roadways Emergency Response Plan

Summary of the City of Saskatoon's approved Roadways plan for responding to a major snowstorm.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the emergency response plan is to guide the Roadways team through a phased approach in a major snowstorm to ensure public safety and restore mobility on Saskatoon streets and sidewalks.

RESPONSE PLAN

The Roadways Emergency Response plan will be activated immediately when:

1. Snow accumulation is greater than 25 cm and/or combination of snow, freezing rain and wind; and
2. Mobility is reduced to the point that light vehicles cannot travel on city streets; mobility across the city is severely impacted, and the regular winter maintenance level of service applicable to typical winter snow events cannot be met.

PRIORITIES

1. Reduce risk of serious collisions on high-speed and high-traffic streets and bridges.
2. Provide critical services and access to emergency facilities and City services.
3. Mobilize Saskatoon Transit to operate along key routes.
4. Restore mobility on lower traffic streets.
5. Restore parking availability and improvement of sight line

TIMELINE

Phase	Timing*	Action
1	First 12–24 Hours	Grading and plowing Priority 1 streets, access to emergency facilities, access to critical City services
2	36 hours	Grading major Saskatoon Transit routes including some Priority 2 streets
3	96 hours	Grading remaining Priority 2, and Priority 3 streets (includes school zones)
4	10 days	Grading local streets (7 days) and industrial areas (3 days); clearing major pedestrian pathways and cycling infrastructure
5	8 weeks	Removing stored snow for parking availability and improvement of sight lines city-wide

*From end of snowfall.

Priority 1 streets are freeways, major arterials and bridges.

Priority 2 streets are arterials with double-lanes, like Clarence Ave, McKercher Dr and Millar Ave; and Saskatoon Transit routes.

Priority 3 streets are collector streets, remainder of Business Improvement District streets and school zones. These streets take you through your neighbourhood, like Louise Ave, Howell Ave and Main St.