

Dear Downtown Residents, Businesses, Commuters and Visitors:

As winter approaches, I wanted to share with you how the City of Cincinnati intends to deal with snow and ice in the Central Business District.

The snow removal plan for the Central Business District is designed to:

- provide safe travel for residents, visitors and commuters
- reduce interruption to commerce
- reduce damage to property
- limit the environmental impacts associated with snow and ice removal

This plan takes into consideration the CBD's special geography and business needs.

SMALLER SNOW EVENTS (less than 5 inches)

- Before winter weather strikes, **we pre-treat streets with liquid de-icers** (such as brine, calcium chloride and beet juice). How we pre-treat – and which de-icer we use – depends on the forecast, temperature and timing of snowfall.
- As snow falls, we **continue applying liquid de-icers** to prevent snow or ice from sticking to pavement.
- **Streets are not plowed when there are less than 5 inches of snow.**

LARGER SNOW EVENTS (more than 5 inches)

- We may enact a **Snow Hauling Plan**:
 - Our primary concerns are safety and minimizing the impact on residents & businesses.
 - Hauling operations are scheduled for **overnight hours**.
 - **Snow is hauled away so that parking spaces aren't blocked.**
 - **Outside agencies or contractors** may be called in to help.
 - **The CBD may be broken into four quadrants** (dependent on total resources), with one crew per quadrant. A crew consists of several dump trucks or large containers, backhoes and a truck with liquid de-icers.
 - We make every effort to prioritize areas near scheduled **special events**.
 - **Police and barricades** may be used to protect safety of staff, pedestrians and motorists.
 - For efficient cleanup, the snow is sometimes **plowed into the center of streets**. The snow will then be hauled away (to a City-owned lot).

SIDEWALKS

The Ohio Revised Code 723.011 authorizes the City of Cincinnati to require property owners to remove snow and ice from abutting or adjoining sidewalks in a timely manner.

- Section 723.57 of the Cincinnati Municipal Code requires property owners to remove snow in a timely manner.
- Section 723.59 of the Cincinnati Municipal Code requires property owners to remove ice in a timely manner.
- ORC 723.11 (Ohio Revised Code) The penalty for violating these sections is a fine of \$25.

Handicap Ramps (please see the attached map). The City will maintain the following handicap ramps:

- Central Parkway to the North
- Central Avenue to the West
- Broadway to the East
- Northside of 2nd Street to the South

Sidewalks on Bridges. The City will maintain the sidewalks on bridges between 2nd and 3rd from Elm Street to Main Street (over Fort Washington Way).

Crosswalks. Downtown Cincinnati, Inc. Ambassadors will shovel crosswalks.

HAMILTON COUNTY SNOW LEVELS

The City of Cincinnati follows the Snow Levels announced by the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office:

- **Level 1 - Snow Alert:** Roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow.
- **Level 2 - Snow Advisory:** Roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow. Only those who feel it's necessary to drive should be out on the roadways. Contact your employer to see if you should report to work.
- **Level 3 - Snow Emergency:** All Municipal, Township, County and State roadways are closed to non-emergency personnel. No one should be out driving during these conditions unless it is absolutely necessary to travel. Those traveling on the roadways may subject themselves to arrest.

Snow Parking Emergency. When conditions become so severe that traffic flow and parking must be restricted for snow plowing and other snow-removal efforts, the City Manager will declare a Snow Parking Emergency. When a Snow Parking Emergency is declared, parking is prohibited on Snow Emergency Routes. Vehicles parked are moved to an area designated by the City of Cincinnati Police Department. Car owners can retrieve their vehicles by calling 591-6000.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Department of Public Services at 591-6000.

Thank you for your patience, understanding, and cooperation,



Gérald Checco, Director, Department of Public Services

CBD RAMP BOUNDARY

