Winter Operations Fact Sheet

City Street Snowplow
Order of Operation:

1. Emergency Snow Routes and Arterial Streets
2. School and Bus Routes
3. Residential Streets

What is new in 2020?
(Recommended by the Winter Operations Task Force)

- **Residential Streets**: For some winter storms, private contractors will plow residential streets while Lincoln Transportation and Utilities (LTU) crews simultaneously treat and plow arterial streets and emergency, school and bus routes. This new effort is a test to see if this helps clear snow and ice from residential streets sooner.

- **Depth Guide**: The City of Lincoln is making the 4-inch depth requirement used to initiate residential street plowing more flexible.

- **Route Optimization**: LTU crews will use data to determine when and which residential streets need plowed. Some areas of the city may not need plowed and others may.

Track Lincoln's Progress:

- Follow Lincoln's snowplows in action on the City of Lincoln Snowfighting Tracker Map at lincoln.ne.gov/snowfighting.

- **Increased Salt Storage**: LTU increased salt storage by replacing an old building with a larger and more efficient facility that holds 2,000 more tons of salt than the previous one.

- **Street Technology**: The City has increased the number of pavement sensors from seven to 13. This technology analyzes surface temperature, ambient air temperature and humidity.

- **Updated Parking Ban Guidelines**: During a residential parking ban, parking will be limited to one side of the street only. Parking on even sides of the street will be banned in even-numbered years like 2020. Parking on odd sides of the street will be banned in odd-numbered years like 2021.
Lincoln Weather Forecasting
The City uses consultant forecasting services such as Data Transmission Network (DTN) to determine when to:
- prepare the most effective de-icing mixture for forecasted conditions.
- begin snow truck operations to lessen the severity and duration of ice and snow pack.

Available Tools to Maintain Streets

**Liquid Brine:** Anti-icing liquid put on streets before the winter storm to help prevent snow/ice from freezing to the road.

**Rock Salt:** De-icing tool that helps breaks down snow/ice frozen to the road.

**Snowplows:** Clear away snow/ice after being broken down by rock salt.

Note: Sand is only used on trouble spots. Research shows it increases traction for only about three vehicle passes.

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**How much do drivers pay for snow removal per year?**

$7.85 (Wheel Tax)

**How many lane miles do City snowplow crews cover?**

2,600 (This is equivalent to driving from Lincoln to New York and back.)

**How much does it cost for one hour of snowplowing?**

$148 (per snow vehicle)

**How much does it cost to plow residential streets per snowstorm?**

$300,000 to $460,000

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See how costs vary from year to year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Cost of Winter Operations</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14/15</td>
<td>$3,679,037</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15/16</td>
<td>$3,320,060</td>
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<tr>
<td>16/17</td>
<td>$3,897,509</td>
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<td>17/18</td>
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<td>19/20</td>
<td>$4,628,157</td>
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</tbody>
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This means: Determining the amount of funding per year is a challenge. Any funds not used are reinvested back into the program.

Result: The City of Lincoln strives to offer stable and efficient winter services with the limited funds provided.