February 02, 2011

News Release

For Immediate Release

Nearly 50 Percent of Residential Streets Plowed

As of 4 p.m. today, Public Works Streets Maintenance crews had completed plowing approximately 28 percent of residential streets in Springfield (21 of 74 sectors across of the city). Crews are currently working in an additional 14 sectors, meaning nearly 50 percent of residential streets have either been plowed or are in progress this afternoon.

Crews began working early this morning in residential areas, starting in central Springfield and generally moving outward toward the City limits. Some crews also were dispatched to the areas hardest hit by snow, including areas north of I-44 and east of U.S. 65.

All of the arterial and collector streets remain in good condition, but some surfaces still contain packed snow and ice. (Snow routes can be viewed online.) Rock salt and chemical treatments have been applied to these roadways, but their effect is minimized in temperatures below approximately 20 degrees.

Public Works crews will maintain their schedule of two 12-hour shifts each day. This schedule has been in place since the onset of the storm during the overnight hours Monday night.

Driveway Shoveling Tips

Because of the large number of miles of residential streets, Public Works crews will make one pass on either side of these street and then move on to the next street. Citizens shoveling driveways should place their snow "downstream," in the direction of traffic, so that the truck does not plow the recently shoveled snow back into the driveway. If standing in the driveway facing the street, shovel snow to your right side. Clearing away snow immediately "upstream" of the driveway is also advised. (See a video guide: http://bit.ly/shoveldrive)

The plow blade will be carrying snow that will leave a windrow in the driveways as they pass. Snowplows will not be able to plow out the driveways due to the time involved and the amount of work that needs to be accomplished.

Moving vehicles out of roadways and into driveways, garages or elsewhere, if at all possible, is advised.

Under City ordinance, property owners are responsible for taking reasonable measures to keep the sidewalk in front of or adjacent to their property clear and free of snow.
For more information, contact: Phil Broyles, Co-Interim Director of Public Works, (417) 864-1950; Jonathan Gano, Interim Assistant Director of Public Works, (417) 864-1961; or Mike Brothers, Co-Interim Director of Public Information, (417) 864-1119.

Department of Public Works

840 Boonville Avenue • P.O. Box 8368 • Springfield, MO 65801
417-864-1900