

TITLE II – TRANSPORTATION

CHAPTER 20

LEVEL OF SERVICE DURING WINTER MONTHS

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20.01 - TITLE

An Ordinance establishing the level of service in respect to the clearing of snow, ice or frost from Madison County’s secondary roads during the winter months. Be it ordained by the Board of Supervisors of Madison County:

20.02 – PURPOSE

The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish this County’s normal level of service in respect to the clearing of snow, ice or frost from the secondary road system during the winter months, as provided in HF2487, Section 10(2), Acts of the 63rd G.A., Second Session, and pursuant to the provisions of Section 309.67, Code of Iowa. The level of service is to be implemented within the amount of money budgeted for this service, and as contained in the County’s secondary road budget as submitted to and approved by the Iowa Department of Transportation and adopted by the Board of Supervisors.

20.03 - LEVEL OF SERVICE

Clearing of snow or ice and maintenance of the secondary road system during the winter months is primarily for the benefit of the local residents of this County. Each storm has individual characteristics and must be dealt with accordingly. The portion of the roadway improved for travel will have upon it snow and ice in a compacted condition. These conditions may be continuous, or concentrated on hills, in valleys, curves, and/or intersections. The entire width of the traveled portion of the roadway may not be cleared of snow, ice, compacted snow and ice, or frost. Snow cleared from the traveled portion of the roadway shall be placed on or in adjacent shoulder, ditch, or right-of-way. Snow can be expected to accumulate adjacent to the traveled portion to an extent that motorist’s sight distance to the left and right may be greatly reduced or impaired. The snow removed from intersections will be piled in its corners in piles of unequal height. The line of sight, sight distance, or visibility of motorists approaching these intersections may be greatly reduced or impaired. The County shall not be responsible for snow pushed or otherwise placed on the roadway or shoulders by others. Motorists shall drive their vehicles during these conditions with additional caution and watchfulness, especially in respect to the surface of the roadway and reduced or impaired visibility. In respect to roadways that have only one-lane open, the motorist should exercise further extreme watchfulness and caution. During these conditions no additional warning or regulatory signs will be placed warning of impaired sight distances, visibility at intersections, road blockages, one-lane conditions, or that the road surface is slick or slippery, or what the advised speed should be.

20.04 - SEQUENCE OF SERVICE

In the implementation of snow and ice removal and other maintenance of the County's secondary road system during the winter months, the County Engineer shall select the actual sequence of roads to be cleared as provided for in this Section of the Ordinance, and shall determine when drifting, wind velocity and additional snow or snowstorms require that the snow removal equipment be removed from the roadway, or that additional clearing of paved routes be accomplished prior to the clearing of unpaved roads. The judgment of the County Engineer or his designated representative shall prevail.

1. PAVED ROUTES

- A. The initial effort will be to get all residents open to two-lane traffic as soon as possible. During initial snow removal operations, paved roads may only have one-lane plowed for a period of time.
- B. After two-lane travel is possible, subsequent snow removal will be carried on during normal working hours.
- C. The truck mounted snowplows and spreaders will normally, if needed, be in operation between the hours of 5:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. The trucks may be called off the road if snow and blowing snow reduces visibility to hazardous working conditions, in the judgment of the County Engineer or his delegated representative.
- D. When required, due to drifting snow, motor graders may be used to keep the paved roads open and the opening of unpaved roads may be delayed.
- E. It is not the policy of the County to provide a "dry" pavement condition.

2. UNPAVED ROADS

- A. The effort will be to get all residents open to one-lane traffic as soon as possible after a storm has passed, but if conditions warrant, two-lanes may be opened on some roads prior to one-lane being opened on others.
- B. After one-lane travel is possible, subsequent snow removal will be carried on during normal working hours.
- C. Motor graders and/or truck plows will normally be in operation between the hours of 5:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. Unpaved roads may not be plowed if the wind is causing continual drifting.
- D. Snow or ice will not be removed from roads designated as Area Service Systems B, unless deemed an emergency by the County Engineer or his delegated representative.
- E. It is not the policy of the County to provide neither a "dry" surface condition nor to provide a surface free of snow, ice, compacted snow and ice, or frost.

3. DUST FREE SURFACE ROUTES

- A. The effort will be to get all residents open to two-lane traffic as soon as possible after paved routes have been open to two-lane traffic.
- B. Truck mounted snowplows and spreaders will normally, if needed, be in operation between the hours of 5:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. The trucks may be called off the road if snow and blowing snow reduces visibility to hazardous working conditions, in the judgment of the County Engineer or his delegated representative.
- C. Motor graders will not normally be used to open dust free surfaced roads or to keep these roads open.
- D. It is not the policy of the County to provide neither a “dry” surface condition nor to provide a surface free of snow, ice, compacted snow and ice, or frost.
- E. Dust free routes within the Madison County Secondary Road System include: R35 from the Madison/Clarke County line north to G68.

4. PRIVATE DRIVES

The County will not clear snow from private drives. Normal snow removal operations may result in snow being deposited in private drives. Snow from private drives shall not be placed on the roadway or shoulders.

5. MAILBOXES

The County will replace mailboxes damaged by snow removal operations with materials for an approved postal installation if replacement is required.

20.05 - LIMITATION ON SERVICE

The level of service provided for in this Ordinance may be suspended, shall not include and/or may not be performed in the following situations:

- 1. The sequence of service may be suspended or altered during “Emergency” conditions.
- 2. Sanding, salting, or placing of abrasives upon the traveled portion of the roadway that is slick, slippery, and dangerous due to freezing rain that occurs outside the County’s normal hours of operation.
- 3. Sanding, salting, or placing of abrasives upon the traveled portion of the roadway that is slick, slippery, and dangerous due to the formation of frost.
- 4. Sanding, salting, or placing of abrasives upon an unpaved road.

20.06 - EMERGENCY

An "Emergency" condition shall be considered as one where loss of life is probable, where a serious injury has occurred, or where extensive loss of property is imminent. These conditions should be verified through a physician or sheriff's office.

20.07 - DISASTER PROCLAMATION

The provisions of this Ordinance shall be further suspended in the event the Governor, by proclamation, implements the State disaster plan, or the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, by proclamation, implements the County disaster plan. If such occurs, the County personnel and equipment shall be immediately subject to the direction of the Governor or the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.

20.08 - REPEALER

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

20.09 - SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

If any section, provision, or part of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole or any section, provision or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

20.10 - EFFECTIVE DATE

1. Ordinance II-20 shall be in effect upon publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the County following final approval.
 - A. Date of final approval of Ordinance II-20: April 8, 2003
 - B. Date of publication of Ordinance II-20: April 16, 2003
 - C. Date of Resolution to the Code of Ordinances: