

CHAPTER 37

SNOW REMOVAL

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37.01 PURPOSE. The purpose of this Chapter is to establish and maintain uniform definitions and procedures concerning snow and ice removal for the City of Cascade. The City will provide snow and ice removal in a safe and cost-effective manner, taking into account safety, budget, personnel and environmental concerns.

This Chapter does not guarantee that the streets, public parking lots, city maintained sidewalks, and other public areas will be free of snow and ice; but rather attempts to maintain an adequate traveling surface for properly equipped vehicles and pedestrians during winter conditions.

Snow and ice removal from public streets, public parking areas, city maintained sidewalks, and other public areas is an emergency operation that takes precedence over other non-emergency work for the public works department.

37.02 SNOW EMERGENCY DECLARATION. A snow emergency is defined as a snowfall event of 4 inches or more; however, any amount of snow combined with ice, rain, and/or wind may also constitute a snow emergency. The Mayor and/or his/her designee may declare a snow emergency. A snow emergency may be declared in advance of an anticipated storm, during a storm, or after a storm. A snow emergency will normally not last more than 24 hours past the end of the last snowfall; but may be extended or shortened when conditions warrant. The public will be informed of a snow emergency through mass media outlets as deemed necessary by the Mayor.

37.03 SNOW REMOVAL ROUTES. The City Council shall establish and maintain a priority list of streets, public parking areas, city maintained sidewalks, and other public areas for snow and ice removal by resolution.

37.04 DRIVEWAYS AND SNOW FROM PRIVATE PROPERTY. City snowplows will not clear private driveways. The snow placed in driveways by the city plows is an unavoidable consequence of removing snow from the streets and it is the responsibility of the property owner to remove. Snow from private driveways, parking lots and sidewalks may not be placed on city streets. The only exception is snow in the Downtown Business District where the

proximity of buildings to the street leaves no place other than the street to remove snow to. Downtown snow must be placed on the street in such a way that a safety hazard is not created and the travel path of the street is not obstructed.

37.05 REMOVAL OF SNOW AND ICE ACCUMULATIONS ON SIDEWALKS. It is the responsibility of the abutting property owners to remove snow and ice accumulations promptly from sidewalks. If a property owner does not remove snow and ice accumulations within a reasonable time, the City may do so and assess the costs against the property owner for collection in the same manner as a property tax.

37.06 VEHICLE PARKING DURING A SNOW EMERGENCY. No person shall park, abandon or leave unattended any vehicle on any public street, alley or City-owned off-street parking area during a snow emergency proclaimed by the Mayor unless the snow has been removed or plowed from said street, alley or parking area and the snow has ceased to fall. Vehicles parked on the street during a snow emergency are subject to tow without notice to the owners and at the owner's expense. A snow emergency parking ban shall continue from its proclamation through the duration of the snow or ice storm and the twenty-four hour period after cessation of the storm except as above provided upon streets that have been fully opened. The ban shall be of uniform application and the Police Chief is directed to publicize the requirements, using all available news media, in early November each year. The emergency may be extended or shortened when conditions warrant.

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