SNOW REMOVAL AND PLOWING POLICY

1. Introduction

The City of Warren believes that it is in the best interest of the residents for the City to assume basic responsibility for control of snow and ice on city streets. Reasonable ice and snow control is necessary for routine travel and emergency services. **The City will provide such control in a safe and cost effective manner, keeping in mind budget constraints and optimal utilization of city employees and assets.** The City can and will use city employees and equipment and private contractors when necessary to provide this service.

2. Ice and Snow Start-up Criteria

The Public Works staff will determine when snow and ice control operations will commence. The criteria are as follows:

   A. Snow accumulations of 3 inches or more.
   B. Drifting of snow that causes problems for travel.
   C. Icy conditions which seriously affect travel.

3. Plowing Procedures

Snow will be plowed in a manner so as to minimize any traffic obstructions. In times of extreme snowfall, streets will NOT always be completely cleared of snow. Follow up snow removal will be accomplished after safe travel conditions have been established throughout the city and required priority areas have been cleaned up.

4. Snow Removal

The Public Works staff will determine when snow will be removed by truck from the area. The downtown area of the City is one area that will not tolerate the build up or piling of snow, this area includes but is not limited to the downtown section of Johnson Avenue, Fletcher Avenue, Park Avenue, McKinley Street, Minnesota Street, Main Street, First Street, and Second Street. City crews will try to remove the snow in these areas early in the morning to minimize traffic hazards. Snow in these areas will be hauled to a snow storage area. This area will be determined prior to the snow season.

5. Priority

**The Airport is the number one priority, emergency routes of Good Samaritan Drive and McKinley are next, then the downtown areas, residential streets, city owned parking lots and lastly, alleys.** No snow removal operations will commence until the cleanup of these areas is complete. The city will be plowed using an alternating procedure where **streets will be plowed, then avenues. During the next weather event the procedure will be reversed, doing avenues then streets.** Snow removal
operations may also be delayed depending on weather conditions and personnel availability.

6. Weather Conditions and Personnel Requirements

Snow and ice control will be conducted only when weather conditions do NOT endanger the safety of city employees and equipment. City employees normally work an eight hour shift. However, if required overtime or multiple shifts may be required, the Mayor and City Administrator will determine the need, number and duration of snow removal efforts based on current conditions and forecasted weather conditions.

7. Sidewalks

The City will maintain sidewalks in front of city owned buildings. These sidewalks will be maintained when weather conditions and city personnel become available. Until city employees are available, tenants from these building will create a snow and ice free walk way.

8. Use of Salt and Sand

The City will use sand, salt and other chemicals when required. The City is concerned about the use of these chemicals and the effect they have on roads and vehicles and will only use them in extreme conditions.

9. Commercial and Residential Driveways

The city will not remove snow from commercial or residential driveways. The snow pushed to the curb or snow that has been wind rowed to the curb as part of the cities follow up snow removal and street safety clean up program will be the responsibility of the property owner or resident.

The owner or resident of the property will be responsible for creating personal or public access to the city streets and alleys by removing any snow left in the driveway.