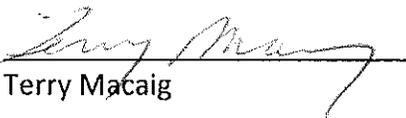


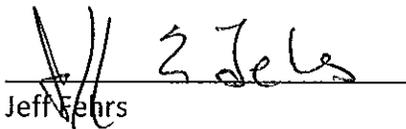
TOWN OF WILLISTON

SIDEWALK WINTER MAINTENANCE POLICY

Amended this 18th day of May, 2015

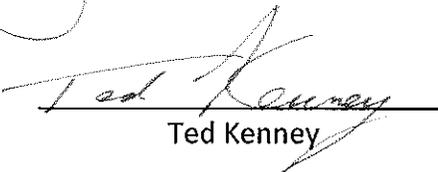
Williston Selectboard


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Abstract:

The Town presently has over 33 miles of sidewalks and bike paths. The Selectboard has decided to provide winter maintenance services to limited sections of sidewalks and bike paths. As a means of objectively selecting which paths to maintain and to determine the level of service to be provided, this policy was created.

**Sidewalk Winter Maintenance Policy
Legislative History**

Adopted December 20, 2001

Amendments:
May 18, 2015

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1. Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to outline an orderly, consistent and fiscally responsible process to be used by the Selectboard in determining which sidewalks are to be maintained during the winter months and the standards under which the sidewalks will be maintained.

2. Policy Statement:

The Town presently has over 33 miles of sidewalks and bike paths. During the winter months, sidewalks and paths often become impassible because of the build-up of snow. As the Town grows, the Board recognizes the need to clear sidewalks and paths in certain areas of Town to provide for safe pedestrian access to essential services and recreational opportunities. At the same time the Board recognizes the significant personnel and equipment costs associated with providing this service. It is the policy of the Williston Selectboard to provide winter maintenance to only those sections of sidewalks and bikepaths specifically identified as part of this policy. The Board, on a case-by-case basis, will add or remove sections of sidewalks and paths to the winter maintenance list using the criteria outlined in this policy.

3. Definitions:

- 3.1. Sidewalk - The term, sidewalk as used in this policy shall mean a walk or bike path used for public convenience and situated within the limits of a public right of way or easement owned by the Town of Williston.
- 3.2. Winter maintenance - Shall mean the clearing of snow from the sidewalk or path.
- 3.3. Major Arterial Roads - Thoroughfare roads with traffic volumes greater than 5,000 vehicles per day and speed limits of 35 mph or greater.
- 3.4. Community Collectors - With 2 traffic lanes and safety lane/shoulders or 4 full lanes of traffic with volumes greater than 2,500 vehicles per day and speed limits from 30 mph.

4. Service Standards

Specific service standards are adopted as part of this policy. This will allow the Town to evaluate the effectiveness of the policy and undertake modifications as needed.

- 4.1. Road clearing takes precedence over sidewalk clearing.
- 4.2. During some storm events, lack of manpower or equipment may prevent sidewalks from being cleared until well after the end of the storm.

Sidewalk and bikepath snow removal will be performed only after a minimum of 2" of snow has accumulated resulting from a snowfall event. Accumulations resulting from drifting and/or depositions resulting from public street snow removal operations will be removed as determined necessary by the Town. The Town will attempt to initiate all snow removal operations within 24 hours after the end of the storm, depending on the event and weather predictions.

- 4.3. The level of service will be limited to what can be provided by mechanical equipment. Due to the limitations of mechanical equipment and sidewalk irregularities, sidewalks will not be cleared or maintained to a dry pavement standard. No handwork will be performed by Town or contractual personnel. Surface irregularities and slippery conditions may result. No ice control (sanding or salting) will be performed by the Town or contractor.
- 4.4. It is to be expected that snow can be plowed, blown, swept or dumped on public right-of-way and easements on either side of the sidewalk/trail as needed for the best efficiency of operation.
- 4.5. Reasonable attempts will be made not to deposit excessive snow in driveways and/or private sidewalks if it is operationally or mechanically controllable. However, the removal of any snow deposits that may result will be the responsibility of the adjacent property owner and/or occupant.
- 4.6. The Town will not be responsible for sand, salt or incidental plow damage to turf, driveways, irrigation systems, or any landscaping improvements located within public rights-of-way or easements. Any related repair will be the responsibility of the adjacent property owners and/or occupant.
- 4.7. In order for the Town to perform snow removal operations, pathways must remain free of any obstructions (i.e., vehicles, refuse containers, play equipment, implements, etc.) at all times. If obstructions are encountered, the Town's operation may skip the affected property frontage and the subsequent removal will be the responsibility of the adjacent property owner and/or occupant.

5. Procedures for Selecting Sidewalks for Winter Maintenance:

- 5.1. With over 33 miles of sidewalks and bikepaths, the Town is presently providing winter maintenance to the sections of sidewalks and bikepaths indicated in Attachment 1. It is anticipated there will be requests for other segments to be added. Due to the cost to add additional segments

to the overall maintenance program, it is necessary that a need and benefit be demonstrated to justify the expenditure of additional funds.

5.2. The Selectboard will review all written requests to add segments of sidewalk to the winter maintenance list, on a case-by-case basis. The Selectboard will also consider removing segments from the list on a case-by-case basis. This review will take place in December of each year and if approved, the sidewalk will be included in the winter maintenance program for the following season. The Selectboard will consider the following criteria:

- Is the cost of removing snow from the section of sidewalk reasonable compared to other sections?
- Does the sidewalk connect to a destination such as a bus route, public or private services, or commercial area?
- Is the demand strong enough to warrant the personnel and equipment costs?
- Are there special safety concerns that distinguish this section from others in Town?
- Is the sidewalk along a major arterial road or collector road?
- Is the sidewalk part of a local school walk route relied on by the school and designated for walkers under their bus transportation policy?
- Is the sidewalk necessary to provide continuity or is it part of a designated recreational loop?
- Is the sidewalk constructed to current Public Works Standards?

5.3. The Town will assume the responsibility for removal of snow from all sections of sidewalks identified in Attachment 1. The Selectboard may decide to limit the total sections of sidewalk to be maintained each year.

6. Attachment 1 - Sidewalks Maintained by Town during Winter

Attachment 1
Sidewalks Maintained by Town during Winter

In accordance with this policy the Williston Selectboard, have determined that the Town will assume the responsibility for the removal of snow from the following:

Location	Length in Feet	Year Added
1 . Allenbrook School along Talcott Rd to Route 2	3,077	2005
2 . Blair Park Rd from Falcon Manor to Paul Street	983	2006
3 . Coyote Run to Allenbrook School	3,200	2004
4 . Harvest Lane from Marshal Ave (east) to Marshal (west)	2,376	2006
5 . Helena Drive from Route 2A to Route 2	623	2006
6 . Marshal Ave from S. Brownell east to Route 2A	5,826	2006
7 . North Brownell from Industrial Ave to Route 2	3,100	2002
8 . N. Williston north from Route 2	548	
9 . North Williston Rd to Old Stage Road Bike path	6,685	2003
10 . North Williston Rd. from Route 2 to Mountain View Rd	4,600	2012
11 . Old Stage Rd from Route 2 to Brookside Drive	938	
12 . Old Stage Rd from Brookside Drive to Lawnwood	315	
13 . Old Stage Rd from Lawnwood to Turtle Pond	462	
14 . Old Stage Rd from Turtle Pond to Wildflower Circle	1,200	2002
15 . Old Stage Road from Route 2 north	643	
16 . Old Stage Rd from Wildflower Circle to Mtn View Rd	1,954	2012
17 . Mtn View Rd from N Williston Rd to Old Stage Rd	3,969	2012
18 . Paul Street from Blair Park Rd east to Route 2A	337	2006
19 . Route 2 from Tower Lane to Whitney Hill	630	
20 . Route 2 (south side) from Lambert Lane to Tower Lane	2,214	
21 . Route 2 (north side) from Lambert Lane to Library	1,086	
22 . Route 2 (north side) from Library to Maple Road	935	
23 . Route 2 (north side) from Maple Road to Old Stage	617	
24 . Route 2 (north side) from Old Stage to end	459	
25 . Route 2 (north side) from Lambert Lane to N. Williston	344	
26 . Route 2 (north side) from N. Williston east to end	613	
27 . Route 2 to Williston Central through Town Green	259	
28 . Route 2A (east side) from Marshall Ave north to Taft's Corners	2,038	
29 . Route 2A from Taft Corners north to Blair Park Road	1,399	2006
30 . Route 2A from Industrial Ave north to River Cove Road	2,761	2008
31 . Route 2A from Williston Road north 690 feet	690	2012
32 . S Brownell Marshall Ave north to Williston Rd	3,749	2006
33 . Talcott Rd through MTP to Route 2A	5,980	2005
34 . Industrial Ave from N. Brownell east to Route 2A	2,218	2013
35 . Whitney Hill Road from Route 2 south 700 feet	700	2017
36 . Williston Road from N. Brownell east to Helena Drive	982	2014
37 . Harvest Lane from Williston Rd. south-east to Natural Foods	1,277	2015
38 . Route 2A from River Cove Road to north to Town line	3,578	2015
Totals (linear feet)	73,365	
Miles (5,280 feet)	13.89	
Date: January 20, 2016		