

DATE: 12/22/2025

AGENDA ITEM: NEVADA PARKS AND RECREATION – TRAIL SNOW REMOVAL PROTOCOL

Quick Overview: In an effort to reduce staff time with snow removal on weekends and holidays, the Nevada Parks and Recreation Department would like to adopt protocol for snow removal on trail, throughout the community. This protocol will allow staff the option of clearing snow, on the trail, dependent upon the timing of a snow event and any future weather implications, which may cause difficulty in clearing snow efficiently and effectively.

History:

Knowing the popularity of the Nevada Trail System, Nevada Parks and Recreation has set a precedence of removing snow, from trail, in a timely manner. During normal work hours, removal of snow, from the trail, is typically not an issue. In the interest of allowing personnel and the public to have a better understanding of when trail should be cleared, we feel it would be appropriate to adopt the following guidance regarding removal of snow on trail throughout the community.

Nevada Trails will be cleared once snow has stopped falling and additional accumulations are not expected. During normal work hours, trail may be cleared multiple times if a heavy snow is expected. During weather events on weekends and/or holidays, typically, the trail will be cleared on the next regular staff work day, unless future weather implications make clearing the snow necessary; the goal being to reduce staff time clearing the trail when essential facilities are a priority.

- Priority 1: City Hall, Library, Fire Station, Field House, Post Office
- Priority 2: Park Sidewalks (cleared within 24 hours of snow event)
- Priority 3: Trails and bridge sidewalks

This guidance would also allow for potential winter use of the trail utilizing snowshoes, cross country ski's, etc. during weekend and holiday snow events. Note: no motorized snow transportation vehicles are allowed on the trails.

Iowa Code States: It is the responsibility of the City to remove snow, ice and accumulations from all Public Trails as may be deemed appropriate for the use and enjoyment of the public. The City is under no obligation to remove snow, ice and accumulations from any Public Trail unless the City Council determines otherwise for specific segments of Trail.

Options:

1. Adopt the new snow removal protocol giving staff guidance during snow related weather events.
2. Keep current snow removal practices.
3. Make additional modifications and bring back for future council consideration.

Parks and Recreation Board and Staff Recommendation:

The Parks and Recreation Board and Staff recommend Option 1.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 382-4352 (office) or by email at nevadarecreation@gmail.com