

## **City of Brainerd, Minnesota Street Sweeping Policy**

### **1. Introduction**

The city of Brainerd, Minnesota finds that it is in the best interest of the residents for the city to assume basic responsibility of sweeping city streets. Reasonable sweeping is necessary for vehicle and pedestrian safety, water quality issues, and environmental concerns. The city will provide such service in a cost-effective manner, keeping in mind safety, budget, personnel, and environmental concerns. The city will use city employees, equipment and/or private contractors to provide this service. Completion dates are dependent on weather conditions, personnel, and equipment availability. The Street Foreman or his/her designee will be responsible for scheduling of personnel and equipment.

### **2. When Will the City Perform Street Sweeping Operations?**

- A. Spring sweeping of snow and ice control aggregate will begin when streets are significantly clear of snow and ice, usually late March or early April, after the risk of later snowfall has passed. Spring sweeping is typically completed by the end of May.
- C. Fall sweeping will typically commence the middle of September, or when most of the leaves have fallen from the trees and typically is completed by the middle of October, or until the leaves have become frozen or bonded to the pavement. Areas with extensive foliage will be swept after most of the leaves have fallen.
- D. Storm Water Quality areas will be swept on a priority basis throughout the year.
- E. Environmental/general sweeping will be performed on a routine/as needed basis.
- F. Erosion/siltation dirt & debris cleanup from construction projects is the responsibility of the developer, contractor, or property owner. Except in cases of emergency, the streets shall be cleaned and swept within 48 hours of notification. If the streets are not swept within the specified time allowed, or in the case of an emergency, the city may sweep the street and the responsible party will reimburse the city for all associated costs.
- G. Citizen requests for sweeping will be evaluated and the City Engineer will determine the priority.

### **3. How Will Streets Be Swept?**

Sweeping is a slow process with average gutter line speeds for the first sweeping in spring that can be as slow as 2 to 3 miles per hour. The city will sweep with its own equipment and personnel or contract services. Normally centerlines are swept after gutter lines are cleaned. Equipment may include mechanical, vacuum or regenerative air sweepers.

4. **Priorities**

The city has classified city streets based on the street function, traffic volume, impact on water quality and the environment and the importance to the welfare of the Community. Accordingly, sweeping routes will be designed to provide the maximum possible benefit to higher volume and water quality sensitive areas. Some streets require more ice control chemicals and sand than others due to high traffic volume, presence of stop signs or other traffic control, and presence of curves on the routes. These routes are typically classified as the City's State Aid routes or snow emergency routes and are considered priority one for these purposes. All other local streets are considered priority two, and city staff generally works their way in a methodical path starting in west Brainerd commercial district heading east.

5. **Weather Conditions**

Sweeping operations will be conducted when weather conditions permit. Factors that may delay sweeping operations include: temperatures below 32°F, wind, rain, snow and frozen gutter lines.

6. **Work Schedule**

Sweeping operations are performed in conjunction with and can be impacted by other maintenance operations. Sweeping operations will normally be conducted Monday - Friday, from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The downtown business district is swept every Wednesday of the week, and typically commences at 5:00 a.m. and is finished by 7:00 a.m. Times to complete can vary depending on the number and types of vehicles that are in the way and need to be towed. Extended workdays and shift changes may be utilized for emergency sweeping to provide maximum efficiency. For safety reasons, no operator shall work more than a twelve-hour shift in any twenty-four hour period.

7. **Sidewalks and Trails**

The city will sweep trails and sidewalks on an as-needed basis.

8. **Safety**

Sand, sealcoat rock or other dirt and debris on the street can create a potentially dangerous condition for vehicles, motorcyclists, bicyclists, and pedestrians. It would not be practical or effective to sign all streets for potential dangerous conditions. During sealcoat or milling operations, the Contractor will place warning signs indicating loose rock will be placed on ends of streets or other appropriate areas where needed. These signs will remain in place until the street has been swept. Employees will follow all work rules, OSHA regulations, and Federal and State laws to ensure a safe sweeping operation.