

# THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRAMAHE POLICY

PAGE: 1 of 3

**DEPARTMENT:** TRANSPORTATION & ENVIROMENTAL SERVICES

**POLICY:** WINTER OPERATIONS POLICY

**POLICY NO:** T-2023-01

Adopted by Council: Nov. 2023

**Statement:**

Winter operations services, for areas within the Township of Cramahe's jurisdiction, follows a Council approved Winter Operations Policy which meets Maintenance Standards for Municipal Highways. The Public Works Department is responsible for the sanding, salting and plowing of approximately 228 kilometers of Municipal roads. It is acknowledged that conditions may occur which will prevent the achievement of this level of service and that Public Works must work within available resources such as funds, equipment, and manpower. Weather conditions may also have a major effect on desired level of service. The driving public will be expected to reduce speed and drive according to weather and road conditions.

**Purpose:**

This winter operations plan sets out a policy and procedural framework for ensuring that the Township of Cramahe continuously improves on the safe and sustainable delivery of winter maintenance services. The purpose of this policy is to provide a guideline for Public Works staff to follow when performing winter operations services in order to meet the following objectives:

- Reduce the hazards of icy road conditions.
- Reduce economic losses to the community and industry.
- Facilitate the access of emergency services.
- Provide safe school bus routes.
- Provide local access for the driving public.

**Application:**

All roads, within the Township of Cramahe, do not require the same level of service. Service given is in accordance with the role a particular road plays within the total transportation network. The Township of Cramahe uses the Provincial Maintenance Standards for Municipal Highways, *O. Reg 366/18 as a base line for winter operations service delivery.* The roads within the Township of Cramahe jurisdiction fall into four categories:

- Class 3
- Class 4
- Class 5
- Class 6

Road classes are based on the Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) count as well as the posted or statutory speed limit.

For example, a road with an AADT of 1,000 or more but less than 2,000 would be

- Class 3 if the speed was greater than 60 km/hr,
- Class 4 if the speed was greater than 50 km/hr but not greater than 60 km/hr, or;
- Class 5 if the speed was 40 km/hr or less.

#### 1. Winter Road Patrol

From December 1st to March 31st staff will be in charge of performing a winter road patrol by driving a selection of roads, when weather conditions warrant, in order to determine the need for maintenance. Patrols will be documented. Not all roads are individually patrolled. Patrols will commence no earlier than 4 a.m. and cease at 6 p.m.

#### 2. Snow Plowing

After becoming aware of the fact that snow accumulation on a roadway is greater than the depth set out in the following table, snow clearing resources will be deployed. Roads will be plowed within the timelines set out.

Class of Road	Depth	Time
3	8 cm (3")	12 hours
4	8 cm (3")	16 hours
5	10 cm (4")	24 hours

Plowing will commence no earlier than 5 a.m. and cease at 9 p.m., unless severe conditions or emergency services require it. Plowing outside these core hours (5 a.m. to 9 p.m.) shall be authorized by the Operations Manager of Transportation & Environmental Services or CAO.

#### 3. Ice Treatment

After becoming aware of the fact that a roadway is icy, icy roads will be treated with sanding or salting within the timeline set out as follows:

Class of Road	Time
3	8 hours
4	12 hours
5	16 hours

a) Sanding

Class 3 and Class 4 paved roads will be sanded in their entirety to achieve center bare conditions. Class 5 paved roads will be sanded at intersections, curves, hills and railway tracks. Gravel roads will be spot sanded when ice blading cannot be achieved within the time frames above.

Blanket coverage shall occur only during extreme icy conditions and/or freezing rain.

Sanders will commence no earlier than 5 a.m. and cease at 9 p.m., unless severe conditions or emergency services require it. This shall be authorized by the Operations Manager of Transportation & Environmental Services or CAO.

Sand/salt mix shall be spread at a rate of 200kg to 500kg per kilometer pending on road and shall be a minimum of 4% salt.

b) Ice Blading

Gravel roads will be ice bladed when temperatures and conditions allow.

c) Parking

Parking on any street or highway within the Township of Cramahe is prohibited November 1<sup>st</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 11pm to 7am for snow removal. By-Law 02/28 section 4(A) (9).

***Driving in the Snow***

During poor driving conditions, unnecessary travel is not recommended. If you do find yourself needing to travel in less-than-ideal conditions:

- Monitor highway and road conditions before your departure – check Ontario 511 (<https://511on.ca>) for up-to-date traffic information
- Clear your vehicle of snow and ice before driving
- Drive for the conditions – give yourself extra travel time, extra space to stop, go slow, keep a safe distance between cars, be patient
- Never attempt to pass a working plow