



Town of Crested Butte

Snow and Ice Control Operations Plan

2025-2026

INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose

The Town of Crested Butte develops a Snow and Ice Control Operations Plan each year with the primary purpose of outlining municipal responsibilities and procedures for controlling snow and ice accumulation on the streets and sidewalks in town. Appropriate snow and ice control is necessary to maintain streets and pedestrian ways, emergency services access, and routine travel.

B. Annual Snow Summit

The purpose of the Town of Crested Butte's annual Snow Summit is to discuss with the involved stakeholders general snow removal procedures, outline any proposed changes, and develop a dialogue between the parties involved, allowing them to exchange ideas and voice concerns. This year's Snow Summit is tentatively scheduled for the week of October 28th, and will invite the following stakeholders:

Crested Butte Marshal's Office
Crested Butte Public Works Department
Private Snow Removal Contractors
Gunnison County Public Works
Gunnison County Sheriff's Department
Crested Butte Fire District
General Contractors
Crested Butte Parks, Rec, Open Space
and Trails (PROST) Department.

CDOT (Colorado Department of Trans.)
Mt. Express Bus Service
Regional Transportation Authority (RTA)
Atmos Energy (Gas Company)
GCEA/REA (Electric Company)
Waste Management (Refuse Disposal)
FEDEX/UPS/USPS
Century Link/Time Warner
Property Management Companies

C. Responsibilities

- a. The Street Division is responsible for conducting snow and ice control operations on municipal streets and public parking areas.
- b. The Parks Maintenance Division is responsible for clearing sidewalks, crosswalks, park paths, and snow removal at the Ice Arena as identified in the Snow Removal Plan.
- c. Adjacent property owners are responsible for the removal of snow and ice from sidewalks adjacent to their properties.

Removal of Snow and Ice –Generally. Any owner or other person in charge of or having the control and supervision of any premises adjacent to any sidewalk shall cause to be removed and cleared away snow or ice from a path of at least five (5) feet in width from so much of the sidewalk as is adjacent to said premises. For owners or other persons in charge of or having the control and supervision of any premises with adjacent sidewalks that have snowmelt systems, such persons shall see to it that ice accumulating on sidewalks of neighboring premises that are a result of the heated sidewalk shall be similarly removed and cleared away. It shall be unlawful for any person to fail or refuse to comply with this requirement. - Crested Butte Municipal Code Sec. 11-5-10(a).

Town staff will mail a letter in November to each property owner adjacent to sidewalks along Elk Ave, Third Street and the 4-way reminding them of this responsibility.

- d. Private property owners or property management companies are responsible for the removal of snow and ice build-up from roofs adjacent to public areas, public streets, and rights-of-way maintained by town that present a possible hazard to the public.

Removal of snow and ice from roofs. The owner or other person in charge of or having control and supervision of any building located within or adjacent to public areas and public streets and rights-of-way maintained by the Town shall remove snow and ice build-up from the building's roof within a reasonable time, but no more than twenty-four (24) hours, following a snowstorm to ensure that each roof plane of the building does not shed snow or ice onto such public areas or public streets and rights-of-way. - Crested Butte Municipal Code, Sec. 11-5-30(b)

Town staff will inspect roofs routinely as weather conditions dictate. If a building is found to be out of compliance, the Marshals or Building Department will issue a notice to the property owner or manager. At the time of notice, the property owner or manager will have 24 hours to comply with the notice.

Roof snow and ice management.

- (1) During months that snow accumulates, all eaves and other roof areas of a building that could result in shedding of snow and ice onto public areas and public streets and rights-of-way maintained by the Town shall be inspected on a weekly basis, at a minimum.
- (2) Upon identifying a potentially hazardous build-up of snow or ice as a result of inspections or upon receiving notice by a representative of the Town:
 - (i) The hazard area shall be immediately cordoned off using appropriate fencing or Town approved barriers. In the event that the cordoned off area is an entrance or egress, directions to the alternate entrance or egress area shall be clearly posted.
 - (ii) Appropriate work crews shall be immediately scheduled to remove the built-up snow or ice. Diligent and reasonable efforts shall be made to complete the snow and ice removal activity within twenty-four (24) hours of identifying the hazard or receiving notice from the Town.
 - (iii) All snow and ice removal activities shall be safely completed. At all times during the removal activities there shall be at least one (1) worker posted at ground level to monitor pedestrian safety.

Crested Butte Municipal Code, Sec. 11-5-30(c)

Failure to comply will result in a violation and, subsequently, the Town may elect to remove the snow at the owner's expense.

Failure to comply and notice of violation. Failure to comply and notice of violation. Failure to remove potentially hazardous snow and ice build-up from a building's roof within twenty-four (24) hours following a snowstorm shall constitute a violation of this [Section 11-5-30](#). The Town shall give written notice to the owner or other person in charge of or having control and supervision of the building, delivered to the party's last known local address, requiring that the built-up snow and ice be removed within twenty-four (24) hours of receiving notice. Upon failure or refusal to timely remedy or otherwise respond to the notice, the Town may, at its election, remove the snow and ice build-up on the building's roof at the owner's expense.

- (1) If the Town determines the snow and ice build-up on a building's roof poses an immediate threat to public safety, the Town may, at its election, remove the snow and ice build-up at the owner's expense

Crested Butte Municipal Code, Sec. 11-5-30(d)

- e. Private contractors removing snow from private property must not obstruct parking/traffic signs, fire hydrants, handicap access areas and public right of ways. Private contractors will also maintain line of sight on intersections, sidewalks, driveways and parking areas for both vehicles and pedestrians. The

storage of snow on town property or within Town rights-of-way (ROW) is prohibited, unless otherwise authorized with a specific Snow Management Permit.

- f. Gunnison County Public Works Department and CDOT work cooperatively with the Town of Crested Butte Public Works Department while plowing snow along the 6th Street corridor.
- g. The Water Division will mark fire hydrants with poles by November 1st and will clear snow from fire hydrants for access.

D. Periodic Reviews

The Director of Public Works and the PROST Director will review and update the Snow and Ice Control Operations Plan on an annual basis and present any revisions to the Town Manager in preparation for presentation to the Town Council prior to December 1st of each year.

PERSONNEL

A. Staffing

- a. All CDL certified personnel are subject to duty during major snow and ice storms.
- b. Tasks assigned during a snow and ice storm will remain within the capabilities of the employee's skill set.
- c. The Public Works Department and the PROST Department will develop a secondary snow crew in preparation for an extended snow cycle.
- d. The primary snow crew will begin at 12:00 a.m. and work until 08:30 a.m. (Crews may work until 10:00 a.m. during snow events).
- e. If continued operations are necessary due to an extreme event, the Public Works Director will determine the procedures necessary to direct resources.
- f. Parks Maintenance Division begins between 7:00-7:30 a.m. and the sidewalk removal involves approximately 4 hours of snow and ice removal. The cycle of sidewalk snow removal will be repeated as needed throughout the storm cycle during the hours of 7:00am-5:00pm.

B. Control and Direction

The Public Works Department retains responsibility for the overall coordination of snow and ice control preparations for the streets. The Parks Maintenance Division will coordinate with the Public Works Department in providing effective direction to maintain the sidewalks during a snow event.

C. Organization

The normal chain of command and line of authority will be followed during snow and ice storms unless otherwise designated.

D. Telephone Number Lists

A telephone number list will be updated on an annual basis prior to November 1st.

OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

The Town's response to a storm event depends on the type, severity, and duration of the weather conditions. The Public Works Director determines plow routes and the sequencing of operations and retains the flexibility to adjust the route assignments based on storm conditions.

A. Roadways

a. Strategic Plan

The following strategic plan shall serve as guidelines for roadway operations subject to specific conditions. The areas below are listed in the sequence of plowing. Snow plowing will commence at 3 inches of accumulation.

- i. Plow Public Works yard including access to bus area, search and rescue building, tow lot and wastewater facilities.
- ii. Plow east of 6th Street including 4-Way Parking Lot, Tennis Court Parking Lot, and north-bound bus stop;
- iii. Plow south and west of 6th and Elk;
- iv. Plow 4-way including parking lots, bus turn, and bus pull-out;
- v. Plow core area including 5th, 4th, 3rd, 2nd streets on both sides of Elk; 1st St Public Parking Lot, Fire Hall and adjacent public parking lot; Alleys one block north and south of Elk Avenue (2nd St. to 5th St.); and public buildings (e.g. Town Hall, Marshal's and Old Rock Library) parking and access areas.
- vi. Plow north and west of Elk and 6th;
- vii. Plow Treasury Hill;
- viii. Plow Pyramid Ave
- ix. Center for the Arts: Fire Lane
- x. Snow Berm Assistance Program

Every effort will be made to keep the Bus Route and Emergency Routes cleared of snow and ice accumulation.

Residential parking restrictions are in effect November 1st through April 30th. Snow will be plowed to alternate sides of the streets to coincide with the following winter parking rules:

On odd numbered days between 10:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. the next day, it shall be unlawful to park a vehicle on any odd numbered address of any street or alley, except Elk Avenue from Sixth Street to First Street.

On even numbered days between 10:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. the next day, it shall be unlawful to park a vehicle on any odd numbered address of any street or alley, except Elk Avenue from Sixth Street to First Street.

On every day between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m., it shall be unlawful to park a vehicle:

- 1) On Elk Avenue from Sixth Street to First Street.*
- 2) In the following Town public parking lots:*
 - a. The lots immediately east of the intersection of Sixth Street and Elk Avenue.*
 - b. The lot immediately south of the intersection of First Street and Elk Avenue.*
 - c. The lot at the Crested Butte Nordic Center/Big Mine Park.*
 - d. The lot on the north side of the alley west of Second Street between Elk Avenue and Maroon Avenue*
 - e. The lot to the east of the Fire Hall located at 306 Maroon Avenue.*
 - f. The lot immediately north of the Crested Butte Mountain Heritage Museum located at 331 Elk Avenue.*
 - g. The lot on the south side of the alley east of Third Street between Elk and Sopris Avenues.*

On every day between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m., it shall be unlawful to park a vehicle on Third Street from one hundred twenty-five (125) feet north of Elk Avenue to one hundred twenty-five (125) feet south of Elk Avenue.

On every day, between Elk Avenue and Sopris Avenue and Elk Avenue and Maroon Avenue from one hundred (100) feet west of Second Street to one hundred fifty (150) feet east of Third Street, it shall be unlawful to park a vehicle in the alleys and to place a trash collection device, including Dumpsters, on any public street, alley or right-of-way.

No person shall park a vehicle at any time on the west side of Second Street from Elk Avenue to Sopris Avenue and on the south side of Whiterock Avenue from Second Street to one hundred (100) feet east of Second Street.

Crested Butte Municipal Code Section 8-2-50 b-g.

The information card below, provided by the Marshal's Office, further illustrates these restrictions.

CRESTED BUTTE Winter Parking

From November 1 through April 30 vehicles parked on public rights of way must follow the parking rules set forth to allow for snow plowing.



Even side of the street addresses

Green signs

Blue signs



Odd side of the street addresses

Special area parking restrictions 2:00am-8:00am

Elk Av – 100-500 blocks (downtown)

Third St, alley to alley, ½ block off Elk either direction

All public Parking lots

As posted/temporarily signed



b. Snowbanks on Elk Avenue

The primary snow crew will remove snowbanks on Elk Avenue as snowbanks begin to encroach within pedestrian sight lines or between snow events, depending on the severity of the snow cycle. This is done to promote pedestrian safety, enhance pedestrian and vehicular visibility, and provide easy access to businesses. Snowbanks will remain on Elk Avenue the week prior to Christmas through the week after New Year's, or to accommodate additional snow required for special events.

c. Snowpack

Every effort will be made to keep no more than 6 inches of snowpack on the streets prior to removal. The bus route and emergency routes will be cleared of snow and ice after each event.

d. Sand

The Public Works Department deposits sand at all intersections within Town, with special consideration taken along Elk Avenue, bus routes, and the school zone and safe routes. Sanding operations are performed during normal business hours. The Town of Crested Butte tries to minimize the amount of sand placed on streets due to air and water quality standards, as well as to prevent storm drain blockages.

e. Snow Berm Assistance Program

Residents of single-family homes that qualify for the program will receive snow berm removal assistance from the Town. This will occur after all other snow removal operations have been completed for the day.

f. Clean-up Procedures

The Public Works Department begins street cleaning to remove the sand when both the streets and curb/gutters are dry. Generally, this service begins in late spring.

B. Snow Hauling

Certain public right of way locations and dedicated snow storage areas within our community require additional service after snow plowing operations cease. These areas will be maintained between snow events by the primary snow crew. During extended snow cycles this will be done by the secondary snow crew during normal business hours.

The existing snow storage areas include the abutting street right of ways and the following lots:

- | | |
|---|---|
| a. First and Beckwith | g. Totem Pole Park Snow Storage Area |
| b. Ruth's Road Dead-End (Kapushion Annex only) | h. Big Mine Park Snow Storage Area |
| c. Three Ladies Park Snow Storage Area (Kapushion Annex Only, 500 am – 10 am only) | i. Block 80, Lot 1 |
| d. Gravel Pit (no wetlands) | j. Gothic and Gothic |
| e. Public Works Yard (TP 4 only) | k. Peanut Lake Rd. |
| f. 412 Third Street (Pita's lot) | l. 8 th Street Greenway |

In addition to these lots, the Town is anticipating leasing two private snow storage lots at 5th and Maroon and the 0 block of Maroon.

Gravel Pit Snow Storage

The Town will make every effort to avoid the use of wetlands, east of the gravel pit for snow storage. The Town will be leasing 4-5 spaces at the gravel pit for contractor snow storage.

C. Alleys

Few alleys are maintained by the Town of Crested Butte. Private contractors may be hired by residents for alley maintenance. Any private contractor interested in plowing, hauling, or storing snow on public property must;

- Obtain a Snow Management Permit from the Town of Crested Butte.
- Have a current Town of Crested Butte business license.

- State Registered Vehicle.
- Provide a current certificate of insurance listing the Town as additionally insured.

Additionally, any snow stored in Town alleys must be hauled prior to the snow reaching a height of one half the height of the adjacent fence line. At a minimum snow MUST be hauled from alleys prior to April 1st of each calendar year, except as otherwise permitted by the Town Manager in writing.

D. Pedestrian Areas

The Parks Maintenance Division will clear snow from the sidewalks and other pedestrian areas after each snow event of 1 inch or greater. These areas are depicted on the snow removal map.

- Sidewalks /Handicap Ramps – All sidewalks and handicap ramps will be cleared as indicated on the snow removal map.
- Crosswalks- All entrances to crosswalks on Elk Avenue will be cleared, and the crosswalks entrances on Sixth Street will be cleared as indicated on the snow removal map.
- Bus Stop Shelters- Reasonable access to bus stops will be maintained and bus shelters will be cleared of snow when necessary.

E. Resident/Business and Property Owners.

This snow and ice control plan identifies the streets, sidewalks, and public facilities that the Town will maintain during a snow event. ***Property and business owners also have certain responsibilities that include clearing their own driveways and maintaining adjacent sidewalks, clearing areas for wildlife resistant containers and dumpsters, removing snow from sidewalks and public parking areas resulting from plowing, roof and overhang shedding, and remove ice dams created from heated sidewalks.*** We regret that snow must be plowed off the street into driveways, but there is no other choice. Residents/business owners are responsible for these areas and should be cleared without depositing any snow or ice into the roadway or sidewalks, and should not obstruct the vision of driveways and sidewalks. (Ordinance 3, 2007)

Snow pushed into the street not only makes snow plowing more difficult for street crews, but can cause a dangerous obstacle in the roadway or a nuisance to your neighbors. Garbage containers placed too close to the street may be subject to damage by snow plowing operations.

EMERGENCY SNOW OPERATIONS PLAN

In the event of an extreme and long snow event, the Public Works Director reserves the authority to modify the operational snow plan according to the availability of personnel and equipment, and to ensure employee safety.

If declared, the Public Works Director will convene a stakeholder meeting to initiate the following plan and initiate a public service notification plan that includes E-Alerts, KBUT, CB News and social media.

Priority 1 – Emergency Routes for ambulance and fire equipment, Public Works yard, and Marshal's parking area.

Priority 2 – Mt. Express Bus Routes as determined by the snow event, and Red Lady Avenue near Community School (if open).

A. Elastic Clause

This plan may be superseded by verbal or written orders when, due to a shortage of personnel, equipment failure, and/or extreme weather cycles, conditions warrant necessary changes to accomplish snow and ice control operations.