



Fairbanks North Star Borough



RURAL SERVICES

A Division of the Public Works Department

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THE ROAD REVIEW

FALL ISSUE, OCTOBER 2019

Highlights

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SANDING OF ROADWAYS

Winter is here! While the snow may appear to be shy in the valley this year, now is still the time to anticipate the mix of rain, snow and ice that tends to make its appearance this time of year. Sanding of roadways in Service Areas during the winter months is vital to the health and safety of your neighborhoods. Emergency vehicles need good traction at intersections and on hillsides to provide quick responses to emergencies and school busses must be able to provide safe transportation for school aged children. Communicating with your contractor to provide good sanding practices and maintaining these safe road conditions is critical for these services. Here are some road standards* to help you in requesting services:

804-3.01 SANDING REQUIREMENTS. Response time is 4 hours from the time of Commission call-out, unless other-wise directed.

1. Use a mechanical spreader that distributes a uniform layer. Spread material from shoulder to shoulder. Make as many passes as needed for complete coverage.

2. Provide sand for service areas with sanding boxes.

804-4.01 METHOD OF MEASUREMENT. Sanding of roadways will be measured by the ton. Sanding material, hauling, spreading, and labor shall be considered incidental to this pay item. Providing sand for service area sanding boxes will be measured by the ton and loaded into the boxes.

804-4.02 MINIMUM CALL-OUT AMOUNTS. Sanding for roadways shall have a minimum call-out amount of 2 tons. The Contractor and Commission shall negotiate a price for work less than the minimum call-out amount following procedures described in Section 106 Work Orders.

**Inserts From Standard Specification for Local Road Maintenance 2012 (with Annotations for Commissioners) Section 804, SANDING OF ROADWAYS*



Have you read the Service Area Commissioner Handbook lately?

Taking the time to read it will help you be a more effective commissioner. It can be found online: <http://co.fairbanks.ak.us/pw/ServiceAreaCommissionerResources/RF-A%20Commissioner%20Handbook-2015%20FINAL%20SINGLE-page.pdf>

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Meeting Deadlines & Reminders



Meeting Date	Publish Date	Submittal Dead-line to RS 9 AM
October 27, 28, 29	10/22/2019	10/17/2019
October 30, 31 November 1, 2	10/25/2019	10/22/2019
November 3, 4, 5	10/29/2019	10/24/2019
November 6, 7, 8, 9	11/1/2019	10/29/2019
November 10, 11, 12	11/5/2019	10/31/2019
November 13, 14, 15, 16	11/8/2019	11/5/2019
November 17, 18, 19	11/12/2019	11/6/2019
November 20, 21, 22, 23	11/15/2019	11/12/2019
November 24, 25, 26	11/19/2019	11/14/2019
November 27, 28, 29, 30	11/22/2019	11/19/2019
December 1, 2, 3	11/26/2019	11/21/2019
December 4, 5, 6, 7	11/29/2019	11/25/2019
December 8, 9, 10	12/3/2019	11/26/2019
December 11, 12, 13, 14	12/6/2019	12/3/2019
December 15, 16, 17	12/10/2019	12/5/2019
December 18, 19, 20, 21	12/13/2019	12/10/2019
December 22, 23, 24	12/17/2019	12/12/2019
December 25, 26, 27, 28	12/20/2019	12/17/2019
December 29, 30, 31	12/24/2019	12/19/2019
January 1, 2, 3, 4	12/27/2019	12/23/2019
January 5, 6, 7	12/31/2019	12/26/2019

Purchase Orders

⇒ A purchase order number must be provided by Rural Services before requesting work from any contractor.

⇒ Requesting work above the approved Purchase Order dollar amount is a violation of borough code. Please contact our office for assistance if you are not sure how much money is available on a purchase order.



DEAR COMMISSIONERS,

A BIG THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SERVICE TO YOUR ROAD SERVICE AREAS!!

CHECK LIST • WINTERTIME • TRAINING

Winter Reminder

Borough Code 12.04 prohibits Encroachments on public roads. An encroachment exists when snow is placed on a service area road by a resident. Alaska Statute 13 ACC 02.530(b) states, "No person(s) may divert or drain water to or upon a highway, nor may a person push or otherwise deposit snow or ice onto a highway in a manner or in quantities, which may constitute a hazard to snow removal equipment or other traffic."

Contact Floyd Sheesley at 459-1203 with concerns.



SCHOOL BUS SAFETY ISSUES

Another school year has begun! If you haven't already done so, we recommend you perform a safety inspection on school bus routes in your service area.

Drive the bus route and pay special attention to what could be safety issues. Make sure roadside brush is cleared off the shoulder. Not only will this improve visibility, but it will also allow room for



snow storage once snow plowing begins.

Help the bus drivers focus on driving by making sure street signs are in

place and the road in good driving condition.

Have overhanging branches cut to minimize damage to bus mirrors, windows and beacons.

Install "School Bus Stop Ahead" signs where hills crest and curve visibility problems are an issue.

Lastly, make sure your contractor knows where your bus routes are. These roads will need prompt and frequent sanding and plowing.

WINTER CHECKLIST

Is your Service Area prepared?

Pumping & Thawing PO ready?

Sand in the sand boxes?

School Bus routes clear?

Site distance brushing?

UPCOMING COMMISSIONER TRAININGS

Work Orders & Invoices

November 13	Wednesday	12:00 p.m.
November 13*	Wednesday*	5:30 p.m.*
November 20	Wednesday	12:30 p.m.

**NOTE: We will not hold the 5:30 p.m. evening class if no one has pre-registered. The deadline for pre-registering is 5pm, November 12th.*

Rural Services, 520 5th Ave., Ste. D

Call to register: 459-1223



WINTER SAFETY

Vigilance is the best attitude when it comes to winter safety. There are so many constant changes from day to day that we have to keep an eye on things like snow berms, missing signs, slippery roads, unplowed cul-de-sacs, trees and brush hanging over the roadway, ruts and wash boarding, narrowing of roads, snow machines, dog mushing, cross-country skiing, commercial delivery vehicles, snowplowing, etc. Let's talk about a few of these and how to be diligent and proactive.

Snow berms. Snow berms at intersections and curves obstruct sight distance for drivers. Make sure snow is pushed back for improved safety.

Missing signs. Missing signs or those covered with snow or frost make travel risky and hinder emergency vehicles, delivery trucks and visitors in finding their destination.

Slippery roads. Slippery roads and intersections make stopping and controlling vehicles difficult. Sanding of steep grades and intersection whenever road conditions demand is providing service area safety.

Unplowed cul-de-sacs. Unplowed cul-de-sacs prohibit safe access and/or turning around for emergency vehicles, delivery trucks, and residents. Check your service area maps and work with your contractor to plow all cul-de-sacs completely.

Trees and brush. Trees and brush hanging over the road obstruct driver visibility and make snow plowing difficult. Remove all trees and brush that obstruct visibility.

Ruts and wash boarding. Ruts and wash boarding make it difficult to control vehicles. Blade the surface with a road grader to remove irregularities or hard pack.

Narrowing of roads. Narrowing of roads caused by incomplete or infrequent snow plowing, or snow pushed from driveways by resident can create safety concerns. Make sure snow is removed from shoulder to shoulder during plowing. Notify residents it is unlawful to put snow into the public right-of-way. It is unlawful to leave cars parked in the public right-of-way, these are also know as encroachment.

Other. Snow machines, dog mushing, or cross-country ski trails that enter onto roads can be dangerous for everyone. Clear snow berms and hard pack to improve sight distance for drivers and trail users.



OFFICE CLOSED

Rural Services Office
will be closed for these
holidays:

November 11—

Veterans Day

November 28-29—

Thanksgiving

December 24-25—

Christmas