



Westminster's goal during any snowstorm is to keep primary and secondary streets open and safe for the motoring public. In addition to primary and secondary streets, priorities are given to: streets adjacent to hospitals, police and fire stations, schools, RTD bus routes, and dangerous intersections, hills, or curves on residential streets.

Please refer to the attached map for an outline of primary and secondary routes.

- Priority 1. Primary Routes** - All arterials and major collector streets considered to be the minimum network which must be kept open to provide a transportation system covering the major traffic volume streets and providing access to hospitals, police and fire stations.
- Priority 2. Secondary Routes** - Collector streets and select residential providing access to emergency facilities, schools and bus routes.
- Priority 3. Designated Residential Areas** - Dangerous intersections, hills, and curves.
- Priority 4. Residential Areas**- If more than 8 inches of snow has accumulated on pavement, all residential areas will receive service.

Storm Categories

Category 1: 1 inch or less of snow resulting in icy conditions throughout the city. All priority 1,2 and 3 areas will be serviced with the application of deicers.

Category 2: 2 to less than 8 inches of snow resulting in slick, slushy conditions throughout the city. All priority 1, 2 and 3 areas will be serviced with plowing and/or the application of deicing materials.

Category 3: 2 to less than 8 inches of snow with wind causing blizzard conditions. Only priority 1 areas will receive service until the storm subsides, then priority 2 and 3 will be serviced. Areas affected by drifting snow will be serviced after wind and snow has stopped.

Category 4: 8 inches of snow or greater with rates of accumulation at or exceeding 1 inch per hour, resulting in extremely difficult to impossible travel conditions throughout the City. Only priority 1 areas will receive service until the storm subsides, then priority 2 and 3 areas will be serviced. When possible, priority 4 areas will receive service. The acceptable level of service for priority 4 areas is to provide a navigable surface by plowing and/or applying deicers which allows a vehicle to travel the street safely on at least one center lane. When plowing is required, windrows of snow across driveways are created and opening of driveways is the responsibility of the property owner.

Category 5 Major Snow Emergency: 8 inches of snow or greater with rates of accumulation at or exceeding 1 inch per hour, with wind resulting in possible road closures due to drifting snow and blizzard conditions. Only priority 1 areas will receive service until the storm subsides, then priority 2 and 3 areas will be serviced. When possible, priority 4 areas will receive service. The acceptable level of service for priority 4 areas is to provide a navigable surface by plowing and/or applying deicers which allows a vehicle to travel the street safely on at least one center lane. When plowing is required, windrows of snow across driveways is created and opening of driveways is the responsibility of the property owner.

Major Snow Emergency (Category 5) Declared

Stage 1 - Blizzard conditions - average duration 12-18 hours

- City Hall Emergency Coordination Center (City Hall ECC) opened
- MSC Street Operations Emergency Center (MSC EOC) opened
- Call Center at MSC EOC is staffed 24 hours a day until post storm operations are completed.
- Contractual assistance is deployed
- Primary roadways and emergency facilities maintained

Stage 2 - Snow / Wind Ends - average duration 12 hours

- Widen primaries
- Service secondary
- Plow/Salt residentials
- Residential streets may remain hard packed but accessible until snow melts

Stage 3 - Post Storm - (simultaneous with Stage 2) - average duration 12 hours

- Hauling operations
- Intersection cleanup
- Bus shelters and cluster mailboxes cleaned up
- Storm drains serviced as necessary