2020-2021 Snow Operations Update

Business Session: October 29, 2020
Snow Operations

Materials:
- 35,000 tons of salt
  - Currently: 34,000 tons
- 20,000 gallons of calcium chloride available
- Salt brine made as needed

Equipment:
- Public Works:
  - 80 dump trucks
  - 90 pickup trucks
- Water Department
  - 30 dump trucks
- Parks Department
  - 44 dump trucks
  - 14 pickups
- Total: ~150 dump trucks

FY 2019-2020 Budget:
- $2.75 Million
Snow Operations

**Arterial Program:**
- Large dump trucks
- Bare pavement, curb to curb clearing
- 10 foot (min) plow width
- Plow and salt
- Run 24 hours a day (split shifts)
- 36 plow routes
- Coverage: ~2,500 miles

**Residential Program:**
- Smaller pickup trucks
- One pass only
- 7 ½ foot plow width
- Primary focus: plowing
- Salt hills, curves, and intersections
- Daytime shifts only
- 67 plow routes
- Coverage: ~3,900 miles

*EVERY CITY MAINTAINED STREET IN KCMO IS ON A PLOW ROUTE.*
Snow Operations

Road Pre-Treatment:
• Some roads and bridges are pre-treated prior to storm events
• Crews use salt brine: solution of salt dissolved in water
• Brine is applied when temperatures are 20 degrees and rising
• Salt residue remains once water evaporates
Winter Preparations

Current Efforts:

• Prepping vehicles
• Practicing plow routes
• Filling salt domes
• Contract help with residential routes
  • Bid opening in early November
• Pavement maintenance
  • Cracksealing
  • Pothole patching
    • 30,000 total potholes filled since May 2020
    • 96% of potholes reported to 311 are patched
Potential COVID Impacts

COVID related issues could impact snow removal:

• Eliminated open maintenance positions that plow snow
  • 30 open positions no longer able to be filled
• Positive COVID cases within maintenance division as cases rise in KCMO
Staying Up to Date

**Accessing information:**

- KCMO.GOV/SNOW
- Includes forecast and operations updates for each snow event
- Snow map to track where trucks have been
- FAQ’s about our snow program
- Snowy Weather Tips

http://kcmo.gov/snow
Snow Map

- Successful debut last year
- AVL equipment in trucks feeds into the public facing map
- Better data tracking

What does the map key mean?

Passage refers to how frequently a vehicle travels on a given route. The colors represent the last time a City vehicle with a snow plow and/or deicing treatment passed on a street.

- Green: a vehicle passed in the last 0 to 4 hours
- Orange: a vehicle passed in the last 4 to 8 hours
- Yellow: a vehicle passed in the last 8 to 16 hours
- Maroon: a vehicle passed in the last 16 to 24 hours
- Gray: a vehicle passed in the last 24 to 48 hours

www.kcmo.gov/snowmap
Utilizing 311 this Winter Season

When to call 311:

- Wait one day after the snow stops falling before calling, tweeting or emailing 311 or filling out a report online at KCMO.gov/311
- Call to report slick calls and missed spots
- The snowbot, 311’s automated call line for reporting slick spots, will operate again this year
  - 166 slick call service requests were created from the snowbot last year
  - 777 slick call requests were created through a 311 call representative
Questions?

http://kcmo.gov/snow