

City of Ely

Snow Plowing
Snow Emergency

When does Ely start plowing roads?

- ▶ Snow Plowing and/or ice control operations shall commence under the direction of the Public Works Director and City Administrator. In his absence, the Director's designated representative will confer with the Director or City Administrator to determine when and where operations will begin in accordance with the following criteria:
 1. Snow accumulation of 2-inches or more;
 2. Drifting of snow that causes problems for travel;
 3. Icy conditions which seriously affect travel; and,
 4. Time of snowfall in relationship to heavy use of streets (i.e. weekday a.m. and p.m. commuter periods).
- ▶ Snow and ice control operations are expensive and involve the use of limited personnel and equipment. Consequently snowplowing operations will not generally be conducted for snowfall of less than 1 inch.

What is the process of snow removal?

- ▶ Snow will be plowed in a manner so as to provide access as soon as possible and to minimize any traffic obstructions. The center of the roadway will be plowed first. The snow shall then be pushed from left to right. The discharge shall go onto the boulevard area of the right-of-way. Streets and cul-de-sacs are initially plowed with a single pass to open all routes as soon as possible. It is the Public Works Department's goal to have the entire street system cleaned after a "typical" snowfall in approximately 24 hours. Depending on snowfall conditions and duration of the storm, streets will not always immediately be able to be completely cleared of snow.

Why would the city stop plowing during a storm?

- ▶ Generally, operations will continue until all routes are passable. Widening and cleanup operations may continue immediately or on the following work day depending on conditions and circumstances. Safety of the plow operators and the public is important. Therefore, snowplowing/removal operations may be terminated after 10-12 hours to allow personnel adequate time for rest. There may be instances where this is not possible depending on storm conditions and other circumstances. Operations may also be suspended during periods of limited visibility, significant winds or severe cold so as to not jeopardize the safety of city employees and equipment. Any decision to suspend operations shall be made by the Public Works Director and City Administrator based on the conditions of the storm. The City will still provide access for emergency fire, police and medical services on an “as-needed” basis during a major snow or ice storm.

Does Ely use salt and sand?

- ▶ The City is concerned about the effect of salt and sand on the environment and will limit its use for that reason. Therefore it is the policy of the City to utilize salt and sand at locations where there are hazardous or slippery conditions. This provides for traction but is not intended to provide bare pavement during winter conditions. The City will not be responsible for damage to grass caused by salt and sand and therefore will not make repairs or compensate residents for salt and sand damage to turf areas in the right-of-way.

What happens if property is damaged during snow removal?

- ▶ Snow plowing and ice control operations can cause property damage even under the best of circumstances and care on the part of the operators. The major types of damage are to improvements in the City right-of-way, which extends approximately 10' to 15' beyond the curb location. The intent of the right-of-way is to provide room for snow storage, utilities, sidewalks and other city uses. However, certain private improvements such as mailboxes, landscaping and other private installations are located within this area.

What is a snow emergency and when is it declared?

- ▶ A snow emergency is normally defined as a measurable snow of 2 inches or more. However, any amount of snow combined with ice, rain, and/or wind can also require a snow emergency to be declared. This will be communicated to the public through a post to the local news stations on the internet and by public announcement on Ely Website. In the event a snow emergency is declared, all parked vehicles on a City street must be removed from City streets for that specified period of time. During a snow removal emergency, all restricted parking areas will remain in effect.

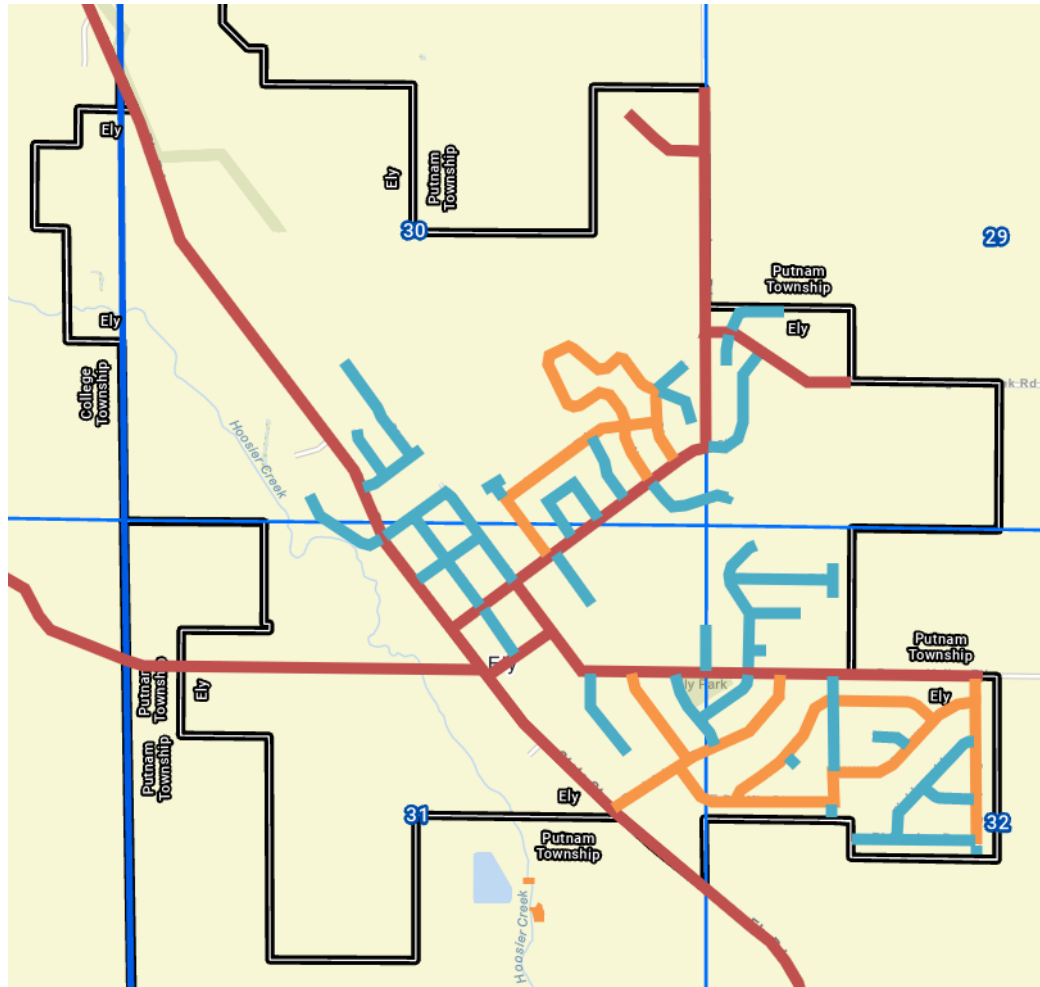
Other Questions

- ▶ Where is the snow stored?
- ▶ Why is there snow piled in front of my driveway?
- ▶ Who clears snow in front of my mail box?
- ▶ Who should I talk to if I have a question or complaint?
- ▶ When clearing my property, where do I put the snow?

Where can residents place snow?

- ▶ Sidewalk must be cleared within 24 hours after a snow. If not cleared, the city may clear them and charge the property owner.
- ▶ Snow must be retained on the property and not placed into the roadway or another's property.
 - ▶ Residents who place snow in the roadway after it has been plowed may be cited.
 - ▶ Residents who place snow on another's property may be cited

Plowing Routes

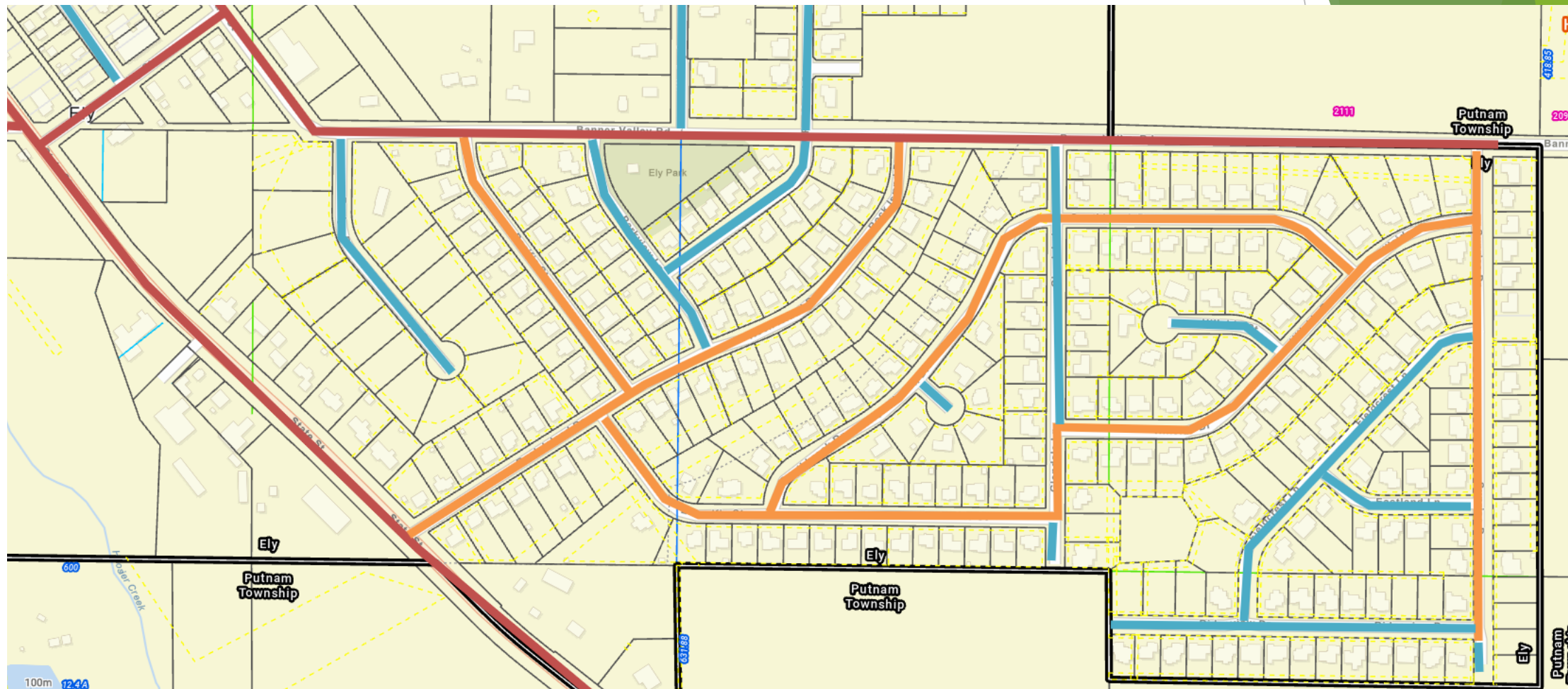


Red - Priority Routes

Orange - Neighborhood Access

Blue - Remaining Neighborhoods

Last - Allies & Trails





Putnam
Township

38.5A

01-001

Ely

Putnam
Township

211

Banner Valley Rd

Ely Park

