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**PUBLIC WORKS**  
**January 5, 2017**

## **City Crews Continue To Manage Winter Storm's Considerable Snowfall**

Steamboat Springs, Colorado-City crews continue to dig out from a winter storm that has blanketed the City of Steamboat Springs with nearly two feet of snow over the past two days.

"City crews are working around the clock to manage the significant amount of snow that has fallen in the past 48 hours," said Public Works Director Chuck Anderson. "During a storm like this, our primary focus is keeping the main roads open for emergency vehicles and for people to get to work and commercial areas before shifting our efforts to residential areas."

The current Winter Storm Warning remains in effect through this evening, Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>. A Winter Storm Warning means significant amounts of snow are expected or occurring and strong winds and blowing snow are also possible.

The current system is expected to produce periods of snow through this evening with an additional 2 to 6 inches on top of the current 20-inch storm total. In addition, winds are forecast to be 5 to 10 mph with gust up to 20 mph resulting in reduce visibility due to blowing and drifting snow.

The City's first priority in snow removal operations is to keep city streets clear of snow for emergency access and traffic flow. During times of heavy snowfall such as this, streets are prioritized according to public safety requirements and traffic volumes, with a focus on access routes for emergency vehicles, bus and commercial routes, and then residential areas.

"We have been and will continue to work as fast, and as safely possible, to clear streets and deal with the snow from this amazing storm," continued Anderson. "While this is fantastic news for skiers and riders; this much snow in such a short period takes time to clear and we greatly appreciate the efforts of residents as we move to neighborhoods."

When the snow stops, crews will work to remove snow from storage piles throughout the community. Residents are reminded not to put snow onto the fire hydrants so they remain accessible for emergency situations, and are also reminded not to push, place or put snow in the street as it creates a safety hazard, is a violation of the municipal code, and creates a larger windrow for your neighbor when streets are plowed. In addition, the city reminds residents of the importance of refraining from playing or building snow forts in the city right-of-way.

Also as a reminder, the Colorado Department of Transportation is responsible for clearing Highway 40 through Steamboat Springs.

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