City of South St. Paul
Dakota County, Minnesota

Ordinance No. 1372

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 54-4 AND 58-101
REGARDING SNOW REMOVAL ON CITY SIDEWALKS AND SNOW
EMERGENCIES

The City Council of the City of South St. Paul does ordain:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. South St. Paul City Code Section 54-4 regarding public sidewalks is hereby amended as follows:

(a)   *Snow, ice, dirt and rubbish removal.*

  (1) *General rule.* Snow, ice, dirt and rubbish remaining on a public sidewalk more than 24 hours after its deposit thereon is a public nuisance. The owner or the occupant of property adjacent to a public sidewalk must use due diligence to remove all snow, ice, dirt and rubbish from edge to edge of the public sidewalk and keep the walk safe for pedestrians. The owner or occupant may not allow snow, ice, dirt or rubbish to remain on the walk longer than 24 hours after its deposit thereon.

     (i) *Exception:* The city shall establish and maintain a Snow and Ice Management Policy and a Snow Removal Map identifying any public sidewalks within the city where the city provides snow removal and ice control pursuant to a legally binding agreement or for public safety.

  (2) *Removal.* If the owner or occupants fails to comply with section 54-4(a)(1), the city will remove snow, ice, dirt and rubbish from the public sidewalks as soon as possible beginning 24 hours after any such matter has been deposited thereon or after the snow has ceased to fall. The city must keep a record showing the cost of the removal adjacent to each separate lot and parcel and deliver that information to the clerk.

(b)   *Repairs.*

  (1) *General rule.* The owner of property abutting a public sidewalk must keep the sidewalk in repair and safe for pedestrians. Repairs must be made in accordance with standard specifications approved by the council and on file in the office of the clerk.

  (2) *Notice of repair.* If the engineer finds that a sidewalk abutting on private properly is unsafe and in need of repairs, the engineer shall cause a notice to be given by first class mail or by personal service upon the owner of the property and the occupant (if the owner does not reside within the city or cannot be found therein) ordering the owner to have the sidewalk repaired and made safe, or work contracted for and a permit issued therefor within 30 days.

  (3) *Repair.* If the sidewalk is not repaired or work contracted therefor within 30 days after receipt of the notice, the engineer must report the fact to the council and the council will by resolution order the engineer to repair the sidewalk and make it safe for pedestrians or order the work done by contract in accordance with law. The engineer must keep a record

of the total cost of the sidewalk repair attributable to each lot or parcel of property and report this information to the clerk.

(c) *Payment of costs of repair work or snow or rubbish removal.*

(1) *Personal liability.* The owner of property on which or adjacent to which repair work or snow or rubbish removal work has been performed by the city in accordance with this section is personally liable for the cost of such work. As soon as the work has been completed and the cost determined, the clerk will prepare a bill of service charges and mail it to the owner, and thereupon the amount is immediately due and payable at the office of the clerk.

(2) *Assessment.* If the bill for service charges is not paid when due, the city may assess the costs as a public nuisance in accordance with chapter 34, article II.

(d) *Pedestrian use of sidewalks and streets.* Where sidewalks are provided and usable, it is unlawful for a pedestrian to walk along and upon an adjacent roadway. Unless written permission has been granted by the council, it is unlawful to use the public sidewalks for recreational activity that results in the obstruction of or interference with the free movement of pedestrian traffic. Unless written permission has been granted by the council, it is unlawful to use a public street, roadway or alley for recreational activity.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. South St. Paul City Code Section 58-101(b) regarding snow emergencies is hereby amended as follows:

Sec. 58-101 (b)

(b) *Snow emergency.* In addition to ordinary on-street parking prohibitions, South St. Paul Code, Sec. 58-101, allows for the declaration of a Snow Emergency, at which time the City shall notify residents via radio or television broadcast, newspaper announcement, public posting, social media or other reasonable means of notification. During a Snow Emergency, on-street parking is prohibited, and authorized City employees or agents shall order tagging and/or towing in conjunction with the South St. Paul Police department. This is considered an emergency measure, to be declared when conditions indicate that the City's normal snow removal/ice control resources are likely to be overwhelmed In case the width of a street is narrowed because of the accumulation of snow so as to restrict the passage of vehicles and fire protection equipment or emergency vehicles, or when necessary to adequately provide for snow removal from the street, the chief of police may cause such street or portion thereof to be posted with signs prohibiting parking on such street or portion thereof in words substantially as "No Parking Anytime: Snow Emergency." A person may not park a vehicle on any street, or portion thereof, which has been posted as provided in this subsection.

SECTION 3. SUMMARY PUBLICATION. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 412.191, in the case of a lengthy ordinance, a summary may be published. While a copy of the entire ordinance is available without cost at the office of the City Clerk, the following summary is approved by the City Council and shall be published in lieu of publishing the entire ordinance:

The amendment clarifies the City's snow emergency procedures and removal of snow upon city sidewalks.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall become effective upon publication.

Approved: December 21, 2020
Published: December 28, 2020

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Christy Wilcox, City Clerk