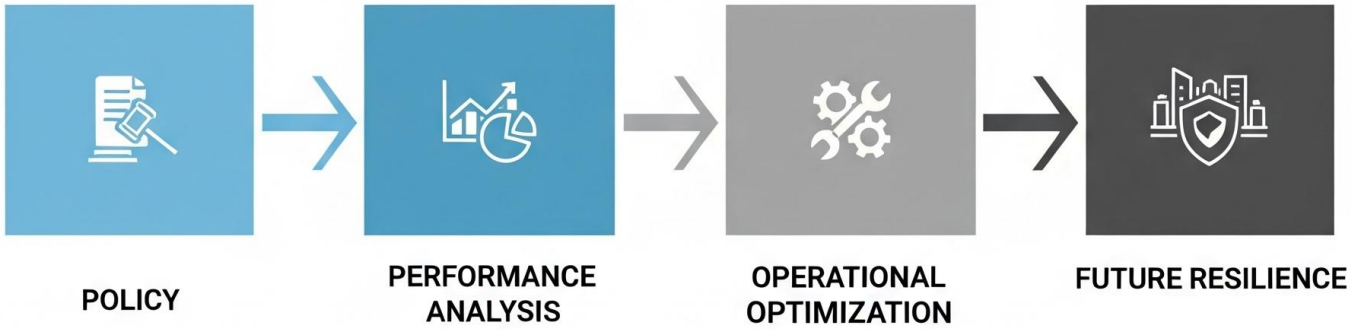
Parks and Road Services

Snow and Ice Control Policy and Program Review

August 31, 2026
Community and Public Services Committee - CO03513

Policy and Program Review | **Roadmap**



Strategic Connections | **Policy C409L Refresh Outcomes**

Policy Alignment

Policy C409L is updated every five years to ensure direct alignment with:

- **ConnectEdmonton**
- **The City Plan**
- **Safe Mobility Strategy & Vision Zero**
- **Snow and Ice Control Program**
- **Accessibility for People with Disabilities Policy**
- **Climate Resilience Policy**



Safety
Prevent collisions and injuries; ensure emergency access.



Reliability
Clear standards and timelines for pathways and roadways.



Connectivity
Enable movement across all transportation modes.



Accessibility (New) NEW
Prioritize accessibility, across all transportation modes

Policy - Performance Analysis - Operational Optimization - Future Resilience

Policy C409L Overview

The **Snow and Ice Control Policy C409L** is being presented for approval.

5-Year Review Cycle

The City's Snow and Ice Control policy is reviewed every 5 years.

Accessibility Focus

Proposed addition of Accessibility as an official outcome, prioritizing transportation accessibility for all modes.



2025/26 Season | **Performance Results**

EXTREME WINTER VOLATILITY

Featured a once-in-30-year snowfall event with **59.9 cm** in December.



90%
ARTERIAL ROADS

77%
COLLECTOR ROADS

83%
ACTIVE PATHWAYS

75%
INDUSTRIAL ROADS

3 Major Roadway Bans
1 Residential Ban

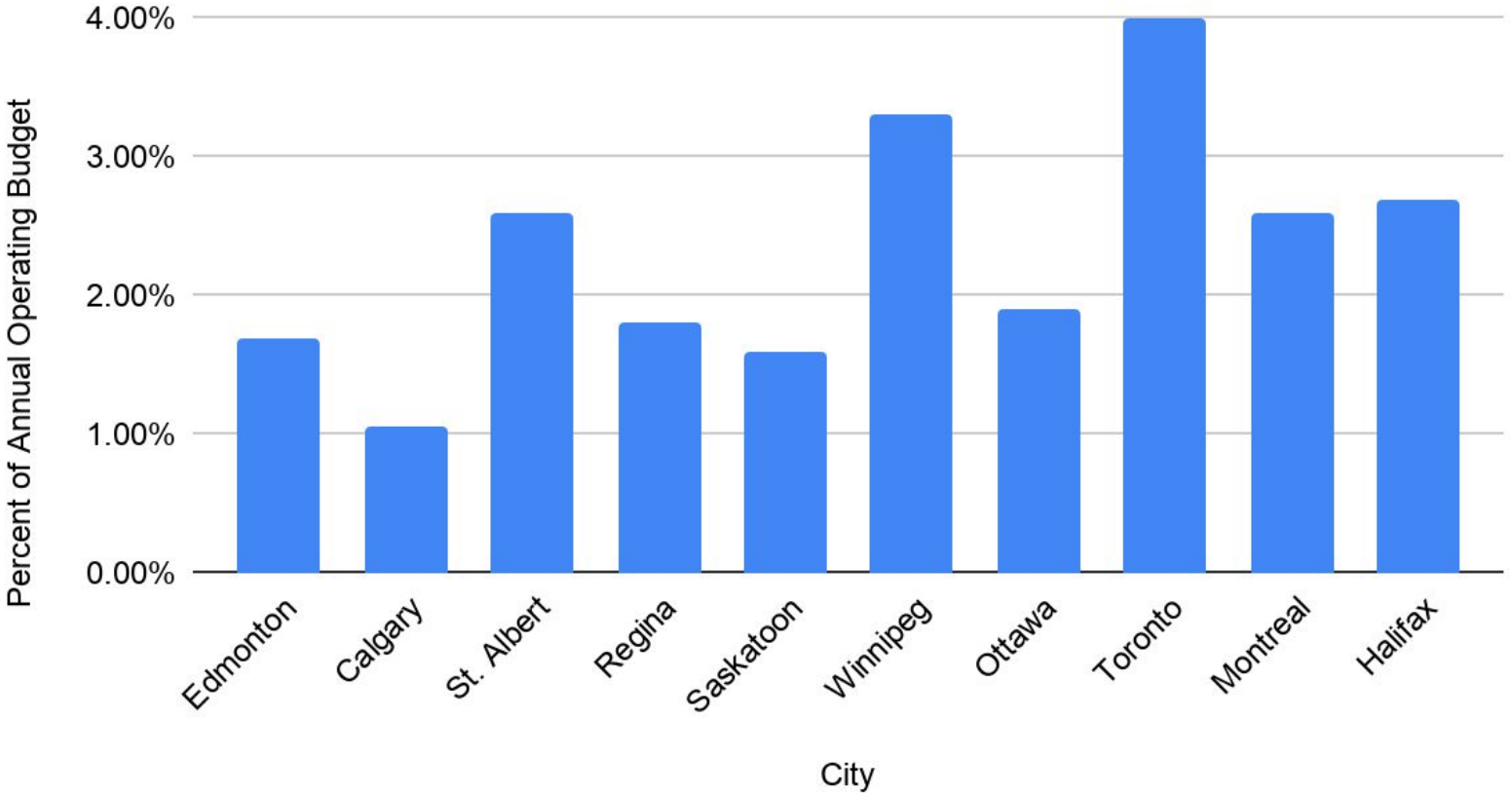
5,516 tickets issued
145% increase from previous year

Local Roads Performance:

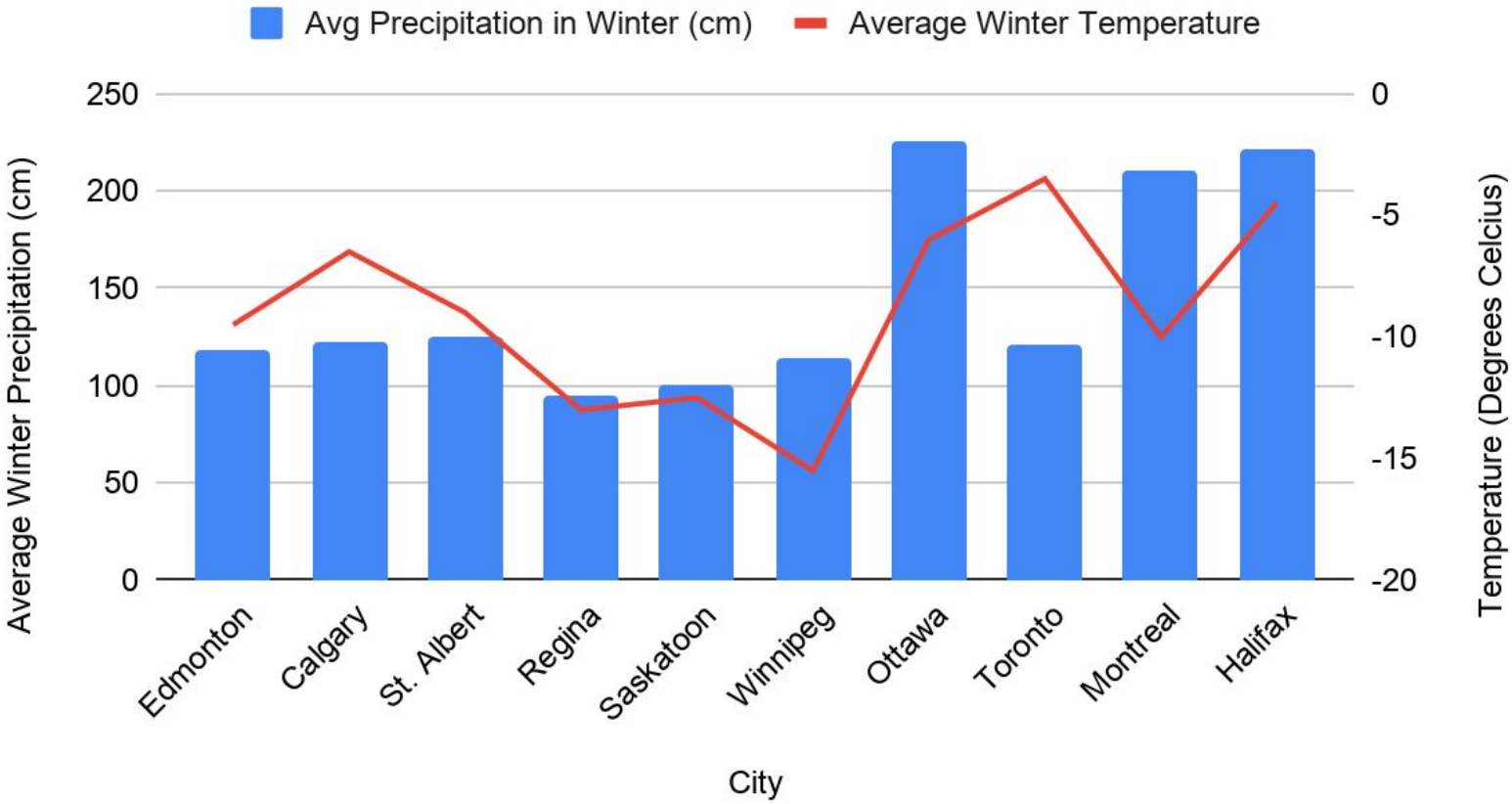
- **Residential Roads:** 10-day turnaround achieved, ahead of the 14-day standard.
- **School Zones:** Extended to a 4-week timeline due to high snow volume & combined clearing efforts.

Edmonton

Percent of City Operating Budget (Snow and Ice Budget)



Average Winter Precipitation and Average Winter Temperature



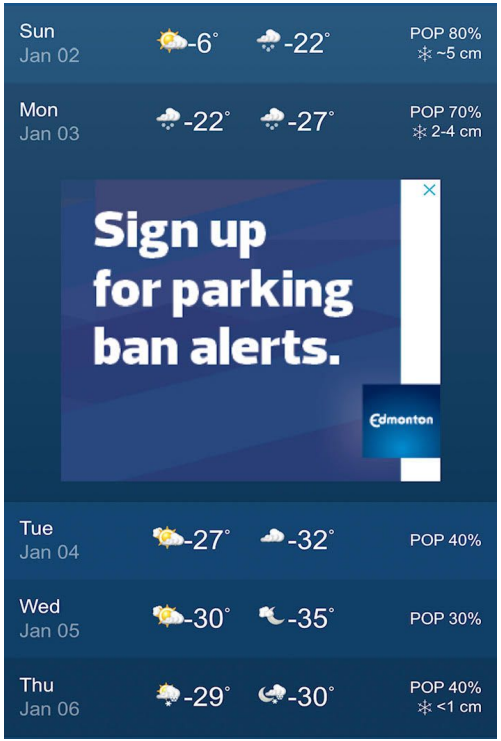
2025/26 Season | **Communications**

Public Communications

- Social & traditional media
- Advertising
- Webpage & maps
- Community signage
- Service Notifications
- Nomenclature clarity

Listening

- Annual SNIC Communications Survey
- Pulse Survey on Maps
- 311 Data
- Social media
- Staff feedback



Operational Efficiencies | **Planned Changes for 2026/27**

Efficiencies implemented for the 2026/27 season using existing resources and within Admins Authority:

- **Fleet Optimization:** Reduced downtime and accelerated parts procurement.
- **Frontline Engagement:** Partnering with CUPE 30 and CSU 52 for actionable insights.
- **Communication Strategy:** Optimizing to prioritize integrated resident education, transparency, and accessibility.
- **Innovation and Technology:** Advancements to optimize efficiency

Climate & Data

Leveraging U of A climate modeling for extreme weather response.

Emergency & Surge

Refining deployment triggers and scaling mechanisms for extreme events.

Operational Efficiencies | **University of Alberta Pilot**

Budget Strategy (Operating Budget) | **Well Maintained City (2027-2030)**

Well Maintained City

- Residential Roads- Reduces windrows and ice on walks
- Active Pathways- Establishes a Core Facilities and Pathways Priorities Cycle Crew.
- Dedicated year-round support for festivals, tourism and events
- Enforcement support
- Stabilizes winter programs
- Scales services to current inventory.

- Increased graffiti removal
- Additional trim cycles for metro/district parks
- Faster completion of Spring Sweep
- Increased response time for Illegal Dumping
- Increased Communications

Baseline Service Stability

Budget Strategy (motion-driven) | Optional Enhancements **(2027-2030)**

School Zone Clearing

$2.1M Ongoing Operating
Requires Baseline Approval

- Enhanced school zones clearing to optimize student safety.
- Improves reliable active travel access to local schools.
- Accelerates service delivery on high-priority school routes.

Residential Parking Ban Transparency

$50K Ongoing Operating/$1M Capital
Requires Baseline Approval

- Clear permanent communication of parking bans on site
- Digital control of flashing signage
- Real Time Public information on site and visible to homeowners

Targeted $CaCl_2$

$2.5M Ongoing Operating / $4.4M Capital
Requires Baseline Approval

- Calcium Chloride upgrades for enhanced pavement de-icing.
- Targeted small roll out on major highways
- Additional tool for specific climate scenarios

Active Pathway Winter Bike Realignment

$100K Capital
Requires Baseline Approval

- Allocated contract funding to conduct a comprehensive spatial GIS audit of active pathway locations and execute a targeted communications plan.

Operational Approach | **Ice Response**

Major Roadways

Winter 2026/27 Plan
- Mechanical removal paired with sand & salt.
- UofA pilot

Well Maintained City
- Increased clearing and removal

Optional Enhancements
- Calcium Chloride

Residential

Winter 2026/27 Plan
- Residential clearing cycles as needed
- Ice blades for traction

Well Maintained City
- Increased road grooming to minimize windrows.

Optional Enhancements
- Enhanced school zone clearing
- Permanent signage
- Windrow removal

Active Pathways

Winter 2026/27 Plan
- Mechanical removal paired with sand & salt.
- Calcium chloride on priority bike lanes

Well Maintained City
- Continuous clearing of inventory

Optional Enhancements
- Specialized equipment
- Assisted snow program

The Road Ahead

Aug 31, 2026

Council Policy Approval

Oct. 2026

Administrative Procedure Development

Nov. 2026

Start of 2026/27 SNIC Season

Dec. 2026

2027-2030 budget deliberations

Thank You

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