

Edmonton Transit Service City Operations

CO02028 Administration Response ETSAB Report: A Review of Winter Mobility and Accessibility of Pathways to Transit Stops

Urban Planning Committee - October 11, 2023

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ETSAB Recommendation 1:

Encourage more integration and communication with city operations that handle Snow and Ice Removal to support cleared pathways that are near transit stops.

ETSAB recognizes that Edmonton Transit System is separate from the area of city operations that clears sidewalks and paths, but encourages more integration and communication to support cleared pathways that are near transit stops

Administration Response

- City Operations branches work collaboratively to maintain the mobility network.
- Parks and Roads Services is responsible for the Snow and Ice Control Program.

Recommendation 1: Administration Response

Priority	Inventory	2022-23 Season	2023-24 Season
ROADS			
1	Arterials, business districts, bus routes	4 days	5 days
2	Collector roads, bus routes	5 days	5 days
3	Industrial and rural roads	5 days	5 days
4	Residential roads, alleys, school zones	8 days*	10 days*
ACTIVE PATHWAYS			
1	City facilities, priority bike routes, LRT stations, paved trails	1 day	1 day
2	City sidewalks, parking lots, wheelchair ramps, bridges, stairs	4 days	6 days
3	Manually cleared areas (bus stops, paths, public amenities), sandboxes	13 days	22 days

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*from the initiation of a blading cycle

Recommendation 1: Administration Response



Challenges

- Frequent snowfalls
- Small areas inaccessible by large equipment
- Enforcement at private bus stops

Opportunities

- Prioritize manually cleared bus stops before other priority 3 inventory
- Adjust snow clearing to follow adjustments in bus service
- Additional staff training focused on pedestrian accessibility

ETSAB Recommendation 2:

More heated shelters and at minimum non-heated bus shelters at bus stops that currently only have bus stop signs or benches to provide minimum shelter from winter environment

Administration Response

- 5,050 ETS bus stops with different levels of infrastructure; heated shelters are not standard.
- Considerations include:
 - Equity analysis for bus stop needs
 - Shelter design
 - Climate impacts energy sources; melting and refreezing snow and ice; costs (capital and operating); durability; usage

ETSAB Recommendation 3:

Continue to strive for timeliness and adherence to posted schedules to maximize connections

Administration Response

- Reliability of service is one of the guiding principles for City Policy C539A, Transit Service Policy and a critical component of the rider journey.
- Administration reviews route timings five times per year and adjusts schedules based on historical performance and known traffic pattern changes due to significant construction projects or route changes.
- Accurate trip planning tools and real time information are also an important component of reliability.

Thank you