



Citywide Winter Weather Update January 11, 2022

Presented by T&ES, RPCA and
General Services



Historical Conditions

- Average Winter Precipitation 13.3 inches
- Average Winter Temperature of 39.3 degrees
- 7th warmest on record ('19 – '20)
- Typically mobilize snow and ice control team 8 times in an average season
- Average Annual Snow and Ice Response cost \$862,000



One City Response

- **Multimodal & shared operations approach**
 - Contractors augment City agencies
- We treat/clear (some simultaneous):
 - **39** road bridges and overpasses
 - **561** lane miles of roadway
 - **20** miles of sidewalk adjacent to Metro stations, Schools & other City property
 - **44** acres of City parking lots/squares
 - **18** school parking lots/bus drop-offs
 - Close coordination with ACPS
 - **10** recreation facilities
 - **52** other City facilities/sites
 - Access ramps in key pedestrian areas
 - Commuter Paths/Trails
 - City has 23+ miles of shared use paths, 21+ miles of on-street bicycle facilities
 - ~320 miles of “private” sidewalks



Systematic Approach Makes Us More Efficient

- Anti-Icing
- AM/PM Shifts with Clear Objectives
- Snow Emergency/Primary, Secondary, Intermediate & Residential Routes
- Storm Categorization System (Level 1-3)
- Clearance **Goals** & Use of **Snow Report** app
- Clearing City sidewalks, schools, shared use paths... always good questions about priorities

ANTI-ICING

- Reduces bonding to asphalt and concrete
- Performed if pavement temps are above 20 degrees and weather won't begin as rain
- Most effective during first hour of storm



Depending upon the storm and the window of time, we may perform a partial or full anti-icing treatment of bridges, overpasses, elevated surfaces, primary and/or secondary roads.

After storm ends:

2-4": 24 hours
4-6": 48 hours
6" +: 72 hours

Crews start treating once precipitation starts.

They start plowing once 2" of snow has accumulated.

**CLEARANCE
GOALS**



Jan. 3 and 7, 2022 Winter Events

- Safely Providing Essential City Emergency Snow Response Services – **zero reported injuries and accidents, both by staff and contractors**
- Region's biggest snowstorm in three years & more snow in one event than in the last two years combined. ALX = more snow this season than Denver, CO.
- On **Jan. 3** snowstorm started before **4 a.m.** and ended at **2 p.m.** On **Jan. 7** snowstorm started after **1 a.m.** and ended around **5 a.m.** Snowfall totals from the National Weather Service range from **10"** to **13"** in the City – **level 2 and level 1 storms**. Lowest temperatures fell to around **19 degrees**.
- Heavy snow and gusty winds (**20 to 30 mph**) caused extensive tree damage and power outages – approximately **150 downed trees** and **more than 3,739 outages (6% of City customers)**.
- Regional travel difficulty led to many government and school closures.
- Curbside recycling, trash, yard waste, Christmas tree collection and leaf collection were suspended.
- Metrobus and DASH suspended operations. VRE canceled due to operational issues.
- **General Services** mobilized 18 labor and plow truck teams. Primary focus was on 24 hour and heavy foot trafficked facilities. Then it shifted focus to both 24 hour and secondary closed facilities and lots.
- **RPCA** mobilized 11 crews to treat and monitor metro stations, schools, recreation centers, sidewalks, pedestrian bridges and trails. Additionally, Urban Forestry deployed 8 crews to address road clearance, public safety, and property obstruction or damage and debris removal.

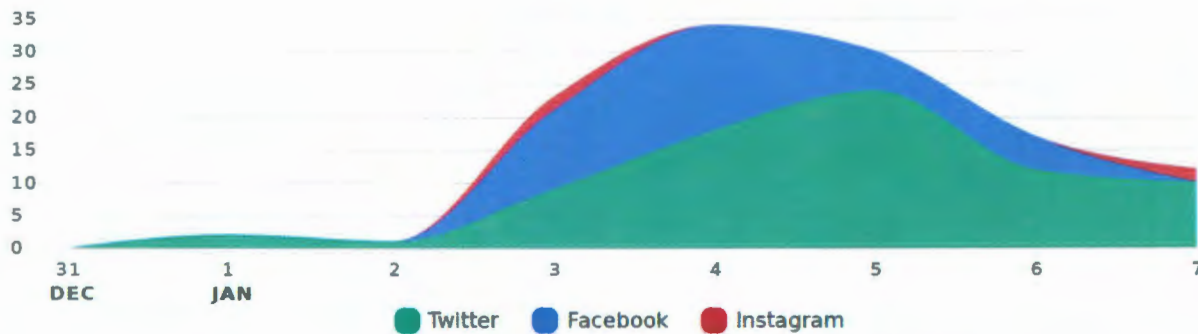
Storm Communications

- Impressions were up by 590%
- Audience grew by 1,800% (also gained 76 new Twitter followers)
- Sent 75 messages (this includes all three platforms)
- 83,817 impressions (590% change)
- 5,126 engagements (623% change)
- 3,789 video views (102% change)

Audience Growth

See how your audience grew during the reporting period.

Audience Gained, by Day



@AlexandriaVATES

After-Action: Refine & Improve Every Year

WHAT DOES "PASSABLE" MEAN?

- In neighborhoods, an 8'-to-10' path for emergency vehicle access.
- Drivable with extreme caution, but is snow-packed and not curb-to-curb or to bare pavement.





Questions?