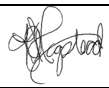
HOUSTON NATURALLY AMAZING	**DISTRICT OF HOUSTON** **SNOW REMOVAL & ICE CONTROL POLICY** **OPS-06**
APPROVED BY:	Council
EFFECTIVE:	November 19, 2024
UPDATED:	September 22, 2026
RESOLUTION:	***0239-2024, ***0184-2026 (amendment)
REPLACES:	Snow Removal & Ice Control Policy OPS-01 (December 07, 2021)
SUBJECT:	OPS-06 Snow Removal & Ice Control Policy
CERTIFIED TRUE COPY	

1. PURPOSE & APPLICATION

WHEREAS the Council of the District of Houston seeks to ensure safe passage for vehicles and pedestrians by conducting timely snow and ice control operations on roads and sidewalks, as prioritized by Council and outlined in Schedules A and B of this policy.

AND WHEREAS the Council believes that the snow and ice control system established by this policy represents a reasonable allocation of budgetary resources, personnel, and equipment while considering other social and financial priorities.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the District of Houston adopts the following Snow and Ice Control Policy:

2. DEFINITIONS

a. Roads: Asphalt roads and lanes within the district.

b. Minimum Snow Event: Snowfall accumulation of less than 7.7 centimeters (3 inches).

c. Snow Plowing: The operation of moving snow from roadways using equipment such as graders, loaders, and plow trucks. Snow may not be cleared to bare pavement.

d. Snow Removal: The process of removing snow piles from around town to disposal sites. Plowing snow into windrows, loading it onto trucks, and transporting it to disposal sites.

e. Ice Control: Operations to prevent the buildup of packed snow or ice on roads using equipment and a mix of salt and road sand.

f. De-Icing sidewalks: Using sand, treated sand or ice melt to de-ice the sidewalks.

g. Sanding: The application of treated or dry sand to roadways for improved vehicle traction.

h. Passable Condition: Roads are deemed passable for vehicles equipped with proper winter tires, even if snow or ice accumulations remain. This condition does not imply bare pavement.

i. Compacted Snow Surface: Snow compacted on roadways by traffic or levelled by plowing operations.

3. SNOW CONTROL: ROADS

1. Director's Responsibility: The Director of Operations or his designate(s) will direct the initiation of Snow Plowing operations after snow accumulation of 3 inches (7.7 cm) or more.
2. Priority Routes: Snow Plowing priorities are categorized as:
    - Priority 1 Roads (high priority),
    - Priority 2 Roads (secondary priority),
    - Priority 3 Roads (tertiary priority).
    - Priority routes are defined in Appendix A.

3. Emergency Snow Plowing: During Major Snow Events, the director may allocate resources to maintain emergency routes in a Passable Condition.
4. Plowing Standards: Snow Plowing shall ensure:
    - Passable Condition on Priority 1, followed by Priority 2 and 3 zones.
5. Initial Focus on Priority 1 Roads: Clearing operations will begin after 7.7 cm (approximately 3 inches) of snow accumulates. Private contractors may be dispatched to ensure public safety if Priority 1 roads cannot be cleared within 6 to 10 hours.

    Priority 1 Roads will be plowed and maintained to a Passable Condition throughout a snow event before addressing lower-priority roads.
6. Sequential Clearing: Once Priority 1 Roads are passable, Priority 2 Roads will be plowed to a Passable Condition.

    Clearing operations will begin after snow accumulates 10.16 cm (approximately 4 inches).

    If priority 2 roads cannot be cleared within 24 to 48 hours, private contractors may be dispatched to ensure public safety.

    Additionally, staff on call-out routes will only be assigned to clear Priority 1 and 2 roads.

    This is followed by Priority 3 Roads, where clearing operations will begin after 15.24 cm. (approximately 6 inches) of snow accumulates.

    If priority three roads cannot be cleared within 72 to 120 hours, private contractors may be dispatched to ensure public safety.

    At the discretion of the Director of Operations, snowboards may be done with priority areas 1 and 2 scheduled to facilitate better use of the equipment.
7. Snow Removal: Snow Removal will occur when snow storage capacity is exceeded, preventing safe vehicle or pedestrian movement. It will follow the priority routes in Appendix A.
8. Temporary Road Closures: When resources are insufficient to maintain safe conditions, the Director of Operations or his designate(s) may temporarily close roads until resources become available.

4. ROAD SANDING

1. Priority for Ice Control: The same routes used for Snow Removal (Appendix A) will apply for Ice Control and Sanding.

    The District will not use chemical ice control on roads other than that affected by salt mixed with road sand.
2. Priority 1 Roads: Ice Control and Sanding will begin on Priority 1 Roads, maintaining them in a Passable Condition.
3. Priority 2 Roads: Ice Control and Sanding will commence on Priority 2 Roads after Priority 1 Roads are in a Passable Condition.
4. Priority 3: Ice Control and Sanding will commence on Priority 3 Roads after Priority 2 Roads are in a Passable Condition.
5. Sanding Specifics: Sanding will be applied on:
    - Hills,
    - Curves,
    - School zones,
    - Bus stops,
    - 30 meters before signalized intersections,

4. SNOW/ICE CONTROL: SIDEWALKS

1. Responsibility of Property Owners: Snow Plowing and Ice Control of sidewalks is the responsibility of the adjacent resident or business.
2. Municipal Responsibility: The District will be responsible for Snow Plowing and Ice Control on sidewalks bordering municipal properties and will follow a priority system defined in Appendix B.
3. Initiating Sidewalk Snow Control: The Director of Operations or designate(s) will direct Snow Plowing and Ice Control after 7.7 centimetres (3 inches) of snowfall.
4. Sidewalk Priority: Sidewalks will be prioritized as follows:
    - Priority 1: High-priority sidewalks cleared within 6-10 hours of snowfall termination,
    - Priority 2: Cleared within 24-48 hours of snowfall termination,
    - Priority 3: Cleared within 72-120 hrs of snowfall termination.
5. THAT Snow Plowing and Ice Control conducted on Priority 1 and 2 sidewalks by the District of Houston shall not absolve the resident or business of which the sidewalk fronts.
6. THAT costs for Snow Plowing and Ice Control on Priority 1 and 2 sidewalks by the District of Houston may be invoiced to the resident or business of which the sidewalk fronts.

5. ROAD MAINTENANCE TRANSFER AGREEMENT

1. The District of Houston and Lakes District Maintenance (LDM) agree to exchange specific road maintenance responsibilities within and around the municipal boundary of Houston, BC.
2. Specific details of the agreement are attached as Appendix C.

6. RECORD KEEPING

The Director of Operations or their designate(s) shall maintain documentation, including:

1. Daily weather forecasts,
2. Records of Snow Plowing, Removal, Ice Control, and Sanding operations, noting equipment used and operators involved,
3. GPS records of equipment,
4. Public complaints and responses.

APPENDIX A

1) **Priority 1** roads and sidewalks are as follows:

I) Roads:

I.I) West of Buck Creek

- From Shop to West 5th Tweedie to Mountainview Drive to Walker (turn around at school)
- W14th Street (Clinic Road)
- Caledonia Avenue to the Christian School
- Hagman Cres to Pearson to Olsson to Goold to Kanata to Hamblin Frontage
- Gushwa Crescent
- Estates Drive Houston

I.II) East of Buck Creek

- Copeland from Highway 16 to 14th Street to Butler Avene
- Butler Avenue from Highway 16th to 14th
- Poulton from 9th Street to 14th Street
- 11th, 12th, 13th Streets
- 9th and 10th Street - Loader only
- Butler Avenue from Highway 16 to Riverbank Drive
- Riverbank Drive from Butler Avenue to Omineca Way/Poplar Street/Equity Mine Road
- Avalon Avenue to East Valley Road

2) **Priority 2** area will include all other District roads and SLDM trade-off roads and:

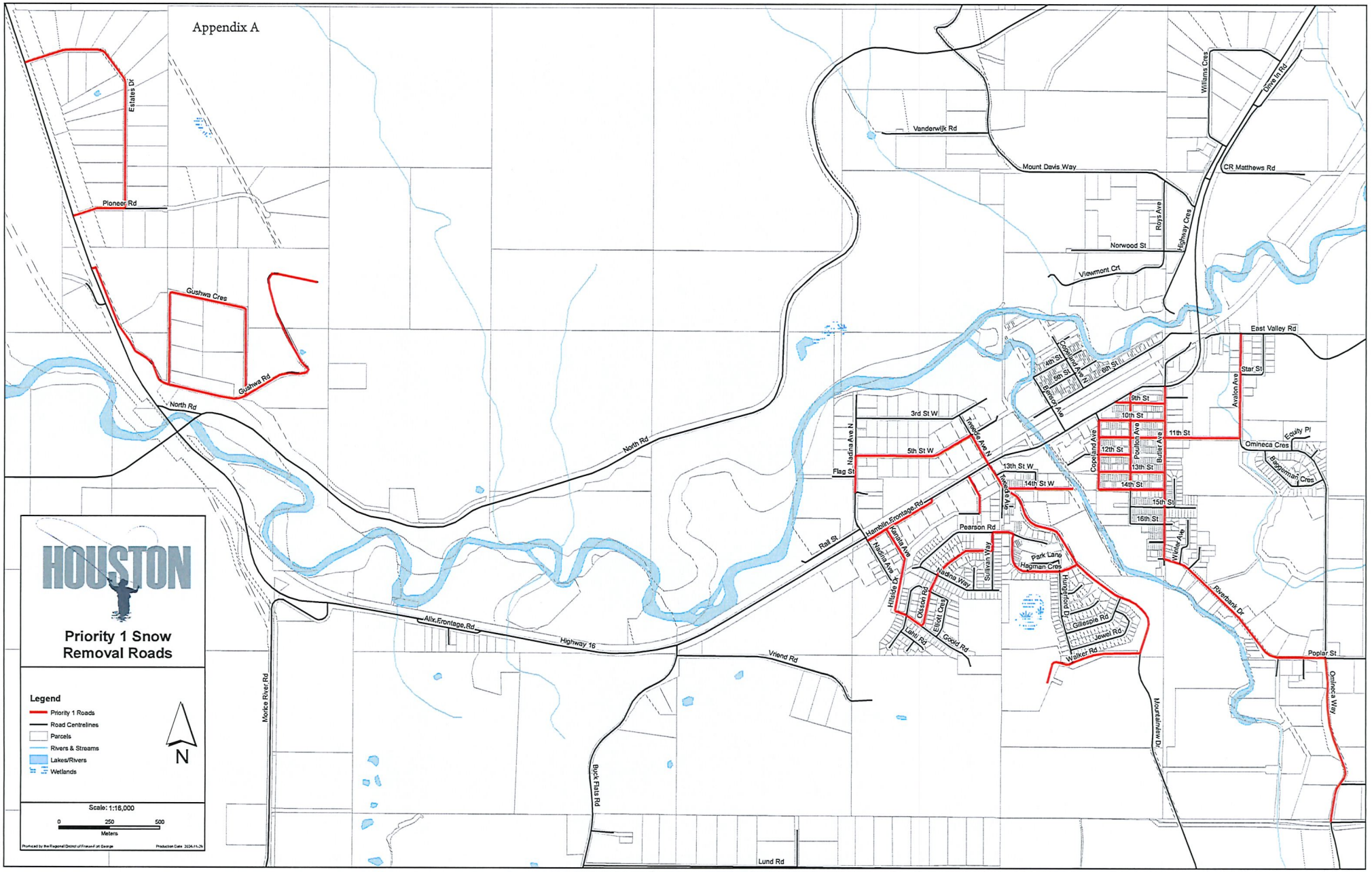
Parking lots

- Senior Citizen's Home (Cottonwood Manor)
- Municipal Office and Fire Hall
- Public Works Yard
- Community Hall
- Arena& Leisure Facility
- Walking Bridge
- Pathway from Cottonwood Manor to Mall
- 9th Street Parking at Highway 16
- 10th Street Parking lot at 3448 10th Street

3) **Priority 3** areas will include:

- Only windrows caused by a grader in residential and commercial driveways,
- Snowboards
- Private property as follows:
  i) Seniors' Activity Centre
  ii) Specific requests regarding health and safety,
  iii) Removal of compacted snow and ice and shoulder widening

Appendix A


Estates Dr
Pioneer Rd
Gushwa Cres
Gushwa Rd
North Rd
Vanderwijk Rd
Mount Davis Way
Williams Cres
Dore In Rd
CR Matthews Rd
Roys Ave
Highway Cres
Norwood St
Viewmont Crt
East Valley Rd
Star St
Avalon Ave
Omineca Cres
Equity Pl
Braggoman Cres
Copeland Ave N
14th St
6th St
8th St
Beaton Ave
9th St
10th St
11th St
12th St
13th St
14th St
15th St
16th St
Poulton Ave
Butler Ave
Walker Ave
3rd St W
5th St W
13th St W
14th St W
Nadina Ave N
Flag St
Trevelyan Ave N
Hamblin Frontage Rd
Rail St
Pearson Rd
Kamala Ave
Nadina Ave
Hillside Dr
Park Lane
Hagman Cres
Sullivan Way
Nadina Way
Huntingford Dr
Gillespie Rd
Jewel Rd
Walker Rd
Oscon Rd
Elliott Cres
Gould Rd
Lahti Rd
Riverbank Dr
Poplar St
Omineca Way
Mountainview Dr
Alix Frontage Rd
Highway 16
Vriend Rd
Morice River Rd
Buck Flats Rd
Lund Rd
HOUSTON
Priority 1 Snow Removal Roads
Legend
Priority 1 Roads
Road Centrelines
Parcels
Rivers & Streams
Lakes/Rivers
Wetlands
N
Scale: 1:16,000
0 250 500
Meters
Produced by the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George
Production Date: 2024-11-26

APPENDIX B

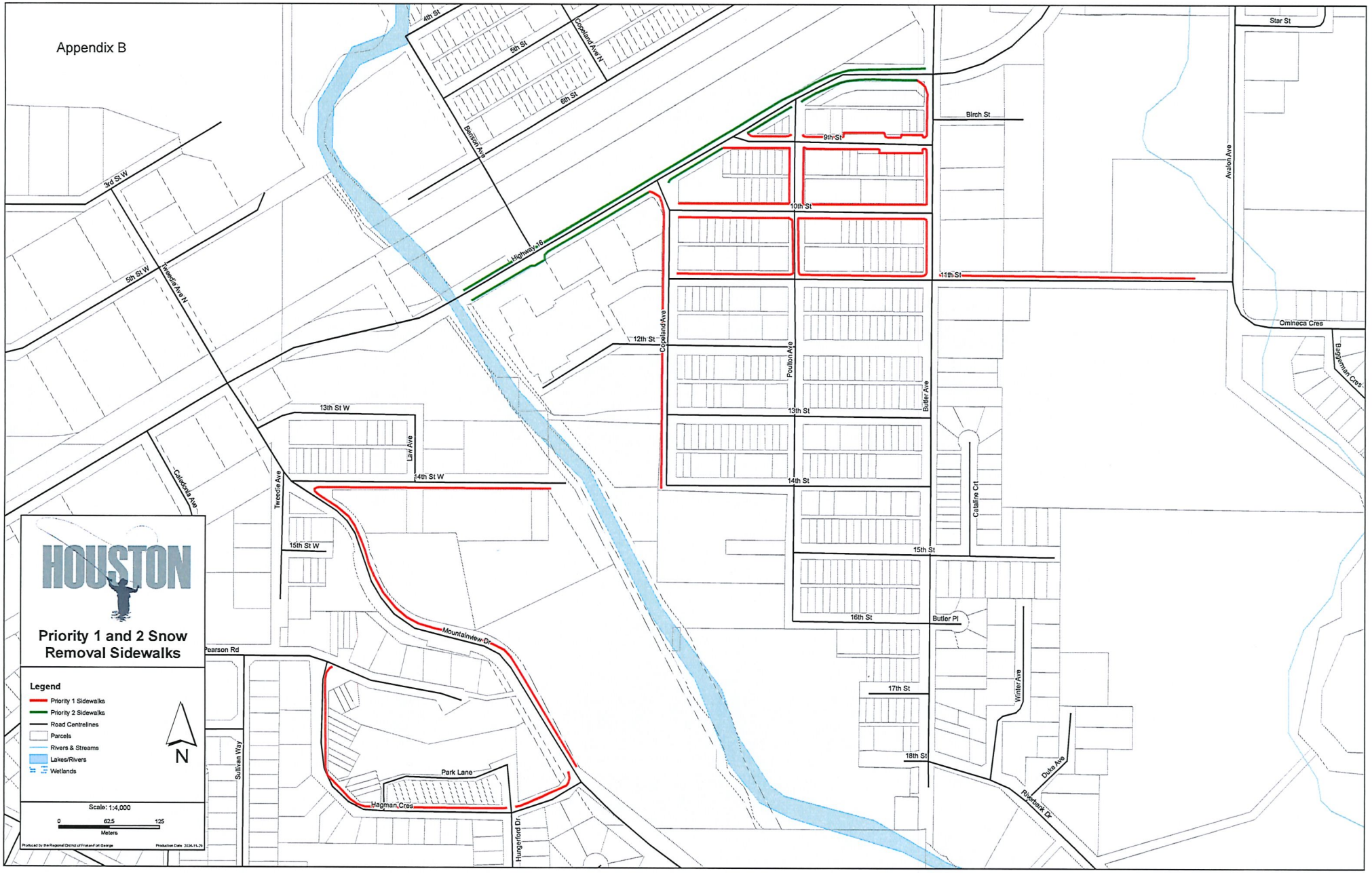
Snow and Ice Control Sidewalk areas:

1. **Priority 1**:
    - W Copeland Avenue from Highway 16 to 14th Street
    - N 9th Street from Highway 16 to Butler Avenue
    - S 99th Street from Highway 16 to Butler Avenue
    - N 10th Street from Copeland to Butler Avenue
    - S 10th Street from Copeland to Butler Avenue
    - N 11th Street from Copeland to Senior Centre
    - W Butler Avenue from Highway 16 to 11th Street
    - W Poulton Av from 9th Street to 11th Street
    - E Poulton Av from 9th Street to 11th Street
    - SW 14th Street
    - E Mountainview Drive from 14th Street to Hangman Crescent
    - N Hangman Crescent from Mountainview Drive to Pearson Road

2. **Priority 2**: All sidewalks adjacent to municipal properties and fire hydrants. The order followed will be:
    - N Highway 16 from Buck Creek to Butler Avenue
    - S Highway 16f from Buck Creek to Butler Avenue
    - All other sidewalks that are adjacent to municipal properties.

3. **Priority 3**: Other sidewalks not specified in previous zones if resources and personnel are available.

Appendix B


HOUSTON
Priority 1 and 2 Snow Removal Sidewalks
Legend
Priority 1 Sidewalks
Priority 2 Sidewalks
Road Centrelines
Parcels
Rivers & Streams
Lakes/Rivers
Wetlands
N
Scale: 1:4,000
0
62.5
125
Meters
Produced by the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George
Production Date: 2024-11-26
4th St
6th St
Copeland Ave N
Bertram Ave
Highway 16
3rd St W
5th St W
Tweedie Ave N
Star St
Birch St
9th St
10th St
11th St
Avalon Ave
Omineca Cres
Bagshaw Cres
12th St
Copeland Ave
Poulton Ave
Butler Ave
13th St
13th St W
Law Ave
14th St W
14th St
Caledonia Ave
Tweedie Ave
Cataline Crt
15th St W
15th St
16th St
Butler Pl
Mountainview Dr
Pearson Rd
17th St
Winter Ave
Sullivan Way
Park Lane
18th St
Duke Ave
Hagman Cres
Hungerford Dr
Riverbank Dr

Appendix C

HOUSTON

LDM Maintained Roads

- LDM Maintained Roads
- Road Centrelines
- Parcels
- Rivers & Streams
- Lakes/Rivers
- Wetlands

N

Scale: 1:125,000

0 2,000 4,000

Meters

Produced by the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George

Production Date: 2026-01-05

Highway 16 W
Barrett Stallion Rd
Eichenberger Rd
Seifren Frontage Rd
Gushwa Rd
North Rd
Morice Telkwa FSR
Byrnac FSR
Mount Davis Rd
Morgan Rd
Highway 16 E
McKilligan Rd
Aitken Rd
6th St
East Valley Rd
Highway 16
Lund Rd
Omineca Way
Mountainview Dr
McKilligan FSR
Sunset FSR
Swan Lake FSR
Heading Creek FSR
Heading East FSR
Highway 16 W
Bromman Lake FSR
Forestdale Canyon Rd
Day Lake Rd
Crow Creek Rd
Rose Lake Cutoff Rd
Maxan China Nose FSR
Thomson Rd
Gold West FSR
Gold Creek FSR
Peacock Creek FSR
Et Peacock Creek FSR
Knapper Rd
Dungate FSR
Upper Dungate FSR
Husky FSR
Equity Mine Rd
Balsam FSR
Buck Flats Rd
Maxan Paul Fire FSR
Maxan Creek FSR
Maxan Equity FSR
Goosly Lake FSR
Roses Rd
Carrier FSR
Emil FSR
Emil FSR N
Parrott FSR
Parrott Trail FSR