

Maintenance of Local/Private Roadway Approaches

Summary

This Bulletin is issued to clarify for maintenance contractors and department staff the department's recommended practice for the maintenance of rural local and private roadway approaches. At some locations, confusion may exist as to who should be responsible for the maintenance on rural local and private approaches to the highway.

Key Changes

Rural local and private roadway approach maintenance work activities should follow the recommended practices outlined below:

1. Maintenance of the asphalt and gravel roadway surface up to the property line at local roadway approaches is the responsibility of the department. Private roadway approaches and field approaches are considered temporary, privileged access and the responsibility of the adjacent landowner, unless it is an emergency or otherwise agreed to between Alberta Transportation and the landowner.
2. During winter storm events, the department's first priority is to complete snow plowing operations on highway thoroughfares based on the department's level of service guidelines (located in the Highway Maintenance Guidelines and Level of Service Manual). If windrows created by this operation are large enough to impede access at important intersections known to create difficulties for traffic, they should be removed as soon as possible.
3. During post-storm cleanup of snow plowing operations at local road approaches, the maintenance contractor should remove any windrows created by highway thoroughfare clearing
4. During post-storm cleanup of snow plowing operations at private approaches the maintenance contractor should clear snow to as is practical with a snow plow, typically 4 to 6 metres without damaging fences, signs and other private structures, if snow and ice deposits are significant enough to be considered a hazard to traffic.
5. Snow clearance at field approaches is not required unless it is requested by the landowner or known to be used on a regular basis. If required, the maintenance contractor should clear snow to the property line in the same method described above for local roadway approaches.



The new recommended practices as indicated in this Bulletin are to be implemented immediately as per the usual practice.

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References

Highway Maintenance Guidelines and Level of Service Manual

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