



***SIDEWALK SNOW REMOVAL  
POLICY SESSION***

**City of Peoria  
Public Works Department  
August 18, 2015**



# Sidewalk Snow Removal Policy Session

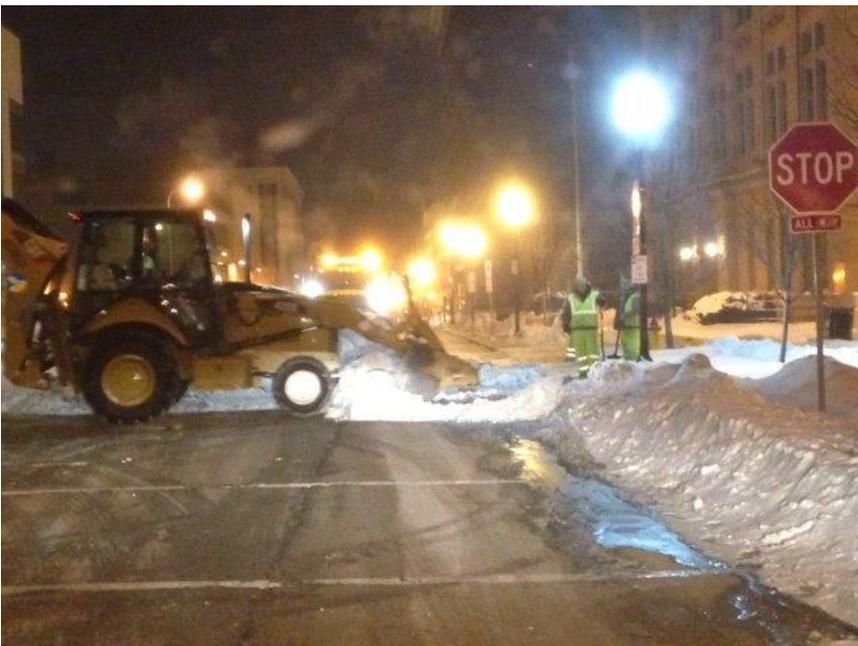
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- Past Performance & Current Operations
  - Current Operations – Equipment
  - Current Operations – Parking
- Future Considerations
  - Sidewalk Snow Removal Policy
- Recommendations
  - Ordinance
- Other Policy Discussions
  - Mailbox Replacement Ordinance



# Past Performance & Current Operations

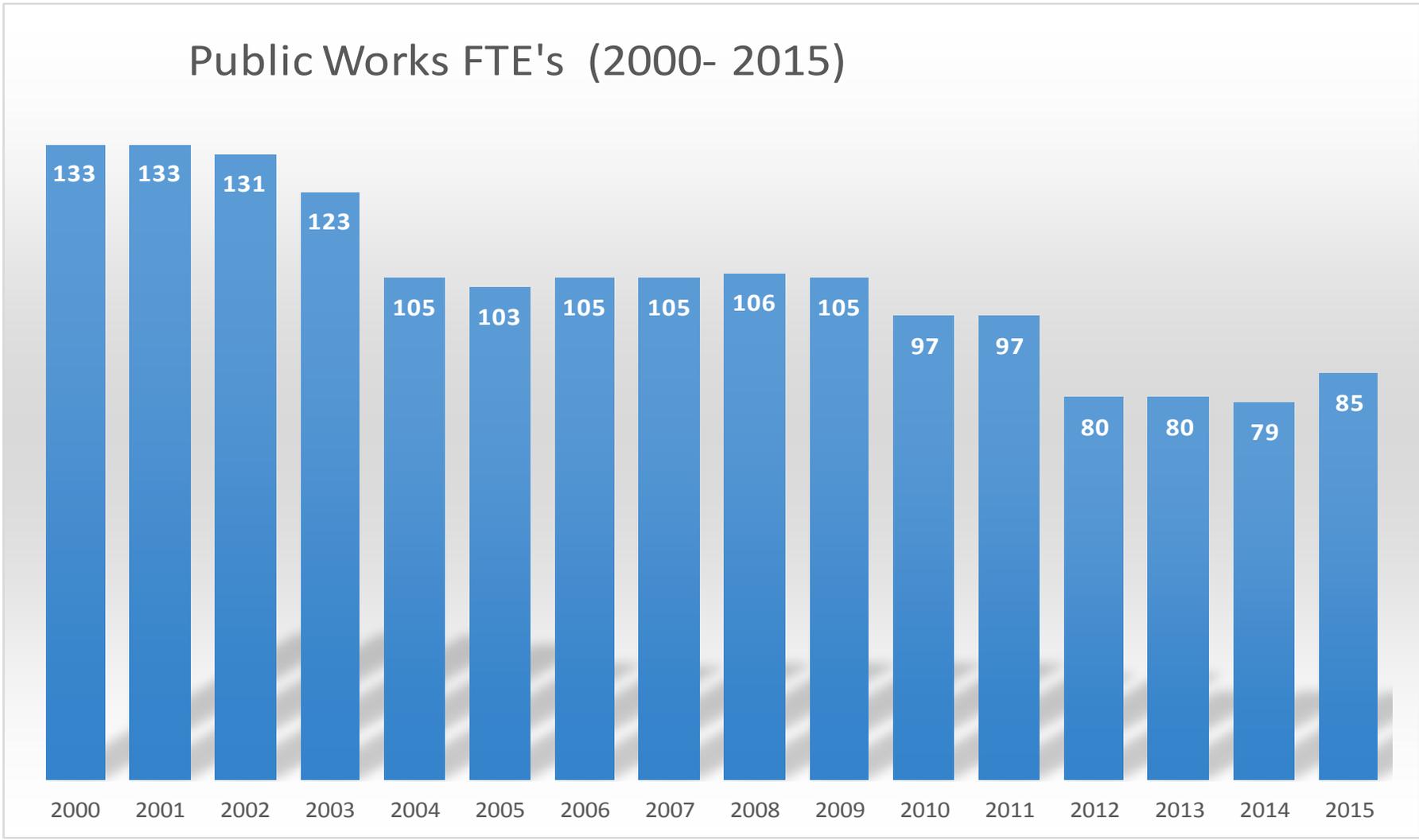
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- **Winter Season Staffing**
  - 29 permanent maintenance employees
  - 27 temporary employees



# Past Performance & Current Operations

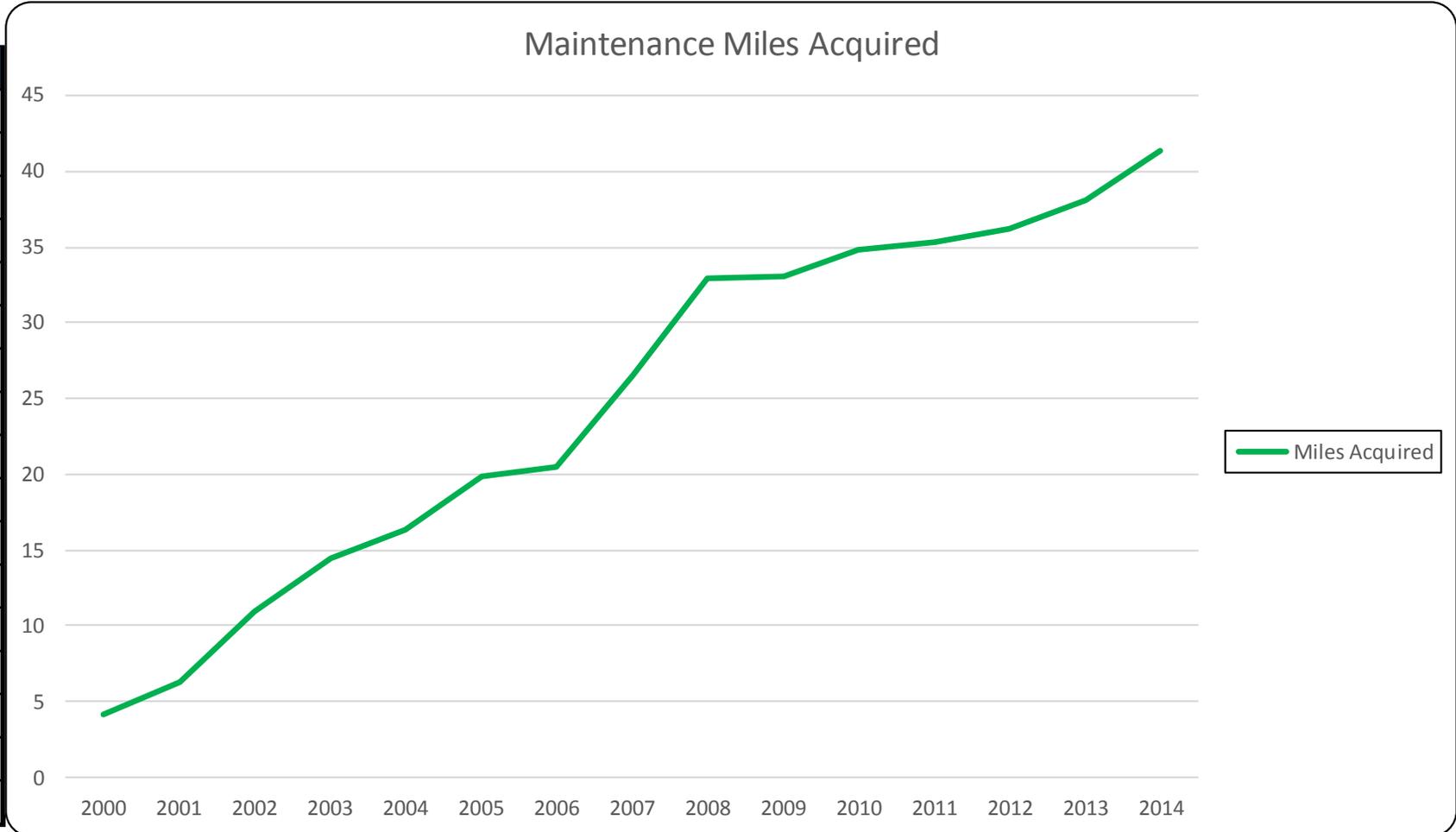




# Past Performance & Current Operations

## Additional Maintenance – 3.24 miles added in 2014\*

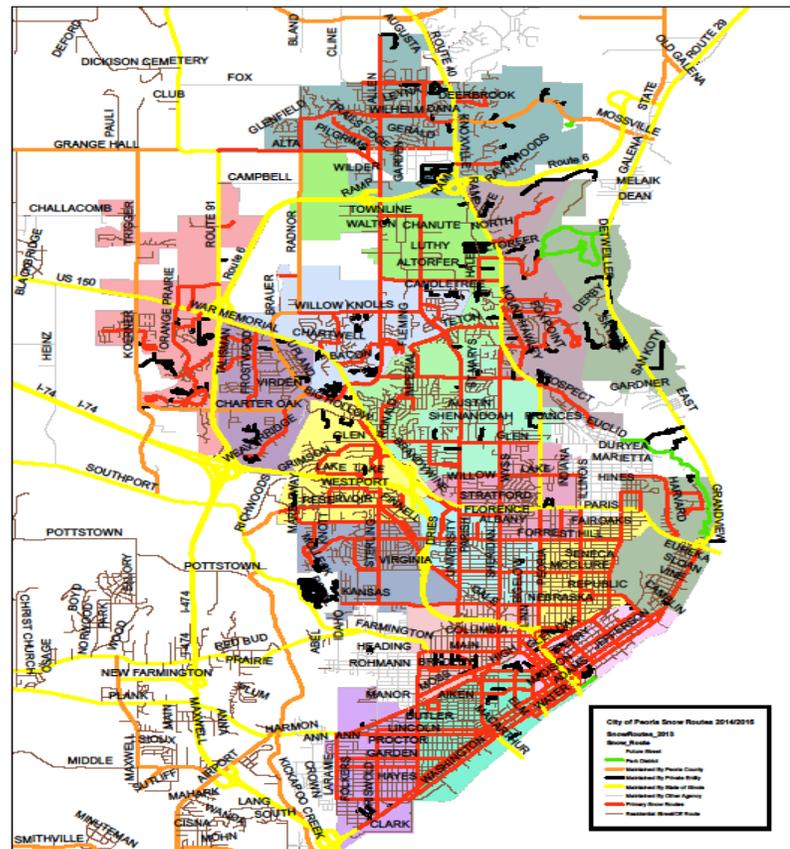
Maintenance Miles	
Year	Miles
2000	4.17
2001	2.08
2002	4.75
2003	3.4
2004	1.95
2005	3.55
2006	0.58
2007	6.04
2008	6.39
2009	0.11
2010	1.81
2011	0.49
2012	0.9
2013	1.92
2014	3.24
<b>Total</b>	<b>41.38</b>





# Past Performance & Current Operations

- **Priority Route System** - Currently consists of 18 snow routes — 483 centerline miles
  - \* Increasing Routes to 20 snow routes for 2015-2016 snow season





# Past Performance & Current Operations

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- **Goal:** To remove all snow on pavement within 18 hours after snow has ended
  - Primary Salt treatment
    - Plow
  - Residential
    - No Salt
    - Plow at 2 inches of accumulation and after completing primary streets
    - No bare pavement
  - Alleys — 80 miles
    - Plow when snow accumulation is 4-5 inches



# Past Performance & Current Operations

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## Winter Season (2013 – 2014)

- Responded to 23 events
  - Shortest duration: 3 hours
  - Longest duration: 3 days
- Total man hours: 14,551
- Recorded snow accumulation of 57.5 inches



# Past Performance & Current Operations

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## Winter Season (2014 – 2015)

- Responded to 12 events
  - Shortest duration: 3 hours
  - Longest duration: 1.5 days
- Total man hours: 6,626
- Recorded snow accumulation of 24.1 inches



# Current Operations – Equipment





# Current Operations – Equipment

## Equipment

- Wing Plow





# Current Operations – Equipment

- Brine Applicator





# Current Operations – Equipment

Snow Blower: moves up to 1800 tons per hour

Brine Machine: produce brine in-house





# Current Operations - Parking

## • Snow Emergency Routes

- Posted Snow Emergency Routes only
- Enacted when plowing is necessary
- \$50 dollars (current fine)
  - \$75 after 7 days
  - \$100 after 30 days
- Tickets can be reissued every 24 hours





# Current Operations - Parking

## Non-Emergency Streets

- Allow plowing on non-emergency streets
- May be utilized for a specific area, or the entire City
- Parking will be prohibited
  - Even side during even days of the month
  - Odd side during odd days of the month
- 3 hours notice for motorist to move cars
- In effect until terminated
- Fine — \$50
- 267 Tickets issued: \$13,280





# Future Considerations

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## **Sidewalk Snow Removal Policy**





# Future Considerations

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- Sidewalk Snow Removal Practices By Aspirational Communities

- Omaha, Nebraska  
Owner/Occupant responsibility to remove snow **within 24 hours** of Public Works completing their removal.
- Des Moines, Iowa  
Owner/Occupant shall remove within reasonable time; however, no later than **48 hours after snowfall ends**.
- Madison, Wisconsin  
Owner/Occupant to remove from sidewalks by **12:00 noon after the snow ends**.
- Lexington, Kentucky  
Owner/Occupant to remove snow **within 4 hours of daylight after the snow ends**. Lexington stated escalating penalties starting at \$5 going to \$100
- Naperville, Illinois  
Property owner must remove snow and ice on sidewalks when snow exceeds 2" in depth or ice accumulates, within **48 hours of the weather event**



# Future Considerations

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- Sidewalk Snow Removal Practices By Aspirational Communities

- Bloomington, Illinois                      Owner/Occupant to complete **by 10:00 a.m. every morning**; Fines range from \$25 to \$200
  
- Springfield, Missouri                      Owner/Occupant to do in a **reasonable time**.
  
- Springfield, Illinois                      Owner/Occupant to do by **10 a.m. the next morning after the snow ends**.
  
- Champaign, Illinois                      Owner/Occupant to remove snow within **48 hours of the end of the snow**.



# Future Considerations

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## Arterial Street Sidewalks

### ▪ 105 Miles of Sidewalks

- Based on 2013 – 2014 (23 events)  
Labor - \$1678/event - \$38,594  
Capital - \$35,000/Unit - \$70,000

**Total cost = \$108,594**

- Based on 2014 – 2015 (12 events)  
Labor - \$1678/event - \$20,124  
Capital - \$35,000/Unit - \$70,000

**Total cost = \$90,124**



# Future Considerations

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## All Sidewalks

- **577 miles of sidewalks**

- Based on 2013 – 2014 (23 events)  
Labor - \$8388/event - \$192,924  
Capital - \$35,000/Unit - \$385,000

**Total cost = \$577,924**

- Based on 2014 – 2015 (12 events)  
Labor - \$8388/event - \$100,656  
Capital - \$35,000/Unit - \$385,000

**Total cost = \$485,656**



# Future Considerations

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## Sidewalk Snow Removal – February 2015 Pilot Program

- Sidewalk Snow Removal Pilot on Site-Specific Pedestrian Routes
  - Contractor – estimated assumption 7 miles @ 1 mile per hour removal & haul away @ \$255.00/hr = \$1,785
- Results - Actual Hours 18.98 @ \$250.00/hr = \$4,745
  - 166% over estimated cost



# Recommended Ordinance

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• **Snow and ice removal** – All property owners are required to remove snow and ice from public sidewalks adjacent to their property:

- Must be removed from the **entire length of the sidewalk**, up to 3 feet wide (to accommodate wheelchairs, strollers, and adults with children in hand).
- Must be removed **within 24 hours** after the snow stops falling when accumulations are less than 6 inches, and **within 36 hours** when 6 or more inches of snow accumulate (as measured at National Weather Service). If another snow event occurs, the clock will reset to the end of the most recent snowfall.
- Noncompliance could result in a **civil penalty of \$50** for sidewalks less than 200 linear feet in length, or **\$100** for sidewalks longer than 200 feet.
- The City may **remove the snow or ice** on sidewalks around private property **when the owner fails to comply** within the designated time period, and charge the cost to the owner.



# Recommended Ordinance

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## Exemptions:

- Individual homeowners who are **physically incapable** of complying with the ordinance are exempt. (City will not be pre-qualifying or maintaining lists of exempt individuals). [Even though some individuals may be exempt from the Ordinance, it is our hope that everyone will **do the best they can** to clear sidewalks, keeping our community safe and walkable.]
  - *Prior to issuing citations*, City staff will make every effort to **contact owners** to determine if they are exempt. In the unlikely event that one receives a citation (and one is exempt), one merely provides information about the exemption.
- **Commercial property owners are expected to comply** with the Ordinance.
  - Snow clearing should be part of basic business operating plans.
- **FURTHER DIRECTION NEEDED**: Some communities' policies state that, if snow/ice is **redeposited** on a cleared sidewalk as a result of government action (e.g., snowplowing), it is then exempt from the ordinance.



# Other Policy Discussions

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## Mailboxes Replacement Policy Recommendation





# Other Policy Discussions

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## Currently No Policy in Place

- Notification by Citizen – from snow plowing efforts
- Replacement of in-kind mailbox
- Winter 2013-2014 Replacements: 144 boxes
  - \$36,000 (\$256/average cost per mailbox)
- Winter 2014-2015 Replacements: 60 boxes
  - \$15,588 (\$260/average cost per mailbox)



# Other Policy Discussions

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- Aspirational Communities' Replacement Policies:
  - Bloomington, Illinois — \$75.00
  - Geneva, Illinois — \$25.00
  - Naperville, Illinois — \$75.00
  - Normal, Illinois — \$35.00
  - Shorewood, Illinois — \$35.00





# Other Policy Discussions

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## Recommendation — Mail Box Replacement Policy

- Property owner/resident must report the incident to the City **within 2 weeks of the occurrence.**
- A temporary mailbox or temporary repairs will be made to allow the property owner/resident to receive mail service.
- If the property owner/resident's current mailbox and/or post cannot be repaired, the resident may choose a \$100 reimbursement in lieu of the replacement post or mailbox chosen by the City.
- Mailboxes should be installed following [United States Postal Regulations](#).



# Other Policy Discussions

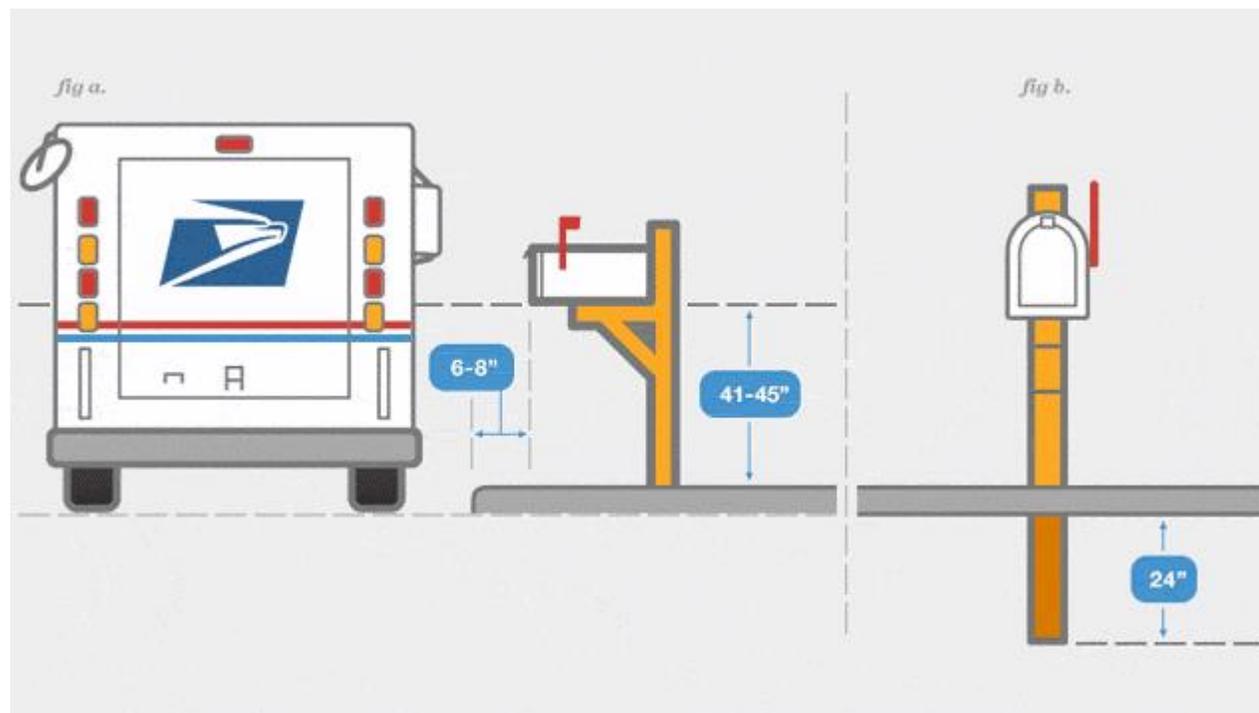
## Recommendation — Mail Box Replacement Policy

### Mailbox Regulations

According to United States Postal regulations proper placement of a mailbox means at least 41 and no more than 45 inches above ground and no part of the mailbox may be closer than 8 inches behind the back of the curb (see illustration). Brick mailboxes are not approved by the United States Postal Service.

Replacement of a mailbox damaged during snow removal, which was not properly installed and secured, is the responsibility of the homeowner.

For more information regarding mailbox regulations visit the US Post Office website at <http://www.usps.com/receive/mailboxstandards.htm>.



# Questions / Comments

