

From: Stephen Clark
Sent: Thursday, January 08, 2009 12:09 PM
To: 'lainielw@yahoo.com'
Cc: Janet Stallman
Subject: RE: streets maintenance

Dear Ms. Lacey –

I wish to take this opportunity to reply to your e-mail regarding the recent snow storm.

As I am sure you can agree, that this snow storm was indeed very unique for the Pacific Northwest. The fact that the snow did not fall at one time, but rather intermitently over a period of a week, did add to complexity of this event.

However, the City of Burien was prepared and did respond to this event as best as we could. Between December 12th and December 29th, 2008, we continuously operated our snow plows and sanding trucks in two 12-hour shifts. In addition we contracted with a private contractor to provide additional plowing and sanding, did bring in extra equipment such as graders to remove snow and ice. During snow storms we clear and sand streets based on priority, including, for example, principal and secondary arterials, bus routes and routes to critical facilities such as Highline Community Hospital. For your information, a map of the priority snow routes is available on the City's website as follows:

<http://www.burienwa.gov/index.asp?nid=717>

Following an event of this magnitude, we do conduct an assessment to determine what went well and to identify areas that we can make improvements. We will certainly include your comments in our evaluation.

Please do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions.

Regards ---Stephen Clark

*Stephen Clark, Public Works Director
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Janet Stallman

From: on behalf of Janet Stallman
To: lainielw@yahoo.com
Cc: Stephen Clark; Doug Lamothe
Subject: FW: streets maintenance

Ms. Lacey,

Thank you for expressing your concerns regarding street safety. I am forwarding your email to our Public Works Department for reply. Your email will also be made a part of the Correspondence for the Record in a future agenda packet.

Janet S.

From: Lainie [mailto:lainielw@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, December 14, 2008 9:46 PM
To: Council
Subject: streets maintenance

To the Council:

Last year during snow/ice conditions, the sanding (of only hill streets) took place the day of the thaw. Nice work.

Now this year: at 6 a.m. Sunday, the morning after our snowfall this weekend, I saw one truckload of sand heading south on 4th Ave. SW. Wherever it went, no one seems to know. The hill streets and 4th Ave. SW (a major through street and bus route) are thick with ice still, late night Sunday.

Don't want to pay Sunday overtime or no budget for safety issues? Guess we'll find out which Monday morning?

When will the city take responsibility to ensure street safety, at least on the main avenues and the hill streets, and get sanding done immediately? I've been here 5 years and am continually appalled by the failure of the city to plan, prepare for weather emergencies (not to mention tearing up streets for utility work to benefit the Towne Center, taking months to repave, only to tear them up again for something or other.)

And where are the left turn lanes/lights at 4th SW at 152nd? That's a flaming zoo! I saw a pedestrian nearly get it by someone finally getting a chance to make the left turn when the light turned red! And, I've sat through 4 greens (no exaggeration, no one-time-only) waiting for cars ahead of us, trying impossibly to make a left turn during peak hours. Apparently, the council members don't drive through town? 4th Ave. SW is, during peak hours, afternoons starting at 3 p.m. and until late evening hours, bumper to bumper all the way to 154th!

This city provides lawsuits waiting to happen. It's your responsibility to insure it doesn't and to take better, more thoughtful care, of street safety. Trust me, the talk is out there that accidents in these conditions due to the failure of the city to provide safe streets will no longer be taken lightly.

So, we'll be wanting to see you confront the need and get it done on Monday. And again as needed, when needed.

Lainie Lacey

CFTR: 1/26/09