



# Snow and Ice Control Policy Update

IP2023-1119

November 8, 2023

# Previous Council Direction



## Notice of Motion EC2023-0463 (April 2023)

Council directed Administration to review opportunities to direct operating surpluses from the SNIC Reserve and the Winter Operations operating budget to be annually allocated for street repairs to improve mobility for all modes such as vehicles, bicycles, transit buses and scooters AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Administration report back on enhancements or amendments to existing reserves through the Snow and Ice Control Policy update.

## 2023-2026 Budget Deliberations (November 2022)

Council approved increased trouble service response resources up to \$2 million over four years, drawing from the Snow and Ice Control reserve fund during major winter Snow and Ice Control events where a snow emergency has not been declared, and report back with an update on this enhanced service opportunity as part of the Snow and Ice Control Policy (CP2021-01) review report back to Council in Q2 2023.

That the Infrastructure and Planning Committee:

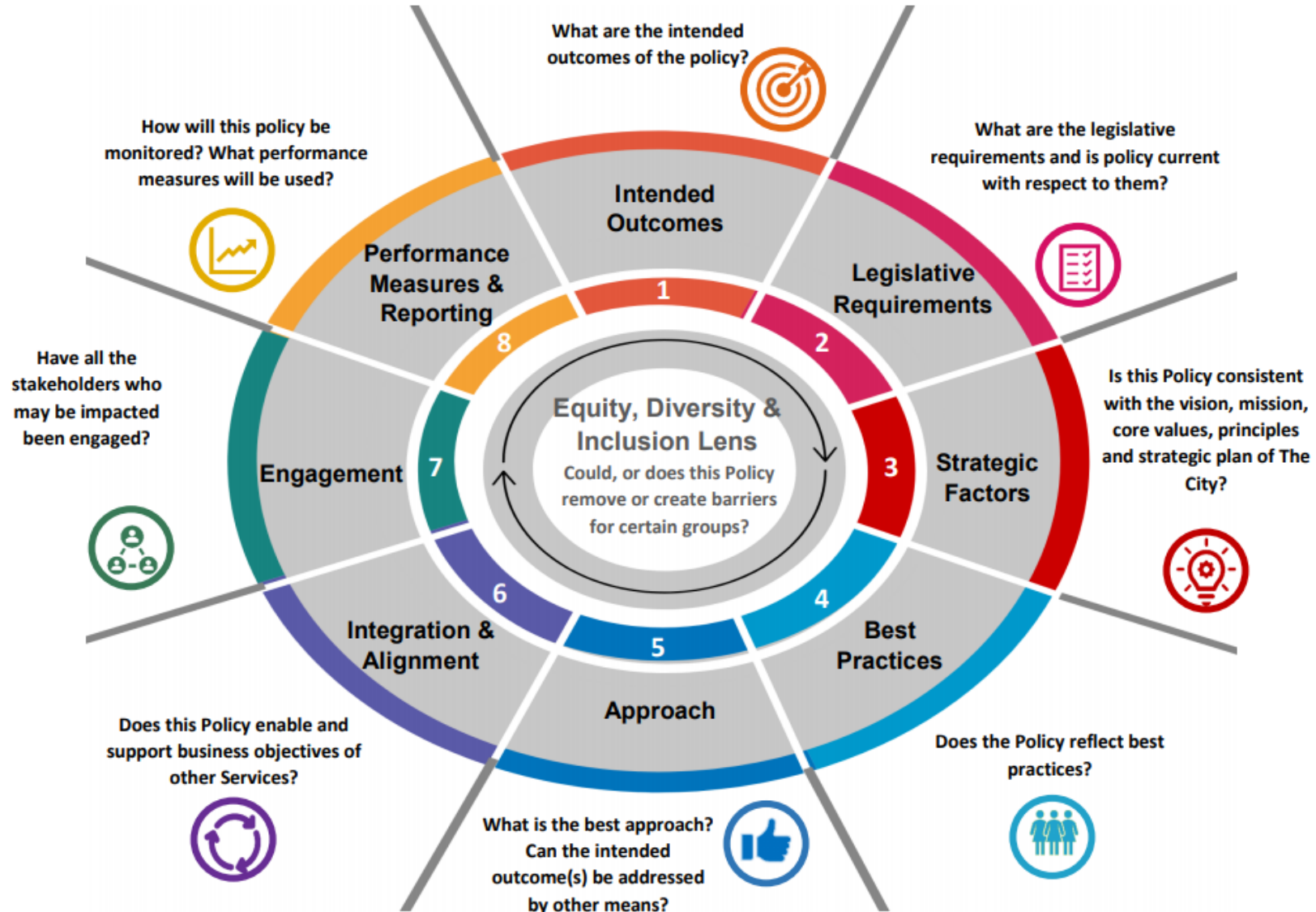
Recommend that Council direct Administration to present a finalized Winter Maintenance Policy and potential service enhancements by the end of Q1 2024.

# Highlights

- Safe winter travel is a priority for Calgarians, and winter maintenance is an important service in their daily lives
- Following a comprehensive engagement process, Administration has developed a draft Winter Maintenance Policy (renamed from the Snow and Ice Control Policy)
- Based on previous direction, Administration has reviewed multiple options to direct surplus winter maintenance funds for Council consideration
- Related service level amendments, Bylaw updates and budget impacts will be presented to Council in conjunction with the final policy approval by Q1 2024



# Policy Evaluation Process



# Proposed Policy Changes

Name change to the **Winter Maintenance Policy**

New sections highlighting Equity Supporting Practices and Climate / Sustainability Practices

Priority system updates and clarifications for private properties, wheeling lanes and residential clearing standards

Embedding Core Engagement Themes:

**Accessibility:** Moving safely in winter conditions regardless of ability level

**Equity:** Mobility network is available and well-connected for all travel choices and residents

**Safety:** Winter travel is safe and the City is responsive to safety concerns

**Environment:** Winter maintenance operations minimize environmental impacts



# Planned Enhancements within Current Budgets

## School Areas



- Snow removal at pickup areas during school break
- Clearing walkways leading to school access

## New Pilots



- Priority 2 clearing in 24hrs with smaller trucks
- Blue lights on winter equipment
- More BIA clearing

## Accessibility



- Reprioritizing activities after 36hrs to improve accessibility
- Standby contractors increasing for major events

## Pathways



- 150km of additional pathways to be cleared this winter season

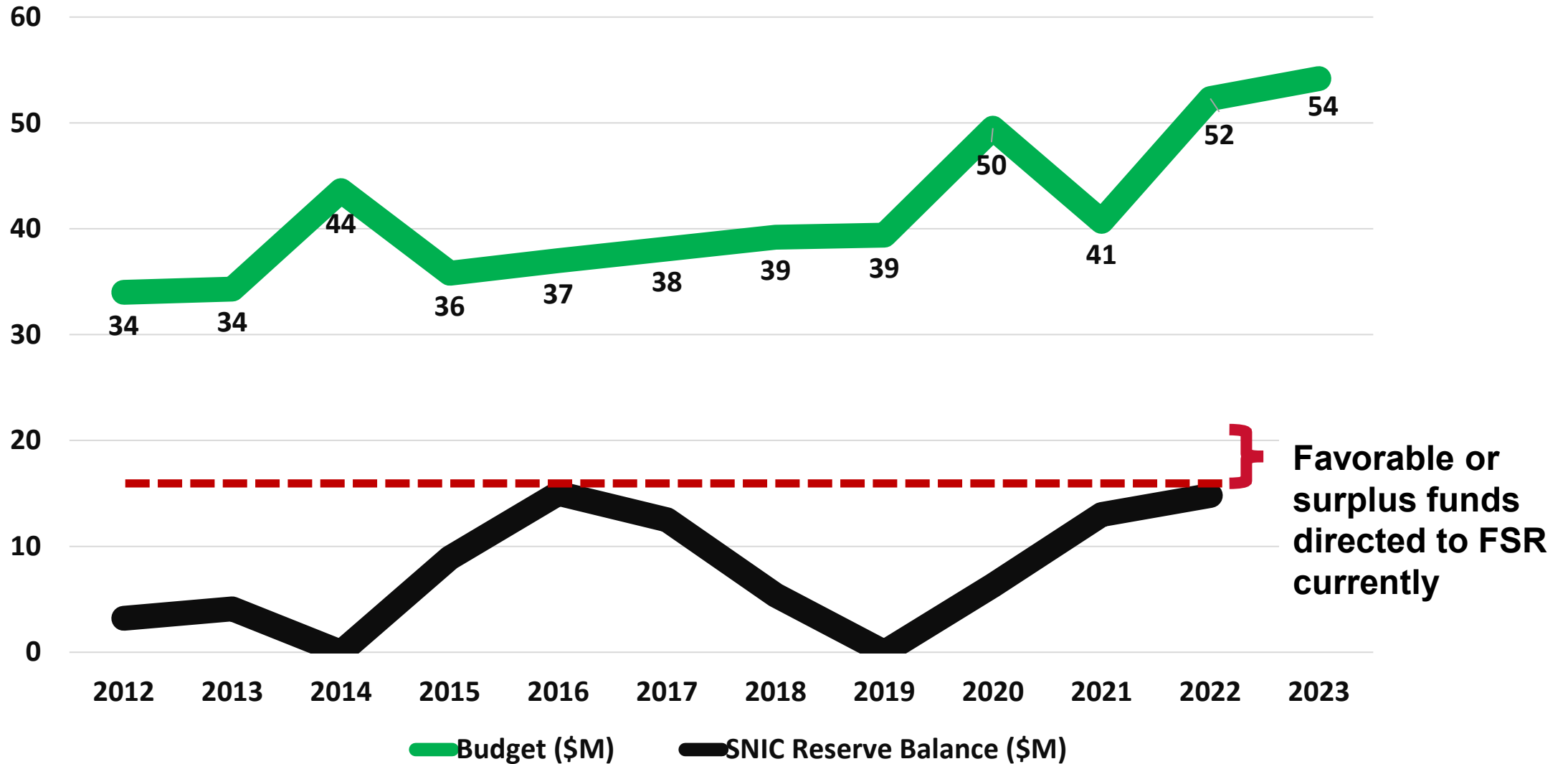
## Seasonal Clearing



- Catch basin clearing to avoid flooding in Spring
- Educational resources for residential properties



# Winter Operations Budget and Reserve History





# Opportunities for Investment / Bylaw Updates

## Accessibility

- Barrier free crosswalks / bus stops (\$\$)
- Prioritized laneways crossings (\$\$\$)
- Prioritized engineered walkways (\$\$)



## Transit

- Priority 2 clearing in 24hrs (\$\$\$\$)
- More bus stops cleared in 24hrs (\$)



## Safety

- Prioritized 5A / snow removal (\$\$\$\$)
- Laneway crossing bylaw updates (\$)



That the Infrastructure and Planning Committee:

Recommend that Council direct Administration to present a finalized Winter Maintenance Policy and potential service enhancements by the end of Q1 2024.

# What questions did we hear?

## Snow and Ice Control Policy Review

Feedback for this project ran from March 1- 25, 2022 and is now closed.



# Enhanced Trouble Spot Clearing

## Winter Season Contractor Deployment Comparison

**2021/22**



Total Deployments: 16  
Average # deployments per event: 1.25

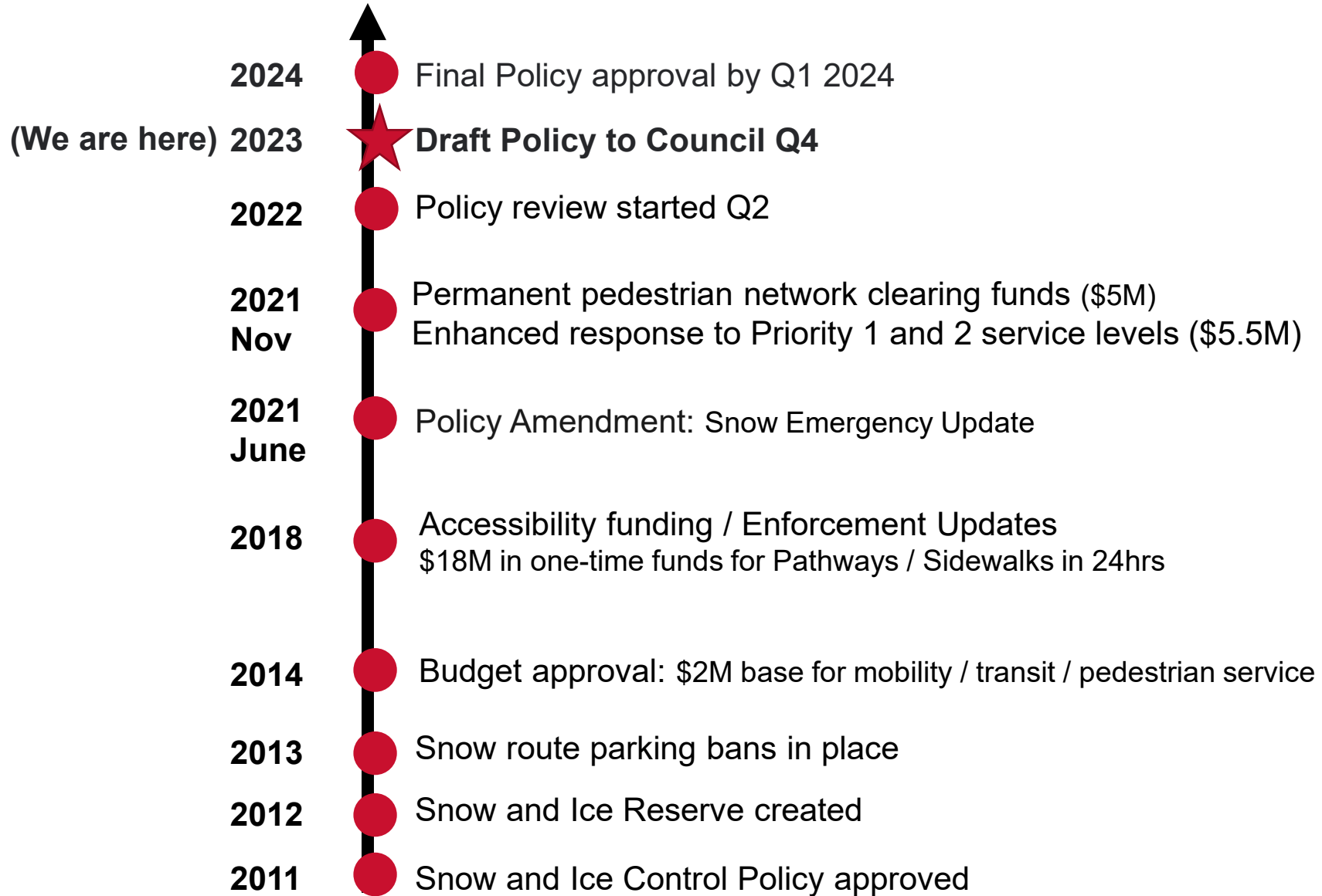
**2022/23 (after Council direction)**



Total Deployments: 24  
Average # deployments per event: 2 (+60%)



# Snow and Ice Control Policy Recent Timeline

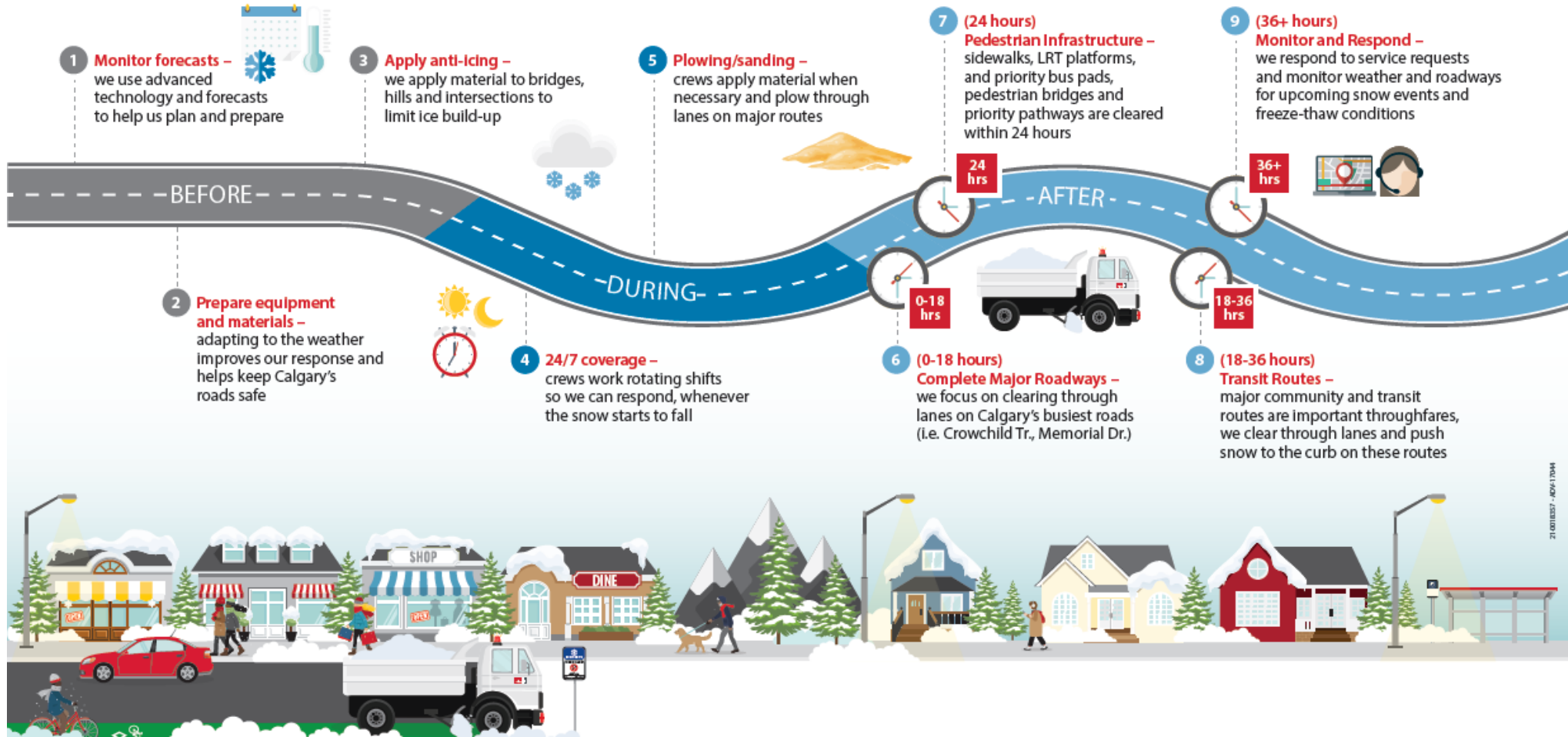




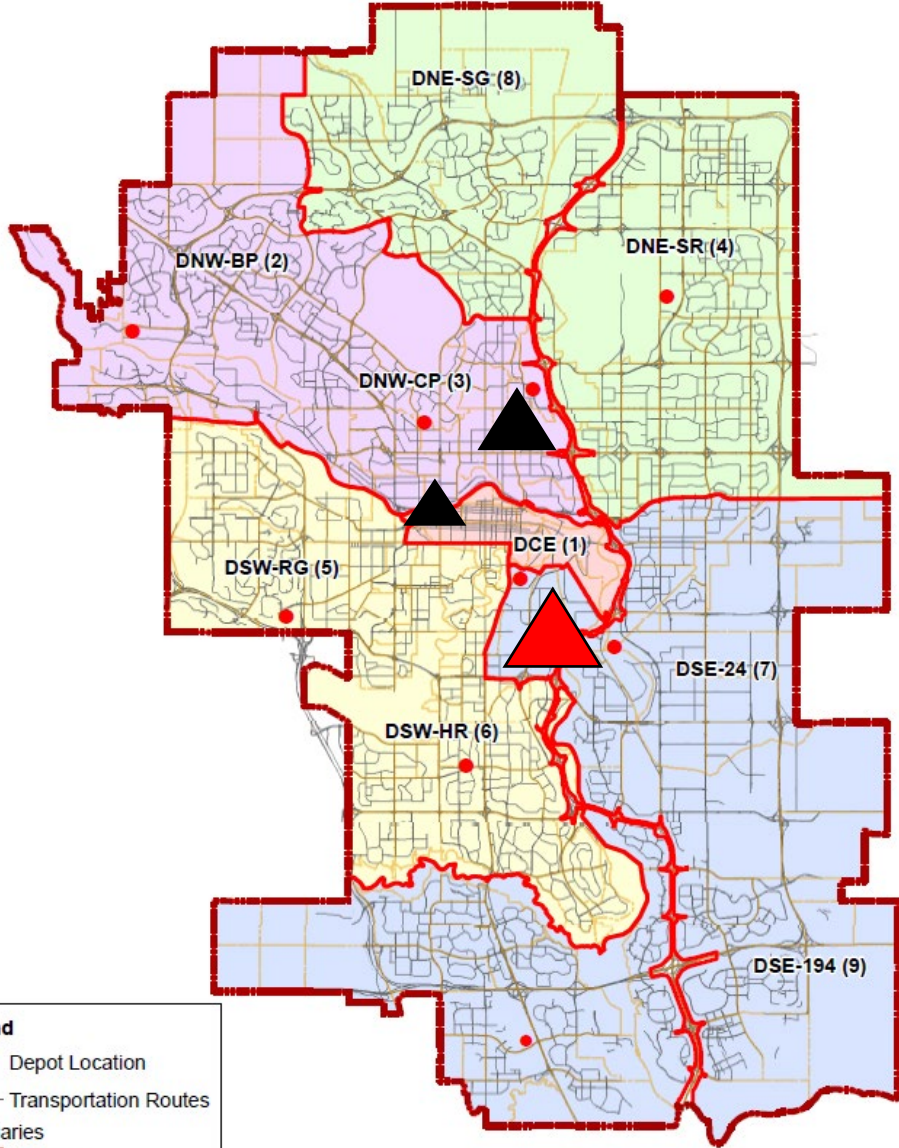
# Priority Snow Plan

Calgary is a winter city, and The City of Calgary responds with a Priority Snow Plan that keeps the largest amount of citizens moving safely through our transportation network.

Here is what our crews are focused on in the winter:



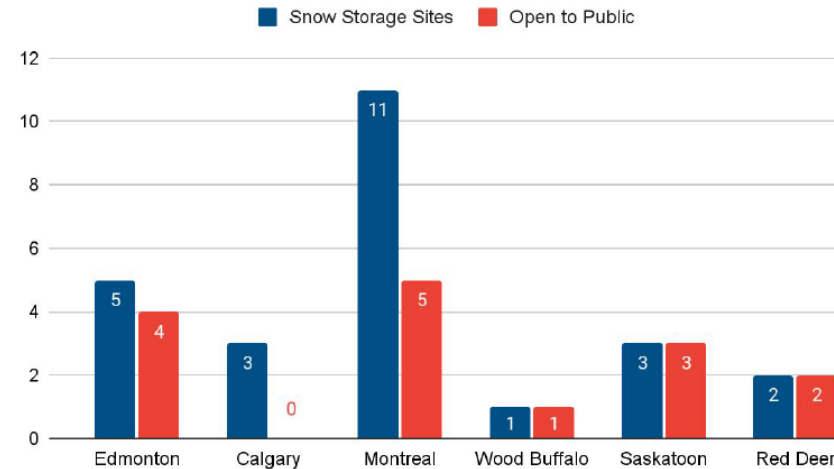
# Snow Storage in Calgary



# Snow Storage in Montreal



Snow Storage Sites





# Snow Removal vs Snow Clearing



- Pilot Truck and Snow Blower
- Trackless / Holder small equipment
- 5 - 10 Tandem Trucks and 2-3 Graders

## Typical snow removal locations:

- Downtown / dedicated wheeling facilities
- Medians along major roads
- School pickup areas
- Emergency situations



- 1 - 2 pieces of equipment (Sander and Grader)