Public Works Committee Agenda

There will be a meeting of the City of Cumberland Public Works Committee on Tuesday, October 20, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. at the Cumberland City Hall, 950 1st Ave, Cumberland, WI.

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of minutes from the Public Works Committee meeting on September 18, 2026.
4. Discussion and possible action relating to possible CSM for new Industrial Park area.
5. Discussion and possible action relating to draft Snow and Ice Control Policy.
6. Staff, Equipment and Vehicle updates
7. Adjourn

*It is possible that a quorum of the Common Council may attend this meeting. This constitutes a meeting of the Common Council and must be noticed as such, although the Common Council will not take any formal action at this meeting. It is possible that a quorum of the Utility Committee may attend this meeting, but no action will be taken by the Utility Committee at this meeting.

Arlene Frisinger, Clerk
City of Cumberland

Public Works Committee Meeting

Public Works Committee meeting, Tuesday, September 22, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. at the City Hall.

Those present were Tom Goldsmith, Michael Cifaldi, Jim Anderson, Bill Lussier, Arlene Frisinger, Randy Reeg, and Devon Fredrickson.

Goldsmith called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

A motion was made by Cifaldi, seconded by Lussier to approve August 18, 2026, Public Works Committee meeting minutes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Lussier, seconded by Cifaldi, to recommend to council the TID #8 Sorensen Utility Extension change order regarding substantial completion date of October 21, 2026. Motion carried.

Discussion regarding the Naming and Dedication of Industrial Park Road. No action was taken.

Discussion regarding Snow and Ice Control Policy. Devon Fredrickson will mark up a map with the sidewalks identified as which ones the city plows. No action taken.

A motion was made by Cifaldi, seconded by Anderson, to adjourn at 11:45 a.m. Motion carried.

Respectively submitted,

Arlene Frisinger, Clerk

CITY OF CUMBERLAND

SNOW AND ICE CONTROL POLICY

DRAFT FOR REVIEW

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish consistent priorities, responsibilities, and operating principles for snow and ice control activities performed by the City of Cumberland.

The City recognizes that snow and ice control is an essential municipal service necessary to maintain public safety, emergency access, transportation, access to public facilities, and the continued functioning of the community during winter weather.

This policy is also intended to ensure that City snow and ice control resources are used efficiently and equitably and that municipal services are provided for an identifiable public purpose rather than primarily for the benefit of individual private properties.

2. GENERAL POLICY

The City's primary responsibility for snow and ice control is the maintenance of City streets, City-owned property, and public facilities under the City's responsibility.

Snow and ice control operations shall be prioritized based upon public safety, traffic and pedestrian needs, emergency access, operational necessity, available personnel and equipment, weather conditions, and the efficient use of public resources.

The City cannot guarantee completely bare pavement or uninterrupted travel during or immediately following winter weather. Snow and ice control operations are intended to maintain the City's transportation system in a reasonably safe and passable condition under the circumstances.

Historical practice alone shall not establish a continuing obligation to provide a particular snow-removal service. Practices shall periodically be reviewed to determine whether they continue to serve an identifiable public purpose and can be administered reasonably, consistently, and equitably throughout the City.

3. GENERAL PRIORITIES

Subject to weather conditions and operational needs, City snow and ice control activities shall generally be prioritized as follows:

A. Public Streets and Emergency Access. The City's highest priority is maintaining City streets for reasonably safe and passable vehicular travel, including access for police, fire, ambulance, and other emergency services. Routes and locations may receive different levels or frequencies of service based upon traffic volume, street classification, topography, emergency-service needs, school or institutional access, intersection conditions, and other legitimate operational considerations.

B. City Facilities and Public Access. The City shall provide reasonable snow and ice control at City-owned facilities where public or employee access is required, including entrances, accessible routes, sidewalks, and parking areas as appropriate.

C. Sidewalks Abutting City-Owned Property. The City shall clear sidewalks abutting City-owned property in substantially the same manner and within the same general expectations applicable to privately owned property under City ordinance.

D. Special Snow-Management Areas. The City may conduct additional plowing, snow removal, snow hauling, or other operations in areas where street configuration, parking, limited snow-storage capacity,

traffic conditions, pedestrian activity, or other operational considerations make ordinary snow storage impractical.

4. DOWNTOWN SNOW REMOVAL

The downtown area presents snow-management conditions that differ from many other areas of the City due to the proximity of buildings and sidewalks to the roadway, limited or nonexistent boulevard areas, on-street parking, pedestrian activity, and limited opportunities for snow storage.

The City may periodically remove and haul accumulated snow from downtown streets and other similarly situated areas when the Public Works Director or designee determines that accumulated snow materially interferes with traffic, parking, visibility, pedestrian movement, drainage, public safety, or continued snow-control operations.

Downtown snow removal is a municipal street and transportation operation and shall not be considered a City assumption of the responsibility of adjoining property owners to maintain sidewalks or private property.

5. SIDEWALKS ABUTTING PRIVATE PROPERTY

Except as specifically provided in this policy, the City shall not routinely remove snow or ice from sidewalks abutting privately owned property.

Responsibility for removing snow and ice from such sidewalks remains with the property owner or other responsible party as established by City ordinance.

The existence of a narrow boulevard, the absence of a boulevard, the proximity of a sidewalk to the traveled roadway, difficulty associated with clearing a particular sidewalk, or the fact that City crews have historically cleared a sidewalk shall not, standing alone, establish eligibility for City snow-removal service.

City personnel shall not establish or continue individual sidewalk-clearing routes or practices primarily for the convenience or benefit of particular private properties.

6. EXTRAORDINARY ACCUMULATIONS CAUSED BY CITY OPERATIONS

The City recognizes that street plowing necessarily moves snow toward the edge of the roadway and may result in snow being deposited near or upon sidewalks, driveway approaches, mailboxes, and other areas adjoining the street. Such conditions are an ordinary consequence of municipal snow-plowing operations and do not generally create an obligation for the City to remove the resulting snow.

However, the Public Works Director or designee may authorize City crews to address an extraordinary accumulation or obstruction affecting a sidewalk when:

1. the condition results primarily from City street-plowing or snow-removal operations rather than the natural accumulation of snow;
2. the accumulation is substantially greater than conditions ordinarily created by routine street plowing;
3. the condition creates a significant impediment to pedestrian travel or public safety; and
4. City removal can reasonably be accomplished without materially interfering with higher-priority snow and ice control operations.

Any such removal shall be discretionary, shall be based upon the particular conditions present, and shall not constitute an assumption by the City of the property owner's continuing responsibility for sidewalk snow and ice removal.

Where reasonably practicable, similarly situated locations shall be treated consistently.

7. DRIVEWAY APPROACHES

Snow deposited within or adjacent to private driveway approaches as a result of normal street-plowing operations shall be the responsibility of the property owner or occupant.

City crews shall not normally return to clear driveway approaches after a street has been plowed.

Property owners should recognize that additional snow may be deposited at driveway approaches during subsequent widening, cleanup, or snow-removal operations.

8. PRIVATE PROPERTY AND PRIVATE SERVICES

City personnel and equipment shall not be used to perform snow or ice removal on private driveways, private parking areas, private walkways, or other private property except when specifically authorized for an identifiable municipal or emergency purpose.

The City shall not provide snow-removal services to particular private properties based solely upon past practice, individual hardship, convenience, or request.

Nothing in this section prevents City personnel from taking reasonable action when necessary to respond to an emergency, protect life or property, maintain access for emergency services, or protect City infrastructure.

9. SNOW STORAGE AND PLACEMENT

Snow removed from public streets and other City-maintained areas may be stored within the public right-of-way or transported to designated snow-storage locations as conditions warrant.

Snow-storage practices should, to the extent reasonably practicable, preserve intersection sight distances, access to fire hydrants, traffic-control devices, pedestrian routes, drainage facilities, and other important public infrastructure.

City operations shall seek to minimize unnecessary impacts upon adjoining property while recognizing that some accumulation of snow along the public right-of-way is unavoidable.

10. MAILBOXES AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS WITHIN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY

Property owners are responsible for ensuring that mailboxes and other permitted private improvements located within the public right-of-way are properly installed and sufficiently constructed to withstand ordinary winter conditions and snow-plowing operations.

The City shall not be responsible for damage caused by the weight or force of snow displaced during normal plowing operations.

Claims involving direct physical contact between City equipment and private improvements may be reviewed in accordance with applicable City procedures and law.

11. FIRE HYDRANTS, STORMWATER FACILITIES, AND OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE

Snow-removal operations may include clearing or maintaining access to fire hydrants, catch basins, stormwater facilities, traffic-control devices, utility infrastructure, and other public facilities when necessary for public safety or municipal operations.

The timing of such work may be subordinate to the immediate need to maintain streets and emergency routes during an active winter weather event.

12. TIMING AND LEVEL OF SERVICE

Snow and ice control operations will vary depending upon the nature of each winter weather event. Relevant considerations may include:

- snowfall rate and total accumulation;
- temperature and anticipated temperature changes;
- wind and drifting;
- freezing rain or ice conditions;
- timing and duration of the event;
- traffic conditions;
- availability of personnel and equipment;
- effectiveness of salt, sand, or other treatment materials;
- equipment breakdowns or emergencies; and
- forecasts for additional precipitation.

Accordingly, this policy establishes priorities and operating principles rather than a guarantee that particular streets or facilities will be cleared within a specified period following every winter weather event.

13. OPERATIONAL DISCRETION

The Public Works Director or designee is authorized to modify the sequence, timing, methods, or extent of snow and ice control operations when reasonably necessary because of weather, emergencies, equipment availability, staffing, public safety, or other operational considerations.

This authority includes the ability to suspend lower-priority activities when personnel or equipment are needed for higher-priority snow and ice control operations.

14. EVALUATION OF SPECIAL OR HISTORICAL SNOW-REMOVAL PRACTICES

Any existing or proposed snow-removal activity that is not otherwise addressed by this policy should be evaluated using the following criteria:

5. **Public Purpose.** Does the activity primarily advance public safety, transportation, pedestrian access, protection of public infrastructure, or another identifiable municipal purpose?
6. **Municipal Responsibility.** Is the condition one the City is ordinarily responsible for addressing, or is it primarily the responsibility of an adjoining property owner?
7. **City-Created Condition.** If the activity involves private-property frontage, has an extraordinary condition been created primarily by City operations rather than ordinary snowfall?
8. **Equitable Application.** Can the same standard reasonably be applied to other similarly situated properties or locations throughout the City?
9. **Operational Necessity.** Is the activity reasonably necessary for effective City snow-removal operations?
10. **Resource Impact.** Can the activity be performed without materially interfering with higher-priority municipal responsibilities?
11. **Precedent.** Would continuing or initiating the activity reasonably require the City to provide substantially similar services elsewhere?

When an activity cannot be supported by these considerations, the presumption shall be that the City will discontinue or decline to provide the service.

15. NO CREATION OF SPECIAL DUTY OR GUARANTEE

This policy is intended to provide general guidance for City snow and ice control operations. It does not guarantee that any street, sidewalk, facility, or other location will be free of snow or ice at any particular time.

Nothing in this policy is intended to create a special duty or obligation to any individual person or property, nor shall any deviation from this policy establish a basis for a continuing level of service.

16. ANNUAL REVIEW

City administration and the Public Works Department should periodically review snow and ice control practices to identify operational changes, historical practices, or service inconsistencies that should be modified to better conform to this policy.

The goal of such review shall be to maintain a snow and ice control program that is safe, practical, fiscally responsible, and equitable throughout the City.