



**To:** Mayor and Members of the Ames City Council

**From:** Steven L. Schainker, City Manager

**Date:** October 9, 2015

**Subject:** Snow and Ice Removal Policy

At your October 13, 2015 Council meeting, the Public Works Department staff will be reviewing with you the Snow and Ice Removal Policy for the City of Ames. What is significant about this presentation is that Justin Clausen, our Public Works Operations Manager, has created a single document which reflects for the first time our current policies and procedures related to snow and ice removal within the City.

Since, unfortunately, the snow season will be upon us very soon, we thought it would be a good time to review our policies with the City Council and the public. **No action will be required of the City Council. It is hoped that this information will help the Council in answering any questions you might receive this winter requiring our snow and ice removal policy.**



# Snow and Ice Control Policy



**2015**



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October 13, 2015

Honorable Mayor and Council Members  
City of Ames  
Ames, Iowa 50010

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Public Works Department has developed policies and standards for snow and ice control within the City of Ames for the winter of 2015/16. This policy has been developed based off past practices, current procedures, future trends and is in line with the City's goal of providing exceptional service at the best price.

Our citizens depend on all weather use of the transportation system within the City of Ames to perform their daily activities. The City of Ames stands ready to provide excellent customer service during the upcoming winter weather.

The following policy contains guidelines and information pertinent to expectations for snow and ice control within the City of Ames. Please do not hesitate to contact us for more detailed information regarding our snow and ice control policy

Sincerely,

John C. Joiner, P.E.  
Director

JJ/jc

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## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the City of Ames Snow and Ice Policy is to provide direction and standards on maintaining the City's transportation network during snow and ice events. The intent is to provide safe and efficient movement of the traveling public and emergency response vehicles.

Every snow and ice event is unique; however the response of the City of Ames will be consistent with the policies and procedures outlined in this document. Field conditions will always warrant changes as the event progresses, but the goal of providing excellent customer service through efficient snow and ice control at the best price while maintaining the safety of the traveling public will always take precedence.

The City of Ames has a population of 63,266 (2014 Ames Chamber of Commerce data) and covers an area of over 24 square miles. With recent annexation, the City now reaches over 7 miles from north to south and 7 miles from east to west. Within this area there are over 277 centerline miles of street being maintained during the winter months.

Climate data available for the City of Ames indicate that the historical average annual snowfall is approximately 31 inches. Detailed record keeping by the City over the past 25+ years indicates that the average over this period is in excess of 36 inches of snow with an average of 19 winter weather events annually. In recent years, the 5 year and 10 year averages have been over 40 inches of snow. Running averages for annual snowfall and number of events indicate that the average amount of snowfall per year is increasing while the number of events per year is decreasing. This signals an increase in intensity of snowfall per event. What this all means is that the year to year snowfall amount is extremely variable and difficult to estimate, however this policy helps ensure that the City can efficiently respond to any winter weather event.

## **FORECASTING**

The City of Ames does not employ the services of a private weather forecasting service. Public Works staff will monitor commercially available web based forecasts (i.e. Weather Underground, Weather.com), government forecast information (National Weather Service, Iowa State University Meteogram Generator), Iowa DOT Road Conditions, and local television news forecasts (KCCI, WHO, WOI). The Public Works Operations Manager will attempt to keep other City departments informed of the potential winter weather event beginning around 48 hours in advance of the event. Past experience has shown forecasting farther out than 48 hours is extremely variable. Information is typically emailed out with timing of the storm and anticipated response from City Crews.

The City will use all of this information to formulate a response to impending winter weather. The timing, duration, and temperatures involved in a winter weather event will dictate the scope of the response from the City of Ames.

## **SNOW PLOWING**

Snow plowing is the primary means for mechanical removal of snow from City streets. The timing of initiation of plowing activities will begin based off a number of factors including weather forecast, traffic volumes, timing and intensity of snow, and many more. The overall goal of beginning to plow will be to

attempt to stay ahead of the accumulation and to maintain the safe and efficient movement of emergency vehicles and the traveling public.

It is important to remember that plowing while a winter weather event is ongoing will not necessarily leave the street in a finished state. It is common for snow fall rates to be high enough to give the appearance that a street has not been plowed even though the plow may have made a pass very recently. Only after the winter weather event has ended can final cleanup commence and the streets begin to be returned to normal conditions. There may be several passes of plow equipment required to fully plow a street curb to curb.

Snow plow equipment will need to maintain certain speeds while plowing in order promote efficient movement of snow and to ensure that snow does not adhere to the plow blade.

If weather forecasts indicate that the snow and/or ice accumulations will dissipate in a time period deemed reasonable by the Public Works Operations Manager or his/her designee, the on duty supervisors will have discretion regarding the level of plowing and ice control applications.

## **ICE CONTROL**

Ice control procedures are used to break and/or prevent the bond of ice to the pavement. The on duty supervisor will have the discretion to modify the rates and types of ice control materials based upon weather and street conditions.

Anti icing is defined as the application of ice control materials prior to a winter weather event. The intent is to delay or prevent the bond of ice and/or melted snow to a pavement surface.

The City of Ames may utilize anti icing procedures when weather forecast and pavement temperatures indicate that their use will help prevent the bond of ice to the pavement. The anti icing materials and/or chemicals will be applied on arterial streets and trouble areas only. The anti icing materials may be applied well in advance of an impending winter weather event.

Sodium Chloride (NaCl) road salt will be procured on an annual basis. An estimated annual amount will be procured and delivery will occur in advance and during the winter season. Salt storage will be stored inside of the salt dome located adjacent to the Edison Street maintenance facility.

When pavement temperatures are low and the pavement is initially dry, the use of salts should be delayed as long as possible to avoid the formation of ice refreezing on the roadway surface.

Liquid Calcium Chloride (CaCl) will be purchased on an as needed basis and will be stored on site. The use of calcium chloride will be limited to extreme low temperature applications.

Road salt will be used in conjunction with a pre-wet system prior to spreading when conditions warrant. The pre-wetting allows the melting process to be expedited and to be effective at a lower temperature which leads to less salt demand. Using less salt aids in the ability to help control costs and lessen the impact of deicing chemicals on the environment.

The use of abrasives (sand or limestone chips) will be limited due to their environmental impact, costs, and limited effectiveness. They may be utilized to aid in traction where applicable. Their use will be at

the discretion of the on duty supervisor at the time of need. Gravel roads and alleys will not receive deicing chemical treatments.

## **CLEAN UP**

Once the defined levels of service have been achieved and the snowfall has finished, clean up activities will commence. These activities include hauling of snow, benching of snow windrows, clearing of slush from roadway pavement, removal of snow from sight triangles at intersections, removal of piled snow from cul-de-sacs, etc... Clean up activities will typically take place during normal business hours. The ultimate goal is to return the pavement to a dry condition as quickly as possible and is time dependent on the limitations of the weather, availability of resources, and traffic volumes.

## **HAULING**

Room for storage of snow in business areas is limited. Therefore, the City will haul snow that is accumulated in the right of way from the Main Street business district, Campustown area, and Somerset business district. This hauling may occur during overnight hours to maximize the efficiency of the snow removal operations. Snow may be hauled from other locations within the right of way as deemed necessary to maintain safety for pedestrians and vehicles. These other locations will be at the discretion of the supervisor on duty. If additional trucks are needed to haul snow in an efficient manner, they will be contracted as necessary. Snow will be dumped at City of Ames West Yard. This location is the primary storage location for snow.

## **SNOW ORDINANCE**

The purpose of the Snow Ordinance is to allow for safe and efficient snow removal operations on designated snow routes throughout the City. These snow routes are typically traversed by CyRide buses or are collector streets feeding into the City's arterial streets. If forecasts indicate that two inches of snow or more is probable the City of Ames may begin proactive notification that the Snow Ordinance will go into effect. The notification will include local television, radio, and print media, as well as official City social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter. It will be the City's goal to time the commencement of the Snow Ordinance to minimize the inconvenience on the public; however the timing of the beginning of the ordinance will be dictated by the winter weather event.



The Public Works Department on duty supervisor will coordinate with the Police Department on duty supervisor to begin the ticketing and towing along designated snow routes. The snow routes are clearly marked with signs, and are available in a map format on the City's website at ([www.cityofames.org/snow](http://www.cityofames.org/snow)). The Public Works Department will strive to wait until it appears that the snow is ending before doing the final clean up along designated snow routes. The Police Department will work to clear the snow routes of parked vehicles through ticketing and towing ahead of the Public Works Department. Regardless of the timing of the commencement of the Snow Ordinance, ticketing and towing will not begin until at least two inches of snow has accumulated. However vehicles may be



towed immediately prior to being ticketed to maintain efficient snow removal operations. Snow routes have been identified by City Council and are listed in Section 22.9 of the Municipal Code.

**PRIORITIES**

The City Council has established the following priorities for **snow plowing** during winter weather events:

Priority	Classification	Actual Depth of Snow When Service Levels Apply	Depth of Snow/Timing When Plowing Commences
1	Arterial Streets (Appendix A), Snow Routes (Appendix B), Priority Routes (Appendix C)	2"	Plowing starts when snow depth/forecast will allow for efficient plow operations and will be continuous until final clean up.
2	Main Street, Campustown, Somerset Business Districts	2"	Plowing starts when snow depth/forecast will allow for efficient plow operations. Clean up will likely occur overnight.
3	Residential Streets, Circles and Cul-de-sacs (Non Snow Routes)	3"	Plowing in residential areas typically only occurs when 3" or more of snow accumulates. Plowing typically starts when snowfall ends unless forecasts show a prolonged event.
4	Parking Lots, Sidewalks, Trails, and Shared Use Paths	1"	Plowing will typically start after snowfall ends and after street priorities are finished.
5	Alleys	4"	Plowing in alleys will typically only occur when 4" or more of snow accumulates. Plowing typically starts when snowfall ends unless the forecast shows a prolonged event.

During an average storm, the goal is that snow plowing operations will be completed in 16 hours. Actual performance will vary greatly, depending upon factors such as actual snowfall amount vs. forecast amount, air and pavement temperatures, previous accumulations, etc... It is important to note that many of these factors are outside of the control of the City. The on duty supervisor will have the discretion to make decisions in line with the goals and expectations of the snow policy.

Priorities for **ice control** areas during winter weather events will be as follows:

Priority	Classification	When Service Levels Apply	Timing When Ice Control Commences
1	Controlled Intersections, Hills, Curves	Any Ice	Ice control will provided to aid in public safety and aid in vehicular traction as soon as possible. Ice control may not be widely used during plowing operations to avoid plowing off the deicing material.
2	High Priority Areas (i.e. Schools, Medical Facilities, Turn Lanes, etc...)	Any Ice	Ice control will provided to aid in public safety and aid in vehicular traction as soon as possible. Ice control may not be widely used during plowing operations to avoid plowing off the deicing material.
3	Other Intersections, Street sections not on hills or curves	When Conditions Warrant	Ice control in uncontrolled intersections and other areas will be on as needed basis as field conditions warrant.

During a city-wide ice storm, all streets may be treated with ice control materials. The use of these materials will be balanced between public safety and environmental concerns. It is important to remember that while ice control materials are a valuable and necessary tool, their use is not always the best method to control ice formation. Under certain conditions which are common in the winter using ice control materials can actually lead to additional ice formation because the pavement surface is too cold. More salt is not always the solution. The on duty supervisor will have the discretion to make decisions in line with the goals and expectations of the snow policy.

New concrete streets will not receive ice control treatments for the first year in order to extend the life of the new pavement unless safety concerns exist. These streets will be treated with sand as necessary for traction.

**MORE SALT**  
**...not always the cure for slippery roads!**

30° Normal winter conditions

20° **CAUTION** Salt takes longer to work and ROADS REFREEZE FASTER

10° **EXTREME CAUTION** ROADS REFREEZE EVEN FASTER Ice melts very slow

0° When salt is used at these lower temperatures, it may cause wet pavement to refreeze

IOWADOT ICE & SNOW TAKE IT SLOW

## LEVELS OF SERVICE

The levels of service goals indicated in the following pages are the guidelines for the various street classifications within the City of Ames. The goals have been developed based on various criteria including road safety, budgetary considerations, labor and equipment limitations, and environmental factors. The goals have been defined to create a common understanding of expectations for the general public and employees responsible for performing snow and ice control duties within the City of Ames.

While the City of Ames will strive to meet these goals, it is important to understand that the time it may take to achieve them will be dependent upon weather conditions and other factors that may be outside the control of the City.

A pavement that is ***generally bare of snow and ice*** is defined as a travel lane surface that is free from drifts, snow ridges, and as much snow and ice pack as practical. It should not be confused with a ***dry pavement*** or a ***bare pavement*** which is essentially free of **all** snow, ice, and free moisture.

Under the definition of ***generally bare of snow and ice***, motorists can expect some inconvenience and will be expected to modify their driving practices to suit the road conditions. This is supported by The *Iowa Motor Vehicle Code* section 321.285 (1) which states: *“Any person driving a motor vehicle on a highway shall drive the same at a careful and prudent speed not greater than nor less than is reasonable and proper, having due regard to the traffic, surface, and width of the highway and of any other conditions then existing...”*

Examples of Levels of Service expectations are as follows:

- **Arterial Streets (Pg 11 and Appendix A)**
- **Snow Routes (Pg 12 and Appendix B)**
- **Priority Routes (Pg 13 and Appendix C)**
- **Residential Streets, Circles, and Cul-de-sacs (Pg 14)**
- **Trails and Shared Use Paths (Pg 15)**
- **Sidewalks (Pg 15)**

## ARTERIAL STREETS

Arterial Streets are snow routes that are the primary streets which convey vehicular traffic throughout the City. These streets are identified by their Federal Functional Classification and typically serve to distribute traffic to other geographic areas and provide connectivity throughout the City. These routes will be generally bare of snow and ice at the end of plowing operations. A map of Arterial Streets can be found in Appendix A.



**(Generally Bare of Snow and Ice)**

## **SNOW ROUTES**

Snow routes have been identified by City Council as priority locations to provide safe and efficient movement of traffic during snow and ice events. Snow routes include other high priority corridors throughout the City that may not be identified as an Arterial Street. These routes will have some bare pavement, primarily in the wheel paths at the end of plowing operations. Snow routes will be identified with signs indicating their location. A map of Snow Routes can be found in Appendix B.



**(Some Bare Pavement – Focus on Wheel Paths)**

## **PRIORITY ROUTES**

Priority Routes have been identified as those routes that provide additional connectivity throughout the community. These routes typically serve as collector streets or provide access to residential areas and business districts. These routes are not designated as snow routes and as such are not subject to the parking regulations of snow routes. These routes typically see lower traffic volumes than snow routes. These routes will have a mix of bare pavement and residual snow following plowing operations. A map of Priority Routes can be found in Appendix C.



**(A Mix of Bare Pavement and Residual Snow)**

## **RESIDENTIAL STREETS, CIRCLES, AND CUL-DE-SACS**

Residential streets, circles, and cul-de-sacs will have residual snow left on the street after plowing. This residual snow aids in traction and helps reduce the overall salt demand citywide. These streets are commonly cleared by contractors while the City's snow and ice control staff focuses on other priorities.



**(Streets will have residual snow)**

## **TRAILS AND SHARED USE PATHS**

The City of Ames has an active trail and shared use path system. The City recognizes that our citizens place a high value on the use of trails and shared use paths for pedestrian and bicycle traffic during the winter.

The trail and shared use path system within the City of Ames falls under the jurisdiction of several different entities including the City of Ames, Iowa State University, the Ames Community Schools, and private property owners (see Appendix D and E). The City strives to provide consistent levels of service regardless of the jurisdiction responsible for snow and ice control.

In areas where four foot existing sidewalks have been widened to an eight foot shared use path, City Code Section 22.2 requires only four feet of the shared use path to be cleared by the abutting property owner. The Code does not require any additional width beyond four feet to be cleared by either the abutting property owner or by the City. These areas include portions of Lincoln Way, Ontario Street, and 24<sup>th</sup> Street. At times Public Works crews will assist in removing the large windrows of snow that may accumulate from street plowing in those areas. This assistance is typically a lower priority in overall snow and ice control operations and takes place once normal levels of snow and ice control are completed.

The City of Ames Parks and Recreation Maintenance staff is primarily responsible for snow and ice control on trails and shared use paths once accumulations reach one inch. During large snow events or during long duration snow and ice events Parks and Recreation staff is utilized to supplement Public Works crews to ensure that the goals of safe and efficient movement of emergency vehicles and the traveling public are maintained during the storm and initial response. Once the initial storm response is complete and clean up operations have begun, the Parks and Recreation staff is prioritized to provide snow and ice control on trails and shared used paths as shown in Appendix D and E. The Parks and Recreation on duty supervisor will coordinate the timing of response in coordination with the Public Works on duty supervisor.

## **SIDEWALKS**

The City of Ames values the many pedestrians who rely on sidewalks as their means of transportation during winter months. As such the City has a duty to ensure that public sidewalks are cleaned from snow and ice following winter weather events. Snow and ice control on sidewalks is the responsibility of the abutting property owner as defined in City Code section 22.2. No property owner shall, for a period of ten (10) daylight hours after cessation of the snow and ice event allow accumulations of snow and/or ice to remain upon the adjoining and abutting sidewalks. Owners of lots that have pedestrian crossing ramps are also required to remove snow and ice from pedestrian crossing ramps.

The Public Works Grounds Supervisor, or his/her designee, will monitor the City Snow Walk email ([snowwalks@city.ames.ia.us](mailto:snowwalks@city.ames.ia.us)) following a winter weather event.

If a complaint is received that snow and ice have not been removed from sidewalks within the 10 daylight hour timeframe, the City shall proceed to investigate the complaint at the City's earliest opportunity following other snow and ice control priorities. Complaints that are received after regular



business hours and/or on a weekend will be processed on the next business day. The Public Works Grounds Supervisor, or his/her designee, will be responsible for taking snow walk complaints and responsible for investigating and determining the appropriate action. The City will go to the physical address of the complaint and ascertain if the sidewalk has been cleared to the full width for full length of the property. If the sidewalk has not been cleared, the property owner or tenant will be notified in one of two ways: 1.) A physical paper notice visible on the property 2.) The property will be notified via email if the property owner has a registered email address with the City (see Appendix F). In either case the notice will indicate that the property owner or tenant will have 24 hours from the time of posting to clear the sidewalk. After 24 hours, the property will be re-inspected for compliance. If the snow and ice have been removed, the posting is removed or the email notice simply expires. If the snow and ice remain, the snow removal will be contracted out to a third party to remove the snow and ice. The property owner will be responsible for the actual costs of removal by the third party as well as a \$50 administrative fee. **It is important to note that sidewalk inspections are completed upon complaint only with the exception of the priority sidewalk area.**

### **PRIORITY SIDEWALK AREA**

City staff was directed by Council in 2010 to initiate a proactive enforcement effort in a priority area around Campustown. The priority area is Ash Avenue from Chamberlain Street to Storm Street, Knapp Street from Ash Avenue to South Sheldon Avenue, and Hayward Avenue from Chamberlain Street to Storm Street (see Appendix G).

Properties in the priority area will be inspected by City staff only after other snow priorities and immediate work priorities noted in this policy are completed. **Note that this area does not necessarily need a complaint to be inspected.** City staff will follow procedures noted in **SIDEWALKS** for posting and removal of snow from sidewalks in the priority area.

Depending on the severity of the storm, there may be several days of delay between when the snow has stopped falling and when the visual inspection in the priority area begins.

### **EMERGENCIES**

As a winter weather event unfolds, emergency scenarios not covered by this policy may arise. At that time, consideration will be given to life and public safety when making decisions regarding snow and ice control. Those decisions will be made by the supervisor on duty. These decisions may vary from the written policy depending upon actual weather and road conditions, projected winter weather forecast, and the nature of the emergency.

### **REQUESTS FOR SERVICE**

As a winter weather event unfolds, there may be areas that require additional coverage or attention due to unpredictable weather and roadway conditions.

The Public Works Operations Manager, or his/her designee, will monitor the City Snow Street email ([snowstreets@city.ames.ia.us](mailto:snowstreets@city.ames.ia.us)) and the City's Facebook and Twitter Accounts during a winter weather event for requests for service.

Messages may be left on the snow desk phone number at 515.239.5443 with the address and location of any specific concern. This phone number may not be attended at all time as City Staff will be in the midst of snow and ice control operations.

Each request will be evaluated and an appropriate response will be determined by the Public Works Operations Manager, or his/her designee. The timing of any response will be weighed against the overall winter weather activities throughout town. The goal of the snow and ice control policy is to allow for safe and efficient movement of emergency vehicles and the traveling public. That goal will take precedence over service requests.

## **CONTRACTORS**

The City will utilize contractors to supplement its work force as necessary during snow and ice events. The contractors are typically area farmers utilizing primarily farm tractors. The City will provide snow plows to the contractors to use within the City of Ames only. The plows will be mounted by the individual contractor. The contractor will be required to carry the appropriate insurance prior to working within the City.

Contractors will be called in to plow residential streets once accumulation of snow reaches 3". Contractors will provide plowing in residential areas while City crews continue to provide coverage on arterial and collector streets. City crews will provide ice control as necessary in trouble spots following plowing operations.

The City of Ames may also use contractors to assist in hauling snow, cleaning parking lots, or in case of emergencies and significant snowfall amounts.

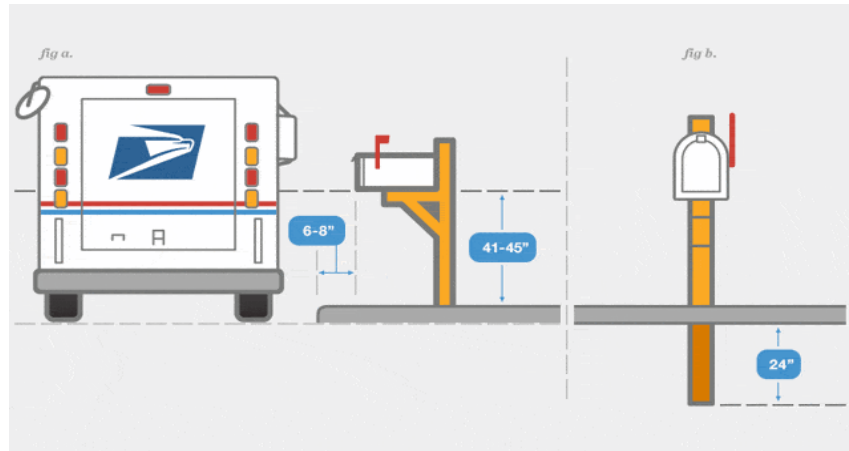
## **PRIVATE PROPERTY/DRIVEWAYS/MAILBOXES**

City of Ames snow and ice control operators will not remove snow from private property. Snow removal on private property is the responsibility of the property owner. At no time should snow from private property be deposited on or pushed into or across public streets.

The City of Ames will repair any turf that is damaged from plowing operations only. Damage due to deicing chemical will not be repaired by the City. The City will not repair damage to any landscaping (hardscaping, plants, irrigations systems, or accessories such as lighting) that is within the right of way.

During snow and ice control procedures by the City it is common for plowed snow to be pushed and/or thrown back onto sidewalks, driveways, and aprons especially around corners. This unfortunate event results from the need to maintain certain speeds and plow angles to provide efficient and safe snow and ice control. While the City strives to minimize the effects of this thrown snow, it is inherent to snow and ice control activities. Removal of this additional accumulation of material on sidewalks, driveways, or aprons is the responsibility of the abutting property owner.

Property owners are also responsible for clearing of snow around their mailboxes to ensure proper delivery of mail. Mailbox installation within the City of Ames should comply with United States Postal Service (USPS) guidelines. Proper installation of mailboxes is the responsibility of property owner. Mailboxes should be placed 8" behind the face of curb and should be constructed to be able to withstand snow and ice control efforts by the City. City staff may perform pre-season route inspection and identify hazards, including mailboxes that do not comply with regulations. If a mailbox is found to not comply with the minimum clearances or if improvements to the structural integrity of the mailbox need to be made, the property owner or resident will be notified by City staff. It will be the responsibility of the property owner or resident to properly relocate or improve the structural integrity of the mailbox prior to winter snow and ice control operations. The City will document the mailbox locations that have been notified for improvements. The City will not be responsible for damage to mailboxes which have not been relocated or repaired after the notification has occurred. The City of Ames will not be responsible for repair of mailboxes due to drifting or the weight of snow. The City of Ames will repair damage to mailboxes as a result of direct contact of City equipment and the mailbox only. Any necessary replacement or repair of a mailbox will be made with similar materials and construction in relation to the original mailbox.



Courtesy of [https://www.usps.com/assets/images/manage/usps\\_mailbox\\_guide\\_635x358.gif](https://www.usps.com/assets/images/manage/usps_mailbox_guide_635x358.gif)

## FIRE HYDRANTS

During snow and ice control operations, fire hydrants tend to get buried under snow. Residents are asked to review the location of fire hydrants near their properties. If the hydrant is covered cleaning an area three feet wide around the hydrant will ensure that the Ames Fire Department can locate the hydrant quickly during an emergency. If you need assistance clearing snow around the hydrant, please call the Ames Fire Department, Station No. 1 at 515.239.5108.

## DISCLAIMER

Levels of service may be affected by any one or more of the following events which could delay or alter snow and ice control by the City:

1. Equipment breakdown
2. Vehicles disabled in deep snow
3. Weather so severe as to cause snow and ice control to be stopped for the safety of all personnel
4. Unforeseen conditions and emergencies
5. Significant medical related emergencies
6. Availability of contractors

## REPORTING

At the completion of each storm, a written record of the weather event, City response, including time, materials used, road conditions, and other pertinent information will be recorded.

## OTHER CITY FACILITIES AND PARKING LOTS

Responsibility for snow and ice control at City Facilities and City owned and maintained parking lots are shown in the table below.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Phone No.</b>
City Owned and Maintained Parking Lots	See Appendix H and I	
CyRide Bus Stops	CyRide	515-292-1100
City Hall (515 Clark Ave)	City of Ames Fleet Services	515-294-5520
Edison Street Facility (2207 Edison St)	City of Ames Public Works	515-239-5548
Electric Administration and Engineering (502 Carroll Ave)	City of Ames Electric Staff	515-239-5170
Electric Power Plant (200 East 5 <sup>th</sup> St)	City of Ames Electric Staff	515-239-5170
Electric Distribution (2208 Edison St)	City of Ames Electric Distb Staff	515-239-5500
Fire Station 1 (1300 Burnett Ave), Fire Station 2 (132 Welch Ave), Fire Station 3 (2400 S Duff Ave)	City of Ames Fire Staff	515-239-5108
Ames Municipal Library (515 Douglas Ave)	City of Ames Library Staff	515-239-5630
Ames Municipal Airport (2501 Airport Rd)	City of Ames Traffic Staff	515-239-5535
Ames Municipal Cemetery (310 E 9 <sup>th</sup> St), Ontario Cemetery (720, N Dakota Ave)	City of Ames Grounds Staff	515-239-5342
Resource Recovery Plant (110 Center St)	Resource Recovery Staff	515-239-5137
Parks and Recreation Facilities	Parks and Rec Staff	515-239-5364
Water & Pollution Control (56797 280 <sup>th</sup> St)	Water & Pollution Control Staff	515-232-7423
Water Plant (300 East 5 <sup>th</sup> St)	Water Plant Staff	515-239-5150

## INTERAGENCY COOPERATION

Within the City of Ames jurisdictional area there are several streets that are under the maintenance responsibility of other governmental agencies including Iowa State University (ISU), Story County, and the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT). The following table indicates major boundary streets and the agency responsible for snow and ice control.

Street Segment	Responsibility	Phone No.
University Boulevard – North of Lincoln Way	ISU	515-294-5100
University Boulevard – South of Lincoln Way	City of Ames	515-239-5548
Stange Road – South of Blankenburg Drive/Veenker Golf Course	ISU	515-294-5100
Stange Road – North of Blankenburg Drive/Veenker Golf Course	City of Ames	515-239-5548
6 <sup>th</sup> Street – East of University Blvd	City of Ames	515-239-5548
Beach Road – North of Lincoln Way	ISU	515-294-5100
Beach Avenue – South of Lincoln Way	City of Ames	515-239-5548
Morrill Road	ISU	515-294-5100
Welch Avenue – North of Lincoln Way	ISU	515-294-5100
Welch Avenue – South of Lincoln Way	City of Ames	515-239-5548
Pammel Drive	ISU	515-294-5100
Haber Road	ISU	515-294-5100
Scholl Road - North of Kingman Road	ISU	515-294-5100
Scholl Road – South of Kingman Road	City of Ames	515-239-5548
Welch Road – South of Storm Street	ISU	515-294-5100
Center Drive (Iowa State Center)	ISU	515-294-5100
Christensen Drive (Vet Med)	ISU	515-294-5100
South Riverside Drive – South of S 16 <sup>th</sup> Street (Vet Med)	ISU	515-294-5100
Stage Coach Road – South of End of Paved Road	City of Ames	515-239-5548
Dartmoor Road – East of 245 <sup>th</sup> Street	City of Ames	515-239-5548
Ontario St – East of R38 (500 <sup>th</sup> Avenue)	City of Ames	515-239-5548
Lincoln Way – East of R38 (500 <sup>th</sup> Avenue)	City of Ames	515-239-5548
State Avenue – North of Oakwood Road	City of Ames	515-239-5548
State Avenue – South of Oakwood Road	Story County	515-382-7355
East Lincoln Way – East of Country Landscapes	Story County	515-382-7355
East 13 <sup>th</sup> Street – East of 570 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Story County	515-382-7355
Dayton Avenue – North of Eagle’s Loft Daycare	Story County	515-382-7355
North Dakota Avenue – North of 215 <sup>th</sup> Street	Story County	515-382-7355
East and West Riverside Road	Story County	515-382-7355
Grant Avenue – North of 190 <sup>th</sup> Street	Story County	515-382-7355
George Washington Carver Avenue – North of Weston Drive	Story County	515-382-7355
South Dakota Avenue – South of 240 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Story County	515-382-7355
Grand Avenue/Highway 69 – North of Dawes Drive	Iowa DOT	800-436-8353
South Duff Avenue/Highway 69 – South of Ken Maril Road	Iowa DOT	800-436-8353
US Highway 30 and on/off ramps	Iowa DOT	800-436-8353
Interstate 35 and on/off ramps	Iowa DOT	800-436-8353

## **EQUIPMENT**

The City will utilize many different types of equipment during snow and ice control operations. The equipment will be chosen to best fit the requirements of the operations at that time.

The City will utilize primarily reversible plows, “V” Plows, underbody plows, and wing plows during plowing operations on City Streets. The City will also utilize a leased motor grader to provide additional snow removal capabilities during snow and ice control events. The City will utilize loaders with boxes or plows in areas that require smaller equipment to plow snow.

For physical removal of snow the City may utilize snow blowers mounted on end loaders that will blow the snow off to the side or directly into the box of dump truck. Snow removal may also be loaded out by traditional methods of bucketing into a dump truck.

The City will utilize spreaders mounted to its fleet of dump trucks. These spreaders will be used for ice control during snow and ice events. Dump truck mounted spreader units will be equipped with a pre-wet system to allow for more efficient use of deicing materials.

## **EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE**

Fleet Services will coordinate with Public Works in advance of a snow and ice event for additional mechanic hours or potential overnight services. Minor routine maintenance can be performed by snow and ice control crews during events. In the case major equipment failures occur and mechanics are necessary, the Fleet Support Manager or Lead Fleet Technician are available 24 hours per day for consultation or if necessary come to the maintenance facility and provide support.

## **LABOR**

The City of Ames Public Works Operations Division will handle the primary responsibility for snow and ice control within the City of Ames. As weather forecast and timing dictate the Operations Division will request assistance from other City departments to provide personnel in covering major snow and ice control events.

## **EMERGENCY CLOSURE OF INTERSTATE 35**

Iowa State Patrol in conjunction with the Iowa DOT will communicate the closure of Interstate 35 with the City of Ames Police Dispatch. Police Dispatch will in turn notify the Public Works on duty supervisor of the impending closure.

Public works will place a changeable message board east of the South Dayton Avenue exit off of Highway 30 (Exit 150). This message board will display the message “SERVICES THIS EXIT”. Public works will work to keep South Dayton Avenue, SE 16<sup>th</sup> Street, University Avenue, South Duff Avenue, Lincoln Way, and Clark Street open during the closure of Interstate 35 to allow safe movement to hotels and parking for travelers that are exiting the interstate.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

City of Ames Public Works – 515.239.5160

Public Works Operations Manager, Justin Clausen – 515.239.5279

Public Street Supervisor, Dave Cole – 515.239.5548

Public Works Grounds Supervisor, Matt Pepper – 515.239.5342

Snow Desk (available during winter weather events) – 515.239.5443

City of Ames Parks and Recreation – 515.239.5350

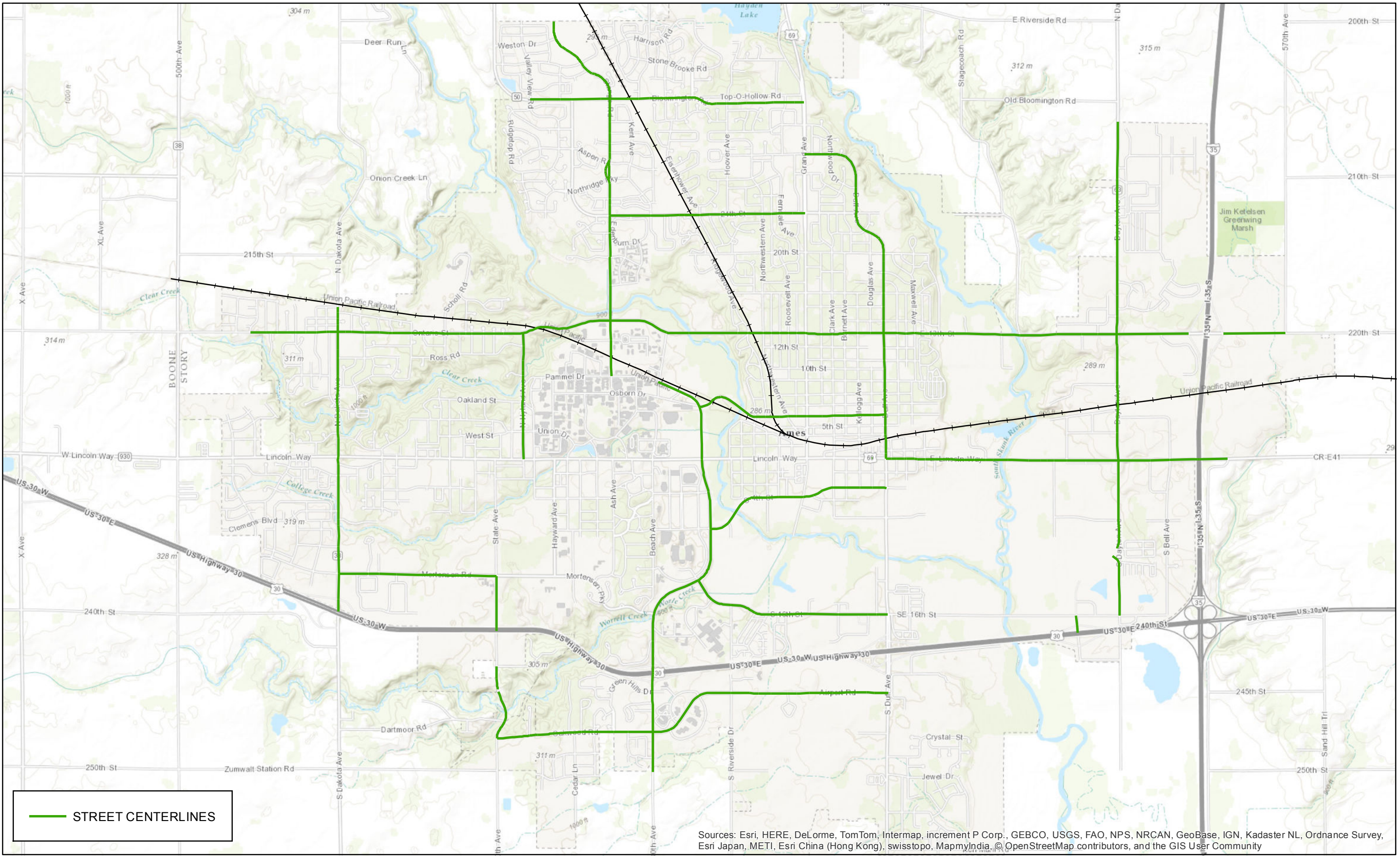
Parks and Facilities Superintendent, Joshua Thompson – 515.239.5364

Parks and Facilities Supervisor, Kyle Jacobsen – 515.239.5356

CyRide – 515.292.1100

For street service concerns: [snowstreets@city.ames.ia.us](mailto:snowstreets@city.ames.ia.us)

For sidewalk concerns: [snowwalks@city.ames.ia.us](mailto:snowwalks@city.ames.ia.us)



— STREET CENTERLINES

Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

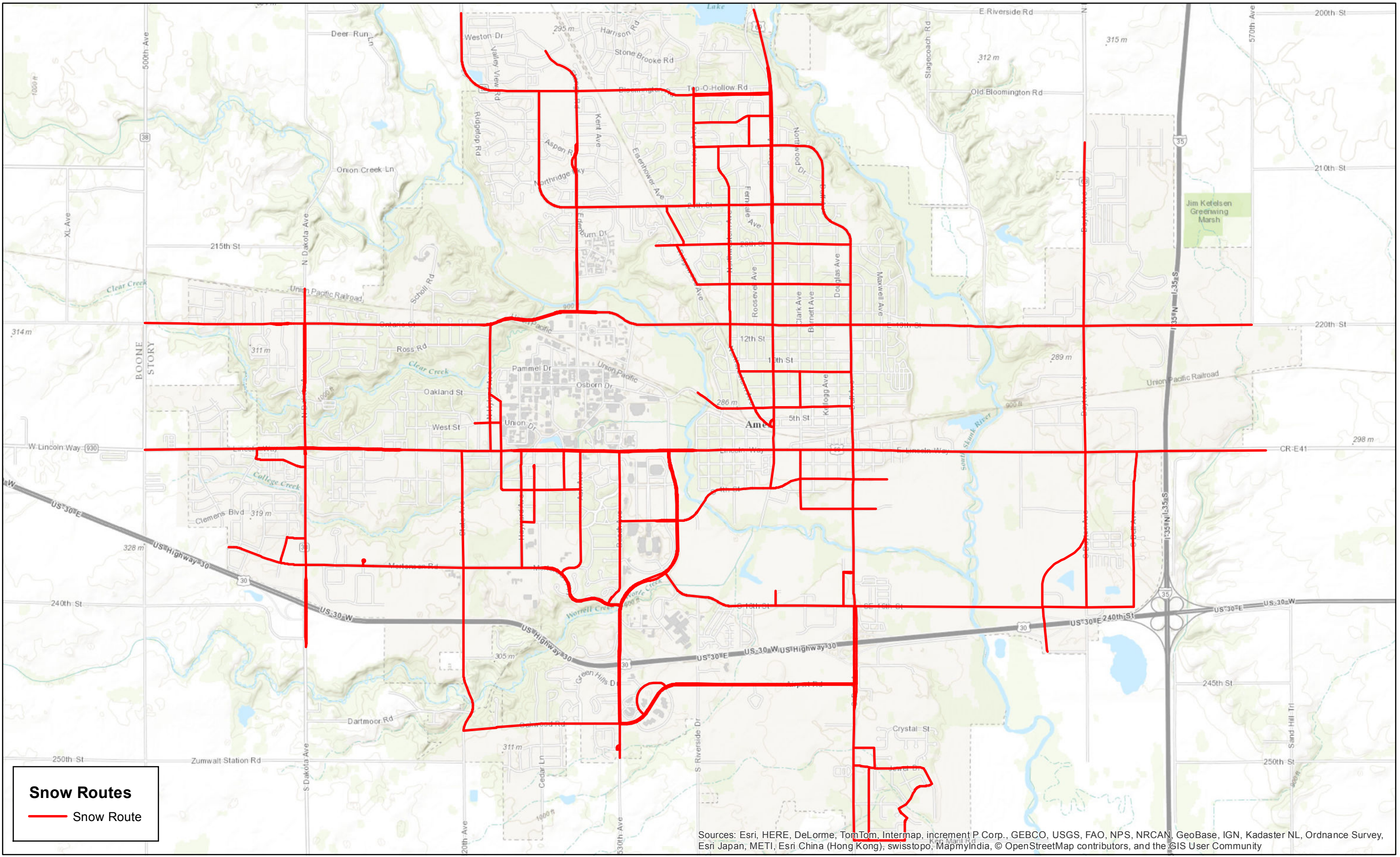


# City of Ames Arterial Roads

Date: 10/5/2015      1 inch = 3,000 feet







Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

**Snow Routes**

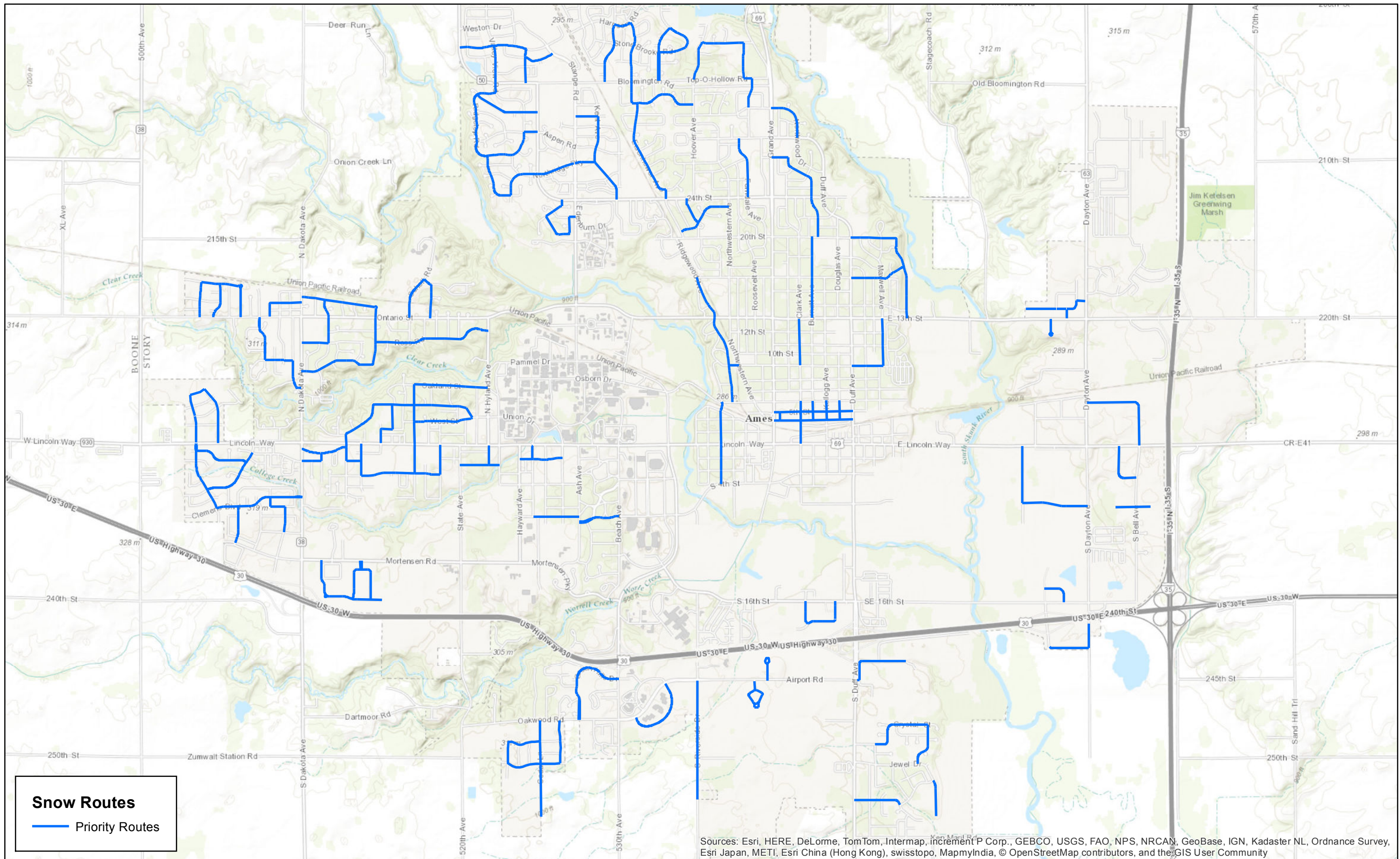
— Snow Route



# City of Ames Snow Routes

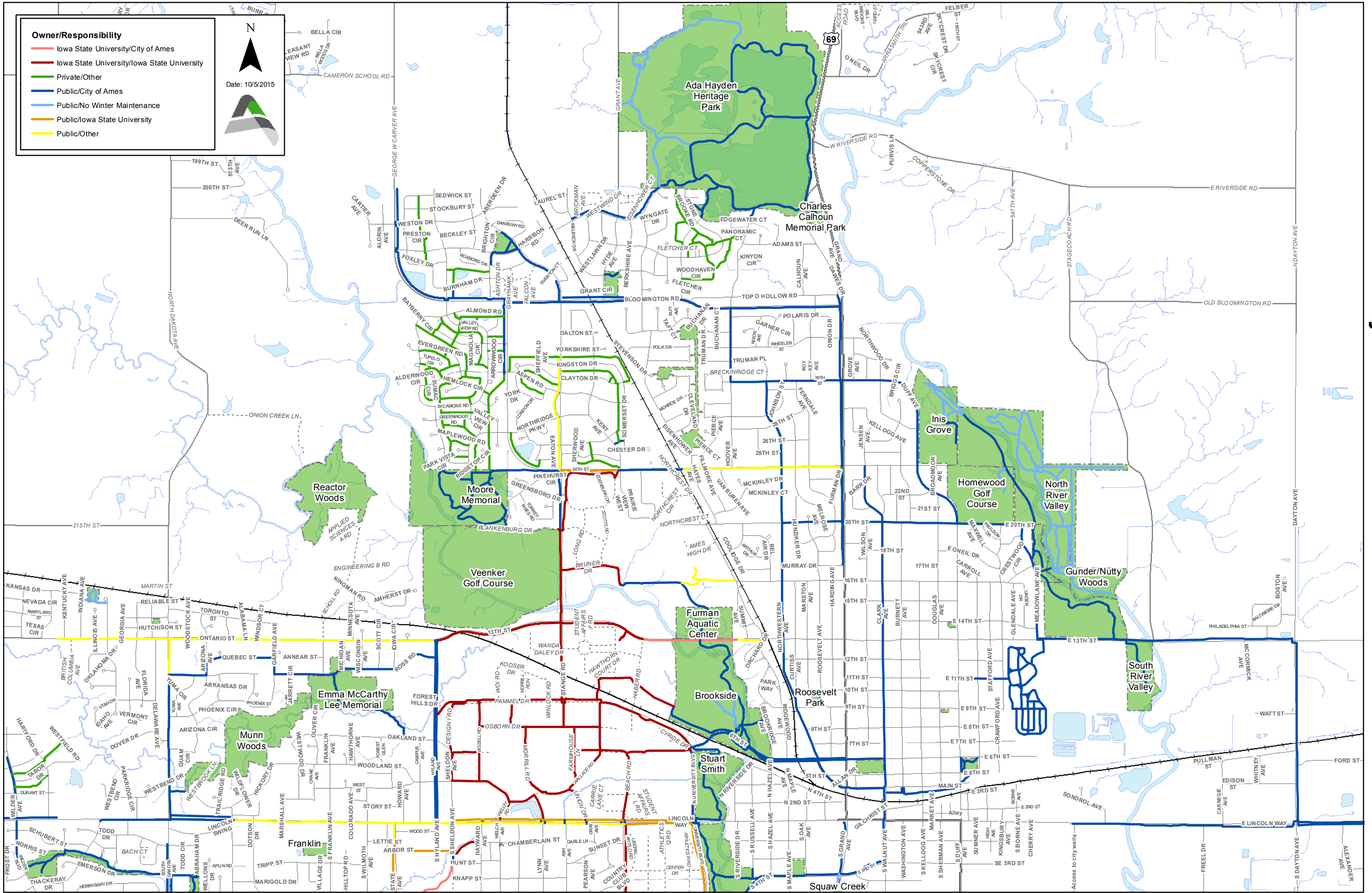
Date: 10/5/2015 1 inch = 3,000 feet



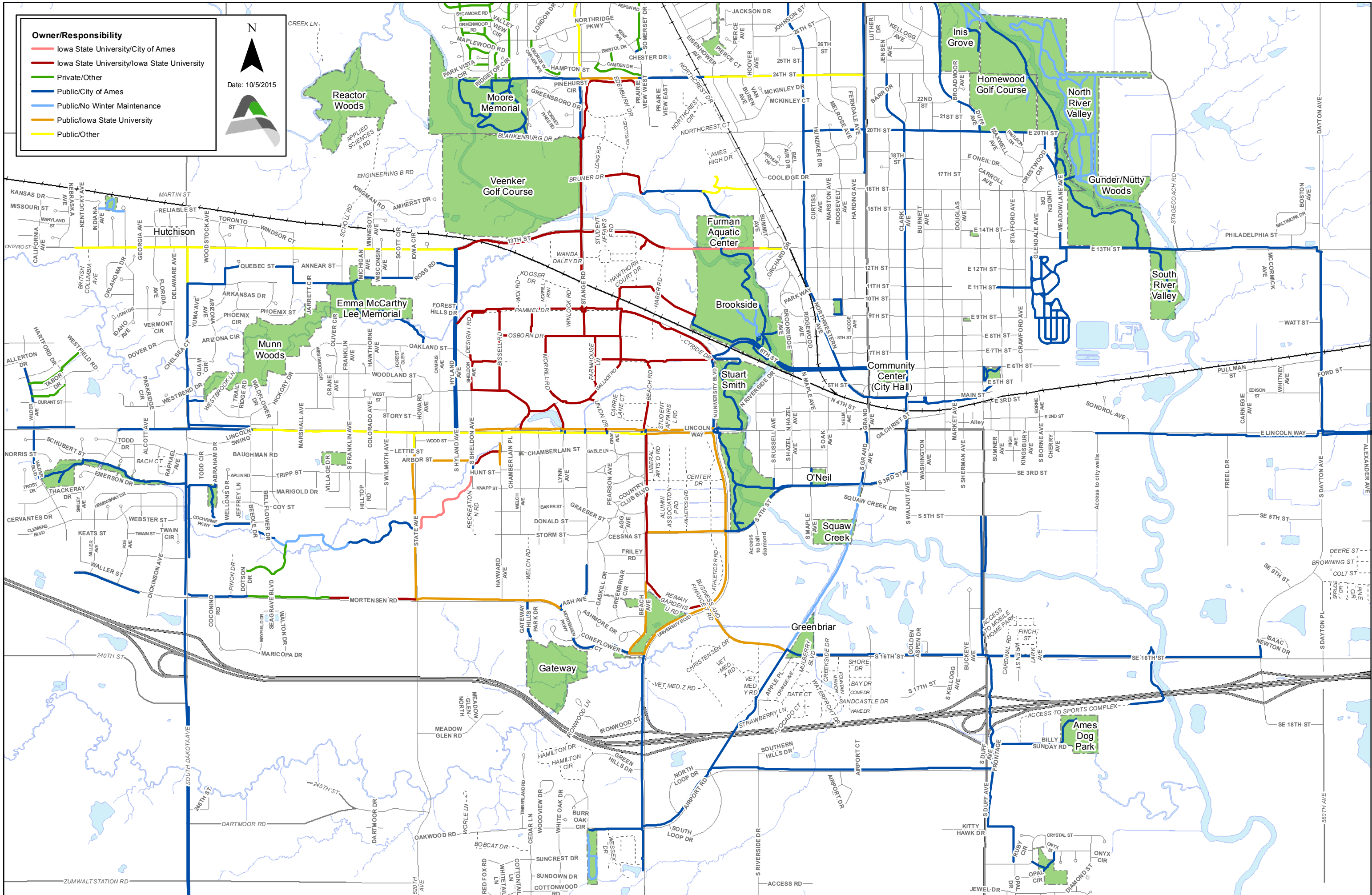


Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

APPENDIX D: City of Ames Trail Snow Removal - North



APPENDIX E: City of Ames Trail Snow Removal - South



- Owner/Responsibility**
- Iowa State University/City of Ames
  - Private/Other
  - Public/City of Ames
  - Public/No Winter Maintenance
  - Public/Iowa State University
  - Public/Other



Date: 10/5/2015

# APPENDIX F: City of Ames Snow Walk Sample Notice

Dear Property Owner/Property Manager:

We have received a complaint regarding a snow/ice covered sidewalk adjacent to your property located at **XXXX ADDRESS** in Ames, Iowa. *The Municipal Code* requires the abutting property owner to keep their sidewalk clear of snow, ice, and/or accumulations within 10 daylight hours following cessation of the accumulation. The purpose of this provision is to help provide for the safety of pedestrians. Realizing that you might not be aware of this fact, we would like to offer you 24 hours to clear the walk.

We would rather have you handle this corrective action in order to avoid a more costly alternative; however, if the sidewalk is not cleared within the next 24 hours, we will initiate a process to have it cleared by an outside contractor at your expense. These charges will include the actual cost for the contract clearing plus a \$50 administrative fee.

If you feel this e-mail was sent in error, you have already cleared the sidewalk, or unusual circumstances justify additional time to correct the situation, please reply to this e-mail address or contact Matt Pepper, Grounds Supervisor, at 515-239-5342.

Thank you for your prompt response to this important issue!

Justin Clausen  
Public Works Operations Manager  
jclausen@city.ames.ia.us



CITY OF AMES  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

## NOTICE FOR IMMEDIATE SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL FROM SIDEWALK

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION: Front walk

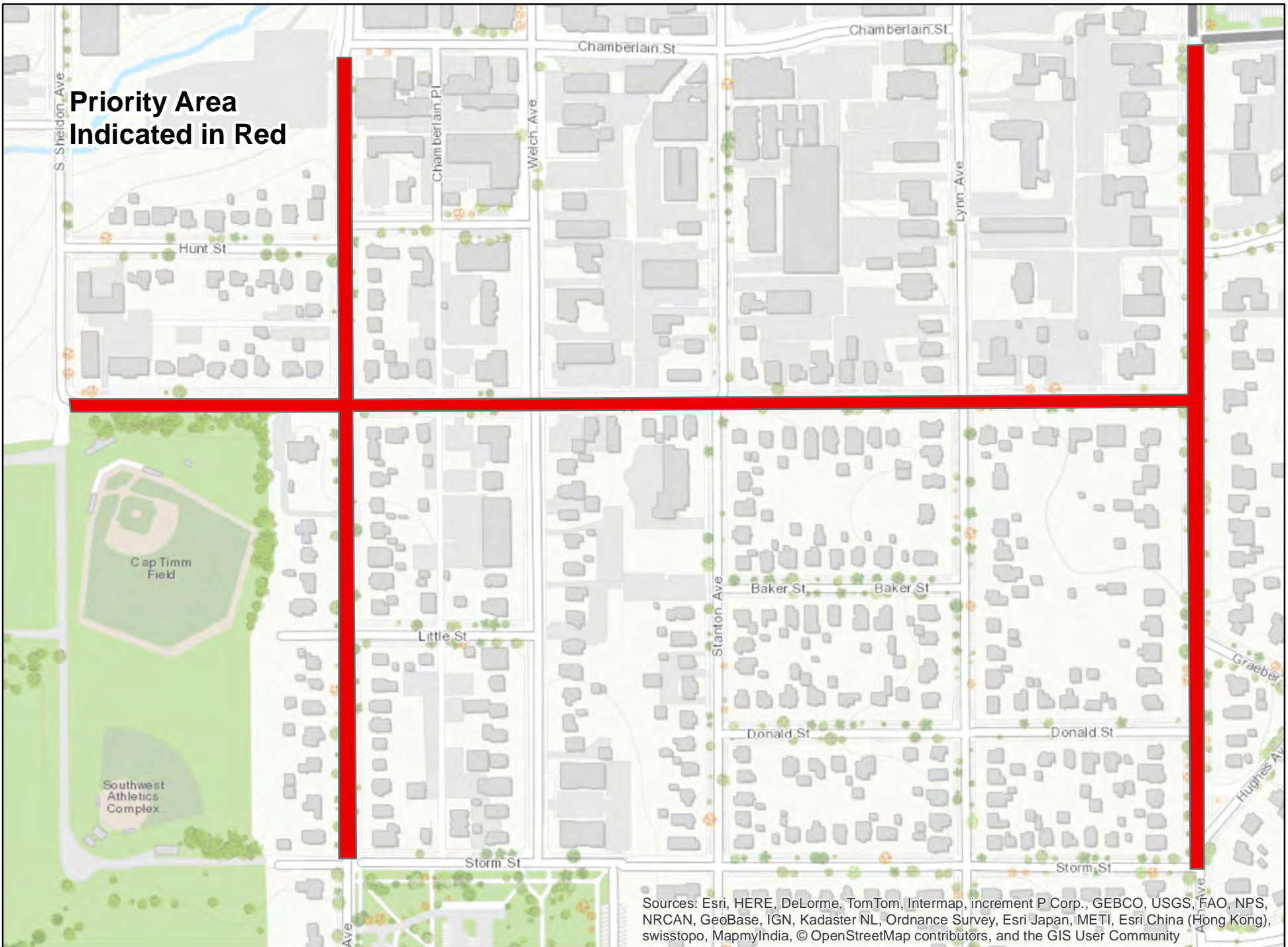
A sidewalk inspection conducted on 12-13, 2013, at 10:25 a.m. revealed that your sidewalk is snow and/or ice covered. You are hereby notified that you must immediately remove all accumulation from your sidewalk. Failure to comply with this notice within 24 hours of the date and time above will result in the City of Ames clearing your sidewalk with appropriate charges being sent to you covering all costs incurred by the City including an additional \$50.00 administrative fee.

Please refer to the back of this notice for further information.

Questions Concerning Snow Removal Notice:

239-5341  
or  
239-5342

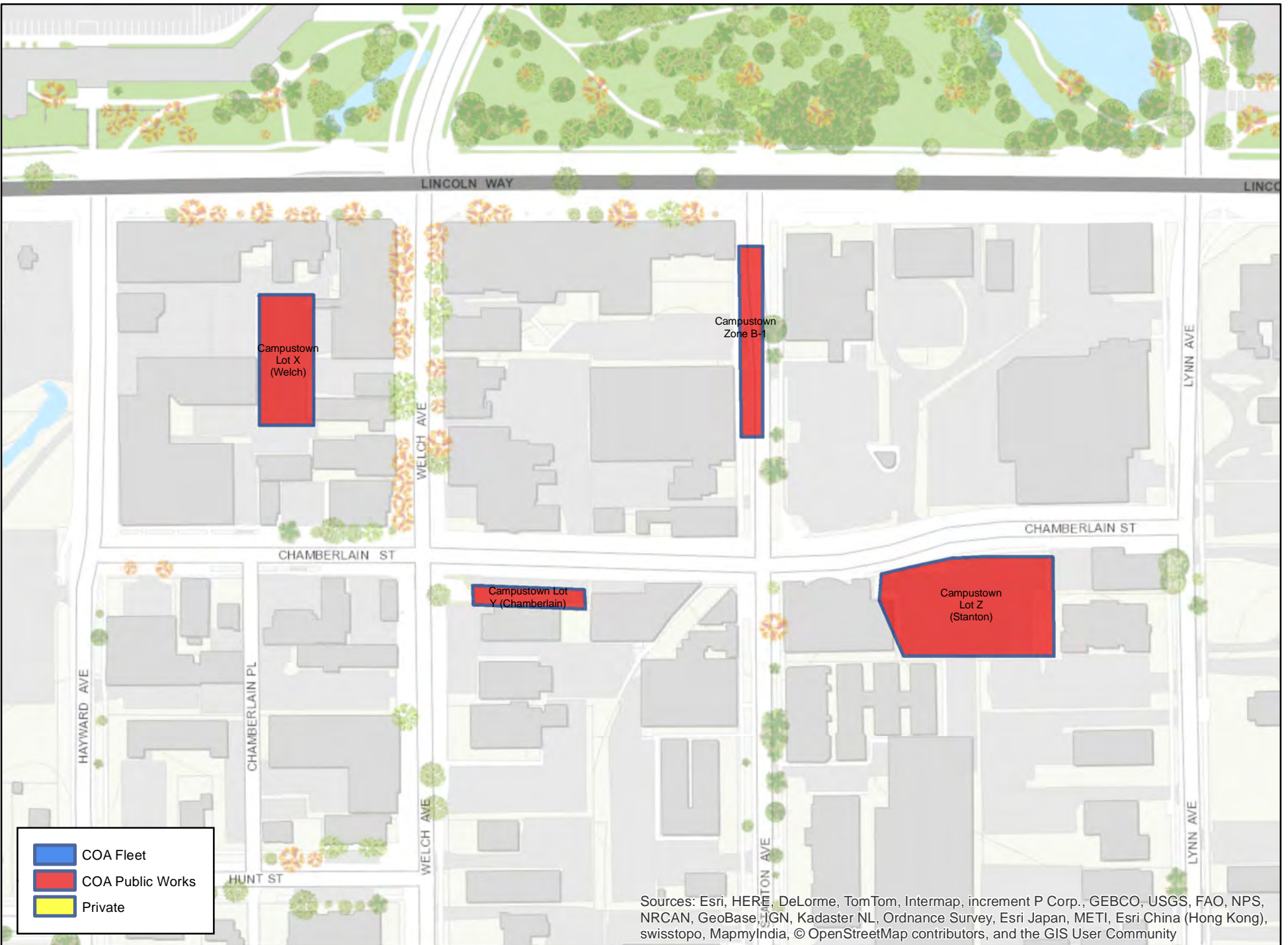
*Done*



## Sidewalk Snow Removal Priority Area

Date: 8/31/2015

1 inch = 300 feet

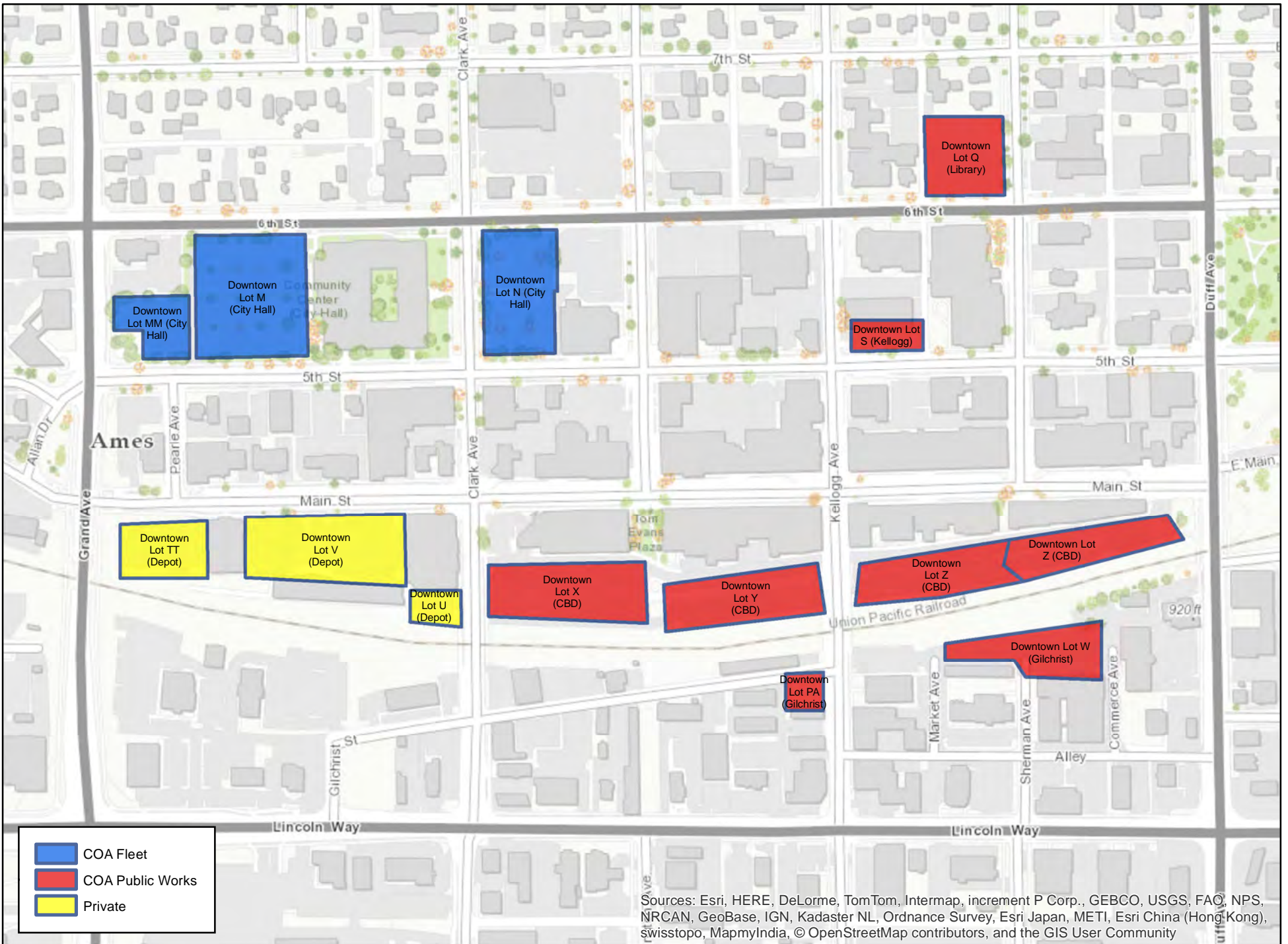


### Campustown Parking Lot Snow Removal Areas

Date: 8/31/2015

1 inch = 167 feet





## Downtown Parking Lot Snow Removal Areas

Date: 8/31/2015

1 inch = 300 feet