

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



City of Duluth Communications Office

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DATE: 3/15/2023

SUBJECT: City of Duluth prepares for winter storm, Wednesday, March 15, 4:00 pm

BY: Kelli Latuska, Public Information Officer

City of Duluth prepares for winter storm

Wednesday, March 15 4:00 PM

[DULUTH, MN] City of Duluth staff are monitoring the weather forecasts provided by NWS Duluth. The National Weather Service in Duluth is forecasting a Winter Storm Warning for all of northeast Minnesota that will begin with rain tonight and transition to snow tomorrow through Friday. This system is dynamic and difficult to predict, so we encourage you to follow the National Weather Service in Duluth to keep eyes on the forecast as it is refined. Snow totals could range from 4" to more than 12" over the next days, with the potential for a higher moisture content, making for some wet, heavy snow.

The moisture content of the incoming snow, along with the current thaw-freeze conditions and high seasonal snowfall we've received to date may also create conditions where residential street snow storage causes the roads to critically narrow. This condition could lead to Street Maintenance needing to conduct pushback operations while plowing in order to maintain access for emergency vehicles. Crews will do their best to minimize impact to residential sidewalks and driveways, though, by conducting pushback operations while making initial plowing passes through those neighborhoods where pushbacks are a necessity.

There is a potential that this event could cause Public Works and Utilities to call a snow emergency. A snow emergency would be declared by 4:00 p.m. on any given day. Residents can sign up to receive notifications from our Northland Alert system [here](#).

The City of Duluth does not take the decision to declare a snow emergency lightly. We are aware of the burden it can put on residents who may live in more densely-populated areas, and will monitor conditions and determine whether the need is there based on road and weather conditions tomorrow and/or Friday. To learn more about snow emergencies, click [here](#).

Thank you to City of Duluth street maintenance crews who will be out in full force beginning Thursday morning to plow, sand, and salt to keep our roads safe for buses, police, fire, ambulance, and other vehicles.

For more information on our snow and ice policy, please visit <https://duluthmn.gov/snow/>.

A friendly reminder, too, that property owners and residents ought to shovel snow from the sidewalks abutting their properties 24 hours after a snow event so that residents who rely on pedestrian travel can do so safely.

The City thanks residents for their patience and understanding as crews work to maintain roads during these snow events. We know this record-breaking snowfall season has been difficult for everyone, and we will continue to monitor the conditions and provide updates as we are able throughout the week. Please stay safe while traveling.

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