Maintenance of Rural Local and Private Roadway Approaches

Summary
This Bulletin is issued to clarify for maintenance contractors and department staff the department’s recommended practice for the maintenance of rural local and private roadway approaches. At some locations, confusion may exist as to who should be responsible for the maintenance on rural local and private approaches to the highway.

Key Changes
Rural local and private roadway approach maintenance work activities should follow the recommended practices outlined below:

1. Maintenance of the asphalt and gravel roadway surface up to the property line at local and private roadway approaches is the responsibility of the department.

2. During winter storm events, the department’s first priority is to complete snow plowing operations on highway thoroughfares based on the department’s level of service guidelines (located in the Highway Maintenance Guidelines and Level of Service Manual). If windrows created by this operation are large enough to impede access to the local and private roadway, they should be removed as soon as possible.

3. During post-storm cleanup of snow plowing operations at private roadway approaches, the maintenance contractor should remove any windrows created by highway thoroughfare clearing. In addition, the maintenance contractor should clear snow as is practical with a snow plow, typically 4 to 6 metres without damaging fences, signs and other private structures.

4. At local road approaches, if the maintenance contractor plows are the first to arrive in the area, the maintenance contractor should clear snow to the property line in the same method described above for private roadway approaches. If municipality plows are the first to arrive, the maintenance contractor plows are to remove any remaining snow on the roadway approaches when performing the post-storm cleanup.

5. Snow clearance at field approaches known to be used on a regular basis should be treated the same as at private roadway approaches.

The new recommended practices as indicated in this Bulletin are to be implemented immediately as per the usual practice.
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References
Highway Maintenance Guidelines and Level of Service Manual

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