

City Launches Pilot Project to Maintain Winter Bike Route

The City of Edmonton has set up a winter bike route maintenance pilot project on 106 Street between 29 Avenue and Saskatchewan Drive.

"Edmonton is a winter city, but that doesn't mean citizens should park their bikes once the snow flies," said Tyler Golly, General Supervisor of Sustainable Transportation. "Residents in many winter cities around the world continue to cycle year round. This bike route pilot project will help us gather information and assess what's needed to implement a successful road maintenance schedule for bike lanes in Edmonton."



The goal of the pilot project is to maintain a bike lane of at least one metre wide along this route for the entire winter.

As 106 Street is a collector road, snow plows will be out along the route within 48 hours after the end of snowfall removing snow from the bike lane to bare pavement. Windrows will be removed within 24 hours following plowing in places where they reduce bike lane widths to less than one metre. Sanding will also be done on an as-needed basis to address icy patches.

The pilot project route includes dedicated bike lanes, buffered bike lanes and shared-use lanes.

Parking along 106 Street will continue to be subject to the City's seasonal parking bans. To find out when parking bans are declared/lifted, please visit the city website at edmonton.ca/winterroads.

"Lessons learned during this pilot will help us implement a more effective bike route maintenance program to the entire Priority Bicycle Network in the future," said Golly. "We would like to thank citizens for their patience as we work through the challenges of this pilot program. Our ultimate goal is to improve the operation of this route for all users during the winter months."

The public's feedback on the effectiveness of snow clearing is essential to gathering information about the pilot project. If the one metre bike lane width is not being maintained along 106 Street or if spot sanding is needed, cyclists are encouraged to call 311.

The pilot project is in keeping with the City's Active Transportation Policy and *The Way We Move*, the Transportation Master Plan.

The pilot project will continue with spring cleanup once the snow has melted. By March, a plan will be in place that will include a complete street sweeping and cleaning schedule.

For more information, please visit:

edmonton.ca/cycling for winter cycling tips and for more information about the bike route maintenance pilot project.

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