



TOWN *of* FRANKLIN
MASSACHUSETTS

SNOW & ICE **REMOVAL PROGRAM**

Franklin Department of Public Works

Robert Cantoreggi, Director

Carlos Rebelo, Highway & Grounds Superintendent

Tony Brunetta, Deputy Highway & Grounds Superintendent

December 17, 2025



PRIORITIES

1. Roadways
2. Public Buildings / Schools
3. Sidewalks



These priorities were established through collaboration between the Public Works, School, and Police departments

GOALS



1 Be prepared!

2 Respond with the appropriate resources in a timely manner.

3 Ensure that emergency vehicles can always respond during snow / ice events

4 Provide safe passage for vehicles during snowfall.

5 Have all roadways cleared (showing some asphalt), less than one inch of snow and ice within 4 hours of the conclusion of the storm.

FY 2025



EVENTS

16: 33" Snow

TOTAL BUDGET

\$1,140,380.00

SALT

\$362,372.00

FY 2026



FY 2026 APPROVED BUDGET

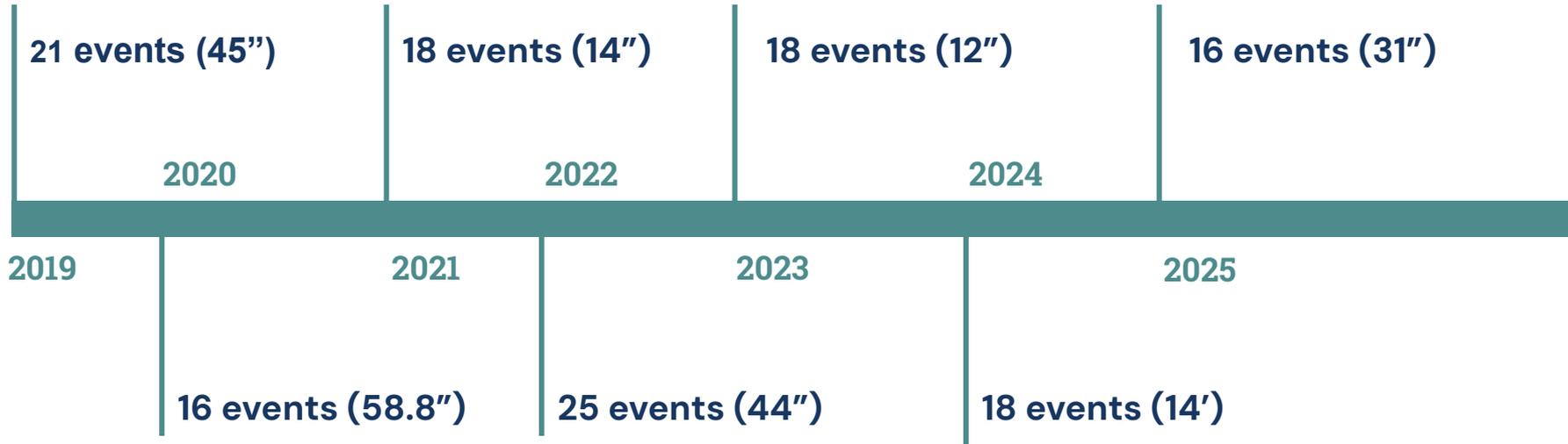
\$ 1,422,500.00

FY 2026 APPROVED SALT
BUDGET

\$ 500,000.00

6800 Tons !

PAST YEARS (by fiscal year)



SALTING & TREATING



Mixing Rate

100% Salt
Special Circumstances



Brine

Mixture of 80% salt brine 20%
beet juice



5-TRUCK VS ENTIRE TOWN

1. Treating the entire Town

- 14 salters/sanders
- 21 employees (\$4,920 - per hour)
- 400 Tons of salt (\$28,820)
 - Total = \$33,740

2. 5-Truck route

- 6 salters/sanders
- 7 employees (\$1,840)
- 120 tons of salt (\$8,600)
 - Total = \$10,440

\$33,740

Cost of treating the
entire Town

VS

Cost of 5-truck route

\$10,440

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

Rising Salt Levels in Water Supply

Well #3 (Grove St) DEP recommends <20 ppm

- 2000: 17.4 ppm
- 2008: 438 ppm
- 2012: 59.7 ppm
- 2015: 68.2 ppm
- 2018: 70.3 ppm
- 2021: 66.0 ppm
- 2024: 69.6 ppm



PLOWING



EQUIPMENT

35

Pieces of Town owned equipment on the road at one time

60

Pieces of hired equipment on the road at one time

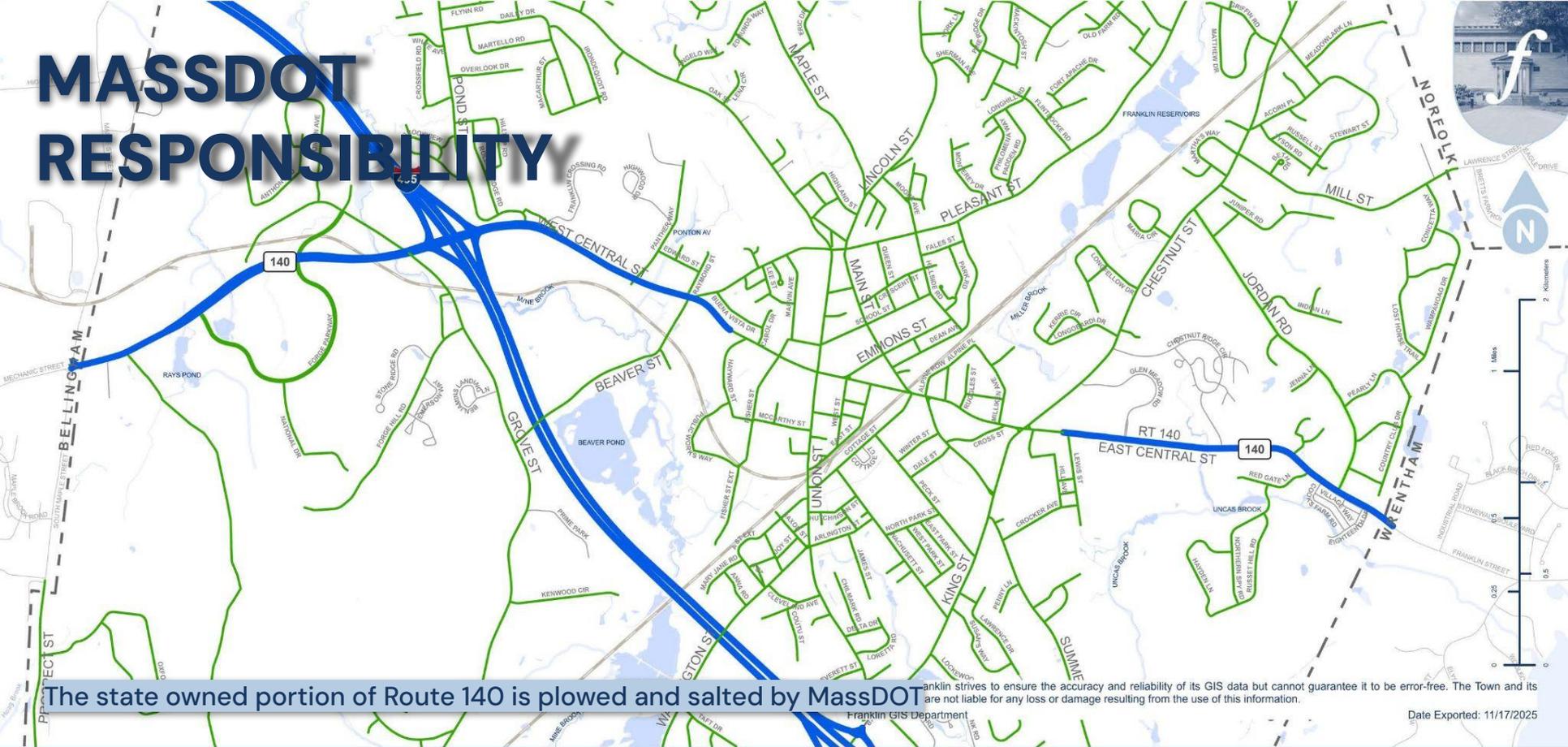


EMPLOYEES

Town employees
\$1,537 per hour

Contractors
\$10,450 per hour

MASSDOT RESPONSIBILITY



— Plowed by MassDOT

— Plowed by Town of Franklin

- - - Municipal Boundary



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SIDEWALKS



CHALLENGES

35 miles of sidewalks fall within snow removal operations

- School walking routes
- Downtown areas
- High traffic/speed routes



MOTHER NATURE

- Timing of the storm
- Length of storm
- Type of snow
- Amount of snow



TIME REQUIRED TO CLEAR SIDEWALKS

1 day

Less than 6" snow
Sidewalk plows used

3+ days

More than 6" snow
Snow blowers used

WORKER SHORTAGES



WHY?

- Employee turnover
- Contractors can't find drivers
- Insurance costs/requirements
- CDL requirements
- Private properties
- Lack of interest

EFFECT

- Increased timetable to clear roads & sidewalks
- More delays / school cancellations
- Extended timeline to remedy missed areas
- Downtown snow removal delays
- Delays in pothole repairs / other winter work



WHAT HAVE WE DONE?

- Improved union contract rates / hours
- Raised contractor plowing rates
- Reviewed insurance requirements
- Sidewalk plowing bylaw updated
- Enhanced plow routes
- Enhanced maintenance & calibration of equipment
- New Equipment
- Advanced weather services
- Cameras



WHAT CAN AFFECT RESPONSE TIME?

- 1 Timing of the storm (day of the week, hour of the day)
- 2 Amount and type of precipitation
- 3 Durations of the storm
- 4 Temperature during the storm
- 5 Weather pattern: warm to cold / cold to warm
- 6 Frost in / on the ground
- 7 Month of storm
- 8 Recent storm activity

PREPARING FOR A STORM



1 Watch the weather forecast

2 Equipment readiness

3 Availability of DPW personnel

4 Contact with other town departments

5 Contact contractors for equipment / personnel

6 Availability of supplies / salt

7 Training and after-action reviews...

8 **...Prepare for the next event!**



Pushing Snow into Roadway – Town Bylaw: Peace & Good Order, Ch 155-12, Deposit of Snow & Ice

No person shall plow, push, deposit, throw, or pile snow or ice into or across any public street, sidewalk, or property, not direct not cause the same to be done unless in the employ of the Town.

Winter Storm Overnight Parking Ban – Town Bylaw Article X, Ch 170–60



The parking of any motor vehicle within the layout or right-of-way of any public street or any roadway open to the public is prohibited between the hours of 1:00am and 5:00am while a winter storm parking ban is in effect.

RULES TO REMEMBER

Hydrants – keep them clear!

No salt is available at the DPW yard

- Safety of employees and residents
- DEP regulations
- Liability issues

Basketball hoops – not allowed in the public right-of-way per Town Bylaw Ch 125-4,
Obstructing streets and sidewalks

Mailbox Policy



TOP 10 COMPLAINTS

1. Plows keep putting snow in my driveway right after I shovel
2. My street is not down to asphalt, but others are
3. There is more snow on my side of the road than the other
4. The roadway is too narrow, there is only enough room for one car to pass
5. The snow banks are too high - I can't see oncoming traffic
6. You hit my mailbox / I cannot get to my mailbox
7. I can't dig out / find my hydrant
8. Why do the plow trucks go by every hour? I am trying to sleep!
9. The plow trucks are driving 40 miles per hour!
10. When is it going to stop snowing?





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