



Memorandum

TO: Mayor Laurel Lunt Prussing and Members of the City Council

FROM: William R. Gray, Public Works Director
John Collins, Operations Manager

DATE: June 6, 2014

RE: 2013/2014 Winter Summary

Wow, what a winter! The 2013-2014 winter season has proven to be one for the record books. The conditions this season provided every weather extreme possible from near record high temperatures to record low temperatures, precipitation of all types, blizzard conditions, and the overall longevity of the season.

This year's winter season started with the first snow fall on November 12th and ended with the last measurable snow fall on March 26th. The Illinois State Water Survey recorded 43.2 inches of snow this winter (an average winter snow fall is around 24 inches). Also during this time Urbana experienced 53 days of precipitation, 60 nights with low temperatures below 15 degrees, 19 nights below zero, and 28 days with the high temperature below 15 degrees. Operations staff recorded 26 snow and ice events that required city crew members to address.

The total cost for addressing this year's winter season events was **\$712,811**. This cost includes pre-season preparations, materials, labor, equipment hours and maintenance, contractual, and end of season preparations. Listed below is a breakdown of expenses for this year's winter season.

Salt*	\$144,025
Salt Brine	\$1,933
Calcium Chloride	\$3,400
Ice Melt**	\$1,760
Employee Hours/Cost	\$138,561
Employee O/T Hours/Cost	\$153,600
Equipment Cost	\$243,629
Contractual Cost	\$25,903
Total Cost	\$712,811

Salt* This cost includes salt used by the Mass Transit District, the Urbana School District, and the Urbana Champaign Sanitary District.

Ice Melt** This is treated salt for use at the Parking Deck and the brick sidewalks at the City Building

Miscellaneous notes from this past winter season.

Materials consumed

2296 tons of salt
7,730 gallons of salt brine
5,230 gallons of calcium chloride
4,400 lbs. of Ice Melt**

Employee and equipment hours

6,381 employee hours worked (372 hours on sidewalks)
4,468 employee overtime hours worked (78 hours on sidewalks)
6,387 equipment hours (341 hours on sidewalks)

Materials carried over for next season

292 tons of salt
1,700 gallons of calcium chloride

The City's Sidewalk Snow Removal Ordinance was enacted five times throughout the season. The overall response and coverage from the effected business areas was very good considering the overall conditions.

The Operations Division will continue working to reduce the cost of the City's winter operations; however, it has been and will continue to be accomplished in small steps. Taking this approach will ensure that gaps in coverage are minimized to protect the safety of Urbana's citizens, motorist, pedestrian and the biking community.

The snow fighting crews deserve credit for their hard work this past winter season. Every crew member from the 30+ year veterans to the rookies did a great job. They are true professionals working under these extreme conditions.

Attached is a spreadsheet of the past winter material, equipment, contractual and labor costs for comparison.

For any question regarding this matter please feel free to contact this office.