



Medford City Council
Medford, Massachusetts

MEETING DATE

February 3, 2026

SPONSORED BY

Elizabeth Mullane, City Councilor,
Justin Tseng, City Councilor

AGENDA ITEM

26-029 - Resolution to Evaluate City Snow Removal and Improve Service Delivery

FULL TEXT AND DESCRIPTION

Be it Resolved, that the Medford City Council expresses its sincere appreciation to the Department of Public Works staff, as well as contracted crews and residents, for their responsiveness, professionalism, and around-the-clock efforts during and after the major winter storm on January 25 and 26, including working extended hours under challenging conditions such as staffing and equipment constraints, limited snow-storage capacity, and ongoing communication with City Councilors; and

Be it Further Resolved, that the City Council acknowledges the concerns raised by residents regarding snow and sidewalk clearing during this storm, particularly with respect to the timeliness, consistency, and equity of street and sidewalk clearing, including impacts on pedestrian safety, accessibility, and snow being placed onto sidewalks already cleared by residents in accordance with city ordinances, and affirms that these concerns warrant careful review and follow-up; and

Be it Further Resolved, that the City Council recognizes that snow and ice removal in Medford depends in part on coordination with state-managed roadways and snow removal work, and that the performance and timing of those operations can directly affect local streets, sidewalks, and pedestrian conditions; and

Be it Further Resolved, that the Committee on Public Works and Facilities work with the Department of Public Works and City Administration to conduct a post-storm evaluation of snow and ice removal operations during this event, including an assessment of:

- Service provision, equity, and accessibility;
- Staffing, equipment, and capacity constraints;
- Snow storage and disposal limitations;
- Coordination with state-managed roadways and crews; and
- Communication with residents before, during, and after major storms; and

Be it Further Resolved, that this evaluation be undertaken with the shared goal of strengthening service delivery going forward, recognizing workforce and fiscal realities, supporting those doing the work, and improving preparedness for future winter events; and

Be it Further Resolved, that the City Council reaffirms its commitment to working collaboratively with city staff and leadership, using resident feedback constructively to improve public services while maintaining respect for the labor and professionalism of municipal workers.

RECOMMENDATION

FISCAL IMPACT

ATTACHMENTS

None