# WINTER-STORM EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS: PLANS & PROCEDURES GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY/OSWD POLICY GUIDELINES

#### 1. Overview

The priority goal for this plan is to plan ahead for winter-storm emergencies and develop tactics that will make the campus accessible to emergency vehicles during and after the snow emergency, and make the campus safe for students, faculty, and staff to resume normal operations as soon as possible.

The University may operate with delayed opening to allow time for the Facilities Department to clear priority sidewalks, streets, and parking lots. With more serious winter storms, the University may close when conditions demand a larger commitment of time and resources to return the campus to normal operating conditions.

#### 2. Roles during a Winter-Storm Emergency

- Decisions to close Gallaudet, delay opening, or close early, are made by the President, the Vice-President for Administration and Finance, or the Provost, with advice from the Facilities Department and the Department of public safety.
- The Department of Public Safety monitors winter-storm conditions on campus, advises the Gallaudet President on closings and late openings, and alerts the Gallaudet community to changing conditions through the Gallaudet Alert system, the Gallaudet website, and inclement weather hot-lines and on local radio and television stations.
- The Facilities Department takes responsibility for clearing snow, ice, and debris from sidewalks, roadways, and parking areas, sometimes with help from additional contractors.
- The Office for Students with Disabilities (OSWD) advises Facilities and Public Safety on priorities and strategies for making the campus safer for people with disabilities.
- The Gallaudet Crisis Management Team, core members of the broader Crisis Leadership Team, is the group of senior campus representatives empowered by the President to coordinate and manage Gallaudet's response to all campus emergencies.

#### 3. Deploying Winter Storm Resources

	Minor	Moderate	Major
Snow amount	< 2"	2" to 8"	> 6"
Ice amount	None, or minor	Sleet & freezing rain	Major event
Alternate parking?	No	Potentially	Very likely
Actions to streets	Apply snow-melt when safety hazards are anticipated, or from outset of hazardous conditions until point where snow plowing inevitable	<ul> <li>All Facilities staff may be assigned to 24/7 coverage</li> <li>Snow clearing may be directed as described below</li> <li>Special parking rules may be likely</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>All Facilities staff may be assigned to 24/7 coverage</li> <li>Snow clearing will be directed as described below</li> <li>Special parking rules are highly likely</li> </ul>
Actions to sidewalks	<ul> <li>De-icer mixture when safety hazards are anticipated</li> <li>Plowing and sweeping begins when &gt;1" snow accumulates</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>All Facilities staff may be assigned to 24/7 coverage</li> <li>Snow clearing may be directed as described below</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>All Physical Plant staff may be assigned to 24/7 coverage</li> <li>Snow clearing will be directed as described below</li> </ul>

#### 4. SNOW AND ICE CLEARING PRIORITIES

The accompanying campus map marks out first- and second-level priorities for which campus roadways and walkways should be cleared of snow and ice. The following are broad goals that we used to develop the map, while attempting to maximize effect while minimizing the demand on personnel, equipment, and other resources, such as de-icing compounds.

#### 4.1. GOALS

- Roadways
  - o Maintain access to campus buildings for emergency vehicles
  - o Maintain access to campus for snow-clearing operations
  - o Provide access to campus for personnel who arrive when operations resume
  - o Clear remaining roadways to allow normal operations, as resources permit
- Walkways
  - Maintain access to critical services for campus residents, i.e., clear walkway paths from dorms to food service and medical facilities, preferentially via disabled-access ramps wherever possible

- o Provide limited access to campus buildings, noting that the interior of many buildings can be used to connect walkways
- o Clear secondary walkways to provide straight-path access to other building entrances
- o Clear remaining walkways to resume normal operations, as resources permit

#### • Entrances to Buildings

- o Maintain disabled-access entrances first wherever possible, i.e., choose ramps and level walks first in preference to stairs
- o Give priority to entrances that would be used for access by emergency personnel (medical, fire, maintenance)
- o Clear remaining entrances to resume normal operations, as resources permit

#### Parking Lots

- O Surface lots have lower priority than walkways and roadways, except where space may be needed by emergency vehicles
- When parking clearing can begin, always include a proportionate number of disabled parking spaces
- Providing access to covered sections of parking garages will maximize availability of parking spaces

#### 4.2. Priorities Inventory

The list below enumerates the first- and second-priority walkways and roadways that are indicated on the accompanying map.

#### 4.2.1. Roadways

- First Priority (begins during snow or ice event as possible)
  - Main Entrance on Florida Avenue
  - o Lincoln Circle around the northwest side of campus from Florida-Avenue entrance, routing through the parking lot near College Hall, as far as Draper Drive
  - o Draper Drive to connect Lincoln Circle with Switzer Drive
  - o Switzer Drive between Lowman Street and Central Utilities Building
  - o Lowman Street between Switzer Drive and Lincoln Circle
  - o Lincoln Circle on the southeast side of campus from Florida Avenue entrance to Lowman Street
  - From Entrance on Sixth Street past the parking garage entrance to Faculty Row and across to House One
- Second Priority (begins after main accumulations end)
  - Connect Faculty Row with Lincoln Circle via street near Peikoff Alumni House
  - o Clear the rest of Lincoln Circle between Draper Drive and Lowman Street

o Clear Switzer Drive from Lowman Street to West-Virginia entrance

#### • Last Priority

- Clear remaining parts of Switzer Drive from Central Utilities Building to Brentwood Parkway entrance
- o Clear incidental roads and those that give access to surface parking lots
- o Widen clearance on Lincoln Circle to full street width

#### 4.2.2. Walkways

### • First Priority

- Access from dormitories (Ballard West, Ballard North, Benson Hall, Clerc Hall, Carlin Hall) to Plaza Dining Hall and Fine Health Center (using ramps)
- Access from Lincoln Circle at Draper Lane to east entrance of Merrill Learning Center and north entrance of SAC, also to entrances of Hall Building (southeast disabled entrance) and Sorenson Center
- o Access from Lincoln Circle to disabled entrance between SAC and Ely Center.
- Access from western entrance of Ely Center past Kendall Hall to Fowler Hall and Dawes House
- o Path from western entrance of SAC across the Mall to Lincoln Circle between Edward Miner Gallaudet Memorial Building (EMG) and Peet Hall, providing access to those buildings
- o From the northwest entrance to Merrill Learning Center to Lincoln Circle past Living and Learning Residence Hall, providing access to LLRH
- o From the northwest entrance to Merrill Learning Center southwest, to meet up with cleared walkway crossing the Mall
- From Lincoln Circle to entrances of the Kellogg Conference Center and the Washburn Building

#### • Second Priority

- o Along front of Hall Memorial Building (HMB) toward Lincoln Circle
- Clear remainder of walk on northeast side of Mall that connects Hall Building to Chapel Hall, and on southeast side of Mall that connects Hall Building with Fowler Hall
- Walkway between Lincoln Circle and Mall between Student Academic Center (SAC) and Sorenson Center
- Walkway between Lincoln Circle and Mall between College Hall and the EMG Building

#### • Last Priority

o Remaining walkways around campus, particularly those near the Field House and Elstad Auditorium and near residence halls



## **CAMPUS MAP** with Snow-Clearance Priority Routes [draft 20160407]

