

# Street Sweeping, LMC Model Policy

*League staff thoughtfully develops models for your city's consideration. Models should be customized as appropriate for an individual city's circumstances in consultation with the city's attorney. Helpful background information on this model may be found in the Information Memo "[Acquisition and Maintenance of City Streets](#)."*

## City of \_\_\_\_\_, Minnesota Street Sweeping Policy

### 1. Introduction

The city of \_\_\_\_\_, Minnesota finds that it is in the best interest of the residents for the city to assume basic responsibility of sweeping city streets. Reasonable sweeping is necessary for vehicle and pedestrian safety, water quality issues, and environmental concerns. The city will provide such service in a cost-effective manner, keeping in mind safety, budget, personnel, and environmental concerns. The city will use city employees, equipment and/or private contractors to provide this service. Completion dates are dependent on weather conditions, personnel, and equipment availability. The Street Superintendent or his/her designee will be responsible for scheduling of personnel and equipment.

### 2. When Will the City Perform Street Sweeping Operations?

- A. Spring sweeping of snow and ice control aggregate will begin when streets are significantly clear of snow and ice, usually late March or early April, after the risk of later snowfall has passed. Spring sweeping is typically completed by \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Sealcoating is a surface application of an asphalt emulsion followed by a layer of small rock that protects the pavement from the deteriorating effects of sun and water, plus it provides increased surface friction. Sealcoat sweeping will commence \_\_\_\_\_ days after application of sealcoat and will be completed within \_\_\_\_\_ days of application.
- C. Fall sweeping will commence \_\_\_\_\_ and typically is completed by \_\_\_\_\_. Areas with extensive foliage will be swept after most of the leaves have fallen.
- D. Storm Water Quality areas will be swept on a priority basis throughout the year.
- E. Environmental/general sweeping will be performed on a routine/as needed basis.
- F. Bituminous milling recovery sweeping will be performed within \_\_\_\_\_ days of a grinding, milling, or cracksealing operation.
- G. Erosion/siltation dirt & debris cleanup from construction projects is the responsibility of the developer, contractor, or property owner. Except in cases of emergency, the streets shall be cleaned and swept within \_\_\_\_\_ days of notification. If the streets are not swept within the specified time allowed, or in the case of an emergency, the city

may sweep the street and the responsible party will reimburse the city for all associated costs.

- H. Tree trimming and pruning areas will be swept within \_\_\_\_\_ days of the operation.
- I. Citizen requests for sweeping will be evaluated and the Street Superintendent will determine the priority.

3. **How Will Streets Be Swept?**

Sweeping is a slow process with average gutter line speeds for the first sweeping in spring that can be as slow as 2 to 3 miles per hour. The city will sweep with its own equipment and personnel or contract services. Normally centerlines are swept after gutter lines are cleaned. Equipment may include mechanical, vacuum or regenerative air sweepers.

4. **Priorities**

The city has classified city streets based on the street function, traffic volume, impact on water quality and the environment and the importance to the welfare of the Community. Accordingly, sweeping routes will be designed to provide the maximum possible benefit to higher volume and water quality sensitive areas. See attached maps or routes.

5. **Weather Conditions**

Sweeping operations will be conducted when weather conditions permit. Factors that may delay sweeping operations include: temperatures below 32°F, wind, rain, snow and frozen gutter lines.

6. **Work Schedule**

Sweeping operations are performed in conjunction with and can be impacted by other maintenance operations. Sweeping operations will normally be conducted Monday - Friday, from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Extended workdays and shift changes may be utilized for spring cleanup or emergency sweeping to provide maximum efficiency. For safety reasons, no operator shall work more than a twelve-hour shift in any twenty-four hour period.

7. **Sidewalks and Trails**

The city will sweep trails and sidewalks on collector and arterial streets once in the spring after the risk of snow has passed and they are clear of snow and ice, or on an as-needed basis.

8. **Safety**

Sand, sealcoat rock or other dirt and debris on the street can create a potentially dangerous condition for vehicles, motorcyclists, bicyclists, and pedestrians. It would not be practical or effective to sign all streets for potential dangerous conditions. During sealcoat or milling operations, warning signs indicating loose rock will be placed on each end of collector and arterial streets or other appropriate areas where needed. These signs will remain in place until the street has been swept. Employees will follow all work rules, OSHA regulations, and Federal and State laws to ensure a safe sweeping operation.

9. **Miscellaneous**

Other policies, procedures, maps, and routes associated with street sweeping operations.

10. **Review and Modification of Policy**

The Street Superintendent shall keep on file all comments and complaints received regarding this policy. The policy will be reviewed periodically. Any review will consider comments and complaints since the last review and any other factors affecting the policy or its implementation.