

**MEDIA ADVISORY****Monday, January 29, 2018****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****New Plow Tracker lets residents keep tabs on winter maintenance**

(Barrie, ON) The City of Barrie has launched a new service for residents to track the progress of winter maintenance on city roads. The online Plow Tracker shows residents the locations of snow plows and when each street was last serviced.

"When you live in a snow-belt, plowing is almost a daily task in the winter," said Dave Friary, Director of Roads, Parks and Fleet. "When a snow squall blows in, roads can be covered up again quickly after the plow goes by leaving residents wondering when their street will be cleared. Plow Tracker gives our residents the ability to see first-hand how we are maintaining proper road conditions, even on the harshest winter days."

A combination of City-owned trucks and contracted units provide effective snow plowing services to Barrie roads through a priority and secondary route system. This system assigns priority to all major roads with the highest traffic in the city. To ensure the safety of drivers and pedestrians, these major routes are serviced on a 24/7 basis when necessary. Secondary routes (all residential streets in the city) are attended to regularly, but less often than Priority routes.

On average, plows and/or sanders are sent out to provide winter maintenance on City roads roughly 100 times per year. The City is responsible for plowing, salting and sanding 1370 km of road, 570 km of sidewalks, 25 parking lots, 72 crosswalks, 113 bus shelters, 708 bus stops, & downtown sidewalk intersections.

The Plow Tracker is part of this year's 2018 budget as part of the City's overall strategy to enhance services for residents through technology.

To use the Plow Tracker tool, please visit [www.barrie.ca/PlowTracker](http://www.barrie.ca/PlowTracker).

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