

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



Action: An Ordinance Concerning Publication of Snow Emergency Route Maps; Repealing Section 5.684 of the Eugene Code, 1971; and Amending Section 5.686 of that Code

Meeting Date: September 23, 2013
Department: Public Works
www.eugene-or.gov

Agenda Item Number: 4
Staff Contact: Eric Jones
Contact Telephone Number: 541-682-5523

ISSUE STATEMENT

Eugene Code currently requires the annual newspaper publication of a snow emergency route map. Staff is asking council to take action on an ordinance that would eliminate this newspaper publication requirement.

BACKGROUND

On July 22, 2013, the council scheduled a public hearing on an ordinance deleting EC 5.684 and amending Section 5.5686, requiring the annual publication of snow emergency route maps.

The public hearing was held on Sept. 16, 2013. No testimony was received at the hearing.

Eugene Code 5.684 requires that annually, in October, the City publish a map indicating priority 1, priority 2 and priority 3 emergency snow routes, a list of conditions under which a snow emergency will automatically exist, a list of broadcast stations, a statement that parking is not permitted along priority routes, and a notice of the City's ability to tow cars parked on priority routes. To meet these requirements and to provide information that is legible and distinguishes the various priority routes, the City purchases nearly a full-page, color ad in the Register-Guard each October at a cost of more than \$4,000.

EC 5.684 deals exclusively with the annual publishing of the City's emergency route maps. Other code provisions prohibit parking on emergency snow routes (EC 5.677-5.678) and the City's notification requirements when declaring a snow emergency (EC 5.681). EC 5.686, which deals with amendments of the snow emergency route map, includes a reference to EC 5.684: "However, said changes shall not become effective until they are published as required in section 5.684 of this code."

Staff has and will continue to use best management practices to provide timely and effective notification of snow and ice emergencies. These practices include web publishing (e.g., www.eugene-or.gov/icesnow), news releases and other media contacts, and informal notifications

to partner agencies, neighborhood associations and other groups as the winter weather season approaches. Additional advantages to web-based information include the ability to provide “zoomable” pdf maps (so a viewer can zoom in on an area of particular interest) and the ability to update information quickly and cost effectively as situations develop or media stations change.

RELATED CITY POLICIES

Council goals for effective, accountable municipal government and fair, stable and adequate financial resources.

COUNCIL OPTIONS

- Council may take action to adopt the ordinance as drafted or with amendments.
- Council may choose to not adopt the ordinance, in which case the requirements of EC 5.684 will remain in force.

CITY MANAGER’S RECOMMENDATION

The City Manager recommends the council adopt the ordinance as drafted.

SUGGESTED MOTION

Move to adopt Council Bill 5099, an ordinance concerning publication of snow emergency route maps.

ATTACHMENTS

A. Proposed Ordinance

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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