CITY OF WEST DES MOINES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING COMMUNICATION

ITEM: Resolution of Support
Snow Fighter Appreciation Day
November 15, 2018

DATE: November 12, 2018

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None

BACKGROUND:

The City of West Des Moines would like to provide recognition and appreciation to the City Snow Fighters for their contribution to the safety of West Des Moines residents and commuters.

OUTSTANDING ISSUES (if any): None

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Resolution of Support for declaring November 15, 2018 "Snow Fighter Appreciation Day".

KLH

Lead Staff Member: Kevin L. Hensley, Public Services Superintendent

STAFF REVIEWS

Department Director	Bret Hodne
Appropriations/Finance	Tim Stiles, Finance Director
Legal	
Agenda Acceptance	

PUBLICATION(S) (if applicable)

Published In	
Date(s) Published	

SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW (if applicable)

Committee	Public Services		
Date Reviewed	11-5-18		
Recommendation	Y		

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SNOW FIGHTER APPRECIATION DAY

WHEREAS, an average of 34 inches of snow falls each winter in Iowa[1];

WHEREAS, winter precipitation contributes to approximately1300 people killed and 117,000 injuries on highways nationwide each year[2];

WHEREAS, 114,486 **ro**ad-miles and 235,318 lane-miles of public roads in Iowa keep our residents connected and the economy moving throughout the year;[3]

WHEREAS, road users travel 33.161 billion miles on roads per year in the State of Iowa;[2]

WHEREAS, clearing snow and ice cuts winter weather-related crashes up to 90%;[4]

WHEREAS, economic studies have found that severe winter events where roads are closed can cost larger Snowbelt States 300-700 million dollars per day until roads are cleared;[4]

WHEREAS, net costs related to snow emergencies have a severe impact on wages, tax revenue, and retail sales; with a disproportionate impact on hourly workers; [4]

WHEREAS, salt deicing operations pay for themselves within 25 minutes of application and generate $6.50 in benefits for every dollar in cost after the first four hours; [4]

WHEREAS, the year-round planning for winter storms and investments in equipment and technology are critical to the well-being of our citizens;[5]

WHEREAS, emergency snow fighters interrupt time with their families at any hour and at a moment's notice to protect drivers and serve their communities;

and WHEREAS, the emergency work done by front-line snow fighters have saved and will save an unknown number of our citizens;

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of West Des Moines recognizes and appreciates the critical work of our snow fighters;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE City Council of the City of West Des Moines declares November 15, 2018 "Snow Fighter Appreciation Day".

PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of November, 2018

Steven K. Gaer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ryan T. Jacobson
City Clerk

[1] https://www.currentresults.com/Weather/US/average-annual-state-precipitation.php
[2] https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/weather/weather_events/snow_ice.htm
[3] Information for States available from https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/policyinformation/statistics.cfm , local information may be obtained from State DOTs. Tables HM-10, HM-60 & VM-3
[4] https://www.roadwaysafety.org/sites/default/files/programs/attachments/clear-winter-roads-brochure.pdf
[5] https://www.highways.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/road-salt-primer-final.pdf