PURPOSE: To establish Cleveland Division of Police procedures during a snow emergency.

POLICY: The Division shall maintain traffic flow during a snow emergency.

DEFINITION: A snow emergency may exist when two or more inches of snow fall in the City of Cleveland or a part of the City during a 24-hour period.

The Director of Public Services has the authority to designate snow emergency streets.

The Director of Public Safety has the authority to declare and end a snow emergency.

PROCEDURES:

I. The Communications Control Section (CCS) shall notify field personnel of the initiation, continuation and termination of a snow emergency. CCS shall maintain a listing of streets designated as snow emergency streets and through streets.

II. Parking is prohibited on snow emergency streets one hour after the media broadcasts a snow emergency.

III. The Director of Public Safety may prohibit parking on any or all streets designated as through streets and highways by Cleveland Codified Ordinance (CCO) 413.02. During the emergency declared by the Director of Public Safety, no person shall park, or cause or permit to be parked or permit to remain parked, or abandon or leave unattended, any vehicle of any kind or description upon such specified streets. However, vehicles may be parked for a period of not longer than three minutes for actual loading or unloading of passengers or thirty minutes for actual loading or unloading of property if no other ordinance restricting parking as to place or time is violated thereby (CCO 451.17). Vehicles found to be in violation may be impounded.
IV. Officers shall ticket and tow vehicles parked on a street designated by a sign as a snow emergency street and any other street as so designated by the Director of Public Safety. Before enforcement action is taken, officers shall contact CCS to verify as necessary whether a particular street is included in the snow parking ban.

V. As environmental conditions persist or worsen, district commanders may use district support personnel to deploy additional details. The Traffic Commissioner may use any number of Bureau of Traffic members to assist in the snow emergency response.

VI. Patrol Section officers responsible for responding to radio assignments shall inform CCS of changing conditions and enforce the snow emergency parking ban as time permits. Patrol Section officers may request CCS to make the appropriate contacts to plow and salt freeways and city streets as necessary.
Policy & Procedures Unit