

# Priority of Roads for Winter Snow Removal

## NMDOT, Tijeras Area:

- I-40 from Carnuel to Bernalillo County line
- Old Route 66 (NM 333) from Clovis Lane (mile post 3.2) to Junction NM 217
- NM 14 from Old Route 66 (NM 333) to Santa Fe County line
- NM 337 from Bernalillo/Torrance County line to Old Route 66 (NM 333)
- NM 217 from Camino Yrisarri to I-40 center lane (mile post 10.6)
- NM 536 from NM 14 to Sandia Crest (mile post 13.3)

## Bernalillo County, East Mountain Area:

- **North Mountain**
  - Hilled roads: Ridge Sangre de Cristo, Forest Park
  - Frost Road, Vallecitos Meadow and Mountain Valley loop, Sedillo Hill Road
  - All other residential roads with focus on main accesses to state roads (NM14, 536)
- **South Mountain**
  - Canyon roads off Old Route 66 (NM 333)
  - Main accesses to state roads (337, 217)

## Important Reminders about Plowing Snow

- **The goal of the plow truck driver is to clear the road for safe travel, not clear private driveways.** When the snow is pushed onto the road shoulder, it may leave a pile of snow in driveways. The property owner is responsible for clearing their own driveway.
- **High traffic and windy roads are given priority and are cleared first.**
- **Do not try to stop the plow truck drivers.** Call the Contact Center at 505-848-1503 for all inquiries, to report a problem or submit a road request. A BernCo foreman or manager will respond as soon as possible.
- **Keep trash bins back on the shoulder, off of the roadway.**
- **Do not try to drive in front of or around the plow trucks while in operation** — keep a good distance away from the plow truck for your safety and for the protection of your vehicle.
- **Do not allow children to play in the piles of snow on the shoulder — it's not a safe area.** The plow trucks make numerous passes on the roads and add snow onto the existing piles continuously.
- **Keep parked cars off the roadway.**
- **It is not possible to time operations to snow plow specific roads at specific times of day.**



# Bernalillo County East Mountain and Canyon Areas

## Emergency Road and Winter Operation Procedures 2019 - 2020

### Important Contact Information

#### COUNTY ROADS

##### Bernalillo County

(unincorporated areas, outside of the city)

Call (505) 848-1503

to submit a county road request

#### CITY ROADS

##### City of Albuquerque

Call 311

for status reports about city roads or

to submit a city road request

#### NEW MEXICO ROADS

##### New Mexico

##### Department of Transportation

(NMDOT)

Road Advisory Hotline: Call 511

<http://nmroads.com/> to see

the most updated road conditions and to sign-up for email/text alerts

Download the mobile app at

<http://m.nmroads.com/>

For information about NMDOT snow removal schedules, call (505) 798-6600

# WHEN ROAD CLOSURES HAPPEN

## WHY THEY HAPPEN

- Worsening weather, possible life-threatening road conditions, or crashes related to weather conditions are often the reasons that lead the NM State Police to authorize road closures.
- The NM State Police is the **ONLY** agency that can authorize road closures for I-40, Old Route 66, North 14, Pass 337, Pass 217, and Pass 536. No other state or local government agency has the authority to do so.
- Any first responding agency can call for a road closure and begin diverting traffic.

## HOW THEY HAPPEN

- Once the NM State Police authorizes a road closure, that directive is communicated to the NM Department of Transportation (NMDOT).
- NMDOT, in turn, contacts the State Highway Department, Albuquerque Police Department and the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department communication centers, stating where the road closure will be.
- As best possible, a re-opening time for the road closure is also given.

## WHAT TO EXPECT

- Suitable turnaround points will be located in the area of the affected road and the NM State Police will coordinate with NMDOT to keep them clear and open for drivers.
- If Old Route 66 is open, eastbound travelers should access Central Avenue from the exits prior to Tramway Boulevard. This will help to alleviate congestion at the Tramway Boulevard exit. Old Route 66 will be utilized by East Mountain residents so that they have access to and from their residences.
- Drivers and residents are asked to remain calm and to be patient during these situations. Please be flexible and understanding as the state agencies respond to the current conditions.

## PROCEDURE REMINDERS

- The NM State Police **WILL NOT** close the canyon at Tramway Boulevard **IF** the closure is due to weather conditions out-of-state or at Santa Rosa, NM.
- Closure will begin at Moriarty, while simultaneously encouraging semi-trucks in Albuquerque to begin exiting early to staging sites such as the fairgrounds, UNM and Balloon Fiesta Park.
- Working west from Moriarty, semi-trucks will turn around at Zuzax, Tijeras and then Tramway Boulevard.
- All of this is to minimize the impact to East Mountain residents.

# BE PREPARED FOR A ROAD CLOSURE

*When Sheltering in Place Becomes Necessary*

## IN YOUR VEHICLE

### Pack an Emergency Winter Car Kit

- Wool blanket, extra hat and gloves.
- Jumper cables.
- Water in small bottles (easier to thaw if frozen).
- Food – Such as protein/candy/granola bars. They should be high in calories and ready-to-eat.
- Extra cell phone batteries or charger.

### Prepare Your Vehicle and Yourself

- Winterize your car and keep it well maintained.
- Always travel with at least half of a tank of gas.
- Never leave your home without a charged cell phone.
- Check the weather before you travel.
- Check the road conditions. NMDOT provides traffic and road conditions, call 511, free of charge.
- Tell someone your route, and when you are expected to arrive.
- Know where you are going and avoid unfamiliar routes during inclement weather.

## IN YOUR HOME

- At a minimum, your winter preparedness should include extra food, blankets, warm clothing and water for each member of your household. Experts generally recommend you keep three to five days worth of supplies on hand for winter emergencies.
- Emergency food should be non-perishable.
- Sufficient heating fuel. Store a good supply of dry, seasoned wood for your fireplace or wood-burning stove.
- Learn how to shut off water valves.
- Include a LED lantern and flashlights.
- Test all battery-powered devices.
- Assemble a snow and ice removal kit:
  - stockpile kitty litter or sand to increase traction;
  - rock salt to melt ice on walkways; and
  - snow shovels to remove snow,
- When it's a long-term period (more than 24 hours) tune in to the county's emergency radio frequency, **1670 AM**, for updates and important information.