

**TOWN OF LEESBURG.
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

LEESBURG TOWN CODE AMENDMENTS:

**CHAPTER 32 (TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES), ARTICLE VIII
(SNOW EMERGENCIES), SECTION 32-325 (SNOW EMER-
GENCY ROUTES DESIGNATED)**

In accordance with Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, Sections 15.2-1102, 15.2-1427 and 46.2-1302, the Leesburg Town Council will hold a public hearing on:

Tuesday, October 11, 2016, at 7:30 P.M.
in the Council Chambers of Town Hall,
25 West Market Street, Leesburg, VA

at which time the public shall have the right to present oral and written testimony on proposed amendments to the Town Code. The following ordinance will be discussed and may be enacted in whole or in part:

Sec. 32-325. - Snow emergency routes designated.

(a) The following streets within the town are to be designated as snow emergency routes and posted according to state standards at intervals of not less than 1,500 feet as specified in the Virginia Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways:

(1) Market Street from Fairview Street, northwest to the bridge at Route 15 Bypass, northeast.

(2) King Street from 500 feet north of Union Street, northwest to Country Club Drive, southwest.

(3) Loudoun Street from Liberty Street, southwest to Harrison Street, **southeast.**

(4) Edwards Ferry Road, northeast between Church Street and Harrison Street, northeast.

(5) Davis Avenue, southwest between South King Street and Lee Avenue, southwest

(6) Heritage Way north of Edwards Ferry Road.

(7) Wythe Court, Nelson Court and Forbes Court, off of Heritage Way.

(8) Catoctin Circle at South King Street to Dry Mill Road, southwest.

A copy of the proposed ordinance is available from the Town Clerk, located in Town Hall, 25 West Market Street, Leesburg, Virginia, during normal business hours (Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.); or by calling Lee Ann Green, Town Clerk, at 703-771-2733.

At this hearing, all persons desiring to express their views concerning these matters will be heard. Persons requiring special accommodations should contact the Clerk of Council at 703-771-2733, three days in advance of the meeting. For TTY/TDD service, use the Virginia Relay Center by dialing 711.



Date of Council Meeting: October 11, 2016

**TOWN OF LEESBURG
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

Subject: Amendment to Town Code Section 32-325: Additional Snow Emergency Routes

Staff Contact: Keith Markel, Deputy Town Manager
Renée LaFollette, P.E., Director of Public Works and Capital Projects

Council Action Requested: Amend the Town Code to expand the snow emergency routes.

Staff Recommendation: Staff supports the proposed Town Code amendment to expand the snow emergency routes

Commission Recommendation: Not applicable.

Fiscal Impact: Minimal. The only cost to the Town would be to install Snow Emergency Route signage in the expanded areas.

Work Plan Impact: Minimal. The Town would have to install new Snow Emergency Route signage.

Executive Summary: In an effort to assist the Town in clearing streets after a snowfall, staff requested to expand the existing list of Snow Emergency Routes to include additional streets that are critical to the transportation network or are extremely difficult to clear with vehicles parked along the curb. On September 27, 2016, Council passed a resolution initiating the amendment process to the Town Code, and directed staff to schedule a public hearing on this item.

Background: The Town currently has Snow Emergency Routes in downtown. These routes include sections of Loudoun Street, Market Street, and King Street. Section 32-326 of the Town Code provides the following:

- a) It shall be unlawful for any person to park or abandon a vehicle on any snow emergency route designated by this article.
- b) It shall be unlawful for any person to obstruct or impede traffic on any snow emergency route designated by this article, which such vehicle is not equipped with effective snow tires or chains.
- c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, upon information that a vehicle is parked, stalled, stuck or abandoned on any snow emergency route designated by this article, the chief of police shall authorize immediate removal of the vehicle.
- d) The cost of removing and storing any vehicles towed or otherwise removed under subsection (c) of this section shall be charged to the owner and shall be due and payable prior to the release of any such vehicle to the owner thereof.

In the aftermath of Winterstorm Jonas, Town staff evaluated additional steps that could be taken to increase the effectiveness of the Town's winter weather clearing process. One issue identified was the fact that street clearing was impeded in certain areas because parked vehicles limited the maneuverability of plow trucks. Staff has identified three street sections and three short cul-de-sacs that presented clearing issues during past snow storms, and, if designated as Snow Emergency Routes, would increase the speed and effectiveness of the Town crew's clearing effort.

Attachments: Proposed Ordinance
Public Hearing Ad

PRESENTED: October 11, 2016

ORDINANCE NO. _____

ADOPTED: _____

AN ORDINANCE: AMENDING

CHAPTER 32 (TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES), ARTICLE VIII (SNOW EMERGENCIES), SECTION 32-325 (SNOW EMERGENCY ROUTES DESIGNATED)

WHEREAS, Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, Sections 15.2-1102, 15.2-1427, 46.2-1302 authorize the governing body of any locality to designate and post snow routes and prohibit any person to obstruct or impede traffic on a highway designated and posted as a snow route, along with other restrictions; and

WHEREAS, the Leesburg Town Code, Chapter 32, Article VIII, Section 32-325 establishes the snow routes within the Town of Leesburg; and

WHEREAS, the Leesburg Town Council recognizes the need for Town staff to clear streets after a snowfall; and

WHEREAS, the maneuverability of plow trucks has been impeded due to vehicles parked along certain Town streets during snowfall; and

WHEREAS, the Leesburg Town Council believes the expansion of the Town's emergency snow route will increase the speed and efficacy of Town staff's effort to clear the streets after a snowfall.

The Council in the Town of Leesburg, Virginia hereby ORDAINS:

That, pursuant to Section 1-9 of the Town Code of Leesburg, the following section of Chapter 2 (Traffic and Vehicles), Article VIII (Snow Emergency Routes Designated), of the Town Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 32-325. – Snow emergency routes designated.

AN ORDINANCE: AMENDING CHAPTER 2 (TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES), ARTICLE VIII (SNOW EMERGENCIES), SECTION 32-325 (SNOW EMERGENCY ROUTES DESIGNATED)

- (a) The following streets within the town are to be designated as snow emergency routes and posted according to state standards at intervals of not less than 1,500 feet as specified in the Virginia Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways:
- (1) Market Street from Fairview Street, northwest to the bridge at Route 15 Bypass, northeast.
 - (2) King Street from 500 feet north of Union Street, northwest to Country Club Drive, southwest.
 - (3) Loudoun Street from Liberty Street, **southwest** to Harrison Street, **southeast**.
 - (4) **Edwards Ferry Road, northeast between Church Street and Harrison Street, northeast.**
 - (5) **Davis Avenue, southwest between South King Street and Lee Avenue, southwest**
 - (6) **Heritage Way north of Edwards Ferry Road.**
 - (7) **Wythe Court, Nelson Court and Forbes Court, off of Heritage Way.**
 - (8) **Catoctin Circle at South King Street to Dry Mill Road, southwest.**

SECTION II. Severability. If a court of competent jurisdiction declares any provision of this ordinance invalid, the decision shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any remaining provisions of the Leesburg Town Code.

SECTION III. This Ordinance shall become effective on the date of its adoption.

PASSED this _____ day of _____, 2016.

David S. Butler, Mayor
Town of Leesburg

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council