

City of Bend gets 'F' for lack of snow-plowing, sanding

by David Garland

Dear Editor, I am truly disappointed in the City of Bend and the City Manager, specifically. In all my years living in Bend, never have I seen such a deplorable and dangerous condition caused by the fact that the majority of roads and streets have not been plowed during the past several days. I was involved in one fender bender, and witnessed four more during a short and necessary foray through our fine city on Saturday. I live in Northwest Bend, and the accidents I just referred to do not include several I've seen from my living room window, including a pickup that lost control and took out a power pole and knocked out power, cable, phone, and internet services for hours. It is outrageous and unfair to citizens on our roads whose lives apparently aren't important to our city leaders - nor is it fair to our police force who is kept scrambling trying to respond to all of these accidents. As of today, no streets in our neighborhood have been plowed or sanded. I continually see drivers lose control, spin, slide, and crash into curbs. It is only a matter of time before one or more people lose their lives because our roads and streets have not been properly plowed or sanded. I also find it ironic that media has reported that the City says it is citizens' responsibility to keep sidewalks clear of snow and ice, yet they feel no obligation to do the same to our streets. I guess that is what you get when you hire an inexperienced city manager who isn't familiar with the Central Oregon climate. David Garland Bend, Or

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