

**2018-20 National Strategic Winter Maintenance Plan**  
**Adopted January 2018**

<b>Strategic Issue: 1 - Optimal snow plow route planning</b>		
Description of the selected strategies	<p>There are several commercial route optimization programs in existence that have been developed for municipalities and delivery companies. These do not take into consideration the dynamic nature of snowplowing. Not all roads perform similarly; some are warmer or colder than the norm leading to extra or minimal effort to reach a desired level of service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NCHRP Project on ...</li> <li>- Clear Roads Project on ...</li> </ul>	
Champion	<p>Kyle Lester, Region 4, Colorado DOT            Tina Greenfield, TRB Winter Maintenance, Iowa DOT</p>	
Cooperation with other organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop a joint research needs statement with SCOM MO-TWG, TRB Winter Maintenance,</li> <li>- Collaborate with other states conducting research or trials: Colorado, Wisconsin, <i>others?</i></li> <li>- Collaborate with Clear Roads</li> </ul>	
Outputs		Schedule
Technical reports or summary document	Summary document of findings	AASHTO Spring Meeting 2020
Articles for Publication		
AASHTO Conferences or other events	Present findings at TRB Winter Maintenance committee meetings	
Other events	Webinar on best practice (?)	
Session at AASHTO Annual Meeting		
Remarks	<p>“Optimization of Snow Removal in Vermont”, University of Vermont Transportation Research Center, TRC Report 13-005, Dowds, Sullivan, Scott and Novak, March 2013</p>	

## Strategic Initiative Activity

July 2018

Activity Update:

Optimal snow plow routing was identified as one of the top-10 things for a world class winter maintenance program in a previous SICOP project. During the Spring Clear Roads meeting in Phoenix a group of states with experience in snow plow route optimization got together to record an episode of SICOP Talks Winter Ops on the topic. (RN)

Future Work:

Clear Roads is working on a project to develop “specs” for RO. More like a pick list of things you should consider when entering into a RO contract. When this is done a webinar would be good. CO DOT is working towards a dynamic RO system for routing on the fly (Waze-like). The strategic RO is one that’s run at the beginning of the season for standard routes. The tactical RO would take into account traffic, weather, MDSS, etc. that impacts mobility and provide dynamic routing to drivers in response to actual conditions.

How do we help define the project?

- Contact list of folks/agencies working on RO.
- Lets do a simple survey of who’s doing what with RO?
- Clear Roads is finishing a project that SICOP can help promote – workshop a discussion. .Project 14-07
- We could host a webinar with Ohio, Wisconsin & Delaware to discuss what and how they are moving forward with RO.

May 2019

A showcase webinar was held with North Dakota DOT on their route/garage optimization project.