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## Agency of Transportation continues same plowing service this winter

Barre, Vt. – The Vermont Agency of Transportation (AOT) continues to provide the same level of plowing service throughout the state this winter as it has for the past several years, with no reductions in plowing or prioritization of routes. Recent news reports have indicated otherwise, and the Agency wishes to clarify any confusion.

"The Agency understands Vermonters' concerns about winter travel, and we assure you that the level of service has not changed," said Transportation Secretary Joe Flynn. "Our fleet of orange plow trucks is operating under the same guidelines for service level and corridor prioritization as in past years."

AOT updated its <u>Snow and Ice Control (SIC) Plan</u> earlier this month, as it does most years. The plan is not new and was created in 2004 to establish guidelines for keeping the statemaintained roadways clear and safe for travel during winter weather and travel conditions. The goal established then has remained the same throughout the years: safe roads at safe speeds.

The 2011 SIC Plan established three levels of service for three different categories of roads. In 2013, a new Corridor Priority 1 category was added for the highest volume and highest speed roads, thus aligning the SIC Plan with standard road classification for state-owned roads.

The Agency invites any media outlets that wish to learn more about the SIC Plan or AOT winter maintenance practices to review the plan and the frequently asked questions on the <u>AOT website</u> or to contact AOT Maintenance Bureau Director Todd Law at the email or phone number listed above.

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