

Yours Truly

FY26 Snow Program Update

Public Works Committee

November 10, 2025

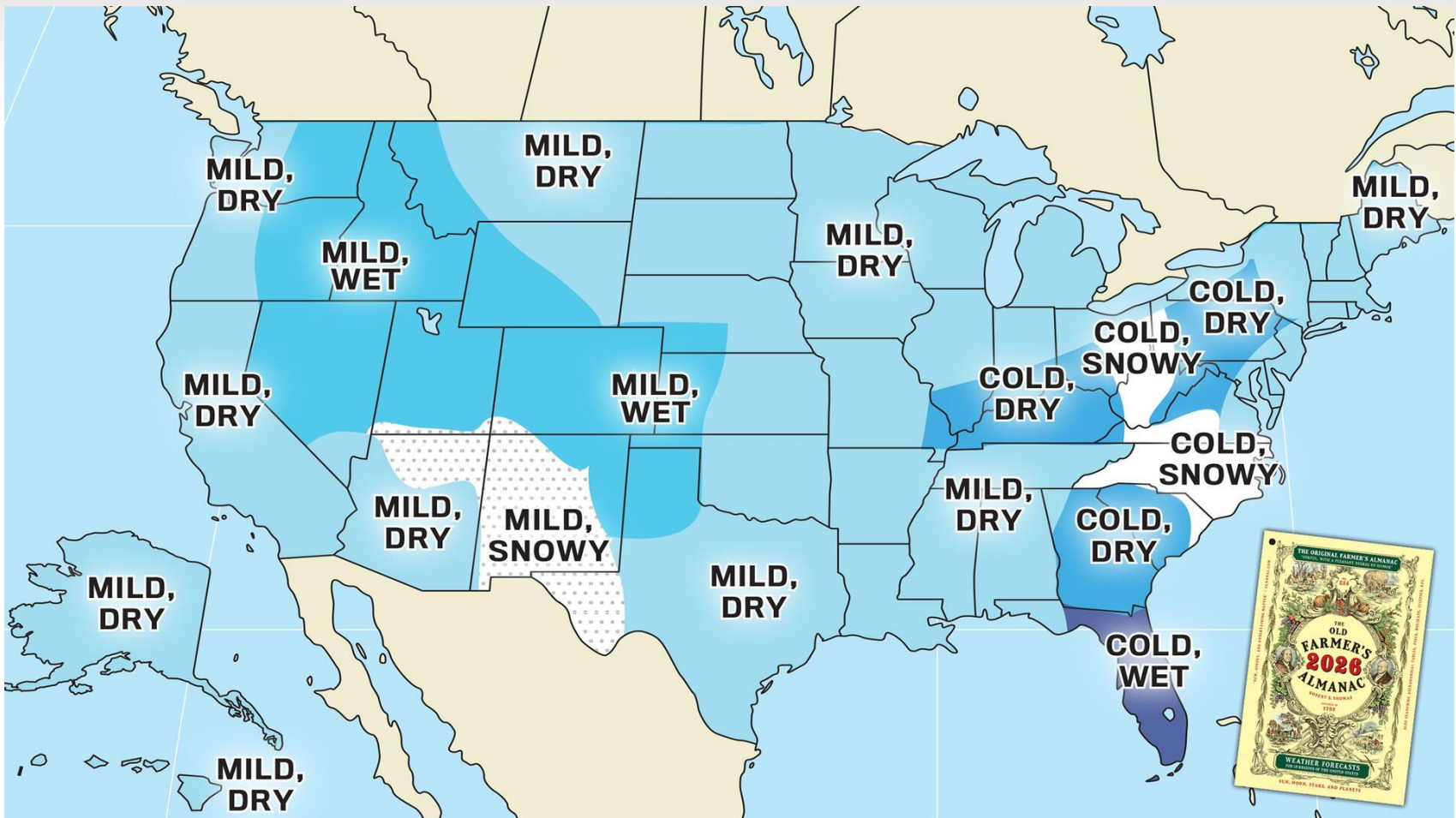
Outline

- Snow Predictions
- Snowfall History
- Preparation
- Snow Fighting
- After Action
- Downtown LS
- Looking Forward
- Helpful Tips

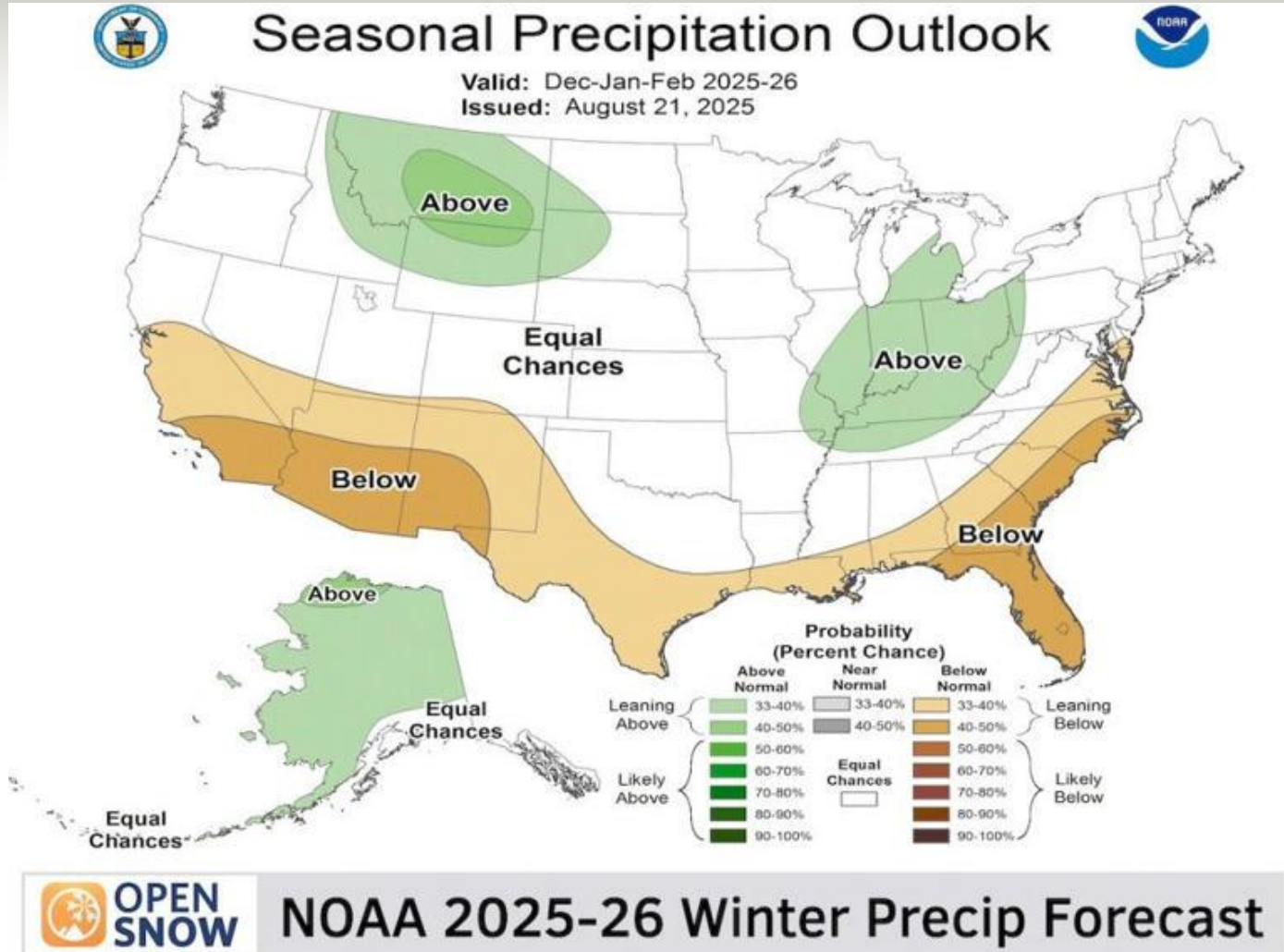
Farmers Almanac



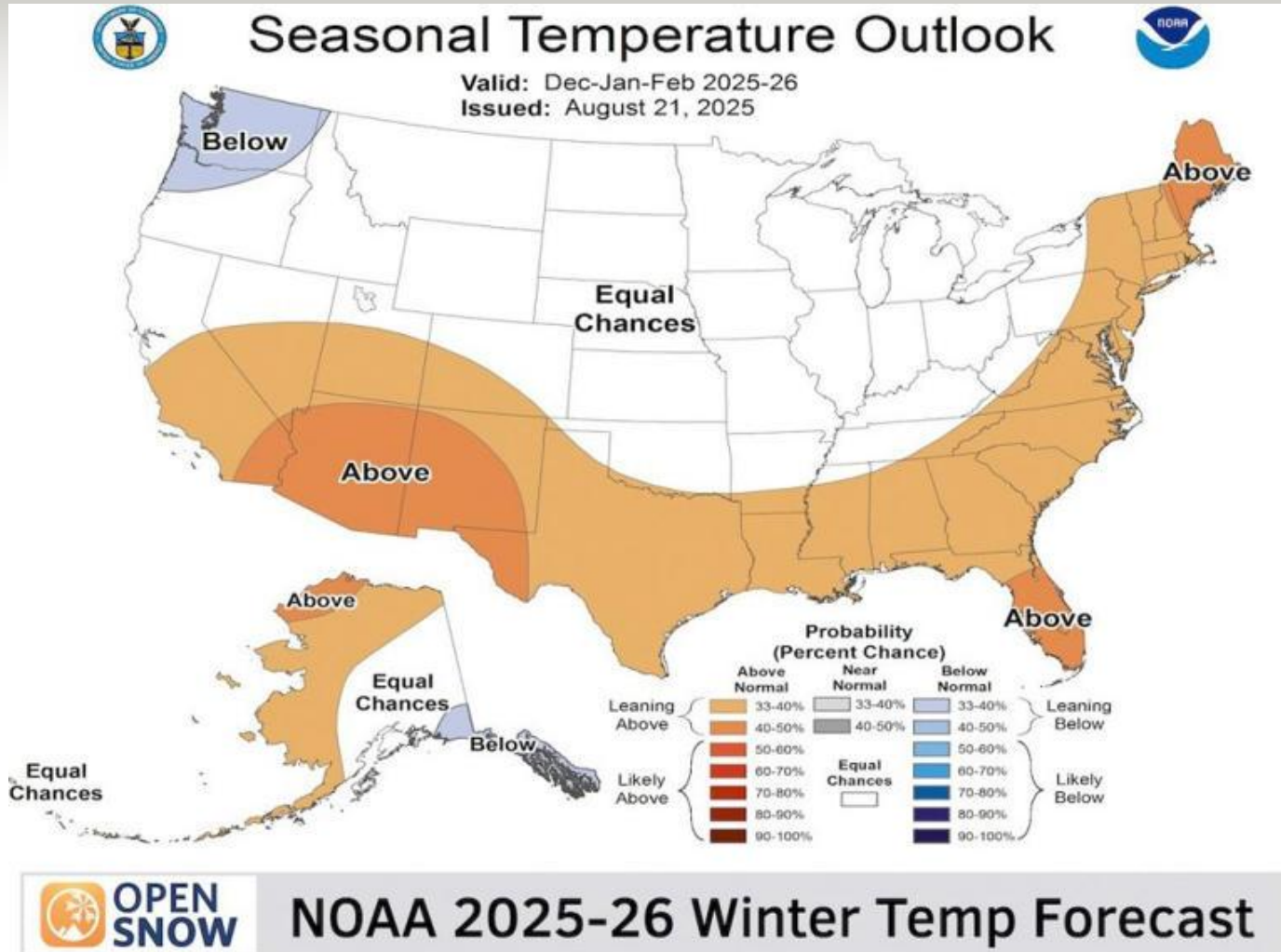
Old Farmers Almanac



National Weather Service



National Weather Service

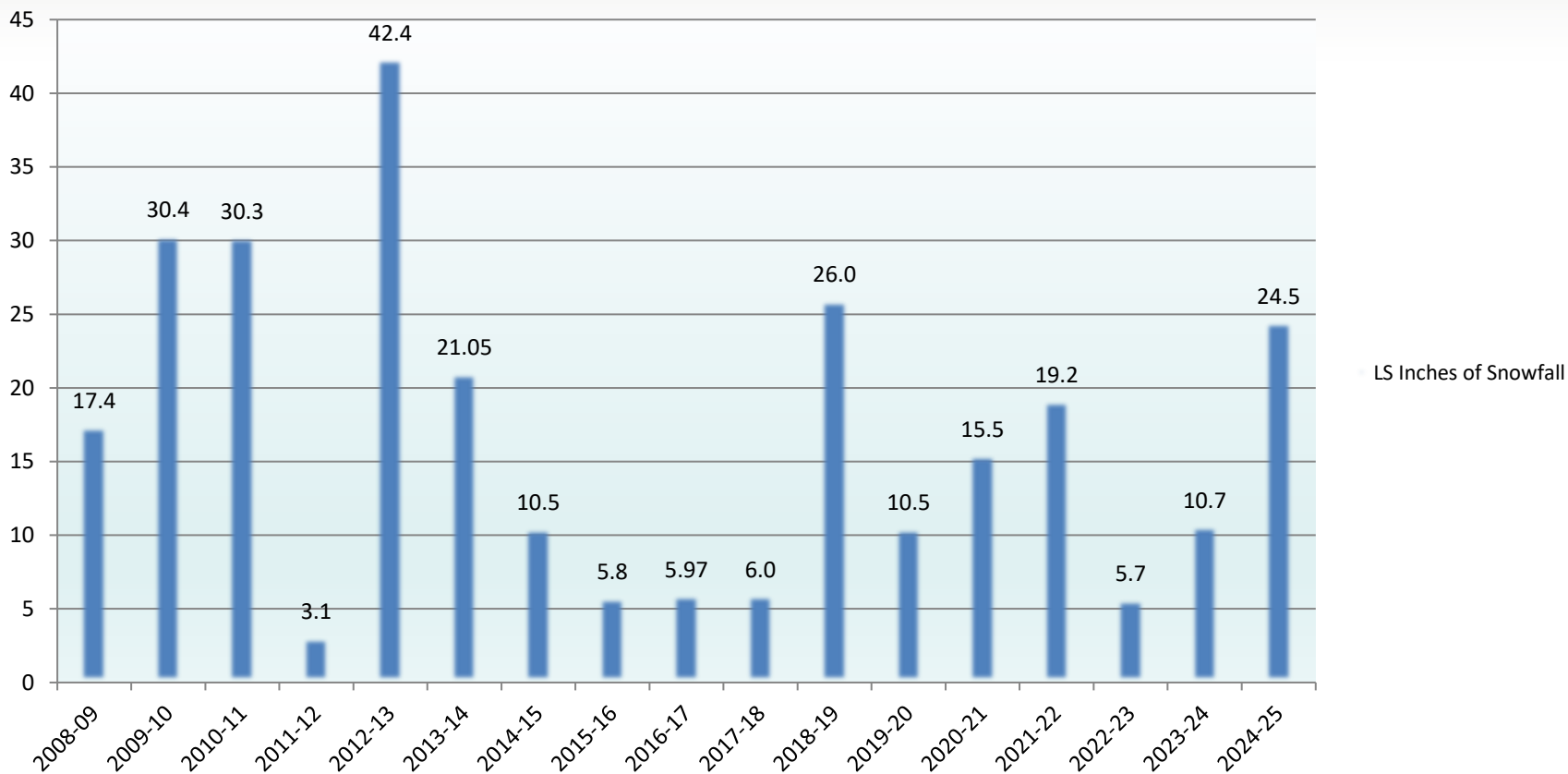


More Reliable Forecast

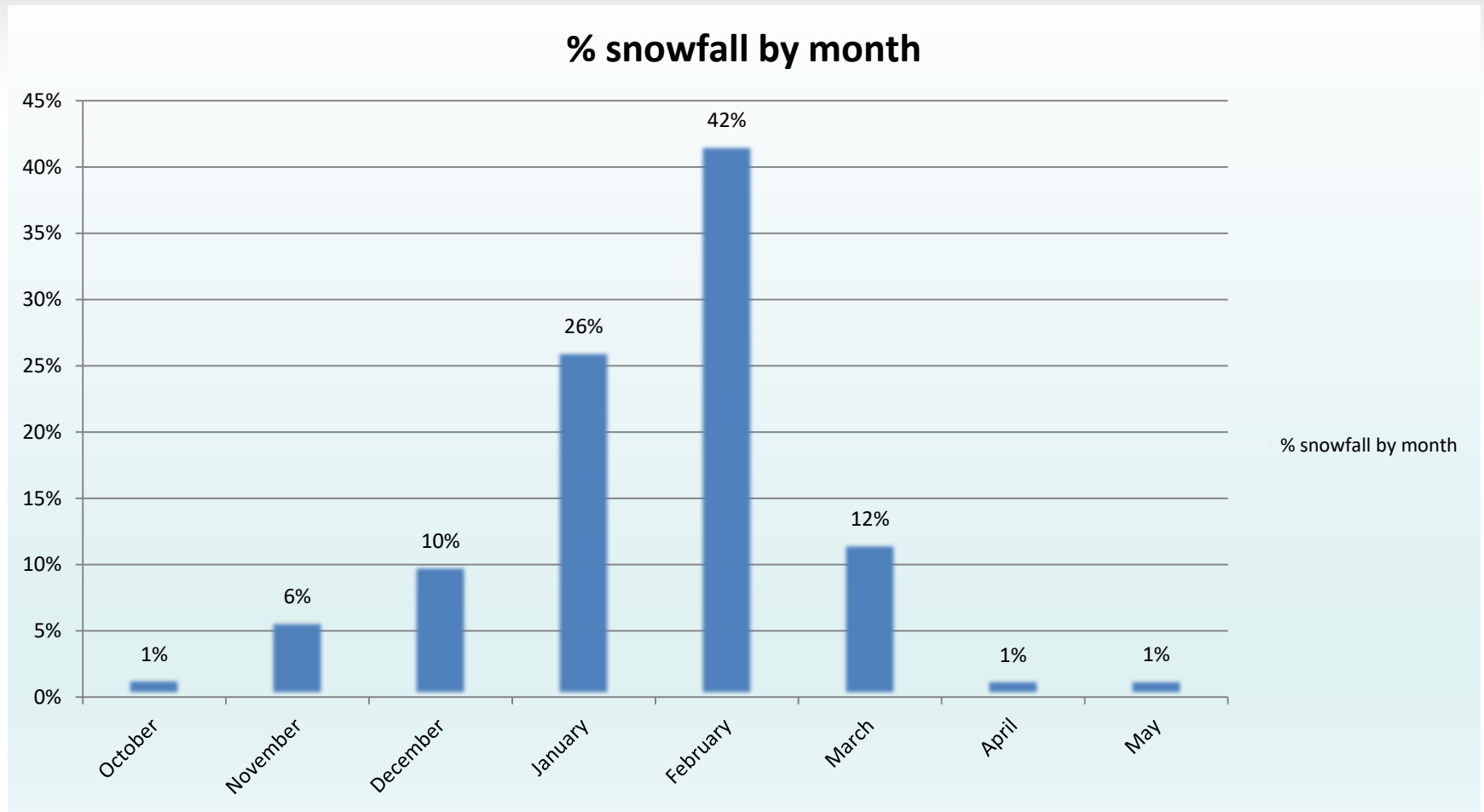


Snowfall History

LS Inches of Snowfall



Snowfall History



Snowfall History

- Lee's Summit Averages just over nine (9) snow events each winter season.
- Average winter snowfall totals are 17 inches
- In January 2025 winter storm Blair dumped around 12 inches of snow on LS. Last time LS had similar snowfall was February 2013.

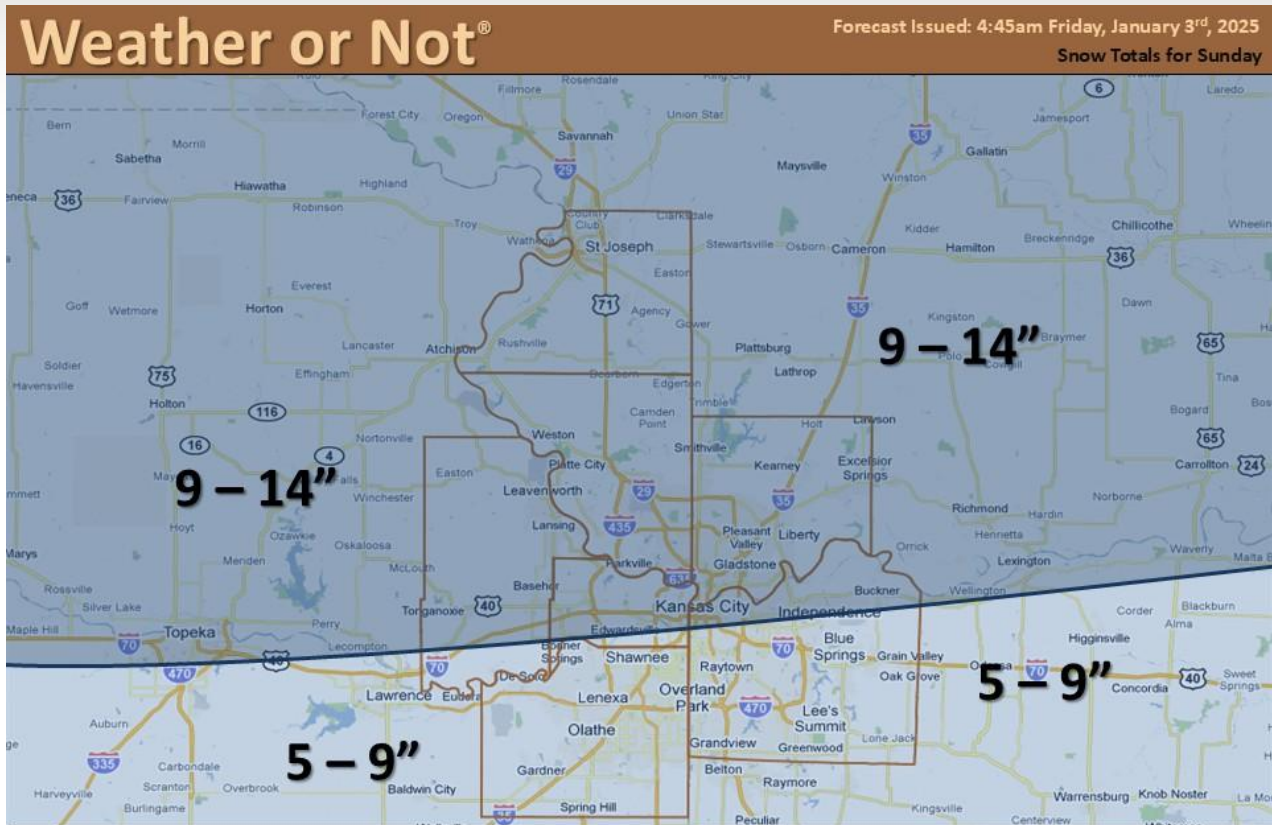
Preparation

- Each September Public Works holds an annual Snow Rodeo to provide training for snowplow drivers.
- Public Works employee also participate in the American Public Works Association Snow Rodeo.
- Public Works had a mock snow event on November 5 to test equipment and systems.

Preparation

- LS utilizes a local weather service for forecasting.
 - Local weather updates for LS
 - Continuous updates before and during the storm
 - Maps with start times and impacts of the storm
 - After storm reports

Preparation



Mix of sleet & freezing rain gradually changes to snow Sunday Morning, ends late evening

- **Wind gusts up to 35 mph will produce blizzard-like conditions at times**
- **Enhanced snow rates possible within pockets of instability leading to higher totals**

Preparation

- Once a storm is predicted LS ready's personnel and equipment.
 - Snowplow drivers are scheduled to fill equipment for a 24/7 operation
 - Operations crews puts equipment together and completes inspections of systems.
 - Crews plow and treat 1124 lane miles and 1220 cul-de-sac's and dead ends

Preparation

- Notification
 - Snow fighting plan is sent out to staff
 - Notice to public on website and social media
 - Issnow.net
 - Website is updated as needed or as conditions or plans change
 - Public facing snow route completion map
 - Calls from public route to a message to check website

Snow Fighting

- Storm briefing - LS crews are given the latest storm information and snow fighting plans before each shift.
 - Employees are given route assignments salt and liquid application rates
 - Discuss route issues such as streets blocked by cars and street plates
 - Cover any equipment issues from the prior shift

After Action

- Once the plowing operations have ended PW responds to calls
 - Crews will complete spot checks and plow as necessary
 - The snow management team will collect weather data and notes and complete an after-action report
 - We will look at the good and the bad that happened during the storm and adjust

Snow Plan Goal

- The goal of the City of Lee's Summit (City) is to provide adequate mobility and safety for properly equipped and prudently operated vehicles within a reasonable time after the end of the storm.
 - Provide a high level of customer service to our citizens
 - Defined Level of Service and completion time
 - Operate within available financial resources
 - Budget using three-to-five-year average of actual expenses
 - Ensure operational balance for the City and employees
 - Continuous 24/7 response as needed

Downtown

- Public Works contracts snow removal from Downtown
 - Puts equipment in Downtown and allows PW to focus on the rest of the city.
- Maps are provided to the contractor
- Maps are being created to help the contractor and downtown shop owners place snow

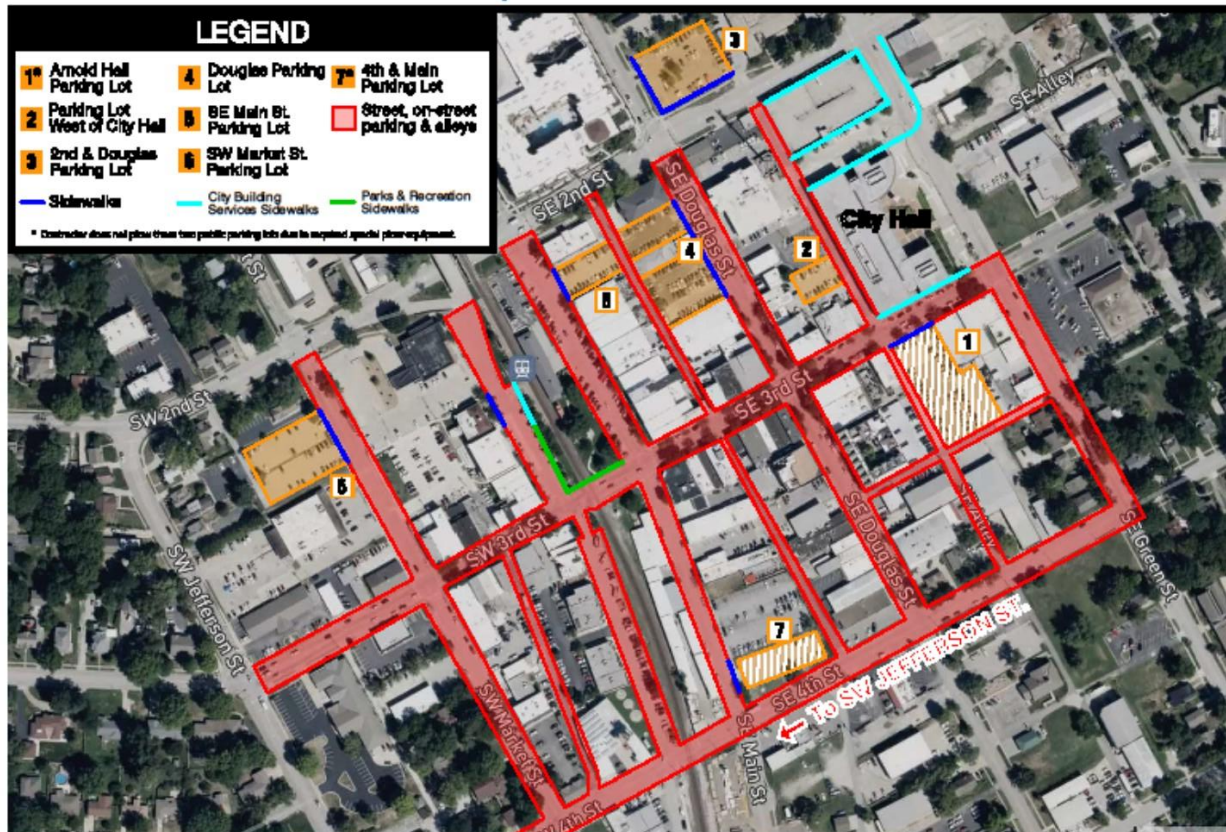
Downtown

- Level of Service
 - 1 inch of snow or less – treat surfaces
 - 2 inches or more snow – plow and treat surfaces
 - 4 inches or more snow – plow and treat surfaces, haul snow out of downtown

Downtown

Downtown Snow Map

LS LEE'S SUMMIT
MISSOURI



Looking Forward

- Expansions
 - FY26 two full-time operators – in process
 - FY26 one tandem dump truck – ordered
- RWIS - ordered
- Experienced staff
- Equipment replacements through VERP program

Looking Forward

- Route Optimization
 - Route based on efficiency
 - Reduce returns to the shop
 - Reduce U-turns
- Updated snow program
 - Monitor progress
 - Public facing data and mapping

Looking Forward

- Routing
 - Replace current turn by turn routing system
- Salt brine Equipment
 - Equipment is 10 years old
 - Computer upgrades
 - Valving and distribution upgrades

Helpful Tips

- Parked cars slow down snowplows and leave a mess behind when they leave
- Shovel snow into piles behind the curb and not into the street. Once the streets are plowed, we don't come back
- Please be patient, we are plowing every street in town.

Questions

