# 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

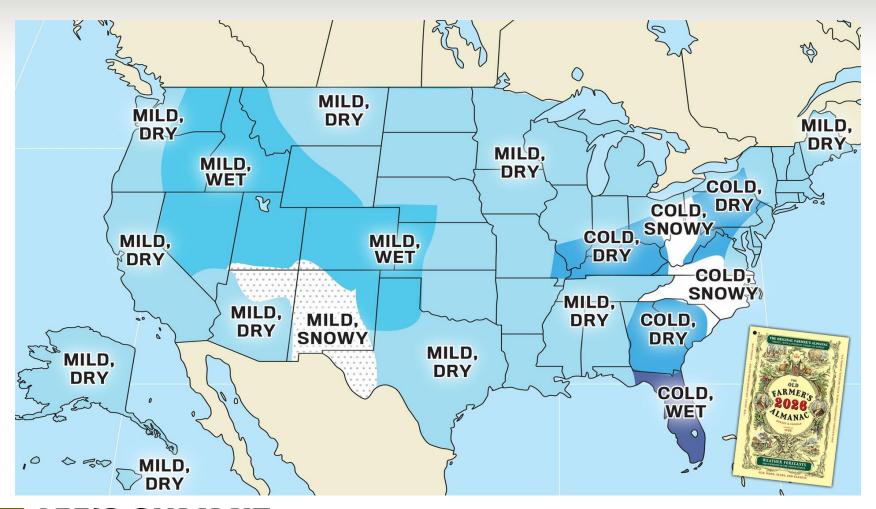


#### Farmers Almanac



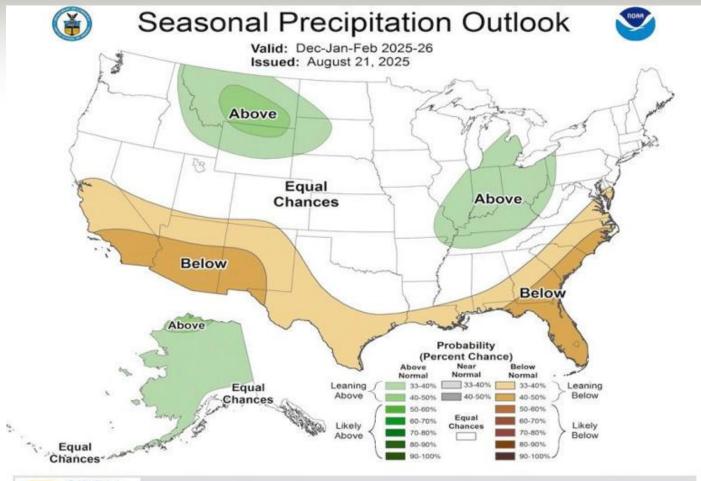


#### Old Farmers Almanac





#### National Weather Service

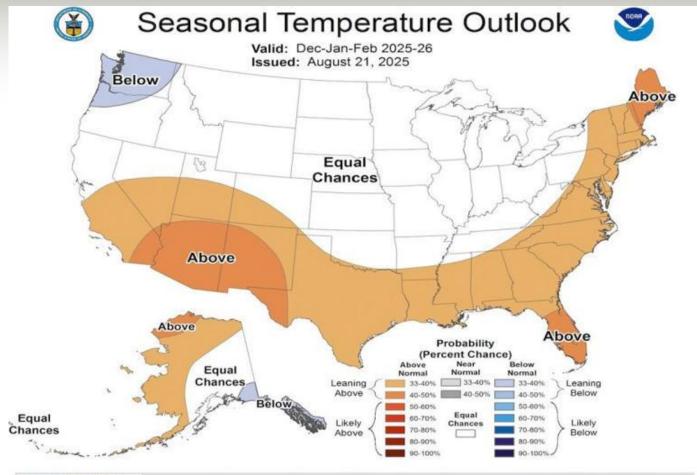




NOAA 2025-26 Winter Precip Forecast



#### National Weather Service





NOAA 2025-26 Winter Temp Forecast



#### More Reliable Forecast

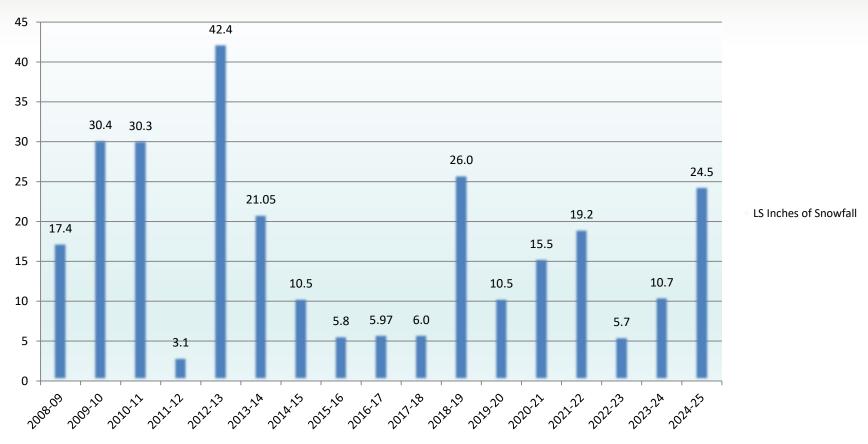






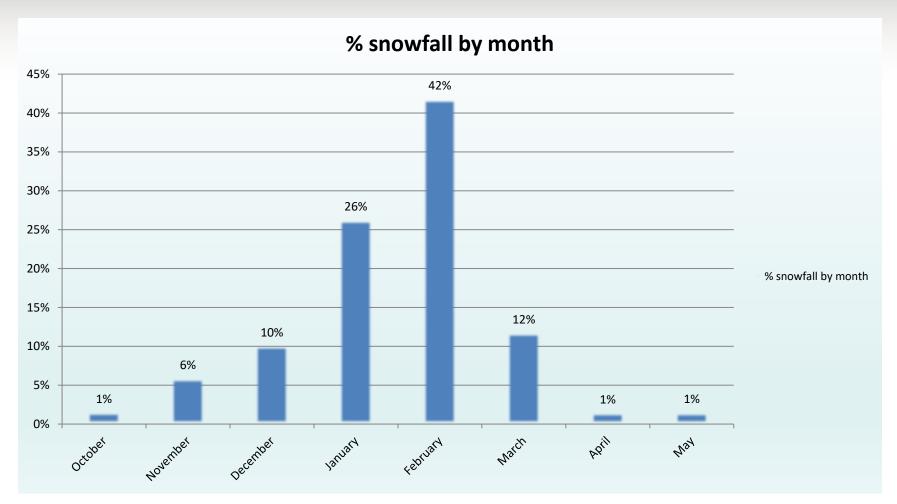
# **Snowfall History**

#### 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.

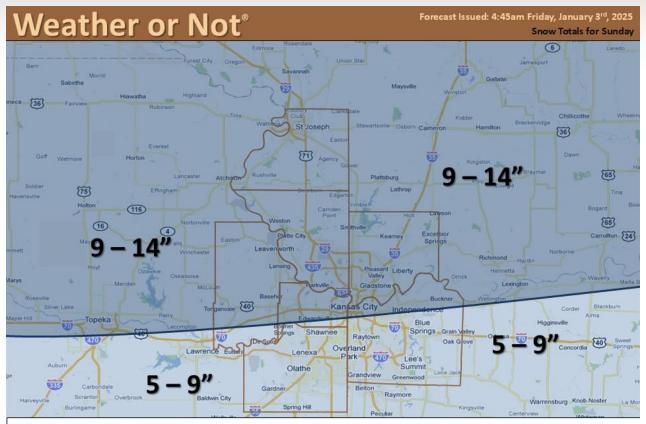


- Each September Public Works holds an annual Snow Rodeo to provide training for snowplow drivers.
- Public Works employee also participate in the American Public Works Association Snow Rodeo.
- Public Works had a mock snow event on November 5 to test equipment and systems.



- 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





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



- 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



- 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





# 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



