

December 28, 2010 – 9:00 AM

The Township is struggling but we are making slow progress. As of 8am, major and primary roads are passable. We are working on widening the primary roads so two lanes are available for traffic. Once primary roads are in acceptable condition, the Township will start on secondary and neighborhood streets. The problem that the Township is experiencing is that wind driven snows are constantly blowing snow back on recently plowed roads, causing us to repeat the plowing effort many times.

Speaking to Roger Budd, we do believe that given the day, we should be able to open up most paved roads in Barnegat by tonight. The roads will not look pretty but they will be passable.

The Township is encountering significant drifting especially out west. Drifts 4-6 feet high are drastically slowing down the plowing effort as only the large trucks can push the snow drifts off the road. Also, we have learned that Brighton Mobile Home Park has not been plowed by property management since the start of the storm. If that is the case, heavy equipment will be needed to clear the narrow roads out there. The Township is attempting to coordinate.

The Township received at least 20 inches of snow. It was still snowing early this morning. Winds are sustained at 20mph with gust up to 50mph. It will not get above freezing today and will be in the teens tonight. Wind chills tonight will be near zero. The plowing effort will continue until we reached a point where all paved roads have been plowed and are passable.

We are strongly urging residents to stay home today so Township resources can safely clear the roads. Township snow plowing assets are stretched to the limit but we will continue with the effort well into the night time hours. Staff is being brought in today to handle phone calls and emails from residents. We are keeping the public informed by Nixle messages.