

Links:

- [Sledding Hills - Managing the Risk](#)
- [Sled Hill Sense and Liability](#)
- [Snow Tubing & Sledding Safety](#)

Here is a summary of what was found:

- Recommended to have a flat staging area at the top of the hill will allow sledders to get situated and ready before starting down the hill.
- Recommended the maximum degree for the face of the hill is 30°.
- Recommended to the sledding area should channel sledders to the bottom of the hill and away from obstacles (trees, benches, light poles, etc.).
- Recommended the run-out area (flat area at the bottom of the hill) should extend far enough to allow sleds to come to a safe, unobstructed stop. One option to reduce the risk of a run-out area that is not long enough is to slightly incline the run-out area allowing gravity to help slow down the sledders.
- Recommended to provide a walkway area separated from the face of the hill to allow sledder to return to the top of the hill without being struck by a sledder.
- Recommended to place signs at the sledding hill. The following words should be included:
 - Hours of Operation
 - Danger – Use hill at your own risk
 - Use of a helmet is strongly recommended
 - Users assume full responsibility for determining if conditions are safe for sledding
 - Parents are responsible for children. No supervision is provided
 - Use caution when sledding and be considerate of others
 - Sledding is a hazardous activity and presents substantial risk
 - Makeshift ramps or jumps are prohibited

We have put together an aerial image showing some LiDAR contours of the sledding hill (see attachment). Based on those contours, the sledding hill appears to be at 18.6° (33.6% slope), which is significantly less than the recommended maximum of 30°. I think the problem is the length of the run-out area at the bottom of the hill. Perhaps the run-out length is too short for the 18.6° hillside. To minimize the risk to the City and continue to provide a sledding hill to the public:

- The hillside could be rebuilt to have a more gentle slope (less than 18.6°)
- Creating a slight incline in the run-out area would help sledders come to a safe stop since the run-out length might not be long enough
- Placing signs at the sledding hill