

From: Bauman, Robert  
Sent: Tuesday, March 04, 2008 8:45 AM  
To: MacDonald, Terry  
Subject: FW: Comments for 3/5 snow removal hearing

Please add to the file.

-----Original Message-----

From: Kathy Brockman [mailto:kbrockman@badgerassoc.org]  
Sent: Tuesday, March 04, 2008 8:15 AM  
To: Bauman, Robert  
Subject: Comments for 3/5 snow removal hearing

>Dear Ald. Bauman,  
>Recently we found out there is a public hearing on your proposal  
>concerning the snow removal problems expressed by many Milwaukee  
>residents this winter. Several of our members will be attending the  
>hearing on Wednesday, March 5th. I cannot be there since I have  
>another meeting that day, but was informed written statements can be submitted.  
>  
>We all know the huge snowfall has caused considerable financial  
>strain for all of us. It's been difficult for motorists, but  
>pedestrians have had significant challenges in getting to their  
>jobs, schools, etc. In addition, people who are blind or visually  
>impaired have unique issues that face us; many others have mobility  
>or other disability challenges as well.  
>  
>Certainly the roads need to be cleared first. But it seems to take  
>days for sidewalks and corners to be cleared so they can be  
>navigated. Businesses, especially gas stations, seem to present some  
>of the greatest challenges in this area. Public and private property  
>owners pay taxes and should have the same responsibility required by  
>the city to clear snow in a timely manner.  
>  
>There are still some bus stop corners where pedestrians have to wait  
>in the street for the bus, simply because there is no safe place to  
>stand on piles of uncleared snow. Certainly this is not a safe  
>practice, but there may not be another option available to the person.  
>  
>Last year several of us met with a Public Works Dept. representative  
>concerning the plowing of islands in busy streets. I don't remember  
>her name but she was in charge of one of the districts. She assured  
>us this would be addressed in the fall. However, one of our staff  
>members, Troy Hergert, was recently informed that nothing was done.  
>Here is the issue: many times the snow on the island sticks out into

>the intersection. This means a pedestrian has to walk out into the  
>intersection and traffic to get around the island. This poses a  
>safety hazard, which is really a challenge if the person is blind or  
>visually impaired. If that snow was cleared, a pedestrian could walk  
>in the crosswalk.

>

>Again, I know the financial burden is great for snow removal costs  
>this year. Hopefully we won't have a winter like this one for quite  
>awhile. But we hope the need for adequate and timely snow removal is  
>recognized. This includes all of us, including businesses that have  
>sidewalks on their property.

Sorry this is late, but my e-mail was returned to me. When I called  
last week, I was given an incorrect e-mail address for you.

>Thank you for bringing this issue out in the open and having the  
>hearing scheduled. We appreciate your efforts and hope some of these  
>issues can be addressed in the future.

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