
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

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Ald. Robert Bauman
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City Panel To Look At Snow Emergency, Pothole Repair Policies

Public Works Committee Will Also Hear About Parts, Equipment & Personnel

The City of Milwaukee's policies and procedures for snow emergencies and addressing potholes will be discussed by the Common Council's Public Works Committee tomorrow, the committee's chair, Ald. Bob Bauman said today.

The committee will meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow (Wednesday, February 13, 2008) in room 301-B at City Hall, 200 E. Wells St. Media coverage is welcome.

With Milwaukee snowfall so far this winter already well over the city's normal annual average of 47 inches, residents have had to contend with several significant snow events and one declared snow emergency (February 6), which triggered parking restrictions such as restricted night parking on all city streets and no parking on highways marked with "Snow Route Towaway Zone" signs.

Ald. Bauman, whose 4th Aldermanic District includes the downtown area, densely populated residential neighborhoods east and west of downtown, and the Historic Third Ward, said he has invited Commissioner Jeff Mantes of the Department of Public Works to provide the committee with details about how snow emergencies are declared. "A snow emergency can have wide ranging effects on residents, businesses and commuters, and we're looking to make sure the processes and procedures we've put in place for declaring them are effective and appropriate," he said.

Potholes – appearing in abundance throughout the city this winter – will also be discussed, Ald. Bauman said. "The immense amount of ice, rain, snow and sleet we've had – coupled with some extreme freeze and thaw temperatures – have made for perfect pothole conditions, unfortunately," he said.

"But we need to make sure we're doing everything we can to stay on top of things, and that's what we'll be looking at," said Ald. Bauman.

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Snow Emergency Policies/ADD ONE

The committee will also take up:

- Reports of parts and equipment shortages – as well as staffing/manpower deficiencies – hampering DPW machinery and equipment repair operations and ultimately impacting the availability of snow removal equipment.

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