

VICE CHAIR

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**MILELE A. COGGS**

6th District Alderwoman

**Sinkhole Will be Repaired Safely and as  
Expediently as Possible**

**Statement of Alderwoman Milele A. Cogg**

**March 14, 2011**

I have been in contact with Department of Public Works officials regarding the sinkhole that opened up on Saturday night on the short ramp connecting N. Humboldt Ave. and N. Riverboat Rd. in the 6<sup>th</sup> Aldermanic District. The pavement collapse was caused when a 42-inch water main broke underground, channeling a large volume of water that undermined and washed away the earth beneath the roadway.

Crews are now working at the site, and I have made my wishes known to DPW that fixing the water main and getting the sinkhole filled should be a top priority, so that nearby residents and businesses aren't unduly inconvenienced. I've also made it clear that safety should be first and foremost, so that we do not cause or fail to detect issues that may cause further collapse and damage.

Our freeze-thaw cycle in Milwaukee is often the cause of water main breaks like the one that apparently caused Saturday night's collapse. This is an unfortunate fact of life here in Milwaukee, but I intend to get a full and detailed report from DPW on what exactly happened in this instance.

In the meantime, I'm asking for patience while the city safely fixes the water main and fills the sinkhole. As long as safety is assured and adjacent structures and properties are not compromised, I will do everything in my power to make sure the work is done in an expedient manner.

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