

## **JOE DAVIS, SR.**

Alderman, 2nd District

### **CHAIR**

- Community and Economic Development Committee
- Sister Cities Committee

### **VICE CHAIR**

- National League of Cities' International Council

### **CO-CHAIR**

- Black Male Achievement Advisory Council (BMAAC)



### **MEMBER**

- Public Safety Committee
- Public Works Committee
- Steering and Rules Committee
- Milwaukee Economic Development Corporation
- National League of Cities' Board of Directors
- National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials Board of Directors

### **HONORARY CONSUL**

- Republic of South Africa – State of Wisconsin

# **Excuses in snow storm response do little for residents who were impacted**

## **Statement from Alderman Joe Davis, Sr. December 30, 2015**

Having analyzed the Department of Public Works response to this week's snow storm, I have concluded that there are several issues to blame for the poor level of service. The first is that the delay in reinstating the winter parking rules was a mistake with deep ramifications. Citizens were not told well in advance that the restrictions would be reinstated, and we should have used every media outlet to get the message out—just like when the political decision was made to suspend the rules.

The other issue is that the DPW is failing to plow streets, especially residential streets, from curb to curb, which is causing reduced traffic flow when cars are being parked on the streets. In some cases, the curb is two feet or more away from the plowed area on both sides of the street, causing the driving surface to be reduced by four feet or more. Given the freezing that can occur during this time of year, those snow piles could become permanent, causing additional snowfall to further reduce the traffic flow on residential streets.

This deployment of personnel was one of the worst in all the years I have served this city, and the excuse of "this storm took us by surprise" is unacceptable. We all knew the high level of moisture coming from the south and the heavy rains and flooding it left behind.

I will be looking forward to council committees taking up this issue to get the answers that seem elusive at this point. Meanwhile, I would like to apologize to the residents of the 2nd Aldermanic District and the citizens of the City of Milwaukee who were impacted by our poor performance.

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