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ROBERT G. DONOVAN
Alderman, 8th District

Seeing red during the whiteout: DPW's poor showing leaves residents fuming

**Statement from Alderman Bob Donovan
December 29, 2015**

It's been a wet, wintry morning on the South Side of Milwaukee. Those who were able got dug out as quickly as possible, and many stuck around to help their neighbors do the same.

However, once they finished this process, many of my constituents were left to wonder—what now? Their cars were freed and their sidewalks were shoveled, but the city's plow trucks had yet to make their first pass to free up a drivable lane, and residents had no way out.

The Department of Public Works response to yesterday's storm was absolutely terrible, and it appears as though DPW was caught utterly unprepared. I won't repeat the language that I've heard used by residents weary from a morning of hard work, but it suffices to say that my constituents are outraged—and rightfully so.

I'm painfully aware that this snowfall was exceedingly heavy and hard to push around, and I do not believe that the city's hard-working plow drivers bear the blame for this failure. They're doing the best they can with the staffing and resources at their disposal, and they will log many more hours of overtime in a cold, difficult job before this task is completed.

But when this is all said and done, I believe our taxpayers are owed an explanation for this outrageous failure to provide basic city services, and a plan to prevent it from happening ever again.

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