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KHALIF J. RAINEY
ALDERMAN, 7TH DISTRICT

Potholes are reaching ludicrous levels

Statement of Alderman Khalif J. Rainey
April 27, 2017

Like my constituents, I have been doing my best to dodge the vast minefields of potholes that are pocking Milwaukee's streets this spring. Whether in the 7th Aldermanic District, near downtown, or in every neighborhood across the city, our pothole problem seems to be worse than ever.

I think the situation is unacceptable, and I am looking for answers. Each spring we have our Clean and Green campaign to allow residents to discard larger quantities of items as a part of "spring cleaning."

In my view, there seems to be inefficiency in the process of taking care of our pothole problem, and I want to get to the bottom of that and try to identify possible solutions.

I would like the Department of Public Works to consider a "Rapid Response Team" each spring to help fill potholes. Some of the potholes are so large they pose a danger to motorists and vehicles, and with people driving faster and at times with less care, it makes for a dangerous situation for all on the road.

Additionally, I think it hurts our image as a city when visitors experience the sheer numbers of potholes and the severity of the problem. I am also interested in finding ways for the city to receive and retain greater federal and state funding to help us address our roadway repair issues (including potholes).

I have developed a legislative communication file to further explore what some options might be, and I look forward to the discussion with my colleagues and the pros at the Department of Public Works. In the meantime, residents should call 286-CITY to report problem potholes so that the Department of Public Works can be made aware of the issue.

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