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Ald. Robert J. Bauman
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Alderman Robert J. Bauman questions the unilateral extension of winter parking rules

Alderman Robert J. Bauman, chair of the Public Works Committee, criticized the Department of Public Works’ extension of the city’s winter parking rules until March 15 as a decision made without input from the Common Council.

“This action by the Department of Public Works Commissioner to extend winter parking rules to March 15 is a tacit admission that the city’s snow and ice control efforts this year have been very poor,” said Alderman Bauman. “Instead of extending parking restrictions, DPW should be sending out plows and front-end loaders to finish the plowing that was never finished.”

Alderman Bauman continued: “I also have grave concerns about parking tickets. Many residents will not get the word and will dutifully go back to regular parking rules today as instructed by the signs on their block. Are they now going to all get tickets?”

“My research indicates that as of the end of February, the 2018/2019 snowfall amounts in the City of Milwaukee total 46.3 inches – only the sixth highest in 15 years,” said Alderman Bauman. “As chair of the Public Works Committee, I will schedule a hearing on this matter at our Wednesday, March 6 meeting to discuss this unilateral declaration in detail.”

Alderman Bauman introduced legislation at the February 26 Common Council meeting to beef up the city’s snow and ice control efforts, directing the Department of Public Works (DPW) to develop a reserve force of drivers and supervisors recruited from the ranks of retired city employees to add resources during snow and ice removal operations. File #181747 is scheduled to be heard at the March 6 Public Works Committee meeting as well.