



March 20, 2008

Ald. Jim Bohl
(414) 708-2249

Street Maintenance Audit Results Expected In Time For 2009 Budget

*Ald. Jim Bohl Hopeful That Report's Findings Will Bring Changes That Could Be Adopted
Later This Year*

A city Comptroller's audit examining the city's maintenance and replacement programs for local residential streets is underway and should be available by May – in time for possible 2009 budget initiatives to help address the abysmal condition of many city streets, Ald. Jim Bohl said today.

The audit, initiated last summer at Ald. Bohl's behest, grew out of the alderman's long-standing concerns about the city's declining street maintenance program, and in light of a Comptroller's Office comparative report showing the city's replacement cycle for local streets to be approximately 162 years.

"As we've seen with the explosion of potholes this winter, we must change the way we repair, maintain and replace our streets, and I believe the first step in making changes is giving the Common Council the findings of the audit so we can make key recommendations in the 2009 budget," said Ald. Bohl, a longtime critic of the city's street maintenance program.

According to a memo from the Comptroller's Office, the objectives of the audit are developing a descriptive inventory and profile on the condition of local streets, evaluating the Department of Public Works process for assessing street condition and determining needed repairs, evaluating street project planning, scheduling and budgeting, evaluating the project approval process including the impact of special assessments, and identifying possible cost-effective program alternatives.

Consulting assistance for the audit is being provided by RW Block Consulting, a Florida-based construction project consulting and auditing firm.