



February 2021

Dear Community Leader,

We are pleased to share with you SnowBuddy's roadmap report for winter sidewalk maintenance.

SnowBuddy sees sidewalks as transportation corridors that should be maintained in their entirety all year long. An uncleared sidewalk in front of a single property is like the broken link of a chain – in renders the entire corridor ineffective.

We've been studying this problem for the last seven years and we have found a solution to many issues of wintertime mobility. Our solutions ensure that:

- People with mobility issues will no longer be stuck inside their homes in the winter.
- The elderly will be able to walk in the winter without fear of falling.
- People pushing strollers will not have to walk in the street.
- Walking will be safer for all of Ann Arbor in the winter.

More walking commuters in winter will reduce our carbon footprint. Safe and equitable access to sidewalks in all conditions will increase bus ridership, youths walking to school and neighbors visiting neighbors. Our sidewalks really are a part of Ann Arbor's transportation system.

We believe a city-wide winter sidewalk maintenance program is possible here in Ann Arbor and it is time to move forward.

The enclosed reports outline a roadmap for making this happen. It provides details for a public-private partnership approach to delivering this program, funding options for operations, and governance solutions for quality control and resident satisfaction.

The time to act is now.

Please join us in making Ann Arbor even better, with age- and ability-friendly neighborhoods year-round.

We are pleased to present you with our recommendations on funding, delivery, quality-control/governance, and look forward to the continued dialogue.

Walk! It's a movement!

Thank you from the SnowBoard  
of Directors)  
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