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TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

Tuesday, October 6, 2015

*All* Ann Arbor City Council Members:

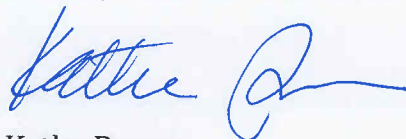
I fully support your efforts to make sure sidewalks in Ann Arbor are cleared of snow and ice in the winter. Particularly when I walk in the morning, I appreciate those neighbors who do clear their sidewalks. Using individual complaints has not been a fair or efficient way to enforce your rules and most owners with sidewalks within neighborhoods have been exempt from any enforcement.

With the new enforcement procedures in effect however, I am particularly concerned that the city will cherry pick walks onto major thoroughfares. It would be an easy way to make money with the excessive ticketing costs you are initiating for repeat problems. In this case, the problems would be created by the city itself.

City snowplows come by my corner on Austin and Washtenaw several times a day, always spraying a lot of ice and snow onto the walks. I imagine this is true for all of the major roads in Ann Arbor like Packard, Huron, Stadium, etc. This repeated plowing is always after my service has cleared both walks on the corners. It would be impossible to expect any service to come several times a day to clear that mess.

I am 68 years old and under doctor's orders not to shovel snow. Repeated ticketing of something I can't control will force me to move out of the city, a move which I have resisted even in the face of substantial property taxation. If the goal is to drive older and disabled people out of the city, then this may do it. I would like to see some effort on your part to make sure senior citizens and disabled persons are not in turn handicapped by your rules.

Thank you for consideration of this problem.



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