
The City of Traverse City

Office of the City Manager

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PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject: Keeping Sidewalks Accessible for Everyone

Primary

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As winter approaches, the City of Traverse City reminds residents and business owners that they are responsible for the removal of any snow and ice that accumulates on the sidewalks immediately adjacent to their property. City officials are also encouraging residents to help their neighbors and relatives who have difficulty removing snow from their sidewalks.

“Almost all of us travel by foot for a portion of our daily trips,” said City Manager Jered Ottenwess. “As a community, particularly when we have a winter like we had last year, we need to work together to keep those sidewalks and crosswalks clear to help us all get around.”

The City reminds everyone that many people rely on walking and transit as their primary way to access jobs, services, and businesses. Without clear paths through snow and ice, it is especially difficult for people with disabilities, the elderly, and children to walk safely. In addition, uncleared pathways make it difficult for people who deliver services to our homes – delivery drivers, meter readers, postal workers, firefighters and paramedics all need clear sidewalks.

The City’s Department of Public Services is committed to clearing sidewalks after major snow events, with priorities being primary corridors and sidewalks near schools. However, during prolonged snowfalls, sidewalks may not be cleared for several days and there are portions of the sidewalk network that are not cleared by DPS. “When residents promptly clear snow and ice, they play a critical part in keeping Traverse City moving,” said Ottenwess.

New this year, the City is releasing a public service announcement as a reminder to everyone to keep their sidewalks clear. This PSA is available in both video and audio form. In addition, some residents or businesses may find a door hanger on their door this year as a reminder to keep sidewalks clear. The door hanger emphasizes the importance of sidewalk snow removal and safe winter travel.

Residents who would like to report a problem related to the enforcement of the City’s snow removal ordinance, are encouraged to call Code Enforcement Officer Mike Trombley, 922-4414 or visit the City of Traverse City website at www.traversecitymi.gov

High definition video available upon request; for delivery or upload, please email City Commissioner Gary Howe: glhowe@traversecitymi.gov

http://youtu.be/rw_r_y6mUJo?t=7s

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