

ITEM I-04

PURE TROY – Snow Maintenance

SEPTEMBER 9, 2013

CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

- Discussed right of way maintenance including ROW mowing and snow removal from public sidewalks
- FOCUS – SNOW REMOVAL on sidewalks abutting major thoroughfares, specifically for 1 and 2 family residential areas (Chapter 34)

REFRESHER

- Except for minor grammatical changes in 2002, Chapter 34 has been the same since 1966
- The requirement to shovel sidewalks abutting residential properties has existed since 1966.

REFRESHER

- Enforcement of Chapter 34 is complaint based
- City does NOT proactively seek out violations

REFRESHER

- 526 miles of sidewalk in Troy
 - 141.5 miles of sidewalk adjacent to main roads
 - 20.26 miles of residential sidewalks adjacent to rear yards
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REFRESHER

- **Difficult Sidewalks = Difficult to Define**

Difficult Sidewalks

Vegetation



Deep rear yard



Difficult Sidewalks

Privacy fence rear yard



Privacy fence rear yard



Difficult Sidewalks

Slope/vegetation



Difficult Sidewalks

Privacy fence rear yard



Vegetation/proximity to road



DIFFICULT SIDEWALKS **(AS PER DRAFT REVISIONS)**

- Sidewalks located within 36 inches of edge of pavement of major thoroughfares
- Due to additional ice and snow thrown on sidewalks from plows

CHANGES PROPOSED FOR CHAPTER 34

1. Residents would have 48 hours following the end of a snow event to clear their sidewalks

Presently: Within 12 hours following a snow event OR by 6:00 PM of the day following if the event ceased during nighttime

2. Residents would not be required to clear their sidewalks of snow until depth was 3 inches or greater

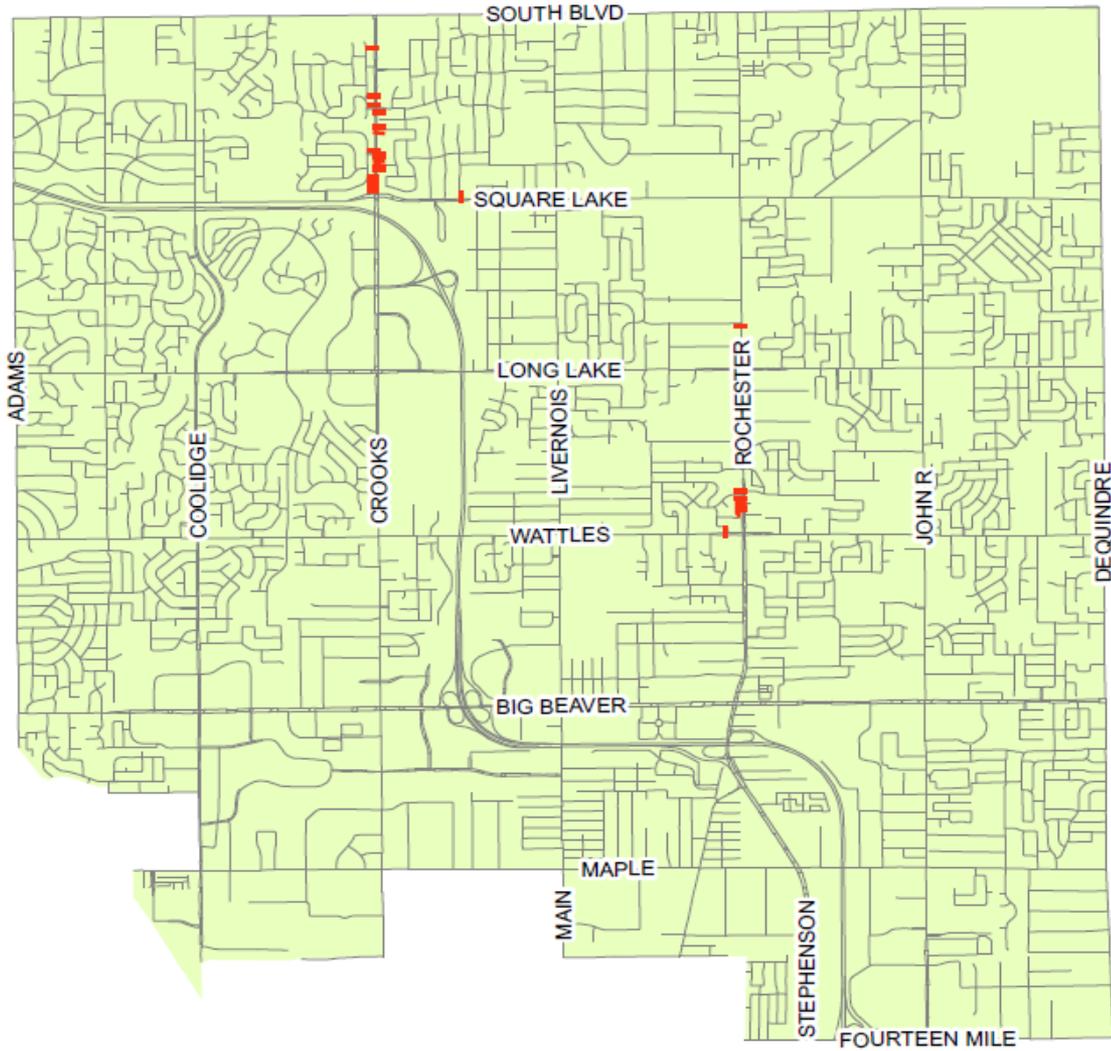
Residents still required to keep sidewalks free of ice

Presently: Sidewalks shall be kept clear of ice and snow

- 3. Difficult sidewalks exempted.**
Meets ALL of the following:
- **1 or 2 family residence**
 - **Addressed on interior street but has side or rear yard abutting major thoroughfare**
 - **Sidewalk located less than 36 inches from edge of pavement of major thoroughfare**

Presently: No exceptions to Chapter 34 provisions

Difficult Sidewalks Map



Red bar: Rear yard / Sidewalk less than 3' from Road

Difficult Sidewalks

**COST TO CLEAR
EXEMPTED PARCELS
(3,170 linear feet):**

- ▶ \$381.87 (3" – 6")
- ▶ \$524.79 (6"+)



AN ALTERNATIVE SOLUTION:

Some residents have requested (through emails, letters, personal contact, etc.) the exemption of ALL parcels on major thoroughfares

Any City expenditures on snow removal for these parcels would need to be determined during Budget process

SUMMARY

Increasing threshold for time and snow depth allows more leniency for snow removal

Providing exemptions for difficult sidewalks provides further leniency