From:	Debra Randall
To:	Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject:	school streets
Date:	Wednesday, November 4, 2020 1:44:51 PM

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

I am advocating for snow removal on roads leading to schools. Snow accumulation often occurs on weekends, and I am hoping you will budget overtime hours to clear the streets on Saturdays and Sundays, and to also ensure that these streets are plowed on weekdays after storms.

I live on Gilbert Avenue, which is a main artery leading to Rattlesnake Elementary School. Many children walk or bike, and there are also a substantial number of cars on the street during drop-off and pick-up times.

I no longer have school-aged children of my own, but feel protective of these precious little ones bouncing along filled with joy and energy.

Our recent storm dumped snow on Friday afternoon and evening. With the road not plowed, there were cars sliding around every day for the following week, and huge ice ruts were created. That Monday I witnessed several cars slide sideways into ruts and become stuck. The most frightening sight was a huge, heavy UPS truck that fishtailed and slid from the middle of the road over to the side and partially into a driveway. I was very thankful it was a day when school was not in session because children would have been walking at that time and vehicles carrying children would have been attempting to traverse the street. A terrible accident could have occurred.

Last winter there were times after storms when the road was not plowed (on several weekdays as well as weekends), causing the street to remain dangerous for most of the season as temperatures remained below freezing for prolonged periods.

I am sure you agree that the most important job of city government is to ensure safety - by funding police, firefighters, other first responders, and road maintenance.

Children's safety is paramount, and I know that every single trusting child walking to school in this city is a priority.

Thank you for your consideration,

Debra Randall