

Town of Franklin

355 East Central Street
Franklin, Massachusetts 02038-1352



Phone: (508) 520-4949
www.franklinma.gov

OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Memorandum

August 4, 2023

To: Town Council EDC subcommittee
From: Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator
Amy Frigulietti, Deputy Town Administrator

Re: Snow Removal Bylaw Discussion

Tonight's discussion allows the EDC to offer feedback and direction to the Director of Public Works on how to develop a map of where removal of snow on sidewalks could be considered.

By way of background, the Town repealed enforcement of removing snow 12 hours after a snowstorm on all properties that had a sidewalk. I have included the correspondence from back then in 2016. The issue was the lack of support for the enforcement of fines.

The Town Council has had a goal for four years to evaluate a new bylaw and map to assist in snow removal on sidewalks.

I have also included a DRAFT map from the DPW to steer the discussion.



Franklin

MASSACHUSETTS

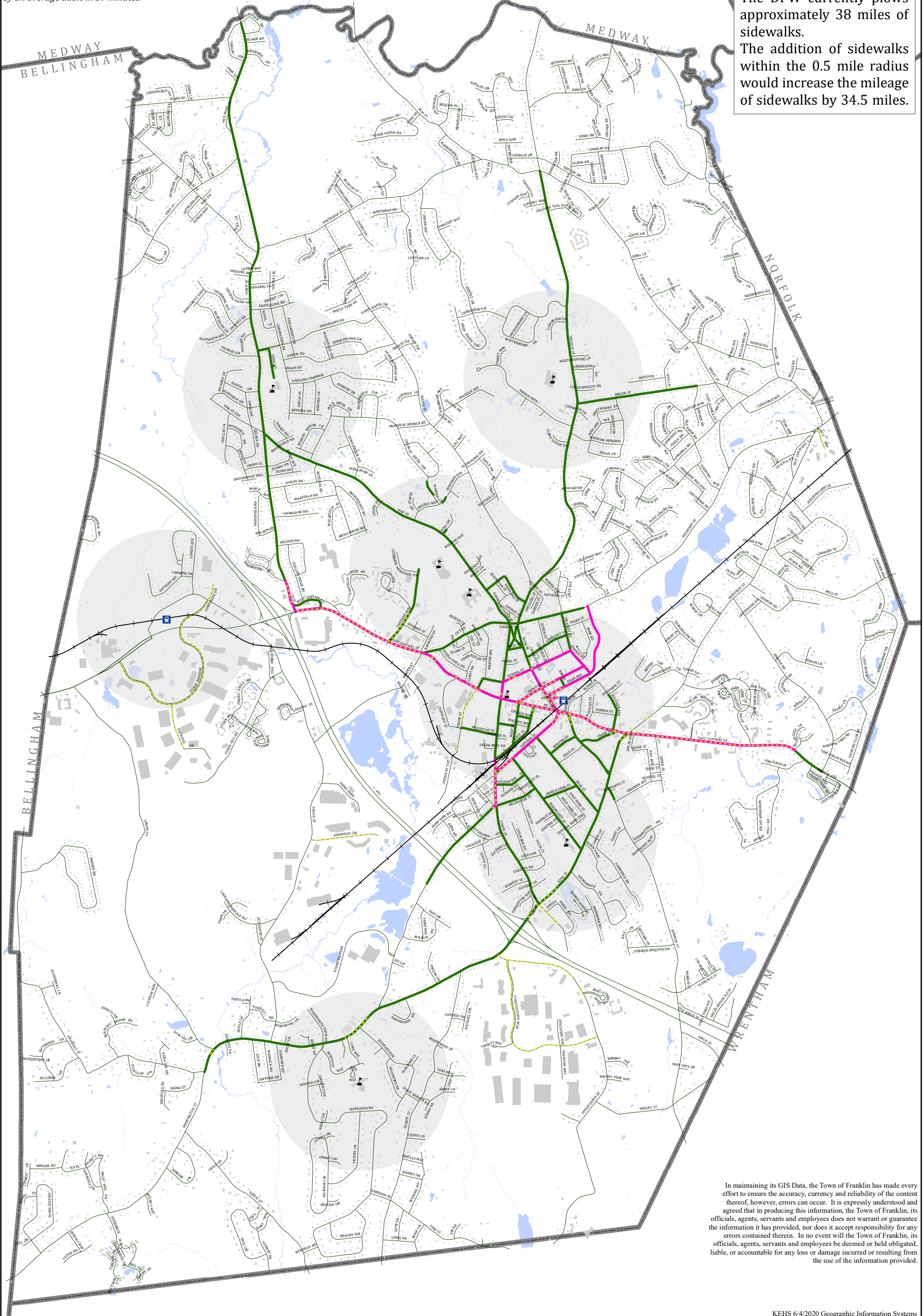
- Commercial Sidewalks
- Proposed Sidewalk Snow Removal by Property Owner
- Sidewalks Plowed by the DPW
- 0.5 mile radius* of a Train Station or School
- Street
- School
- Train Station
- Structure
- Water
- Municipal Boundary

0 0.25 0.5
Kilometers

0 0.25 0.5
Miles

*The 0.5 mile radius is based on the distance walked by an average adult in 10 minutes.

The DPW currently plows approximately 38 miles of sidewalks. The addition of sidewalks within the 0.5 mile radius would increase the mileage of sidewalks by 34.5 miles.



In maintaining its GIS Data, the Town of Franklin has made every effort to ensure the accuracy, currency and reliability of the content thereof, however, errors can occur. It is expressly understood and agreed that in producing this information, the Town of Franklin, its officials, agents, servants and employees does not warrant or guarantee the information it has provided, nor does it accept responsibility for any errors contained therein. In no event will the Town of Franklin, its officials, agents, servants and employees be deemed or held obligated, liable, or accountable for any loss or damage incurred or resulting from the use of the information provided.

OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR



MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 23, 2016
TO: Town Council
FROM: Jeffrey D. Nutting, Town Administrator
RE: Chapter 147, Snow and Ice Removal

Chapter 147 of the Town Code requires owners of businesses that abut a public way to clear the sidewalks within 12 hours after a snow storm. This bylaw has not been enforced for a long time.

While I was not around in 1975 when the bylaw was adopted my guess is that it focused on the Downtown. Now with the businesses all along Route 140, the two industrial parks, Union Street, Kenwood Circle, Earls Way, West Central Street after 495, etc. it would seem impractical for each business to plow their section of the sidewalk. Does the Town Council want to consider repealing the by-law?

I am happy to answer any questions that you may have.

cc: Mark Cerel, Town Attorney



TOWN OF FRANKLIN
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

257 Fisher Street
Franklin, MA 02038

November 12, 2015

Mr. Jeffrey Nutting, Town Administrator
Town of Franklin
355 East Central Street
Franklin, MA 02038

Re: Chapter 147. Snow and Ice, Removal of

Dear Jeff,

On January 10th, 1975 the Franklin Town Council adopted a bylaw, Chapter 147, which requires that businesses remove snow and ice from the sidewalks that abut public way within a specific time frame or they may be fined. Specifically it states:

147-1. Time limit for Removal.

Owners of premises in which business may be conducted and which premises abut a public way shall, within 12 hours after a snowstorm, remove all accumulations of snow and ice from the sidewalk in front of said premises.

147-2. Violations and penalties.

Whoever violates the provision of § 147-1 above shall forfeit and pay for each violation a fine not exceeding \$25.

This bylaw has not been enforced in my tenure at DPW Director. I respectfully suggest that we come up with a plan for enforcement or remove it from the Town Code.

Thank you,


Robert A. Cantoreggi
Director

CC: Deacon Perrotta, Director of Operations
Carlos Rebelo, Highway and Grounds Superintendent
Mark Cerel, Town Attorney
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