

CITY of REPUBLIC

Established 1871

Exhibit O

AGENDA ITEM STAFF ANALYSIS

Project/Issue Name: Discussion and Possible Vote to Determine a Policy for Debris Removal in Un-improved Streets and Alleys.

Submitted By: David Brock, Public Works Director

Date: March 26, 2006

Issue Statement

Staff is requesting that the Board of Aldermen determine how to approach ice storm recovery efforts in un-improved streets and alleys.

Discussion and/or Analysis

There are a number of streets and alleys within the City that do not function as public ways; never having been improved for vehicular use. The City has no history of maintenance within a significant number of these un-improved streets and alleys. Many do not have utilities located within their boundaries and some adjoining landowners have made varying efforts of possession in these areas.

Un-improved streets and alleys present a unique challenge for debris removal efforts. Most are located within the older portions of the City and are heavily vegetated with mature trees. Additionally, many of the property lines are poorly marked or not marked and the extent of the right of way is uncertain.

From an operational standpoint, clean up in many of these alleys will be difficult, expensive and may or may not be welcome by the adjoining land owners since the most cost effective means to remove debris would be to clear cut to the extent of the right of way.

There is established case law that pertains to the issue and the City Attorney will provide the Board with advice during the discussion.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends undertaking debris clearing and removal within streets and alleys that meet one of the following criteria:

1. The street or alley has been improved and is open for the general use of the public.
2. There is a recognized history of maintaining surface features within the street or alley.

