



---

**Brooke Blackwell, Press Secretary**

(O) 313.224.5925 (C) 313.580.2101

---

## News Release

December 13, 2011

### Executive Ficano unveils innovative web technology for roads

**Romulus** -- Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano today unveiled new technology that will help motorists better manage their commute during snowstorms.

Compass is a new Web-based computer system that shows location of salt trucks and the roads that have been most recently plowed. It can be accessed at <http://compass.waynecounty.com>.

Wayne County Compass was designed by the county Department of Technology and implemented by the county Department of Public Services. It is the first system of its kind in metro Detroit and one of the first in the U.S.

“Like it or not, snow and ice are a part of life around here,” said County Executive Robert Ficano, who unveiled the system at the DPS Central Maintenance Yard near Metro Airport in Romulus. “Compass is a cutting-edge resource that will help make driving as safe as possible.”

The Compass website will let drivers observe the road conditions and determine the best route to use during snowy conditions, Ficano said.

Director of Roads Robert Conrad said 149 of the county’s 158 trucks are equipped with an automatic vehicle locator system that tracks truck locations on a map. It allows the county to monitor truck activity including salting, blading and plowing. In addition, 18 of the trucks have been outfitted with dashboard video cameras that send footage with a two-minute delay for computer processing.

On Compass, viewers will find various information when trucks are active: most recent GPS data for an eight-hour period, route history of the truck, radar from the National Weather Forecast Office, location of the user, views from state cameras and other data.

###



[www.twitter.com/robertficano](http://www.twitter.com/robertficano)  
[www.twitter.com/waynecountymi](http://www.twitter.com/waynecountymi)  
[Michigan/49314965523](https://twitter.com/waynecountymi)



[www.facebook.com/RobertFicano](http://www.facebook.com/RobertFicano)  
[www.facebook.com/pages/Wayne-County-](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Wayne-County-)

