



## Austin Yochus

**Teacher** Ruth Seggerson **School** St. Francis Desales High School | Columbus, Ohio

**Issue** The issue I dealt with was the neighborhood streets of Columbus not being plowed soon enough after a snowfall. Often, multiple days after a snowfall, there was still snow and ice that cover the roads.

**Project Description** We began by researching the current snow and ice plan for the city of Columbus. This included how many plows the city has as well as which streets take priority. We gathered public opinion via in-person surveys as well as electronic surveys by email to see if the public agreed with our opinion. We did even more research online and found more public opinion as well as comparisons of Columbus' snow plan to the city of Indianapolis' snow plan. We then compiled all of that information into a letter and emailed many local representatives on the city council as well as hand-delivered a letter to Mayor Michael Coleman, sharing the public opinion and suggesting our idea to contract out more snowplows rather than purchasing new plows. After receiving a response from Mayor Coleman, the city of Columbus decided a week later in a City Council meeting to buy 26 new snowplows at \$125,000 each.

**Project Outcome** After receiving a response from Mayor Coleman, the city of Columbus decided a week later in a city Council meeting to buy 26 new snowplows at \$125,000 each.

**Request** Are there any steps you would have suggested that I took in addition to the ones I did?