

From: [Joe Arkin](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: C.O.P.S. Grant
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 7:26:45 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Please consider voting the approval of the grant allowing the City of Madison to add 6 officers to the department. As we continue to grow as a community, so should our police departments. This allows for better community out reach and presence that can help keep our streets and neighborhoods safe. I have lived on the Eastside now for 13 years and in the Madison area since 1991. A lot is changing for the better and we are thriving, but with this comes more people and we should not turn away the ability to properly staff our departments. It will help retain our current police force and allow them to focus on their own health and wellness while protecting our community. We need this now more than ever. Please get this grant passed and do not allow it to be overturned. You all work very hard and I appreciate all you do.

Thank you for listening,
Joe Arkin
Heritage Heights Neighborhood

From: [ASM Legislative Affairs Chair](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: UW-Madison Supports the "UniverCity Alliance Budget Amendment"
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 6:23:08 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Alders,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment during your budget hearing today. My name is MGR Govindarajan, I am the Legislative Affairs Chair at UW-Madison's Student Government (Associated Students of Madison). My role is to represent and advocate for student needs at all levels of government, including the city level.

For all the students of UW-Madison, I am requesting you to pass the UniverCity Alliance Budget Amendment. Over the past year and half in my position, I have both experienced and witnessed students who have been impacted by the lack of affordable housing in the City of Madison. There are many reasons why the I would label the current problem as a **Housing Crisis**, which I will list in a bullet point format below.

- Students are forced to pick between luxury housing, expensive dorms, or the "sophomore slums". The slums include houses South of campus that were mainly built prior to 1990, are lacking maintenance, and still considered to be expensive housing.
- This housing crisis disproportionately affects students with disabilities. Imagine having a mobility-related disability, but every relatively-affordable house is not ADA compliant at all because it has not been renovated since 1990. That forces students to either rent luxury units, or back to the dorms. Students with disabilities who can not do the previous two options tend to apply to me a dorm RA more often than not, which is not guaranteed until nearly January - at which point the housing market is basically entirely rented.
- Students are forced to scramble to find housing **one month** into moving onto campus, with this year being as early as leases being signed on October 1st.
- Landlords are being forced to stagger their contracts, releasing batches per month.
- Freshmen students have very little advice on signing a lease for the first time in their life and are being forced to sign it in haste with their freshmen roommates, and later end up regretting many decisions.

There are dozens more reasons I can continue with. I urge you to fund this amendment, because nearly **49,000 students** depend on YOU for a change like this. One in every six Madison residents are students, so I ask you to please consider funding this amendment and making a difference on our lives which are just beginning.

MGR Govindarajan (*he/him/his*)

Legislative Affairs Committee Chair
Associated Students of Madison
legislative@asm.wisc.edu | 914-434-0626

From: [Jan Axelson](#)
To: [All Alders](#); [Knepp, Eric](#); [Quinlan, Paul](#)
Subject: In support of budget amendments for a Parks Division volunteer coordinator and park rangers
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 11:15:04 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

The Friends of Cherokee Marsh support the operating budget amendment allocating \$72,400 for a Parks Division volunteer coordinator.

Parks volunteers do important work that otherwise wouldn't get done - hosting and supporting guided walks and other events, maintaining flower beds, helping restore plant communities in conservation parks, and keeping parks free of trash are just a few examples.

A volunteer coordinator focused on recruiting and supporting volunteers will amplify volunteer efforts like these many times over. We urge approving this amendment.

We also support the amendment for \$148,530 for park rangers to help in their work keeping our parks safe and welcoming.

Jan Axelson
Friends of Cherokee Marsh

From: [Jill Baxter](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: MPD grant
Date: Thursday, November 17, 2022 2:58:18 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Good morning,

I absolutely support the MPD grant.

I, however, DO NOT support the proposed pay increase for city alders. The amount requested for the raise is ridiculous!

Thank you,

Jill Baxter

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad](#)

From: [tom Beck](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: budget
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 5:45:33 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

please accept the C.O.P.S. grant that will fund 6 MPD officers that were included in the Mayor's proposed 2023 Operating Budget

Thanks,
Tom

Protect our 1st. & 2nd. Amendment rights
Sent from my iPad

From: abenishekclark@gmail.com
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: [All Alders] Wage Parity - Amendment #22
Date: Sunday, November 13, 2022 12:48:20 PM

Recipient: All Alders

Name: Anne Benishek-Clark
Address: 3528 Atwood Avenue #100, Madison, WI 53714
Phone: 608-220-5933
Email: abenishekclark@gmail.com

Would you like us to contact you? Yes, by email

Message:

As a Madison resident and former City employee, I am writing to ask that you support Wage Parity for General City Employees, by voting for Amendment #22 in the Operating Budget. It's only fair! The wages for the General employees have fallen way behind other compensation groups who were allowed to keep their collective bargaining rights. General employees have shown up and served our city through extremely tough times, including during Co-Vid. They did not stint. Instead, they maintained the high quality of City services upon which our high quality of life here depends and which we have learned to expect. My neighbors and I are counting on you to do the right thing. Sincerely, ABC

From: [tkleinblanco](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: City Budget
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 6:25:26 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Alders,

As you consider the city budget, I know you will get pressure to support more funding for police and policing, but I ask you to have the courage to take our city on a different path – one that understands that building a safe community means **supporting** the dignity, humanity, and capacity of our BIPOC and LBGTQIA+ youth and communities.

I strongly oppose adding six police officers through the COPS grant; we as taxpayers will be on the hook to pay for these officers in a short few years, at a time when our city will be dealing with large deficits. Policing already has an oversized budget in comparison to the rest of city services; **committing new funds to an additional six officers does not reflect our values** or actually contribute to more safety for children and youth. We need more support for preventive care.

Evidence shows that “[police encounters in early childhood increase risk of arrest in young adulthood for Black but not white](#)” youth; for more info on that, see [this](#), [this](#), and [this](#). As an early childhood educator, I know the importance of supporting children and their mothers from Pre-birth and children and their families as children grow and develop. If we want to reduce the marginalization of youth and families and racial and economic disparities, we must start by rejecting a costly proposal that puts more police in neighborhoods with BIPOC and LBGTQIA+ youth and use those funds to invest in what works- support for preventive care.

I believe Madison can be a leader in providing care rather than criminalization to our most vulnerable community members. Programs like CARES represent an important step and an effective alternative to further policing. In order to do this, **CARES needs robust funding**. I support the Mayor’s vision, but it is simply not enough. I want to see this program not only exist, but thrive as a viable alternative our city can be proud of.

I’m happy to see significant funds in this budget earmarked for things such as reproductive health, young adult employment programs, a purpose-built homeless shelter, affordable housing, and emergency management for climate change. Unrelated to this budget, I also applaud the City’s work on guaranteed income. I’m excited to see the portions of the city budget that honor community, care, human rights, and racial justice. But **we can and should do better**.

I thank you for your time and consideration of this ever so important matter!

Kind regards,

Tricia Blanco

2026 E Dayton St.

Madison, WI

From: lynn.brother77@gmail.com
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: DON'T defund the Madison Police Departmen
Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 5:05:22 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "lynn.brother77@gmail.com"

To: "Grant Foster"

Sent: Wed, Nov 16, 2022 at 5:03 PM

Subject: DON'T defund the Madison Police Departmen

“In a recent Marquette Law School Poll, 78% of the participants support state funding for local police. Though the poll is statewide, I’ll wager the Madison numbers are similar. So why do you continue to attempt to defund the Madison Police Department and even attempt to deny government grants locally? Call it redirecting, reimagining or reallocating - - the goal is to take funds from the Police Department.

Madison is rapidly growing -- with that comes rising crimes. Even with this rapid growth, why is properly staffing the Police Department always such a battle? There’s no other city department hacked into and attacked like the Police Department is.

City leaders should ask ALL constituents, not just the people that side with them. They’re supposed to be nonpartisan. Put politics aside and give common sense a try. If we don't have safe neighborhoods in Madison, nothing else matters.

Vote against this please.

The proposed amendment removes the appropriation of \$94,902 for the 2023 City match and City costs associated with the COPS Grant, negating the acceptance of the grant and removing the authorization for the six new Police officers.

Let’s not forget about the uncontrolled and dangerous driving that is occurring daily all over town since the Traffic Enforcement Safety Team has been reduced to a whisper of its former self.

Let’s not forget the almost daily shots fired.

Wasn’t the City Council strongly in favor of building trust between marginalized communities and MPD.

Wouldn't that take more neighborhood officers – just saying.

As I mentioned in my letter, as fast as Madison is growing (we see the apartments and homes being built across the city), first responders like MPD NEED to be properly staffed for the safety of our neighborhoods.

I get it, to find the money to triple your salaries you need to take money away from the safety of our community.

Please do the right thing and vote for the safety your neighbors, your constituents, the people who pay your salary!

Sincerely,
City of Madison Taxpayer

From: [Sharon Burns](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Pay raises for alders
Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 7:24:04 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

This is disgusting. I don't know how you can look at yourself in the mirror. Are you working more hours ? I'm not seeing how you are justifying this triple pay increase.

S Burns
16th district

Sent from my iPad

From: [ASHLEY SUM-YEE CHEUNG](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Re: Support the UniverCity Alliance Budget Amendment
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 12:32:33 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Please support funding the UniverCity Alliance budget amendment to student affordable student housing. One in six people living in Madison are UW students and yet student housing does not come up at all in the City of Madison Comprehensive plan. We need affordable, suitable, and sustainable housing solutions in the greater campus area!

I support the study for affordable student housing because I see how the difficulty of housing insecurity for college students impacts their mental health levels and ability to perform in school. The lack of affordable housing in university neighborhoods also causes an overflow of students into other neighborhoods and displaces housing for other communities in Madison and affects the city as a whole, disproportionately impacting poor, black and brown communities.

Supporting the budget amendment for the affordable student housing study will demonstrate that the city actually cares about our campus community and all we bring to the city.

Thanks,

Ashley Cheung (*she/her*)

Conservation Biology and Community & Environmental Sociology

UW-Madison 2024

Campaign Coordinator | ASM Sustainability

Posse Scholar | Posse Foundation

Member | BIPOC Coalition

Blacks for Political and Social Action of Dane County, Inc

November 18, 2022



ATTY. DAVID HART

President

KIRBIE MACK

Vice President

RAY ALLEN

Executive Manager

THERESA SANDERS

Secretary

TRACEY CARADINE

Treasurer

To: City of Madison Alders:

The purpose of our communication is to ask that you reject Amendment #12 of the 2023 Operating Budget, which would “remove \$94,902 of expenditures from the Police Department’s general fund budget and remove \$277,069 of revenue and expenditures from the Police Department grant fund budget for the C.O.P.S. 2021 Cops Hiring Program grant.”

As Madison continues to grow it is imperative that we hire community officers to properly staff our neighborhoods. As you are aware, community policing begins with a commitment to build trust and mutual respect between police and communities. Studies show that when police and communities collaborate, underlying issues and negative behavioral patterns are more effectively addressed. This is the outcome we all desire for Madison.

We ask that you accept the C.O.P.S. grant that will fund six (6) essential officers who would work specifically with our young people in the community to build trust, solve problems and help our youth understand the risks of getting involved in criminal activity before it’s too late.

Acceptance of this grant was included in the Mayor’s proposed 2023 Operating Budget. We ask that you support this grant program and reject the proposed amendment, as such.

Sincerely,

Rev. David Hart, President

Ray Allen

Rev. Dr. Alex Gee

Rev Rick Badger

Atty. Joshua Hargrove

Tracey Caradine

Yvette Craig

Dr. Cheryl Gittens

Dr. Corinda Rainey-Moore

Teresita Torrence

Pam Soward

Kirbie G. Mack, Vice President

Rev. Marcus Allen

Rev. Joseph Baring

Angela Arrington, Esq.

Kaleem Caire

Carola Gaines

Harper Donahue

Constance Miles

Deirdre A. Morgan

Theresa Sanders

Jacqueline Jolly

BPSADC, INC

P.O. Box 8571, Madison, WI 53708

PHONE. 608 244 8282 | EMAIL. bpsa20PAC@gmail.com

From: [Yvette Craig](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: BPSADC Rejects Amendment #12 in 2023 Budget
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 2:27:33 PM
Attachments: [BPSADC Madison Alders COPS Program.doc](#)

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Good afternoon, Alders.

Attached please find BPSADC's response to the Alders for the purpose of rejecting 2023 Budget Amendment #12. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions.

Yvette Craig
Interim Secretary
BPSADC, Inc
yvettelcraig@gmail.com

From: grdiak@wisc.edu
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: [All Alders] City budget
Date: Wednesday, October 12, 2022 7:19:52 AM

Recipient: All Alders

Name: George Diak
Address: 3823 Meyer Avenue, Madison, WI 53711
Email: grdiak@wisc.edu

Would you like us to contact you? Yes, by email

Message:

This is a copy of the communication that I sent to Mayor Rhodes-Conway regarding her budget proposal.

I am truly stunned by your proposed budget increase of nearly six percent. In a time of high inflation when families may be struggling just to put food on the table, pay their rent or property taxes and in general keep afloat, your budget, to which I am categorically opposed, has me wondering how you have gotten so out of touch with so many of the people of Madison. This city cannot be everything to everyone, certain financial limitations need to be recognized.

Dr. George R. Diak
Madison

From: [Emily Dickmann](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: budget feedback
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 1:13:03 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Alders,

As you consider the city budget, I know you will get pressure to support more funding for police and policing, but I ask you to have the courage to take our city on a different path – one that understands that building a safe community means supporting the dignity, humanity, and capacity of our BIPOC youth and communities.

I strongly oppose adding six police officers through the COPS grant; we as taxpayers will be on the hook to pay for these officers in a short few years, at a time when our city will be dealing with large deficits. Policing already has an oversized budget in comparison to the rest of city services; committing new funds to an additional six officers does not reflect our values or actually contribute to more safety for children and youth. (In fact, evidence shows that “[police encounters in early childhood increase risk of arrest in young adulthood for Black but not white](#)” youth; for more info on that, see [this](#), [this](#), and [this](#)).

If we want to reduce racial disparities, we must start by rejecting a costly proposal that puts more police in neighborhoods with BIPOC youth and use those funds to invest in what works.

I also believe Madison can be a leader in providing care rather than criminalization to our most vulnerable community members. Programs like CARES represent an important step and an effective alternative to further policing. In order to do this, CARES needs robust funding. I support the Mayor’s vision, but it is simply not enough. I want to see this program not only exist, but thrive as a viable alternative our city can be proud of.

I’m happy to see significant funds in this budget earmarked for things such as reproductive health, young adult employment programs, a purpose-built homeless shelter, affordable housing, and emergency management for climate change. Unrelated to this budget, we also applaud the City’s work on guaranteed income. I’m excited to see the portions of the city budget that honor community, care, human rights, and racial justice. But we can and should do better.

Thank you for your time -

Emily

From: ulrike.dieterle@gmail.com
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: [All Alders] Raise Pay of Alders
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 8:19:57 AM

Recipient: All Alders

Name: Ulrike Dieterle
Address: 323 N Blackhawk Ave, Madison, WI 53705
Email: ulrike.dieterle@gmail.com

Would you like us to contact you? No, do not contact me

Message:

Raising the pay of council members is misguided. It is a slap in the face to all of us in the community who volunteer countless hours every year with absolutely NO PAY. We volunteer because we believe in giving back to our community. This is exactly what alders should be doing. The current amount alders are paid - 14,904 – is more than ample to cover parking and other extraneous costs associated with representing a Madison district. To my knowledge, most alders hold full-time jobs or are retired. We don't need professional alders. We need community volunteers giving back to their community. If the demands of being an alder are too stressful, please let that be known by your resignation from the Council. If the duties of being an alder were so difficult, why are there so many alders hanging around for so long? I think Council should listen to the public whom they claim to serve. A quote from recent issue of the WSJ:

“More than 70% of voters favored implementing term limits and keeping the council the same size. But the questions on full-time, higher-paid positions and longer term lengths were rejected by voters, both by double-digit margins. “ Oct. 28, 2022 What is it that Alders Furman, Foster, Bennett and Conklin do not understand?

Please vote against this amendment. Thank you.

Michael & Ulrike Dieterle, 323 N Blackhawk Ave.

From: kdietzman@sbcglobal.net
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: [All Alders] Proposed 2023 Budget
Date: Monday, October 17, 2022 10:15:10 PM

Recipient: All Alders

Name: Glori Sabin
Address: 10 Jubilee Cir, Madison, Wi 53718
Email: kdietzman@sbcglobal.net

Would you like us to contact you? Yes, by email

Message:

Dear Alders,

I am writing to ask that you PLEASE use common sense and discipline to turn down the Mayor's proposed 2023 budget. Specifically, I want to call your attention to the proposal that includes a one time 1,000 payment to each city employee. Do you realize that this would amount to a total figure of 3.4 million dollars? The city employees already receive a higher than average wage and a very desirable wage, by most peoples standards. How can you even think about justifying such nonsense at the expense of us tax payers, who are significantly struggling to just survive month to month with the economy like it is? I'm sure that this money isn't just sitting there waiting to be spent for this. You need to budget as if you are living within your means.

I hope and pray that you have a conscience and will therefore turn this budget down. This budget must represent the choice of the taxpayers and I assure you, they are not looking for you to continue frivolous spending that the city CANNOT afford. PLEASE do the right thing and do NOT accept this unrealistic and unnecessary budget item.

Thank you for your careful, sincere and conscientious decision.

From: [Larissa Duncan](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Re: Public comment on 2023 Operating Budget -- please remove COPS match
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 12:23:00 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Alders,

I am a resident of District 15 in Madison, an MMSD parent, and a faculty member at the university.

There is much to like in the 2023 Operating Budget for the City of Madison, such as increased funding for reproductive health, expansion of the CARES program to run 7 days per week (from 5), and funding for an Independent Police Monitor.

I am very concerned, however, that the matching funds the city is planning to provide for the federal COPS program to hire 6 new police officers to engage in community policing will backfire and make us less safe. Research clearly shows that more police contact leads to the criminalization of Black and brown youth. Expanding our police force is taking our city in the wrong direction and at significant cost after the initial grant funding expires.

The COPS matching funds the Finance Committee approved for this year's 2023 operating budget seem minimal (\$95K), however the City will soon have to pay the entire salaries for these 6 new positions in just a few years (at a cost of over half a million dollars per year). Those funds would be much better spent by increasing CARES funding and investing in youth programs and community development work that we know prevents violence.

The COPS community policing model has a stated purpose of improving police "legitimacy" which sounds like a public relations job. In a city where we already spend 10 times as much on policing than we do on public health, we don't need more police. We need more investment in BIPOC-led youth-serving organizations and public infrastructure that prevents the root causes of violence.

I have spoken with many other parents who feel the same way. We do not want more police in our neighborhoods surrounding our schools. We want more neighborhood resources.

Please remove the match for federal COPS funding before you pass the 2023 operating budget. Please don't send taxpayers a bill in just a few years to pay for these 6 new police officers we don't want or need.

Thank you,
Larissa Duncan
41 Farwell St.
Madison, WI 53704

Professional contact information:

Associate Professor and Elizabeth C. Davies Chair in Child & Family Well-Being
Department of Human Development & Family Studies
School of Human Ecology
University of Wisconsin-Madison

1300 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706

*Views represented in this email are not those of the University and I am not representing the University.

From: [HONOR DURHAM](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Re: Support the UniverCity Alliance Budget Amendment
Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 2:41:11 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Please support funding the UniverCity Alliance budget amendment to student affordable student housing. One in six people living in Madison are UW students and yet student housing does not come up at all in the City of Madison Comprehensive plan. We need affordable, suitable, and sustainable housing solutions in the greater campus area!

I support the study for affordable student housing because securing my housing for the upcoming school year was a very difficult and stressful process because there were only so many decent properties that were within my and my roommates' price range. I know I'm not the only one who had that experience just trying to find a nearby, affordable place to live. It's frustrating to see so many new luxury apartment buildings being constructed while affordable housing is torn down.

Supporting the budget amendment for the affordable student housing study will demonstrate that the city actually cares about our campus community and all we bring to the city.

Thanks,

Honor Durham

Honor Durham (she/her)

University of Wisconsin-Madison | Class of 2025
hdurham@wisc.edu

From: baentwistle77@gmail.com
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: [All Alders] Housing, Police and Public Market
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 3:33:13 PM

Recipient: All Alders

Name: Bob Entwistle
Address: 2709 Center Ave, Madison , WI 53704
Email: baentwistle77@gmail.com

Would you like us to contact you? Yes, by email

Message:

My thoughts on some current topics:

1. I do NOT support TIF funding for the market. While the market like the library at Reindahl may be a good long term thing, we will have some hard choices in what to support once pandemic funding dries up and the market will probably always require a subsidy. If BRT and housing for the homeless is your priority, then let's get those done first.
2. I do support taking federal money for additional police officers. Please read the news and realize a growing city needs more officers, not fewer.
3. I support the housing development proposed for Sherman Avenue. Hopefully some portion could be directed to affordable and we should be able to mitigate storm water runoff and do infill development in this underutilized area.
4. Did I see that there was a large affordable housing proposal for the Oscar Meyer site? We desperately need affordable housing but I thought current best practice was to spread it out to avoid overloading any one school and to avoid future Cabrini Greens. Interested to see where this discussion goes.

Thanks! Bob
2709 Center, district 15.

From: [Tabitha Faber](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Common Council Meeting Agenda Item #5
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 12:30:16 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

To the Council,

I am writing to oppose the proposed expansion of the Madison Police Department operating budget that will be coming before the Council. The inherent assumption held by the Department is that increasing funding for the MPD will allow for greater community safety and building programs to support the greater Madison community. However, in practice, police officers have been shown again and again to unnecessarily escalate situations and enact greater harm in our communities, particularly communities of color. Expansion of the MPD operating budget will simply allow more capacity for the MPD and its staff to cause harm.

Please consider the history of impact that the MPD, and police departments as a national institution, have had and continue to have on marginalized communities in particular as you decide whether to approve the proposed budget.

Thank you.

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Tabitha Faber

From: [Don Ferber](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: City of Madison budget, agenda Item 2
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 3:18:03 PM
Attachments: [Transportation Commission Equity Analysis Comments 11.9.2022.pdf](#)

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

City of Madison Alders:

The Sierra Club Four Lakes Group that includes Dane and 8 surrounding counties in South Central Wisconsin would like to express concerns regarding the operating budget for transportation and Madison Metro in particular. As we stated in recent comments to the Transportation Commission (attached), the Metro budget is based on assumptions about the Metro route redesign and the subsequent Title VI Service Equity Analysis that were performed. In response, we have strong concerns that there are significant shortcomings with regard to the Equity Analysis and whether the proposed redesign will in fact provide the level of equitable transportation service that we have stated is a goal for the City of Madison.

While determining potential added service and costs would be very difficult at this point, we request that if funding cannot be found this year for a more thorough and complete equity analysis, that it be included in next year's budget for an additional contractor to perform. A good part of the rationale for the wheel tax Madison passed in 2019 was to ensure upgraded and more equitable transit services for our community, and we cannot ensure that without performing the fine-grained analysis that is necessary to provide more detailed and hence accurate results as to how particular groups of people are impacted.

This is not a matter of the Federal requirements (which are vague and limited), but for Madison to ensure that we have accurately determined how equitable our proposed redesign is, and if expanded, or perhaps ancillary or additional services will be needed. We have for too long proclaimed our good intentions of equity; it is time we ensure that the steps we plan to take create the desired results, and not once again, leave disenfranchised members of our community behind.

Respectfully,

Don Ferber
Conservation Chair
Sierra Club Four Lakes Group

From: [Susan Freiss](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Support Community Care, Human Rights, & Racial Justice
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 11:20:58 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Alders,

As you consider the city budget, I know you feel pressure to support more funding for police and policing, but please have the courage to take our city on a different path. Understand that building a safe community means supporting the dignity, humanity, and capacity of our BIPOC youth and communities. We must move against the tide of fear mongering that calls for increased policing.

I applaud the significant funds in this budget earmarked for things such as reproductive health, young adult employment programs, a purpose-built homeless shelter, affordable housing, and emergency management for climate change. Unrelated to this budget, I also applaud the city's work on guaranteed income. These allocations reflect our community values.

However, I strongly oppose adding six police to the force through the COPS grant regardless that the cost will not be immediately assumed by taxpayers. **Increasing the police force does not reflect our community values** or contribute to the safety of young people. (In fact, evidence shows that "[police encounters in early childhood increase risk of arrest in young adulthood for Black but not white](#)" youth; for more info on that, see [this](#), and [this](#)).

I believe Madison can be a leader in providing care rather than criminalization of our vulnerable community members. Programs like CARES represent an important step and an effective alternative to further policing. In order to do this, **CARES needs robust funding**. I support the Mayor's vision, but it is simply not enough. I want to see this program not only exist, but thrive as a viable alternative our city can be proud of.

As an educator and longtime resident of Madison I'm excited to see the portions of the city budget that honor community, care, human rights, and racial justice. But **we can and should do better**.

Thank you for your service to our community,

Susan Freiss
2079 Winnebago St.

--



Be willing to be surprised!

Susan Freiss

608-609-7961

[Jane Addams Peace Association](#)

From: [Susan Freiss](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Re: Support Community Care, Human Rights, & Racial Justice
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 12:56:02 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Alders,

I'm following up on my earlier message here.

Please vote in support of (Amendment #12) that would remove the COPS grant matching funds (to hire 6 new officers) and expand the [CARES program](#).

Thank you,

Susan Freiss
2079 Winnebago St, Madison, WI 53704

On Wed, Oct 19, 2022 at 11:20 AM Susan Freiss <freissususan@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Alders,

As you consider the city budget, I know you feel pressure to support more funding for police and policing, but please have the courage to take our city on a different path. Understand that building a safe community means supporting the dignity, humanity, and capacity of our BIPOC youth and communities. We must move against the tide of fear mongering that calls for increased policing.

I applaud the significant funds in this budget earmarked for things such as reproductive health, young adult employment programs, a purpose-built homeless shelter, affordable housing, and emergency management for climate change. Unrelated to this budget, I also applaud the city's work on guaranteed income. These allocations reflect our community values.

However, I strongly oppose adding six police to the force through the COPS grant regardless that the cost will not be immediately assumed by taxpayers. **Increasing the police force does not reflect our community values** or contribute to the safety of young people. (In fact, evidence shows that "[police encounters in early childhood increase risk of arrest in young adulthood for Black but not white](#)" youth; for more info on that, see [this](#), and [this](#)).

I believe Madison can be a leader in providing care rather than criminalization of our vulnerable community members. Programs like CARES represent an important step and an effective alternative to further policing. In order to do this, **CARES needs robust funding**. I support the Mayor's vision, but it is simply not enough. I want to see this program not only exist, but thrive as a viable alternative our city can be proud of.

As an educator and longtime resident of Madison I'm excited to see the portions of the city budget that honor community, care, human rights, and racial justice. But **we can and should do better.**

Thank you for your service to our community,

Susan Freiss
2079 Winnebago St.

--



Be willing to be surprised!

Susan Freiss
608-609-7961
[*Jane Addams Peace Association*](#)

--



Be willing to be surprised!

Susan Freiss
608-609-7961
[*Jane Addams Peace Association*](#)

From: [Will Glenn](#)
To: [All Alders](#); [Mayor](#)
Subject: My support for Amendment #12
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 5:59:36 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello Good Evening,

To whom this may concern: My name is Mr. Will Glenn Sr. and I am Madison's 1st and only African American Teen Librarian. I believe and support Chief Barnes vision of creating a police department that values community policing and community partnerships. I believe the Common Council sponsored budget amendment that would add the 2021 COPS hiring Grant for 6 new police officer positions for the Police Department's Youth Trust and Legitimacy Initiative should be passed. I have seen and worked heavily with our MPD and think the more interactive we can be the better our community and relationships within the community will be.

--

" Life Is Marathon, Not a Sprint.... wrg"

Mr Willie R. Glenn Sr.

From: [MGR GOVINDARAJAN](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Support the UniverCity Alliance Budget Amendment
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 6:08:13 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Alders,

My name is MGR Govindarajan, a Junior at UW-Madison. I'm asking you to please **support funding the UniverCity Alliance Budget Amendment** for student affordable housing today. Student housing is an issue that matters, 1 in 6 residents of Madison is a Student, however affordable student housing is an issue that does not come up often enough in this Common Council.

Finally seeing some action on Affordable Student Housing is revitalizing. I have struggled for the past two years to find housing in this city. I currently live in an apartment unit that has no windows, it is nearly impossible for me as a human being to function when I can't tell the difference between 2AM and 11AM. The reason I ended up with this unit is because by November of 2021, the majority of units were already leased for the following year. This year, I had to sign my lease during the first week of October, literally one month after classes started. Imagine a freshman in the same position, moving into a new city and then having to choose who you'll live with for a year, where, etc. just a month into classes? That's not a fair decision.

Landlords have been able to raise rents but keep Maintenance low. I mentioned that my unit does not have a window, I should also mention that for the past month it has not had a working elevator, and I live on the 7th floor. You can fact check it; I live in the Humbucker Apartments on Spring Street. Investing and funding this amendment will allow for this city to really SHOW students that you care about our needs.

I urge you to **support funding the UniverCity Alliance Budget**. If you have further questions please reach out to me at mgovindaraja@wisc.edu.

MGR Govindarajan (*he/him/his*)

University of Wisconsin-Madison | Class of 2024
Legal Studies & Political Science Major, Criminal Justice Certificate
mgovindaraja@wisc.edu | 914-434-0626

From: magpack1@charter.net
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: [All Alders] Bonuses
Date: Wednesday, September 21, 2022 11:49:54 AM

Recipient: All Alders

Name: Lori Groskreutz
Address: 605 Whitehall Dr, Madison, WI 53714
Email: magpack1@charter.net

Would you like us to contact you? Yes, by email

Message:

I heard on the local news that the Common Council has approved bonuses for the City workers due to Covid and other issues, WOW taxpayers that still work and not an employee of City of Madison where does that leave us? Oh yes footing the bill, If the city as access money, how about using it for all the taxpayers it is their money and put towards roads repair or upgrade or parks, the list could go on, and one other quick question if you have that much extra funds, So no property tax increase?

From: [Shel Gross](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Oppose New Police Officers
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 1:37:06 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I am writing in opposition to the item in the city budget to approve federal COPS funding for 6 new officers. While this may have no cost to us now, it will leave the city on the hook to pay for them in 3 years. I think that the city has undertaken a number of efforts that address underlying safety issues for our community and should build on these:

- Violence prevention and interruption efforts through the combined city/county public health department. Police are almost always acting reactively. Efforts that identify and intervene with at-risk populations using peers in the community hold great promise for proactively interrupting violence.
- The CARES program uses a better model to intervene with folks in mental health crisis. The proposed budget has an additional \$160,000 for this program but additional funds could be allocated.
- I am very supportive of the significant efforts the city has made to increase access to affordable housing and to address homelessness. These efforts help build a basic foundation for people's lives which can mitigate the factors that might lead to violence.

The current budget allocates over half (52%) of the city's funding for public health & safety to the police department. This is 10 times what is allocated for the public health department (\$84.2 million compared to \$8.2 million). We need to continue to ask ourselves what are the things that police are doing that can be done better by other personnel. And we need to continue to address and deliver community services to make sure families are safe and have basic needs met.

Thank you.

Shel Gross
145 Jackson St.
Madison WI 53704

From: [Amanda Hall](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: follow up on MPM and salary
Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 4:15:06 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hi Alders,

thanks for welcoming me into your space last night, it's been a minute! I wanted to thank you for hearing me out on the promise of the public market and why it's an essential investment in our values.

Wishing you well on the second night of your session.

And btw, for goodness sakes, I insist you increase your pay :) Yours is a difficult, consuming job. This taxpayer is all for something approaching fair compensation for the work you do.

--

With respect and gratitude,
Amanda Mary-Myriah Hall
she/her/hers/bruh

From: [Brian Hanneman](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Opposition to agenda item 2 amendments 12 & 13
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 2:58:48 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Once again we have to send out to the alders as our Alderperson Cole Figueroa has ignored her constituents in the 10th district and proposed the opposite of their wishes. The neighborhood presented a survey that showed 75% of the neighborhood would like more police coverage than less that she's proposing. Also, we don't want an additional 100k+ of our tax dollars going to CARES. She does not reflect the will of the people on both fronts.

Sent from my iPhone

From: mark@hazelbakerlaw.com
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: [All Alders] Support Increase In Alder Compensation
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 10:45:37 AM

Recipient: All Alders

Name: Mark Hazelbaker
Address: 3909 Regent Street, Madison, WI 53705
Email: mark@hazelbakerlaw.com

Would you like us to contact you? Yes, by email

Message:

Recently, I had occasion to see how much information alders are expected to review for each Council meeting. I was astonished. Preparing for your meetings is, by itself, a part-time job. Handling constituent questions and committee work is far more than your current compensation reflects.

37,000 per year is a reasonable amount for the commitment you make and the work you do. I strongly support the increase.

From: [Joanne Heil](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Budget amendments
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 10:00:30 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Please accept the COPS grant that will fund 6 MPD officers that were included in the Mayor's proposed 2023 Operating Budget.

The Madison Police Department was recently awarded a Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Grant for 6 much-needed officers who would work specifically with young people in our community to build trust, solve problems and help youth before they get involved in criminal activity like stealing cars. The Mayor included the grant funding in her 2023 Operating Budget.

Ironically, there are two alders who want to reject the grant because they believe the city can't afford more police officers, but they introduced an amendment for a huge pay increase for themselves. This idea was struck down by Madison voters during an advisory referendum in the spring 2021 election.

Dear Alders, what happened to representing your constituents?

Please vote in favor of the COPS grant and vote against the alder pay raise.

From: jhirsch@chorus.net
To: [Finance Committee](#)
Cc: [Mayor Committee Applications; All Alders](#)
Subject: Oppose Budget Amendment #23 Increase Alder Pay
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 9:57:47 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Attn: Finance Committee Members

I ask you to **OPPOSE** the ***Increase in Alder Pay*** which is outlined in Amendment #23. It's not needed.

I question the comparison to "...mean hourly rate for all permanent city employees..." which was used to develop the figures. The alders are not permanent city employees.

Thank you for dealing with the fiscal challenges that we face.

Janet Hirsch
District 9

From: [Hong, Francesca](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Support the UniverCity Alliance Budget Amendment
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 4:13:14 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Alders,

Please support funding the UniverCity Alliance budget amendment to student affordable student housing. One in six people living in Madison are UW students and yet student housing does not come up at all in the City of Madison Comprehensive plan. We need affordable, suitable, and sustainable housing solutions in the greater campus area!

I support the study for affordable student housing because as the State Rep. for the majority of students living on campus, affordable housing is THE issue we have consistently heard about from concerned students both living on and off campus.

Supporting the budget amendment for the affordable student housing study will demonstrate that the city actually cares about our campus community and all we bring to the city.

In service and with gratitude,

Francesca Hong
(She/Her/Hers)
76th Assembly District
608-266-5342
[@staterephong](#)

From: lorenzovillanova@charter.net
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Council Meeting 11/15/22 Agenda Items 1 & 2
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 3:31:03 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I **oppose** Agenda Item 1 2023 Capital Budget number 3 **Public Market**. That \$6,000,000 is better spent somewhere else.

I **support** Agenda Item 2 2023 Operating Budget number 13 **Increase Alder Pay**. Please pay these hard-working alders what they are worth.

It's **ridiculous** that I couldn't register to support or oppose these things **individually** when I tried to register online. I would have had to support or oppose the **entire** Capital Budget or Operating Budget. Your Legistar system sucks. Thanks for listening.

Larry Jensen
1618 Jenifer St
Madison 53704



Virus-free. www.avg.com

From: [Faith Kelley](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Voting
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 4:03:39 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I am urging you all to vote no on #12 and #13.

We need more policing to keep everyone safe. With the levels of crime, stolen cars which by the way have hit 2 squad cars, and all the other issues this is not the time to be lax.....I know it's hard to think that things are that bad but until you or a family member get hurt or suffer from these crimes I guess you won't understand??

#13- with the high prices of gas and inflation and even the City of Madison employees have gone with out raises. I am opposed to this. What about all of the people before you who did this on a voluntary basis?? I believe there are more important issues at this time.

Thank you for your consideration and hard work,

Faith Kelley

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sol Kelley-Jones](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Please support evidence, vote for Amendment 12 in Operating Budget
Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 9:18:59 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Alders -

As you consider the City Operating Budget, I ask you to **support Amendment 12**, removing the COPS grant that adds six police officers (that we as taxpayers will be on the hook to pay for in a short few years - at a time when our city will be dealing with large deficits), and, instead, put more robust funding towards pro-active and effective alternatives like CARES.

The narrative surrounding the COPS grant for the new police officers seems to be one of growing crime and dangerous youth, but there has been no evidence presented that violent crime among young people has risen in Madison because it hasn't and [police calls to high schools are even down this year](#). Everytime someone speaks on behalf of the police officers they allude to rising crime but never present evidence. The bare minimum elected officials could do is request evidence from those who are proposing we spend 600K new dollars a year to address a "issue of rising youth crime" and expect that proponents demonstrate how their plan to use police officers to "build relationships between police and teens" would actually solve their presumed "youth crime" problem.

In contrast, there actually is **significant evidence of the harm** that these strategies of policing and increased police contact - [of ANY kind](#) - actually has for young people of color. Study after study shows that "[police encounters in early childhood increase risk of arrest in young adulthood for Black but not white](#)" youth (for more info on that, see [this](#), [this](#), [this](#) and [this](#)), police in and [around schools](#) (as Chief Barnes has suggested) negatively impacts youth of color's [academic](#) performance and engagement in school, and police contact with youth of color - regardless of intention - has [adverse impact](#) on youth of color's overall well being.

If we want to reduce racial disparities in our city, we must start by rejecting a costly proposal that puts more police in neighborhoods in contact with youth of color.

I urge you to support Amendment 12, reject the costly - in dollars and human impact - COPS grant for 6 new officers and boost, instead, evidence-based models

like CARES that demonstrate an effective alternative to over- criminalization of our most vulnerable community members.

Thank you for your service and leadership in our city,

Sol Kelley-Jones

From: [Annie Kester](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Agenda item #2 on the November 15th meeting, the wage parity amendment
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 10:26:10 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Madison Common Council members,

I implore you to support the GME wage parity amendment (#22) as recommended by the Finance Committee for the 2023 Operating Budget.

I have worked for the Madison Public Library for 22 years and am a resident of the city. I think this is a great city and feel fortunate to be raising a family here.

I watched the finance committee meeting discussing this amendment and I think that Alder Tag Evers said it best when he asked if the City is going to do selective austerity or shared austerity. Back when Act 10 was proposed by the Republicans, the union busting was dangled as a carrot to municipalities as a way in which budgets could be balanced. The City of Madison said, "No way will we do that. We respect organized labor and can appreciate what it means to sit down and work together for the good of everyone involved." That hasn't happened. I truly believe that there was a good faith effort to bring us up to the levels of the unions. You now have the opportunity to follow through on that. If you pass this, we will be on track to achieve wage parity in 2024—like the plan that was made in 2021.

This isn't just about "general municipal employees," the 1,760 permanent employees who are not in the Police, Fire, and Teamsters bargaining units, as mentioned in the amendment. It's also hourly employees who have seen very little wage growth in the past few years. It is getting harder and harder to recruit, hire, and retain these employees when we are offering wages that are not competitive. Hourly employees don't get step and longevity increases like permanent employees. They have no reliable increases in their wages in the way that other employees enjoy. While the rest of us are getting some sort of increase here and there, they rely on you, the common council, for their pay increases.

Year after year, we have been 6% behind and now with dramatically high inflation, our lower wages mean that we are having an even harder time balancing our budgets at home.

Please do not balance the City's budget (yet again) on the backs of hard working municipal employees just because we happened to have had our bargaining rights stripped from us.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Annie Kester

From: [Austin King](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Please support the UniverCity Alliance amendment
Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 7:19:12 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Alders,

I hope that you will support Ald. Bennett's proposed amendment to the City of Madison's budget, dubbed the UniverCity Alliance amendment, to leverage \$17,000 of municipal investment with other funds for a \$100,000 study of student housing needs and opportunities in Madison. A lack of accessible, affordable, and high-quality housing is not unique to students, of course, but the particular dynamics of this large, transient, and diverse cohort of Madison renters merit special attention, not least because of the Legislature's wrongheaded ban on the construction of new public dormitories. The development of a rigorous and comprehensive plan to meet the housing needs of this large segment of Madisonians--though students are concentrated in a handful of districts closer to campus, there are many students in all twenty districts--will benefit all neighborhoods such as through better transit-oriented development that reduces traffic, the preservation and restoration of family housing stock, and more affordable options for all Madison renters. I can think of few public expenditures likely to yield such great returns, so I encourage you to vote yes.

Sincerely,
Austin King
(608) 213-0104
austinking@gmail.com
Former District 8 Alderperson

From: [timothy.krohn](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Amendment
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 12:23:33 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Alders,

Please reject an amendment that would increase the annual pay for alders from \$13,077 to \$31,793. A raise that would more than double council pay, plus premiums for council leadership, in April 2023 without any increase in expected hours of work per week (approx. 20). This proposal has previously failed and should not be tolerated for a part-time position.

Thank you,

Tim Krohn

From: [Adrian Lampron](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Re: Support the UniverCity Alliance Budget Amendment
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 12:53:38 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Good afternoon,

Please support funding the UniverCity Alliance budget amendment to student affordable student housing. One in six people living in Madison are UW students and yet student housing does not come up at all in the City of Madison Comprehensive plan. We need affordable, suitable, and sustainable housing solutions in the greater campus area!

I support the study on affordable student housing because I have struggled to find housing options in my budget as a student and now a recent graduate. I worked part or full time throughout college and have a decent job now and yet it has still been challenging and stressful to find housing. I have seen many friends stuck in unsafe and deeply uncomfortable housing situations in Madison because there were no other options that were not exorbitantly expensive. I'm sure you all know this, but housing is an ongoing issue for students and young people in Madison.

Supporting the budget amendment for the affordable student housing study will demonstrate that the city actually cares about our campus community and all it brings to the city. This study will hopefully provide us with some paths toward more affordable and sustainable housing in the campus and downtown area.

Thank you,

Adrian Lampron

District 6 Resident
Former Resident of D8 and D13

From: [Karyssa Ann Lowe](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Support the UniverCity Alliance Budget Amendment
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 5:38:50 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Please support funding the UniverCity Alliance budget amendment to student affordable student housing. One in six people living in Madison are UW students and yet student housing does not come up at all in the City of Madison Comprehensive plan. We need affordable, suitable, and sustainable housing solutions in the greater campus area!

I support the study for affordable student housing because I have multiple friends that live in buildings on campus that are apart of affordable student housing. I am worried for them and their safety if they will not have a place to stay. This can affect their futures in a negative way.

Supporting the budget amendment for the affordable student housing study will demonstrate that the city actually cares about our campus community and all we bring to the city.

Thanks,

Karyssa Lowe

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [Mary Malloy](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Amendment 12
Date: Thursday, November 17, 2022 7:16:12 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I am urging you to vote no to Amendment 12. The grant has been received and will support positive proactive connections with our exemplary police department.

From: lorryn.meyer@icloud.com
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: [All Alders] Public safety, fiscal responsibility and spending priorities
Date: Wednesday, September 21, 2022 9:42:24 AM

Recipient: All Alders

Name: Lorraine Meyer
Address: 1906 SHERIDAN DR, MADISON, WI 53704
Email: lorryn.meyer@icloud.com

Would you like us to contact you? Yes, by email

Message:

I have lived in Madison on the north side for 30 years and I have voted and been an engaged citizen throughout my adult life. I am writing now to express concern regarding the direction our current mayor and her political ideology is taking our city. The amount and severity of crime is escalating at an unprecedented rate. I no longer feel safe in my own home or neighborhood. Our locked home was entered, car and other items were stolen. There is an alarming increase in guns being fired. Public safety should be a number one priority for government services and spending yet our current governing bodies have not made it a priority. Our police force needs to be supported with enough officers to keep up with all that they have to respond to and also be able to do preventive work in our community. They need to have the tools available to do their very difficult job without all kinds of rules that prevent them from apprehending criminals and when they do apprehend suspects, that there is a legal system that prosecutes persons convicted of crimes. People who steal cars, break into cars and homes are charged with operating a vehicle without the owners permission and released back into the community and commit the same crime again and victimize other citizens. With the rising price of homes, assessments have gone up so the amount of money for the budget should be adequate to fund basic government services so that police, parks, streets and projects that promote economic vitality eg the public market continue to be funded adequately and/or increased as needed . However, it seems the current prevailing political ideology only advocates for special pet projects at the expense of deterioration of fundamental government services. Now the mayor is proposing 1000 per full time employee in the city. I worked for the county and city for many years. When money was tight, everyone tightened their belts, positions were frozen or eliminated. The effects of inflation and the pandemic have affected everyone. Many lost their livelihood. The city employees have not lost their jobs/livelihoods yet the Mayor wants to give everyone who works for the city 1000. There is no longer a requirement for city employees to live in the city of Madison. This is not fiscally responsible government. It is not good stewardship of taxpayer's money that should be funding government services that protect and serve citizens who live in Madison.

From: joynarv@gmail.com
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: [All Alders] Operating Budget
Date: Thursday, October 13, 2022 4:48:13 PM

Recipient: All Alders

Name: Joyce NARVESON

Address: 33 CHEROKEE CIR, UNIT 102, MADISON, WI 53704

Email: joynarv@gmail.com

Would you like us to contact you? Yes, by email

Message:

In addition to the concern about overall size of the increase proposed, I have several specific concerns:

- 1 I see no need for a program development/marketing position in the park dept. How about spending the on maintenance if any increase is granted.
- 2 The parking enforcement positions should be revenue producers?? Why eliminate these??
- 3 Why assume no increase in the water rates and budget a 5% increase from city funds?? The Water Utility should be self sustaining through the rate making process. An 18% increase is pending before the PSC and that or something very close will be in effect by early 2023.
- 4 I support programs for low income, but the number of the initiatives in this area is more than is affordable at one time.
- 5 I support the increase in the CARES program, but in addition I believe more funding is needed for community policing, security, traffic control. The only increase that I see budgeted is the federally funded positions.

From: [Jim Pogodzinski](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 8:39:06 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Please make sure you all vote for the C.O.P.S. grant money. Increasing funding and adding more police is imperative for keeping our community members safe.
Also, if you vote yourself a major raise you should all be voted out of office.
Jim Pogodzinski

From: [madelin Reynolds](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Support of the UniverCity Alliance Budget Ammendment
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 7:17:05 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Please support funding the UniverCity Alliance budget amendment to student affordable student housing. One in six people living in Madison are UW students and yet student housing does not come up at all in the City of Madison Comprehensive plan. We need affordable, suitable, and sustainable housing solutions in the greater campus area!

I support the ammdement for affordable student housing because I have lived as a low income resident at one time as well as a low income student in this city, and more affordable housing for students would mean more affordable housing for residents as well. Housing equity would allow more low-income students from all backgrounds to live in community with each other. Madison has historically been a place that talks the talk but doesn't walk the walk and everybody knows that. This is one step in the right direction to get Madison away from that title.

Supporting the budget amendment for the affordable student housing study will demonstrate that the city actually cares about our campus community and all we bring to the city.

Thanks,
Madelin Reynolds

From: [Bonnie Roe](#)
To: [Rhodes-Conway, Satya V.](#); [Finance Committee](#); [All Alders](#); [Tishler, Bill](#)
Subject: Amendments
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 1:26:06 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Mayor, Alders, and Members of the Finance Committee,

Please **OPPOSE Amendment #23** to vastly increase Alder salaries during a time of massive structural deficit. This is an unnecessary expense our city does not need, and all residents I've spoken with are against it. To try to sneak it through the budget as an amendment as opposed to the regular budget process is disingenuous and last minute. The amendments were not posted in a timely fashion on the city's Finance page and instead had to be located on the Finance Committee Agenda on Friday afternoon. This is unacceptable and residents deserve more time to see what you are all up to and have a voice in the process. There are many, many more important objectives for us to spend our taxpayer dollars on (such as public safety, rising gun violence and violent crime, youth recidivism, and people who are currently housing challenged or in need of help entering the workforce) than increasing salaries for a 20-hour per week job. What happened to the concept of public service?

Please **ACCEPT Amendment #13**, the COPS Grant for a Police Community Advisory Board. This is in keeping with all of the reports and feedback given through the ad hoc policy group, the OIR Report, the Quattrone Center Review, and the feedback MPD received through many meetings with the public. The community wants more say in policing and this is a no-brainer, as it is grant funded.

Please **ACCEPT #14**, if legally possible, to be able to have third party transports after an emergency detention. As far as I can tell, this costs the city nothing and it would meet a huge need. It would help those who do not need a return trip based on their state of mind and behavior by the end of a detention, and it would help our police officers by saving them time on work that might not need to be done by them (in some cases).

Please **ACCEPT #16**, another COPS Grant for officer health and wellness. Nothing is more important than a properly-funded and resourced police department, with physically and emotionally healthy police officers responding to the scenes of so many types of incidents, especially when they are short-staffed, frequently unable to meet hard minimums throughout the city, and maxing out on overtime. Burnout and attrition are high, longevity is low and shrinking. We need healthy officers dealing with the public, and especially those in a mental health crisis, to make the best, most sound split-second decisions, especially in life or death situations.

Thank you,

Bonnie Roe
District 11
608-239-1748

From: [Bonnie Roe](#)
To: [Tishler, Bill](#); [All Alders](#); [Bottari, Mary](#); [Rhodes-Conway, Satya V.](#)
Cc: [Barnes, Shon F](#)
Subject: Operating Amendments
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:23:03 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Alder Tishler and all Members of the Common Council,

I urge you to vote no on Operating Budget Amendment #12, which would reject the already-awarded grant for 6 police officers dedicated to working with youth throughout our City. I'm thankful for MPD's commitment to community partnership and its innovation in being part of the solution for our hurting youth in ways the current volume of calls for service does not allow.

This concept is in direct response to every policing study and review done over the years and demonstrates the value of the proactive, community-oriented policing MPD prioritizes and the 21st century demands.

The Mayor saw the need for this work and included this COPS Grant in her Executive Operating Budget. Even the Public Safety Review Committee voted to accept this grant. Please support the youth in our City by opposing this amendment that would reverse it all.

Fortunately, the CARES team continues to grow and expand, as you know, and the Fire Department does not need additional funding at this time.

Regarding Operating Amendment #13, I hope you will also vote no. As an engaged resident, I know our Council members work hard and it's sometimes a thankless job. But it does not seem like the time to more than double Alder pay for the same amount of work (or less, with the administrative support recently added), and especially through the budget amendment process. I might not oppose a smaller, more reasonable raise, with transparency. But I oppose this Amendment.

Thank you for all your work to deliver a balanced budget,

Bonnie Roe
District 11
608-239-1748

From: kdietzman@sbcglobal.net
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: [All Alders] Proposed Budget
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 12:41:14 PM

Recipient: All Alders

Name: Glori Sabin
Address: 10 Jubilee Cir, Madison, Wi 53718
Phone: 608-249-9851
Email: kdietzman@sbcglobal.net

Would you like us to contact you? Yes, by email

Message:

Dear Alders,

STOP! Please do NOT approve the Mayor's proposed budget. You must remove Amendment #12 that removes funds from the Police Department & General Fund and the Cops Hiring Program Grant. The additional 6 officers are desperately needed for the safety of our neighborhoods.

Everyone needs to tighten their belts and reduce unnecessary budgeted plans that are NOT NEEDED but just a "nice to have". This particularly means reviewing "fluff" that the out of control and reckless spending Mayor wants to add. We taxpayers CANNOT afford anything that is absolutely NOT necessary or needed, such as the Madison Public Market. This issue belonged on the ballot for every citizen to vote on. I do NOT want my tax dollars used to benefit this Albatross!

Lastly, the idea of raises that would double wages for Alders is laughable. You all knew the wages for these Part Time Civic positions and the suggestion that you vote yourselves a double or any wage increase is APPALLING!

CHOOSE WISELY AND WITH A CONSCIENCE!

Thank you.

From: [Mary Sanderson](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: budget for needs, not extra police
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 12:58:52 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Alders,

As you consider the city budget, I know you will get pressure to support more funding for police and policing, but I ask you to have the courage to take our city on a different path – one that understands that building a safe community means supporting the dignity, humanity, and capacity of our BIPOC youth and communities.

I strongly oppose adding six police officers through the COPS grant; we as taxpayers will be on the hook to pay for these officers in a short few years, at a time when our city will be dealing with large deficits. Policing already has an oversized budget in comparison to the rest of city services; committing new funds to an additional six officers does not reflect our values or actually contribute to more safety for children and youth. (In fact, evidence shows that “[police counters in early childhood increase risk of arrest in young adulthood for Black but not white](#)” youth; for more info on that, see [this](#), [this](#), and [this](#)).

If we want to reduce racial disparities, we must start by rejecting a costly proposal that puts more police in neighborhoods with BIPOC youth and use those funds to invest in what works.

I also believe Madison can be a leader in providing care rather than criminalization to our most vulnerable community members. Programs like CARES represent an important step and an effective alternative to further policing. In order to do this, CARES needs robust funding. I support the Mayor’s vision, but it is simply not enough. I want to see this program not only exist, but thrive as a viable alternative our city can be proud of.

I’m happy to see significant funds in this budget earmarked for things such as reproductive health, young adult employment programs, a purpose-built homeless shelter, affordable housing, and emergency management for climate change. Unrelated to this budget, we also applaud the City’s work on guaranteed income. I’m excited to see the portions of the city budget that honor community, care, human rights, and racial justice. But we can and should do better.

Sincerely,
Mary Sanderson

From: [Mary Sanderson](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: support CARES, Amendment 12
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 1:05:32 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Please reject funding for 3 yrs' new officers
AND increase funding for the CARES Program.

Thanks for all you do!

Mary Sanderson

From: Mary Sanderson
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 12:58 PM
To: allalders@cityofmadison.com
Subject: budget for needs, not extra police

Dear Alders,

As you consider the city budget, I know you will get pressure to support more funding for police and policing, but I ask you to have the courage to take our city on a different path – one that understands that building a safe community means supporting the dignity, humanity, and capacity of our BIPOC youth and communities.

I strongly oppose adding six police officers through the COPS grant; we as taxpayers will be on the hook to pay for these officers in a short few years, at a time when our city will be dealing with large deficits. Policing already has an oversized budget in comparison to the rest of city services; committing new funds to an additional six officers does not reflect our values or actually contribute to more safety for children and youth. (In fact, evidence shows that [“police encounters in early childhood increase risk of arrest in young adulthood for Black but not white”](#) youth; for more info on that, see [this](#), [this](#), and [this](#)).

If we want to reduce racial disparities, we must start by rejecting a costly proposal that puts more police in neighborhoods with BIPOC youth and use those funds to invest in what works.

I also believe Madison can be a leader in providing care rather than criminalization to our most vulnerable community members. Programs like CARES represent an important step and an effective alternative to further policing. In order to do this, CARES needs robust funding. I support the Mayor's vision, but it is simply not enough. I want to see this program not only exist, but thrive as a viable alternative our city can be proud of.

I'm happy to see significant funds in this budget earmarked for things such as reproductive health, young adult employment programs, a purpose-built homeless shelter, affordable housing, and emergency management for climate change. Unrelated to this budget, we also applaud the City's work on guaranteed income. I'm excited to see the portions of the city budget that honor community, care, human

rights, and racial justice. But we can and should do better.

sincerely,
Mary Sanderson

From: [Norman Sannes](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Cc: [Mayor](#)
Subject: \$1000 bonus
Date: Friday, September 23, 2022 5:01:10 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

So, the mayor wants to give most city employees a \$1000 bonus. City employees already are well paid and have a great benefit package. Meanwhile, many taxpayers, especially those on fixed income are struggling to get by. The mayor's plan smells of politics.

Many city employees are still working from home/remote. Why aren't they back at their original location? How about some accountability from the mayor's office?

Norman Sannes, Madison

From: [Norman Sannes](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Cc: [Mayor](#)
Subject: More Tax and Spend
Date: Wednesday, October 12, 2022 12:33:15 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Here we go again, the mayor proposes a 6% spending increase in her 2023 budget. That increase includes a one time \$1000 payment (that has a \$3.4 million price tag) to city employees, many who have union contracts that were collectively bargained.. Madison's property taxpayers are the Mayor's money tree, many who are retired and on fixed incomes. This has to STOP.

I remember when the "water bill" was for water and sewer. The rest of the "fees" were covered by property taxes. Just smoke and mirrors to play the numbers game.

Hopefully, the city council alders can eliminate the mayor's crazy proposals.

Norman Sannes, Madison

From: [council](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: FW: City budget..spending gone wild.
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 9:10:38 AM

Good morning alders,
The following message was received in the Council inbox.
Thanks,

Liz Windsor
Common Council Office
608-266-4074

-----Original Message-----

From: Norman Sannes <norman.sannes@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 13, 2022 11:14 AM
To: Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>
Cc: council <council@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: City budget..spending gone wild.

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Here you go again..Proposing an almost doubling of the alders “wages.” I see the writing on the wall. “Full time jobs” for the alders. The property tax payers are your money tree.

Back in the day, we received a “water and sewer: bill. Now we get a monthly “Municipal Services” bill, with charges for services that used to be included in our property taxes (tacking approximately \$25/mo on to the old “water bill). Switch and bait, smoke and mirrors.

Then we have the Mayor’s office with a staff of 11 (or, so). What a fiefdom.

I guess “fiscal responsibility is not part of the Mayor’s office, or the common councils’ lexicon.

Norman Sannes
5345 Queenbridge Rd
Madison, WI

From: [Paul Skidmore](#)
To: [Finance Committee](#)
Cc: [Mayor Committee Applications; All Alders](#)
Subject: Oppose Budget Amendment #23 Increase Alder Pay
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 12:42:05 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Attn: Finance Committee Members

I ask you to **OPPOSE** the ***Increase in Alder Pay*** which is outlined in Amendment #23. It's not needed or warranted, but it will waste our tax dollars.

I question the need for such a dramatic increase in the pay for alders, who are part time employees of the City of Madison. The City has highly qualified, full time staff to manage all aspects of City operations. There is no justification for such a dramatic increase in pay, especially since the City already has a significant structural deficit which will get dramatically larger as the City continues to borrow money for capital projects.

As a former alder and member of both the Task Force on Government Structure (TFOG) and the TFOG Implementation Work Group, I observed very little public support for changing the City's governmental structure, or for increasing alders pay. These observations were born out by the failure of the advisory referendum on restructuring City government. I consider this amendment a 'back door' attempt to circumvent the will of the public.

Please vote no on Amendment #23.

Paul Skidmore

District 9 Resident

From: [Paul Skidmore](#)
To: [Conklin, Nikki](#); [All Alders](#); [Bottari, Mary](#); [Rhodes-Conway, Satya V.](#)
Cc: [Barnes, Shon F](#)
Subject: Operating Budget Amendments
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 11:42:19 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Alder Conklin and all Members of the Common Council,

I urge you to vote no on Operating Budget Amendment #12, which would reject the already-awarded grant for 6 police officers dedicated to working with youth throughout our City. I'm thankful for MPD's commitment to community partnership and its innovation in being part of the solution for our hurting youth in ways the current volume of calls for service does not allow. This concept demonstrates the value of the proactive, community-oriented policing MPD prioritizes and the 21st century demands.

The Mayor saw the need for this work and included this COPS Grant in her Executive Operating Budget. Even the Public Safety Review Committee voted to accept this grant. Please support the youth in our City by opposing this amendment that would reverse it all.

The CARES team continues to grow and expand, as you know, and the Fire Department does not need additional funding at this time.

Regarding Operating Amendment #13, I hope you will also vote no. As a former alder, I know our Council members work hard and it's sometimes a thankless job. But it is not the time to more than double Alder pay for the same amount of work, and especially through the budget amendment process. I might not oppose a smaller, more reasonable raise (cost of living raise, similar to other City employees), with transparency. But I oppose this Amendment as submitted.

Thank you for all your work to deliver a balanced budget,

Paul Skidmore
District 11

From: [Brendon Smith](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Please invest in the Double Dollars program
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 11:55:56 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hi Alders,

As a constituent residing in the Eken Park neighborhood, I am asking you to support a \$25,000 increase for the Double Dollars program. The Double Dollars program is a win for families, farmers and our local economy. The Double Dollars program helps families stretch their monthly SNAP benefit and prioritize purchasing nutritious, locally grown foods. For example, if an individual spends \$10 SNAP at the market, they are provided an additional \$10 Double Dollars to also spend at the market.

I work at Willy Street Co-op and have heard stories from both people who use Double Dollars vouchers and from donors. (And I'm a donor myself!) I believe that what it does helps families in need, it helps local farmers and vendors, and it helps our community. In fact, every \$1 invested generates up to \$2 in economic activity. Over the years, the Double Dollars program has demonstrated tremendous ability to offer residents throughout the community the opportunity to enjoy greater access to better nutrition, all while supporting local farmers. Unfortunately, current demand exceeds existing resources. Increased investment from the city is needed to maintain the program. Investing in the Double Dollars program is an important opportunity to prioritize health and health equity by funding what we truly value: building stronger, healthier, more equitable communities. Please increase the city's investment in the Dane County Double Dollars program to \$25,000.

Thank you for your consideration and for your work for our community!

--Brendon

Brendon Smith
2529 E. Dayton St.
Madison WI 53704

--

--Brendon

From: [Megan Spielbauer Sandate](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: 2023 Budget
Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 6:53:27 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello all,

I am emailing to provide my feedback on the proposed budget. To begin, Fuck Cops. As Freedom Inc and many other individuals and organizations in this city have made clear, we need to stop giving so much money to the police, and we need to fund actual human services.

First, the COPS grant is a risk for the City of Madison to accept. Hiring 6 new cops now will mean paying for 6 more positions in three years. We do not have the money as a community to keep spending on people who threaten, harass, and kill members of our community. We need to be planning for the future and moving funds into services like housing, public health, and others that build our community up.

Second, I support growing the CARES Program. The program needs to be 24/7, and it deserves the chance to have a full pilot.

Third, I am not sure if this is still up for deliberation, but I think having more accessible cabs and transportation in this community is important.

Fourth, I support spending money on affordable housing in Madison. Landlords and property managers are given too much leeway to be horrible property owners and still get paid. If studying affordable housing is what gets it done, then I support the UniverCity Alliance budget amendment as one of the steps in addressing the horrible housing market that tenants find themselves in in this city.

Best,
Megan Spielbauer Sandate

From: [Eli Z Tsarovsky](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Support the UniverCity Alliance Budget Amendment
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 3:04:57 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Alders,

Please support funding the UniverCity Alliance budget amendment to student affordable student housing. One in six people living in Madison are UW students and yet student housing does not come up at all in the City of Madison Comprehensive Plan. We need affordable, suitable, and sustainable housing solutions in the greater campus area!

I support the study for affordable student housing because I faced the impacts of unaffordable housing in Madison. I am unable to go out to State Street and spend money at my favorite businesses and save for my future. The current housing in Madison is not well maintained and needs to be replaced. Replacing the current housing with affordable housing for students in our community is a paramount concern.

Supporting the budget amendment for the affordable student housing study will demonstrate that the city cares about our campus community and all we bring to the city. Affordable housing is part of a better Madison.

Thank you,

Eli Tsarovsky

From: [Emily Valentine](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Support the UniverCity Alliance Budget Amendment
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 6:49:56 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Please support funding the UniverCity Alliance budget amendment to student affordable student housing. One in six people living in Madison are UW students and yet student housing does not come up at all in the City of Madison Comprehensive plan. We need affordable, suitable, and sustainable housing solutions in the greater campus area!

Supporting the budget amendment for the affordable student housing study will demonstrate that the city actually cares about our campus community and all we bring to the city.

Thanks,
Emily Valentine

From: [Steve Verburg](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: mpd building trust via COPS grant
Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 10:18:39 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Members of the Common Council:

Why would anyone expect Madison police to build trust with the community without becoming trustworthy?

What is trustworthy about a police department whose arrest practices year after year mean that Black people are about ten times as likely to be arrested as white people? In a country known for its mistreatment of Black people, Madison Police Department's racial disparities in arrest practices are twice as bad as the average for the rest of the country. There is nothing trustworthy about this department as an institution.

Madison Police Department is a fundamentally dishonest institution -- unless we are to believe that Black men and women become twice as likely to commit crimes as soon as they cross the city limits and enter Madison.

Spending money to persuade people to trust this dishonest and untrustworthy police department is beyond immoral. It's perverse.

Thanks for considering my thoughts on this matter.

Sincerely,

Steve Verburg
Madison, Wisconsin
608-212-9726

From: [Abra Vigna](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Re:the 2023 budget
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 5:32:22 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Alders,

As you consider the city budget, I know you will get pressure to support more funding for police and policing, but I ask you to have the courage to take our city on a different path – one that understands that building a safe community means supporting the dignity, humanity, and capacity of our BIPOC youth and communities.

I strongly oppose adding six police officers through the COPS grant; we as taxpayers will be on the hook to pay for these officers in a short few years, at a time when our city will be dealing with large deficits. Policing already has an oversized budget in comparison to the rest of city services; committing new funds to an additional six officers does not reflect our values or actually contribute to more safety for children and youth. (In fact, evidence shows that “[police counters in early childhood increase risk of arrest in young adulthood for Black but not white](#)” youth; for more info on that, see [this](#), [this](#), and [this](#)).

If we want to reduce racial disparities, we must start by rejecting a costly proposal that puts more police in neighborhoods with BIPOC youth and use those funds to invest in what works.

I also believe Madison can be a leader in providing care rather than criminalization to our most vulnerable community members. Programs like CARES represent an important step and an effective alternative to further policing. In order to do this, CARES needs robust funding. I support the Mayor’s vision, but it is simply not enough. I want to see this program not only exist, but thrive as a viable alternative our city can be proud of.

I’m happy to see significant funds in this budget earmarked for things such as reproductive health, young adult employment programs, a purpose-built homeless shelter, affordable housing, and emergency management for climate change. Unrelated to this budget, we also applaud the City’s work on guaranteed income. I’m excited to see the portions of the city budget that honor community, care, human rights, and racial justice. But we can and should do better.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Dr Abra Vigna
53711

From: [Amy Washbush Hilgendorf](#)
To: [All Alders](#); [Benford, Brian](#)
Subject: Support Amendment #12 for the 2023 Madison Operating Budget
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 3:38:17 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Alders,

My name is Amy Washbush and I live in District 6. I've lived in Madison most of my life and I'm raising my three children here as well.

I'm writing regarding Madison's operating budget for 2023, and the importance of investing in our community, not police.

True solutions to safety come from investing in resources that meet our community's needs and support our neighbors who are vulnerable. Policing is a reactive response that often causes harm. Hiring an Independent Police Monitor is an important step towards addressing this harm. But we can further prevent this harm by directing more city funding towards programs like CARES rather than increasing police spending.

Thank you to Alders Figueroa Cole and Furman for hearing these concerns raised at the Finance Committee and incorporating them into amendment #12. This amendment increases funds for the CARES program, which helps to prevent people who are experiencing mental health crises from being put in jail. This program directly meets an important community need.

Additionally, amendment 12 removes the federal COPS grant, which would bring 6 new officers to MPD and leave the city on the hook to pay for them in 3 years. Policing doesn't meet the needs of our communities, doesn't prevent violence and, most importantly, continues to harm the most vulnerable among us. Removing this grant is a necessary step towards mitigating the harm that would come from increasing police spending and police presence in our communities.

As it stands, the current budget allocates over half (52%) of the city's funding for public health & safety to the police department. This is 10 times what is allocated for the public health department (\$84.2 million compared to \$8.2 million). This does not reflect our city's needs or values. True safety comes from equitable access to life-affirming resources. This includes priorities lifted up in Freedom Inc's Community Survey in 2020, including grocery stores, parks, community centers, street lights, bus stops and affordable housing.

Thank you for working to create a city budget that reflects our community's values and priorities.

Amy Washbush
107 Sutherland Court #226
Madison, WI 53704

From: [Larry and Ginny White](#)
To: [Conklin, Nikki](#)
Cc: [All Alders](#); [Mayor](#)
Subject: Proposed Alder Wage Increase
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 12:20:46 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Nikki: We oppose the 150% salary increase for city council members that you and three other alders have proposed.

We view the position of city council member as public service, not civil service employment. We and other Madison residents donate countless, uncompensated hours of our time to making our neighborhood and city a better place to live.

The opinion of city residents on alder positions was made clear in 2019 when 70% of voters opposed making the positions full-time, raising salaries and increasing term length.

We recognize that being an alder is a demanding job and we commend you for serving, despite the challenges it brings.

Regards,

Ginny and Larry White
71 Oak Creek Trail

From: [Larry and Ginny White](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Budget Amendments
Date: Saturday, November 12, 2022 3:16:45 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

We oppose the proposed 150% salary increase for city council members. We view the position of city council member as public service, not civil service employment.

Without question, alder positions are demanding, but there's been no shortage of qualified candidates who are willing to do the job. For people who can't devote the necessary time and effort, opportunities to influence city policy exist on other committees and commissions.

We and other Madison residents donate countless, uncompensated hours of our time to making our neighborhood and city a better place to live.

The opinion of city residents on alder positions was made clear in 2021 when 70% of voters opposed making the positions full-time, raising salaries and/or increasing term length. Being an alder is a difficult job and we commend you for serving, despite the challenges it brings.

We support the other amendments: Public Market, police funding, south side market and housing, etc.

Regards,

Ginny and Larry White
71 Oak Creek Trail

From: [Courtney Woods](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: We want to see more significant investment in CARES!
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 9:41:21 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Alders,

As you consider the city budget, I know you will get pressure to support more funding for police and policing, but I ask you to have the courage to take our city on a different path – one that understands that building a safe community means supporting the dignity, humanity, and capacity of our BIPOC youth and communities. I am a Madison community member, preschool director, former MMSD teacher, and future MMSD parent.

I strongly oppose adding six police officers through the COPS grant; we as taxpayers will be on the hook to pay for these officers in a short few years, at a time when our city will be dealing with large deficits. Policing already has an oversized budget in comparison to the rest of city services; committing new funds to an additional six officers does not reflect our values or actually contribute to more safety for children and youth. (In fact, evidence shows that “[police encounters in early childhood increase risk of arrest in young adulthood for Black but not white](#)” youth; for more info on that, see [this](#), [this](#), and [this](#)).

If we want to reduce racial disparities, we must start by rejecting a costly proposal that puts more police in neighborhoods with BIPOC youth and use those funds to invest in what works.

I also believe Madison can be a leader in providing care rather than criminalization to our most vulnerable community members. Programs like CARES represent an important step and an effective alternative to further policing. In order to do this, CARES needs robust funding. I support the Mayor’s vision, but it is simply not enough. I want to see this program not only exist, but thrive as a viable alternative our city can be proud of.

I’m happy to see significant funds in this budget earmarked for things such as reproductive health, young adult employment programs, a purpose-built homeless shelter, affordable housing, and emergency management for climate change. Unrelated to this budget, we also applaud the City’s work on guaranteed income. I’m excited to see the portions of the city budget that honor community, care, human rights, and racial justice. But we can and should do better.

Thank you for your service to our city and please consider this as you attend the common council meeting tonight.

Courtney Woods

From: [Xistris-Songpanya, Olivia](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Support the UniverCity Alliance Budget Amendment
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 3:12:31 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Please support funding the UniverCity Alliance budget amendment to student affordable student housing. One in six people living in Madison are UW students and yet student housing does not come up at all in the City of Madison Comprehensive plan. We need affordable, suitable, and sustainable housing solutions in the greater campus area!

I support the study for affordable student housing because as a student of the university, I have experienced first hand how difficult it is to find affordable housing on the campus. Through conversations with my peers about housing, it is evident there is a demand for realistic affordable housing options on the university campus. I have talked to people who have shared a room with 2 other people or chose to commute everyday to campus due to those being cheaper options for housing. Our university is world-renowned, and now is the time to provide students with safe and affordable housing solutions.

Supporting the budget amendment for the affordable student housing study will demonstrate that the city actually cares about our campus community and all we bring to the city.

Thanks,

Olivia Xistris-Songpanya, Dane County Supervisor, District 13

Sent Securely via TLS from County of Dane by
Proofpoint

From: [LYDIA ZAJICHEK](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Support the UniverCity Alliance Budget Amendment
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 12:27:24 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Please support funding the UniverCity Alliance budget amendment to student affordable student housing. One in six people living in Madison are UW students and yet student housing does not come up at all in the City of Madison Comprehensive plan. We need affordable, suitable, and sustainable housing solutions in the greater campus area!

I support the study for affordable student housing because...[share your story with student housing (ie. affordability, insecurity, etc)]

Supporting the budget amendment for the affordable student housing study will demonstrate that the city actually cares about our campus community and all we bring to the city.

Thanks,

Lydia Zajichek

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