

From: [Cindi Estey](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: MGO 5.19 and 5.20
Date: Monday, July 20, 2026 8:19:56 AM

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I am a Madison resident writing about the proposed changes to MGO 5.19 and 5.20. I urge you to vote NO on any changes that reduce the OIPM's operational independence. The OIPM's independence is what makes its findings on racial disparities in policing credible and actionable. I will be watching how you vote August 4.

Cindi Estey
9 Farmington Ct

From: [Bill Newman](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Opposing changes to OIPM ordinances
Date: Monday, July 20, 2026 12:35:15 PM

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I am a Madison resident writing about the proposed changes to MGO 5.19 and 5.20.

I urge you to vote NO on any changes that reduce the OIPM's operational independence. The OIPM's independence is what makes its findings on racial disparities in policing credible and actionable.

I will be watching how you vote August 4.

Sincerely

William Newman
2037 Rutledge St
Madison 53704

From: [PranaMaker by Natalia Marie](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: changes to MGO 5.19 and 5.20
Date: Sunday, July 19, 2026 9:04:08 AM

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I am a Madison resident writing about the proposed changes to MGO 5.19 and 5.20. I urge you to vote NO on any changes that reduce the OIPM's operational independence. The OIPM's independence is what makes its findings on racial disparities in policing credible and actionable. I will be watching how you vote August 4.

From: [Seals, Holly](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: MGO 5.19 and 5.20
Date: Tuesday, July 21, 2026 2:40:10 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from hseals@madisoncollege.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hello Alders,

I am a Madison resident writing about the proposed changes to MGO 5.19 and 5.20. I urge you to vote NO on any changes that would reduce the Office of the Independent Police Monitor's operational independence.

The OIPM's independence is the only reason its findings on racial disparities in policing have been credible, transparent, and actionable. Weakening that independence—whether through structural changes, reporting requirements, or limitations on authority—would undermine the very purpose of civilian oversight.

On August 4, you are voting on whether Madison continues to have an oversight office capable of acting independently, releasing findings the public can trust, and holding systems accountable in ways internal review cannot.

I urge you to protect that independence and vote NO on any changes that diminish the OIPM's ability to operate freely and effectively. I will be watching how you vote on August 4.

Thank you,

Holly Seals

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From: [John Smallwood](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: vote NO on any changes that reduce the OIPM's operational independence.
Date: Monday, July 20, 2026 10:31:09 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from johnsmallwood3@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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I am a Madison resident writing about the proposed changes to MGO 5.19 and 5.20. I urge you to vote NO on any changes that reduce the OIPM's operational independence. The OIPM's independence is what makes its findings on racial disparities in policing credible and actionable. I will be watching how you vote August 4.

From: [M Strickland](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Proposed changes to MGO 5.19 and 5.20
Date: Sunday, July 19, 2026 9:13:20 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from mcstrickland1@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Madison Alders,

I am a Madison resident of District 15, writing about the proposed changes to MGO 5.19 and 5.20. I urge you to vote NO on any changes that reduce the OIPM's operational independence. The OIPM's independence is what makes its findings on racial disparities in policing credible and actionable.

I will be watching how you vote August 4.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Matthew C. Strickland

From: [Steve Verburg](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Fwd: Please don't undermine the independence of OIM/PCOB
Date: Tuesday, July 21, 2026 1:50:00 PM

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Members of the Madison Common Council:

Good afternoon.

I am looking forward to the presentation on police oversight at your meeting tonight.

I'm writing to say that I continue to urge you to reject the amendments to MGO 5.19 and 5.20. Instead of undermining the independence of the police oversight office, please begin planning to fully fund the office for next year, if not sooner.

The OIM's report on the death of Richard Lee Johnson should be enough to demonstrate how important it is to have a full funded Independent Police Monitor and Police Civilian Oversight Board.

A fully funded OIM/PCOB is this city's best chance to begin reducing its terrible racist disparities in policing.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Steve Verburg
Wendy Lane
District 16.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Steve Verburg** <stverburg@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Apr 20, 2026 at 5:28 PM
Subject: Please don't undermine the independence of OIM/PCOB
To: allalders@cityofmadison.com <allalders@cityofmadison.com>

Alders:

An independent OIM/PCOB is the best thing the council has ever done to move toward ending MPD's atrocious record of racial discrimination in arrests and citations.

It is also our best chance at providing justice for all people harmed by MPD's routine over-policing.

There is no real evidence to support these proposed amendments.

Rumors and stories don't count.

Please vote against all amendments to Madison General Ordinances 5.19 and 5.20 and instead of threatening the independence of the police oversight office, begin planning to meet the national standard for funding independent oversight.

Fully fund and staff the office and board next year.

And keep it fully independent.

It's the only way to effectively police the police.

Thanks,

Steve Verburg
Wendy Lane
Madison, Wisconsin
607-212-9726