



# City of Madison

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
www.cityofmadison.com

## Meeting Minutes - Approved COMMON COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE

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Tuesday, June 3, 2008

4:30 PM

210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Room 103A (City-County Building)

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### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

**Present:** 5 -

Tim Bruer; Mark Clear; Brenda K. Konkel; Satya V. Rhodes Conway and  
Michael Schumacher

**Excused:** 3 -

Robbie Webber; Judy Compton and Michael E. Verveer

**Others Present:** Karl van Lith, Organizational Development & Training Officer,  
Michael May, City Attorney, Mario Mendoza, Legislative Analyst and Janet  
Piraino, Mayor's Chief of Staff

Ald. Tim Bruer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:36 p.m.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ald. Mark Clear, seconded by Ald. Satya  
Rhodes-Conway, to approve the minutes. The motion passed by voice  
vote/other.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

## REFERRALS FROM COUNCIL

[10126](#)

SUBSTITUTE - Creating Section 2.27 of the Madison General Ordinances to Establish Rules for Common Council Action on Reports.

**Sponsors:** Judy Compton, Brenda K. Konkol, Satya V. Rhodes Conway, Mark Clear and Michael Schumacher

**Attachments:** [4356solitary.pdf](#)

**A motion was made by Ald. Satya Rhodes-Conway, seconded by Ald. Mark Clear, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER. The motion passed by voice vote/other.**

**Ald. Judy Compton arrived at 5:15 p.m.**

**Present:** 6 -

Tim Bruer; Mark Clear; Brenda K. Konkol; Satya V. Rhodes Conway; Judy Compton and Michael Schumacher

**Excused:** 2 -

Robbie Webber and Michael E. Verveer

## UPDATE/DISCUSSION ITEM

[10715](#)

Update: City Legislative Governmental Affairs Activity & List/Assessment of City's Legislative Memberships - Mario Mendoza, Assistant to the Mayor.

**Attachments:** [M. Mendoza Email 12/18/06 re: State Legislative Agenda](#)  
[Mayor's 2007-2008 Legislative Agenda](#)  
[City Memberships](#)  
[\(State\) Organizations employing lobbyists 2007-2008](#)  
[Doyle Gov James re 2007-2009 state biennial budget](#)  
[Letter to Miller and Pocan post introduction of SB 40](#)  
[Memo to Miller and Pocan re Transportation and Transit Aids](#)

**Mario Mendoza, Legislative Analyst, and Janet Piraino, Mayor's Chief of Staff were present to discuss updates on the city's legislative activities.**

**Ald. Tim Bruer noted that originally the legislative analyst was a full-time lobbyist for the city at the state and federal levels. Mario Mendoza described the evolution of the position as it exists today. Mayor Cieslewicz reorganized the Mayor's office when he was first elected. Up until the beginning of this year Mario was the principal lobbyist at the Capitol, coordinated the legislative agenda and also was assigned oversight of the police and fire departments, Overture Center and economic development. Even having a "part-time" lobbyist he stated that the Mayor has accomplished a fair amount of success, particularly in building relationships with the legislative delegation and other**

local government entities. He believed that the city fared relatively well after the biennial budget process.

Mr. Mendoza distributed the following handouts:

1. Email requesting items for the State Legislative Agenda (dated 12/18/06) Department Heads forward ideas regarding items that should be part of the Mayor's legislative agenda.

2. Mayor's Legislative Agenda – 2007-2008

Mayor sends the Governor a letter outlining legislative requests (odd-numbered years, prior to the introduction of the Governor's budget). Over the course of the developing state budget the city issues a number of memos that assist in informing the Madison Legislative Delegation and others about the City's legislative agenda and recommendations.

3. City Memberships

Membership fees are based upon population. It was noted that the City is no longer a member of the U.S. Conference of Mayor's. Mario participates in the League of Municipalities and Alliance of Cities organizations. He has started to participate in the Dane County Cities & Villages Association and has found it to also be helpful on the legislative front and in terms of relationship building (DCCVA contracts with Forbes McIntosh for lobbying services). Wisconsin Alliance of Cities has been a "mixed bag" in terms of helpfulness. The Alliance provides updates on legislative issues and provides a good forum for discussion among elected officials, city administrators and finance managers for communities across the state. The Wisconsin Alliance of Cities was instrumental in defeating the TABOR legislation but they have also lobbied against the low-income tax exemption bill that the city supported. The city spent a majority of their lobbying efforts to see it passed to only see this legislation be defeated. There is talk about either creating a "big city caucus" or the LWM contracting with a version of the Alliance to save money.

4. State Registered Lobbyists – Dane County, City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County.

Janet Piraino was present to speak to the issue of federal lobbying. The city has a contract with Len Simon (Simon & Company, Inc. <http://www.simoncompany.com/>) to provide the city with lobbying efforts at the federal level (Washington DC). The requests are usually earmarked projects: COPS grants, transportation/bike path earmarks. Mr. Simon will advise the city on earmarks and prioritize and structure the city's legislative agenda. Ald. Brenda Konkel asked where the money for the contract is budgeted. Janet Piraino indicated that she believed that it was in the Mayor's budget.

Ald. Brenda Konkel requested that when the Mayor when preparing his next legislative agenda give the alders his previous year's legislative agenda so that alders can have an idea of what they can communicate to the Mayor in terms of legislative initiatives. She suggested that it be brought to CCOC as a memo requesting legislative proposals sometime in 2009. She noted that even the summary page could trigger more thoughts by alders. Mario will send out the previous year's legislative agenda to alders to provide them with ideas on what was requested. He noted that the Mayor usually has his legislative agenda prepared in February or March.

Mario will attach the previous year's agenda when he sends out the email to Department & Division heads by adding the ALL ALDERS group. Ald. Tim Bruer also requested quarterly legislative reports from Mario Mendoza to the Council.

Ald. Satya Rhodes-Conway asked if it was useful for the Council to email or write letters to the delegation or draft resolutions. Ald. Brenda Konkel noted that the Council has passed resolutions on state legislation. (Examples: Legislative File No. 09659 and Legislative File No. 04927)

Ald. Tim Bruer encouraged the Mayor to utilize the CCOC as a sounding board for legislative initiatives and work on providing a framework to encourage alders to participate in the process of developing those initiatives, particularly those issues that affect the City budget.

10713

Discussion Item: Development of Common Council Office Assessment Tool - Karl van Lith, Organizational Development & Training Officer (Human Resources Department)

Attachments: [2nd Draft Common Council Needs Assessment](#)  
[1st Draft Customer Satisfaction Survey](#)  
[Memo from T. Bruer dated 5/23/08](#)

Karl van Lith presented a basic Common Council Customer Service survey. CCOC members reviewed the draft survey. Members asked Karl van Lith to incorporate into one survey

1. Assess Council staffing (level of service)
2. Assess Council needs (leadership capacity building)

Ald. Tim Bruer requested CCOC members to email Karl van Lith with input, comments, etc. on the survey by June 20, 2008. Karl van Lith will redraft the survey for the July 1, 2008 CCOC meeting.

#### FUTURE CCOC AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items presented by members.

#### ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ald. Michael Schumacher, seconded by Ald. Mark Clear, to adjourn. The motion passed by voice vote/other. Meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.