



City of Madison

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

Meeting Minutes - Approved COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, December 17, 2018

4:30 PM

Meets the 3rd Monday of the month.
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room 108 (City-County Building)

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair Delmore at 4:41 pm, following verification that a quorum was present and the meeting had been properly noticed.

Present: 5 - Patricia A. Lasky; Patrick E. Delmore; Timothy D. Baker; Elizabeth A. Bookland and Dea Larsen Converse

Absent: 2 - Kenneth G. Johnson and Patricia J. Gadow

Excused: 2 - Zach Wood and Tyler D. Leeper

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Lasky, seconded by Larsen Converse, to Approve the Minutes. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

PUBLIC COMMENT

none

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

none

NEW BUSINESS

[54126](#)

Updated status on using LEDs for street lighting

Brian Smith from Traffic Engineering provided an update on the current purchasing and installation practices for LED street lights around the City. In 2008, the first LED street lights were installed in Madison, which were 6000 degrees Kelvin (K). In 2017, mostly 4000 K bulbs had been installed. There has been a gradual shift since then to warmer lights (lower Kelvin temperatures). All LED purchases for 2018 were 3000 degree K bulbs, except in areas with high safety concerns (eg. State St, parts of the University), where 4000 K bulbs are preferred by police. WisDOT projects spec 4000 K bulbs, but have allowed the City to swap and use 3000 K bulbs at no additional cost. Latest technologies are reviewed on an annual basis. Wattage and energy savings continue to improve as the technologies change.

City of Madison is operating at or above the LED standards being used by similar cities. State of WI and city of Milwaukee are using 4000 K LEDs. Chicago is using mostly 4000 K but switching to 3000 K and looking at dimming options. Eau Claire is using 3000 K LEDs.

As of the end of 2018, approximately 28% of the City of Madison street lights have LEDs installed. All new street light fixtures being installed are LEDs. Existing fixtures are being upgraded when a full fixture replacement is needed.

At this time Traffic Engineering doesn't see a need to create a policy regarding LED lighting since there are many situations that require unique products and the technology is still evolving. Some modifications that have been used include different light width projection, limiting back lighting and glare with a plate, and programmable lights that can be dimmed.

54127

Presentation on Chloride Problems and Reduction Initiatives

Attachments: [MMSD salt presentation 12.17.18.pptx](#)

Emily Jones from Madison Metropolitan Sewage District provided an overview of the chloride (CL) situation and their efforts for monitoring and reduction. EPA weekly average discharge limit WWTP is 395 mg/L in surface waters. District typically receives 110 lbs of salt/day. The EPA discharge limit is generally met, but will have some exceedances during winter events directly related to road salt application. Local drinking water CL levels have also increased steadily. If limits are lowered, reduction efforts will need to be increased.

Treatment options to remove these CL exist, but are costly. They include softening water at wells and removing individual water softeners at homes or adding reverse osmosis (RO) treatment at the plant. Reducing application of salts is the least costly option. MMSD is working on partnering with more municipalities to expand reduction efforts using the WI Salt Wise program. By identifying sources of salt application and implementing policy changes, training, and incentives, area CL levels are no longer increasing and have plateaued in the past few years. Additional work in this area is ongoing.

Improving water softener efficiency in another way to reduce salt use, though it is not simple, as all models have different programming and areas have varying hardness levels. Replacing old softeners could provide ~47% reduction. Optimizing existing softeners could provide ~27% reduction. MMSD has had conversation with the builders association to determine how this could be implemented. 2019 goals include providing training to plumbers and contractors on how to program for optimization. Industry expectations had become that all water in homes is softened, where it was previously just warm water and lines that ran to the furnace.

Salt-free technologies have been used in the NE USA, but need more funding to test and research.

MMSD has been offering grants to projects upgrading systems as well as innovation grants. Additional future efforts are working with municipalities to promote the grant programs to large industrial/commercial customers, as the scale of usage can provide a bigger 'bang for your buck' in reduction vs residential customers.

54128

Overview of City Engineering's budget amendment for flood management

Attachments: [Pages from 2019 Capital Budget-CC Adopted Amendments.pdf - Adobe Acrc](#)

Eberhardt provided a breakdown on the approved budget amendment for flood efforts. They include multiple watershed studies (Isthmus, Strickers/Tiedemans/Baker ponds, Mendota-Spring Harbor/West town pond, and Odana pond/Nakoma), flow monitoring equipment, land acquisitions for short and long term planning for new stormwater management ponds, and public works projects to repair existing stormwater infrastructure damaged directly from the flood.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

[53844](#) Opportunities to Reducing Recycling Contamination Through Education

Attachments: [new recycling sticker.pdf](#)

Eberhardt provided follow up to questions following November's discussion on reducing recycling contamination. Stickers for recycling carts can be requested by sending an email to Streets@cityofmadison.com . They can be distributed to neighborhood groups. There is not a plan to sticker all bins at this time. New bins are having the information directly molded into the lid now.

REPORTS

3 [42158](#) Report of Chair

Delmore reported on topics for the upcoming meetings. January will be City Engineering discussing lake management and the flood budget amendment as well as a presentation from Badger Rock Middle School. February will include a presentation from the new City Sustainability Coordinator, Stacie Reece.

5 [42159](#) Report from Board of Public Works

none

4 [42160](#) Report from Water Utility Board

Delmore reported that the WU approved a \$30M bond and \$9M loan from an outside agency.

6 [42161](#) Report from Solid Waste Advisory Committee

none

7 [42162](#) Report from Board of Health for Madison and Dane County

none

8 [42163](#) Staff Report

Eberhardt reminded members to fill out their Statement of Interests forms. www.cityofmadison.com/statementofinterests

ADJOURNMENT