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### PARALEGAL

Ryan M. Riley

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway  
All Alders

FROM: Michael Haas  
City Attorney

DATE: August 15, 2024

RE: Referendum Question Explanatory Statement

Wis. Stat. section 10.01(2)(c) requires the municipal attorney to prepare an explanatory statement for each referendum question authorized by the Common Council. The explanatory statement describes the effect of a "Yes" vote and a "No" vote. The explanatory statement is included in the Type C Notice which is published by the City Clerk and posted at polling places.

I have drafted the below explanatory statement for the levy limit referendum the Council is considering for the November General Election. The statement mirrors the language of the referendum question by simply stating that a "Yes" vote will allow the Council to exceed the current levy limit by \$22 million in 2025 and subsequent years and a "No" vote will not.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

### Explanation

The referendum election ballot will ask City of Madison electors to vote "yes" or "no" on the referendum election question as set forth above.

**A "Yes" vote** will allow the City of Madison Common Council to create a budget for 2025 and for the years thereafter that exceeds the statutory levy limit by \$22,000,000 for the purpose of funding police, fire, garbage collection, parks and library operations and other City services and operations. The additional funding will increase the City's capacity to provide City services.

August 21, 2024

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**A “No” vote** would not allow the Madison Common Council to exceed the statutory levy limit for 2025 and for the years thereafter and would not provide additional funding for police, fire, garbage collection, parks and library operations and other City services and operations. Without the additional funding, the City’s capacity to provide services would not increase.

In the event a majority of the electors voting on the question vote "yes", the City of Madison will be authorized to exceed its’ operational levy by \$22,000,000 in 2025 and on an ongoing basis. If a majority vote "no" on the question set forth above, the City of Madison will not be so authorized.