

AGENDA ITEM # 77  
ID # 10059

May 1, 2008

TO: Members of the Common Council

FROM: Madison Election Advisory Committee  
Sybil Better, Chair *Sybil Better*

RE: Funding for Deputy Clerk Position

In the Resolution that created the Madison Election Advisory Committee, you declared that voting is the foundation of democracy, and deserves a high priority among services provided by the city.

We urge you to honor the city's commitment to fair, clean, and transparent elections by funding the position of Deputy Clerk.

As noted in our annual report to the Common Council, Mayor, and City Clerk, the Madison Election Advisory Committee has identified the recruitment of a Deputy Clerk as an area in need of attention. Filling this valuable position would enable the Clerk's Office to devote additional staff time to the following initiatives:

- Recruiting a more heterogeneous group of poll workers.
- Evaluating and improving polling place accessibility.
- Developing specific criteria for determining when polling sites need to be created or replaced.
- Managing the quality of data in the Statewide Voter Registration System to ensure that no registered voters are omitted from the poll list.

Furthermore, training sessions for Election Officials and Special Voter Registration Deputies can only be conducted by the Clerk and Deputy Clerk. Filling the Deputy Clerk position would enable the Clerk's Office to offer additional training sessions. This would allow more citizens to participate in the election process and ensure that they are well-prepared to carry out their crucial role at the polls on Election Day.