

From: [Gregory Gelembiuk](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Council agenda item #52 - PSRC
Date: Monday, March 24, 2025 6:02:37 PM

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Dear Alders,

I am writing to encourage alders to preserve the PSRC, on Alder Wehelie's motion to reconsider.

The PSRC is the only committee specifically charged with reviewing the operating and capital budgets of the Police Department and Fire Department. I believe that leaving this task to the Finance Committee alone would reduce oversight and opportunities for public input on these large and important budgetary items.

I will also mention that several years ago, I watched an informative presentation and discussion at PSRC on the public safety implications of alcohol consumption rates across central Madison. Excess alcohol consumption was shown to be a driver of MPD use; alcohol consumption has been shown, in many studies elsewhere, to be a major driver of crime rates. Quantitative maps were shown and interesting potential changes to city ordinances and policies were suggested, from a public safety perspective. I think PSRC is the natural venue for deliberations of this nature.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gregory Gelembiuk