



# City of Madison

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
[www.cityofmadison.com](http://www.cityofmadison.com)

## Meeting Minutes - Draft MADISON FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

*Consider: Who benefits? Who is burdened?  
Who does not have a voice at the table?  
How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?*

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Wednesday, March 19, 2025

5:30 PM

Virtual

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The City of Madison is holding the Madison Food Policy Council meeting virtually to help protect our community from the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

1. **Written Comments:** You can send comments on agenda items to [mfpc@cityofmadison.com](mailto:mfpc@cityofmadison.com)

2. **Register for Public Comment:**

- Register to speak at the meeting.
- Register to answer questions.
- Register in support or opposition of an agenda item (without speaking).

If you want to speak at this meeting you must register. You can register at <https://www.cityofmadison.com/MeetingRegistration>. When you register to speak, you will be sent an email with the information you will need to join the virtual meeting.

3. **Watch the Meeting:** If you would like to join the meeting as an observer, please visit <https://www.cityofmadison.com/watchmeetings>.

4. **Listen by Phone:**

(877) 853-5257 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 894 9014 4979

**CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**

**Others Present: Nicholas Heckman, George Reistad**

**Madison Food Policy Council Meeting called to order at by Chair Leete at 5:32PM.**

**Present:** 10 - Regina M. Vidaver; Tag Evers; Nicholas S. Leete; Rebecca Kemble; Josh Perkins; Noah R. Bloedorn; Christopher G. Brockel; Devika J. Suri; Lindsey Day Farnsworth and David D. Leeper

**Excused:** 7 - Logan C. Morrow; Hedi L. Rudd; Dadit G. Hidayat; Kelsey Abad; Sarah M. Larson; Katie L. Strader and Nan Fey

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion to approve minutes from January made by Brockel. Second by Evers. Motion passed with unanimous approval.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

[87539](#) Public Comment: MFPC 3/19/2025

None

**DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS**

Leete disclosed his relationship with Rooted, Inc. which submitted a SEED Grant proposal but was not selected for funding. Bloedorn disclosed that he works for REAP Food Group and operates the Dane County Food Collective, both of which may have submitted SEED proposals, however neither were funded. Perkins noted that he works for MMSD, who also may have been listed as a partner on several applications.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Action Item**

- 1. [87540](#) 2025 SEED Grants

**Attachments:** [2025 SEED Grants Pres MFPC 031925.pdf](#)  
[2025 FUNDING RECS MEMO SEED Grants March2025.pdf](#)

Reistad presented from the attached materials.

**Questions:**

- Bloedorn: There appear to be a lot of food distribution organizations. Are themes collected?
  - o Reistad: Memo about the process outlines overall funding request and some thematic elements.
- Leete: Are individual reports published?
  - o Reistad: We keep the score sheets but do not publish them.

Motion to approve the funding recommendation made by Brockel. Second by Evers.

Evers suggests that additional funding could be put to very good use in this program. Scoring was very close and additional resources could be beneficial.

Motion passed with unanimous approval.

## Report from the Chair

2. [72741](#) Madison Food Policy Council Chair

Welcoming Josh Perkins to the MFPC.

## Regular Business Reports

3. [72192](#) Regional Food System Planning

Bloedorn discusses the positive reaction to the February food plan engagement event at Madison College. Also explains that USDA funding for the project has been reviewed and cleared, so the project can continue.

4. [72193](#) Regional Agriculture and Food Sovereignty

In final stages of figuring out an ongoing meeting time. Members will be contacted this week.

5. [77772](#) Dane Food Access Network

Emergency food service providers continue to express extremely high levels of demand and concern over potential federal changes to nutrition assistance that could result in further increased pantry demand.

6. [75103](#) Farmland Preservation Task Force

Revisions to the City's leases on agricultural land have been made by staff in the Economic Development Division, following most of the recommendations made by the RAFS Work Group in January 2022. The revised lease template will be introduced at the Common Council on March 25th with referrals to the Board of Public Works (4/2), Finance Committee (2/7), Board of Park Commissioners (4/9), Madison Food Policy Council (4/16) and Sustainable Madison (4/28) for recommendations before returning to the Common Council for Action on May 6th. The new lease form will not be used until 2026 to allow for notice and discussion with current farmers about the future changes. It is reasonable to anticipate discussion, and possibly resistance, to the expanded list of prohibited pesticides and best practices for managing runoff that were not specified in previous leases but are required by state regulations.

7. [72198](#) Madison Metropolitan School District

No report

8. [72199](#) Double Dollars Program  
Double Dollars season has closed at Willy Street Co-op. Issued benefits can be continued to be spend through May.
9. [72197](#) Community Gardens  
Community Gardens summit held with Rooted and Extension. See Danegardens.net for more information.
10. [77773](#) Food System Assessment  
No report.

### Staff Reports

11. [72194](#) Business Development Specialist  
No report.
12. [72195](#) Public Health Madison & Dane County  
No report.
13. [72196](#) Extension Dane County, UW-Madison  
Dane County received 34 applications for the 2025 PIE Food Project grants: <https://equity.countyofdane.com/grants/PIE-food>. The total amount requested was over \$126,000. The total funding to be granted is \$40,000.

### Announcements

None

### ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the MFPC made by Evers. Second by Day Farnsworth.  
Motion approved by unanimous approval at 6:29 PM.