

CITY OF MADISON
Common Council Office
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL
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Date: May 15, 2007

TO: Members of the Common Council Organizational Committee

FROM: Ald. Brenda Konkel, District 2

SUBJECT: **Public Use of Legistar**

While we have so many fresh faces on the Common Council and new alders are getting to know the "ins and outs" of the city's Legistar system, I thought it might be a good time to make a list of changes we would like to see with Legistar.

This is important not only for the way we do our jobs, but also for City of Madison residents. It is important for citizens to determine what issues various committees will be discussing and when.

Here is a list of items I have noticed and I am hoping we can add to the list as necessary or remove items if I'm the only one who thinks that they are a problem:

1. When searching for an item, if the Legistar search returns over 200 items, you can't get the information. This is problematic because it includes searching by sponsor name.
2. You can't get the voting records of alderpersons.
3. Can't print the master file and if you print only the legislative file you have no date or reference.
4. The legislative file for ALRC recommendations should include the recommendation in each individual file.
5. Some information is passed out at City Committees and not later added to the legislative file as attachments.
6. Some committees don't even try to make information available in Legistar.
7. It appears there is a need for additional staff training.
8. When you go to the agenda page, it would be more convenient if it started on the month we are in.
9. It would be easier if the weekly meeting schedule linked directly to the agenda.
10. The link to Legistar on the City's home page should say something other than "City Hall", it needs to be more descriptive.
11. There are minutes missing from several meetings especially on the additional meetings portion of the website.
12. In the people search, some of the committees are wrong.

13. We should be able to see all versions of ordinances and resolutions not just the latest version (substitutes).
14. Reports of absences should be available online.
15. Several files on the same issues don't have all the same attachments
16. Last action listed last on agenda – or council action listed last, so the council agendas are easier to read.