

## **Madison Equal Opportunities Commission Urges People of Color to Go Out and Vote!**

The City of Madison Equal Opportunities Commission is urging people of color to get out and vote in the spring elections.

In September 1962, during an interview with WLIB-AM in New York City, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. urged the Black community to vote stating, "It is my belief that one of the most significant steps that members of a minority community may take is that short walk to the voting booth. It is the responsibility of every good citizen to register and vote."

As we approach the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act and we see the changes being brought upon our State on a daily basis, it is apparent that Dr. King's words are as true now as they were then.

This Spring Election will happen on Tuesday April 7<sup>th</sup> to elect judicial, educational, and municipal officers, and non-partisan county officers.

To be eligible to vote, you must be a United States citizen, age 18 or older by Election Day, and a resident for at least 28 consecutive days before the election. If you have been convicted of a felony you must have completed sentence including probation/parole.

You can register to vote up to 20 days before the election at any City of Madison library with proof of address or within 20 days of the election at the City Clerk's Office with proof of address. There is no registration the Saturday, Sunday, or Monday before the election. You can also register to vote on Election Day at your polling place with proof of address.

For more information or for answers to questions you may have about the voting process, where to vote, or how to register contact the Madison City Clerk's Office at:

### **Madison City Clerk's Office**

Phone number: 608-266-4601

Address: 210 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Room number 103, Madison, WI

Hours: 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Email: [voting@cityofmadison.com](mailto:voting@cityofmadison.com)

The Madison Equal Opportunities Ordinance was enacted in 1963 to counter racial segregation and discrimination in housing. The Equal Opportunities Commission was established to promote and ensure equal opportunity. Numerous protected classes have since been added over the years to prevent discrimination against groups including women, people with disabilities, and LGBTQ people.