

**From:** [Eva Lewandowski](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** comment on 82222 Amending Section 23.35 of the Madison General Ordinances  
**Date:** Friday, April 12, 2024 12:09:32 PM

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Hello,

I am writing about 82222- Amending Section 23.35 of the Madison General Ordinances related to animals that cause injury and requiring them to be restrained at all times.

I support this change, especially the part that would require a 4 foot leash after an attack. I wish the fine for a violation would be increased as well. However, I fear there won't be a difference to public safety unless the city has plans to substantially increase enforcement.

I am disabled, and right now there is no place in my neighborhood that I can safely walk without being jumped on, chased, or knocked over by a dog. I cannot even begin to count the number of times I have ended up on the ground screaming and crying, begging dog owners to get their dogs off me, while I try to crawl away. I am not fast enough or stable enough on my feet to avoid falling down when jumped on, and I have a really hard time getting up when a dog is on top of me, especially when they tangle a leash around me. No dog owner has ever apologized, pulled their dog away, or tried to help me in any way when this happens; they are knowingly using their dogs to hurt people. I am lucky to have come away with only scrapes and bruises so far, and not broken bones or worse. This happens on the sidewalks, bike paths, and parks. These are not dogs who are escaping from a yard; they are dogs who are being "walked" by owners with no interest in controlling them.

When I try to report this, nothing is ever done. No reports are taken, no one follows up asking for more information. The few times someone is willing to talk to me, they tell me that unless I know the owner's address, there is nothing to be done. Since attacks like these are allowed without any form of enforcement right now, I don't see how the changes to this ordinance will make a difference. So I urge the city to find ways to increase actual protection and enforcement along with any ordinance changes.

Thank you,  
Eva Lewandowski

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Eva Lewandowski

**From:** [Eva Lewandowski](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Re: comment on 82222 Amending Section 23.35 of the Madison General Ordinances  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 16, 2024 7:37:42 AM

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Hello, I am resending my written comment for item 82222 for today's common council meeting to be sure it is included in the meeting material. Lately the comments that I submit to the city in advance of various meetings have not been included, so I am now double checking every time I try to participate this way. Thank you for your assistance.

Eva Lewandowski

On Fri, Apr 12, 2024 at 12:09 PM Eva Lewandowski <[elewandowski@gmail.com](mailto:elewandowski@gmail.com)> wrote:

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