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**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Item #8 - 84843 2025 Executive Capital Budget  
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Alders:

Item #8 - 84843 2025 Executive Capital Budget

As you discuss this budget and the capital expenditures, I ask that you keep in mind the values which are stated on Page 4 of the budget document.

SHARED PROSPERITY is one of those values. It is hard to achieve any kind of prosperity when the highest per capita spending is Debt Service. As you recall from an early budget presentation, the Debt Service expense was \$311 per capita in 2022. This is more than the spending on Law Enforcement and more than Fire/EMS. It is more than DOUBLE the \$140 per capita spending on General Government.

Let's consider our capital projects carefully and live within our means. A large reduction in the debt service is necessary.

Property owners in Madison need relief on their property taxes. It's hard to move the needle on affordable housing when homeowners are saddled with this extra spending. A reduction in taxes would enable Madison residents to achieve PROSPERITY through home ownership and the creation of generational wealth.

Take the time to rethink some of the capital projects, move out the timeline to a future date, and consider completing projects in phases.

Janet Hirsch