

From: jhirsch@chorus.net
To: [Mayor](#); [All Alders](#); [Conklin, Nikki](#)
Cc: [City Budget](#); [Finance Committee](#)
Subject: 2024 Capital Budget Amendments
Date: Tuesday, October 3, 2023 2:35:04 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

All:

I am writing to express my **disappointment** in some of the Budget Amendments that were presented at the Finance Committee meeting and which are listed under Item #4 on tonight's Common Council meeting.

While most of these amendments are worthy projects, please look closely at those that require us to borrow money. As the Council approves more and more projects, the City incurs more and more debt. That debt will be paid by residents now and into the future. With limits on property taxes, the residents see a reduction in municipal services and additional fees which are added to the cost of living in Madison.

The projects should be prioritized. Are they a "need" or a "want"? Any amendment which requires additional borrowing should be dropped or placed on the Horizon list. Items 6 & 7 (John Nolen Drive) are premature and should be eliminated from the 2024 budget.

On September 25, 2023, the City issued \$116 million of bonds. This increase is added to the heavy debt load that we are already paying. This is not the future that we should be leaving behind us.

I ask that you **consider your fiscal responsibility to the City and your constituents** as you review these amendments.

Janet Hirsch
District 9