



# City of Madison

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
www.cityofmadison.com

## Master

**File Number: 60888**

**File ID:** 60888

**File Type:** Ordinance

**Status:** Council Public Hearing

**Version:** 1

**Reference:**

**Controlling Body:** PLAN COMMISSION

**Lead Referral:** PLAN COMMISSION

**Cost:**

**File Created Date :** 06/09/2020

**File Name:** Bird-safe Glass

**Final Action:**

**Title:** Creating Section 28.129 of the Madison General Ordinances requiring bird-safe vision glass treatment on specified buildings and structures.

**Notes:** 6366birdglass.SUB

**Code Sections:**

**CC Agenda Date:** 07/21/2020

**Indexes:**

**Agenda Number:** 2.

**Sponsors:** Marsha A. Rummel and Keith Furman

**Effective Date:**

**Attachments:** Bird Glass\_Public Comment\_061820.pdf, Figure 1 - Window Mullion Graphic.jpg, Figure 2 - 60ft Graphic.jpg, Figure 3 - Glass Corner Graphic.jpg, Zoning Text Memo 7-13-20.pdf, Bill Connors\_Comment.pdf, Cathy O'Donnell\_Comment.pdf, Candy Schrank\_Comment.pdf, Comments\_PC071320.pdf, Staff\_Presentation\_7-13-20.pdf

**Enactment Number:**

**Author:** John Strange

**Hearing Date:**

**Entered by:** jphelps@cityofmadison.com

**Published Date:**

### Approval History

Version	Date	Approver	Action
1		Michael Haas	Approved as to Form
1		Brent Sloat	Approve
1		Michael Haas	Approved as to Form
1		Brent Sloat	Approve

### History of Legislative File

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
1	Attorney's Office	06/09/2020	Referred for Introduction				
	<b>Notes:</b> Public Hearings: Plan Commission (6/18/20), Common Council (7/14/20)						
1	COMMON COUNCIL	06/16/2020	Refer For Public Hearing	PLAN COMMISSION	06/18/2020	07/13/2020	Pass
1	PLAN COMMISSION	07/13/2020	RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - PUBLIC HEARING				Pass
	<b>Notes:</b> On a motion by Cantrell, seconded by Ald. Rummel, the Plan Commission recommended to Common Council to adopt the zoning text amendment creating Section 28.129 MGO, with the following condition:  - That subsection 'C' of the proposed amendment be deleted.  The motion to recommend approval passed by voice vote/ other.						
1	COMMON COUNCIL	07/21/2020					

**Text of Legislative File 60888**

**Fiscal Note**

No City appropriation required.

**Title**

Creating Section 28.129 of the Madison General Ordinances requiring bird-safe vision glass treatment on specified buildings and structures.

**Body**

DRAFTER'S ANALYSIS: Nationwide research has shown that large predominantly glass buildings heighten the risk of bird collisions and deaths, especially within the first sixty feet of a building. This is also true for corner windows, glass railings, sky-bridges, and upper-level landscape elements. Therefore, this ordinance creates Section 28.129 of the Madison General Ordinances (Zoning Code) to require bird-safe vision glass (window) treatment on certain buildings and structures. Specifically, this ordinance applies to buildings or structures greater than 10,000 square feet in size, measured as a sum of the floor area on all above-grade stories. The ordinance then sets out requirements for how much of the vision glass on such buildings must be treated. Further, the ordinance provides examples of the type of bird-safe vision glass treatment that must be used in order to reduce the number of bird strikes on a building. Finally, the ordinance provides that all glass railings, sky-bridges, and upper-level landscape elements must be treated with bird-friendly vision glass.

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The Common Council of the City of Madison do hereby ordain as follows:

1. Section 28.129 entitled "Bird-Safe Vision Glass" of Subchapter 28I entitled "General Regulations" of Chapter 28 entitled "Zoning Code" of the Madison General Ordinances is created to read as follows:

**"28.129 BIRD-SAFE VISION GLASS REQUIREMENTS.**

(1) Statement of Purpose. The Bird-Safe Vision Glass Requirements in this section

are intended to reduce the heightened risk for bird collisions with vision glass on specified building designs and configurations.

- (2) Applicability . Subsection (4) applies to all exterior construction and development activity, including the expansion of existing buildings and structures, as specified therein.
- (3) Measuring Vision Glass Area . Under this ordinance, vision glass area shall be measured as one (1) continuous panel of glass or other transparent material, or a set of two (2) or more such panels divided by mullions of six (6) inches in width or narrower. Panels surrounded on all sides by solid walls or mullions wider than six (6) inches shall be considered individual windows. Spandrel and opaque glass shall not be included in the calculation of vision glass area.
- (4) Bird-Safe Vision Glass Treatment Requirements . Vision glass areas on the following buildings or structures shall be treated to reduce the risk of bird collisions by incorporating a two-inch (2") by four-inch (4") pattern of visual markers; low reflectance opaque materials; building-integrated structures that mute reflections on glass surfaces; or other similar method approved by the Zoning Administrator.
  - (a) Buildings or structures over 10,000 square feet . For any building or structure over 10,000 square feet in size (floor area of above-grade stories), bird-safe vision glass treatment is required as follows:
    1. For building façades where the first sixty (60) feet from grade are comprised of greater than or equal to fifty (50%) vision glass:
      - a. At least eighty-five percent (85%) of the vision glass must be treated; and
      - b. All vision glass within fifteen (15) feet of a building corner must be treated.
    2. For building façades where the first sixty (60) feet from grade are comprised of less than fifty percent (50%) vision glass:
      - a. At least eighty-five percent (85%) of the vision glass on vision glass areas fifty (50) square feet or over must be treated; and
      - b. Of all vision glass areas over fifty (50) square feet, any vision glass within fifteen (15) feet of a building corner must be treated.
    3. All vision glass railings must be treated.
  - (b) Sky-bridges . For buildings and structures of any size, all vision glass on above-ground bridges must be treated.
  - (c) Upper-level landscape elements . For buildings and structures of any size, all vision glass areas fourteen (14) feet above a green roof/upper level landscaping must be treated."