

From: Patty Lowry <mplowry@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, November 5, 2024 3:29 PM

To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: 85775 - Informational Report Debriefing the Fireworks Shows at the Madison Mallards 2024 Season (District 12, District 18)

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From: mplowry@gmail.com

Subject: Opposing Fireworks at Mallards Games

City of Madison Parks Commission,

I strongly oppose the fireworks shows at the Mallards stadium for the following reasons:

The Mallards baseball team is enjoyed by all ages and is a major attraction for Madison's north side. Because the Mallards stadium is located in Warner Park as well as adjacent sports fields and the community recreation center, it is in close proximity to the natural park areas that host a wide variety of wildlife that is directly impacted by the fireworks shows that occur after the games end. Specifically, I'm concerned about the effect the loud, explosive fireworks shows have on the nesting bald eagles and their eaglets.

Although bald eagles have made an impressive comeback from the brink of extinction and are residents of Warner Park, they are now facing a dire threat from the avian influenza H5N1 strain that has already killed at least 606 bald eagles in 45 states as of 2022, but this is considered a small fraction of the total number of bald eagles that most likely died from the avian flu strain that year.

In addition, the effects of avian flu on nesting eagles in Wisconsin was also catastrophic in 2022 resulting in 65% of occupied bald eagle nests failing to produce a fledgling eaglet, including an eaglet in Warner Park.

Although nesting sites in 2024 resulted in fledged eaglets, bald eagles deserve our protection to maintain a thriving population to counteract potential effects of future avian flu outbreaks. Loud fireworks displays can negatively impact bald eagles and other bird species by causing adult birds to panic and fly away leaving behind nesting chicks as well as flying into buildings and other obstacles. Nesting chicks of all bird species can panic and leap out of the nest and die as well, which was also a concern for this year's nesting eaglets.

Drone light shows are an alternative to explosive, noisy fireworks displays and should be encouraged considering the proximity of the display to the natural park areas.

Patricia Lowry
542 Nova Way
Madison, WI 53704

From: sluysb@aol.com <sluysb@aol.com>

Sent: Tuesday, November 5, 2024 7:34 PM

To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>; bstenzel@festfoods.com; All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>; Myadze, Charles <district18@cityofmadison.com>; Latimer Burris, Amani <district12@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: BPC Meeting, Agenda Item 11

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To: Board of Park Commissioners

From: Beth Sluys, District 18

Date: 11/5/2024

Agenda Item #11

Legistar numbers for previous FIREWORKS meetings in 2024, for additional public comments: 82420, 82017, 83175

Current Legistar #: 85775

Title: Informational Report Debriefing the Fireworks Shows at the Madison Mallards 2024 Season (District 12, District 18)

In response to the Mallards' Neighborhood Impact Plan for 2024:

Thank you to the Mallards for installing a state of the art sound system.

Launching the fireworks from the football field adjacent to the stadium to create a "larger distance from potential environmental concerns" is a false narrative. It only moves the launch site to an area that hosts local children from East high school and the Latino Soccer League and their families. The debris that is left behind such as particulates, chemicals and heavy metals are still on the ground and will be disturbed with the field use as well as washed into our watershed. If we want to prevent high levels of pollutants from our lakes and watershed, then no fireworks is the best option.

The launch site is still within ½ mile of an active breeding pair of bald eagles. This pair arrived during the calm of the pandemic and it was the first time in the history of Warner Park to host a bald

eagle nest. US Fish & Wildlife regulations related to protected bald eagles is clear that things like fireworks should not occur within ½ mi of the active nest site. If we want to protect bald eagles and their young in Warner Park, then no fireworks is the best option.

This year the purple martin bird house located at the beach, was active and flourishing until after the fireworks when the volunteers managing the house found dead chicks all over the ground and the chicks in the house were found dead as well. The startled adults flew out and did not return which caused the chicks to starve to death. If we continue to host purple martin houses to help bolster the population around Lake Mendota, then no fireworks is the best option.

On July 3, during the large 23-minute concussive fireworks show, I was at Warner Park near the Rainbow Shelter building. The noise levels were well over 110 decibels and the smoke was so thick I had to leave the park. I could not breathe. I can only imagine the constant levels of particulates and other toxins in the air that families living in the housing near the park stadium endure each week during the Summer months of baseball. The particulate load alone is massive. No fireworks would alleviate this source of air pollution which is a current concern for our city as we conduct an air quality study that does not include Warner Park. Please include an air monitor in Warner Park near the stadium.

Many members of our community have spoken to their mental and physical anguish related to the fireworks. From a woman's 93-year old mother hiding out in her basement each week during the fireworks, enduring flashbacks from WWII to Vietnam Veterans speaking to their being traumatized by the fireworks. Families with little children losing sleep, and pet owners having to leave their home each week to stay in a motel. Fireworks need to stop.

Another issue for public park users is the lack of parking for the accessible playground and the fishing pier as the park is taken over by baseball fans using all the parking lots during game days. Keeping the accessible and fishing pier lot reserved for the public park users is important.

A drone show on July 4th is the best option. No game day shows. One major non-explosive display would be exciting, innovative and possible if the funds from Festival Foods (about \$50K) and from the other weekly fireworks shows were combined to purchase a state-of-the-art drone show for the Independence day show. Families could still spread their blankets in the stadium and enjoy the drone show. A drone show on July 4th is the best option to do no harm.

To decide to continue the fireworks is a decision to cause harm and trauma.

In the late 1960s, the Board of Park Commissioners and Parks Department decided to ban fireworks in Vilas Park “because of the mental and physical anguish suffered by elephants, zebras, and elands in the Vilas Zoo.” (The Capital Times, June 13, 1968) If this government board could see its way to protecting zoo animals from harm caused by fireworks, it seems that we can choose to do something different and better for the community at large. The baseball games can continue to occur, people will come. Imagine no one having to cower in their basement and endure being traumatized, no pollution, no shock and death to wildlife and birds and we still can celebrate our 4th of July with a coming together at the stadium for a large drone show.

Consider the alternatives and we can celebrate the 4th of July knowing that we are doing no harm.

From: Marsha Cannon <mpcannon76@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, November 6, 2024 10:22 AM

To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>; Festival Foods <bstenzel@festfoods.com>

Subject: Nov. 6 Parks Commission Agenda #11 - Fireworks at Warner Park

You don't often get email from mpcannon76@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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A pdf file **containing this message** is attached.

TO: Board of Parks Commissioners

RE: Nov. 6, 2024 Agenda Item #11

2024 Warner Park Fireworks / Madison Mallards

I did not think that the mission of the Madison Parks Division is to make money for the Mallards. Where is it written that Parks are responsible for economic development??

I appeal to you . . . as elected and appointed public policy-makers . . .to prioritize parks and people , not private profit, when you decide about fireworks at Warner Park.

Please keep in mind the Madison Parks VISION: “To provide the ideal system of parks, natural resources and recreational opportunities which will enhance the quality of life for everyone.”

The VISION is comprehensive: to “enhance the quality of life for everyone.” There’s no mention of special treatment for private businesses that might rent our public property.

Now you might think that viewing a baseball or softball game falls under the “recreational opportunity” part of the VISION. I agree! Ballgames are fun for the fans and fun for the players. I know because in the good old days of City League softball, I was a pitcher on women’s fast-pitch teams sponsored by Tony Frank’s and Villa Tap. Very recreational!

The problem with fireworks at Mallards games and July 4th celebrations is this: they are NOT recreational for everyone. Fireworks create unrelenting, inescapable noise, light, and air pollution. Conventional concussive fireworks do NOT enhance the quality of life for everyone. They harm neighborhood residents, including humans, their pets, and wildlife.

As you consider changes for 2025 season fireworks at Warner Park, I urge you to require quieter options. At a minimum, if any new displays beyond the 2024 limits are allowed they should be drones only.

Marsha Cannon

5 Cherokee Circle, #202

Madison, WI 53704
608.251.1276 (land line/no text)

From: karen hickel <kzhickel@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 6, 2024 10:44 AM
To: Latimer Burris, Amani <district12@cityofmadison.com>; Myadze, Charles <district18@cityofmadison.com>; Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: MALLARDS FIREWORKS FEEDBACK

You don't often get email from kzhickel@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hello,

I am a taxpayer and resident of Mendota Hills Neighborhood, bordering Warner Park.

I urge you all to reduce the number of fireworks displays after Mallards games, instead of the current 7 shows per summer, due to the multiple toxic effects to the neighborhood - trauma, noise pollution, chemical pollution to the air, water, plants and animals of Warner Park, etc.

I have a son with disabilities who is traumatized by each fireworks show.. It is a painful and stressful time for him, with each blast.

These displays could primarily be laser or light shows, which would solve the problem of poisonous pollution and trauma to neighborhood residents.

I have heard the Mallards claim that light shows are "too costly" for them.

I encourage you to consider the needs of the citizens you protect and advocate for, instead of profit for a business.

In closing, I am a very patriotic, traditional individual who supports celebrating America- not at this cost to its neighbors.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Hickel

From: dakester@sbcglobal.net <dakester@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 5, 2024 5:51 PM
To: 'PACommission@cityofmadison.com.' <PACommission@cityofmadison.com.>
Subject: AGENDA ITEM 11, PARKS COMMISSION INFORMATIONAL AGENDA ON FCOMMUNITY FIREWORKS MEETING HELD OCTOBER 23, ,2024 AT THE WARNER CENTER

GREETINGS PARK COMMISSIONERS:

For your information, I submitted this letter to Alders Burris and Myadze in connection to our Northside Community Meeting on fireworks held at the Warner Center on October 23, 2024. For some reason it has not been included in the Legistar file #85775 related to this meeting.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dolores Kester

(letter is below, also sent to Alders Burris & Myadze)

From: DOLORES KESTER <dakester1818@outlook.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2024 7:35 PM

To: Latimer Burris, Amani <district12@cityofmadison.com>; Myadze, Charles <myadzec@gmail.com>

Subject: FW: my feedback

You don't often get email from dakester1818@outlook.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Greetings Alder Burris and Alder Myadze:

Please forgive me for having to email my comments to you about the Warner fireworks. I planned to give highlights from my comments during the community meeting this evening at the Warner Center, but an unexpected crisis prevented me from attending.

I spent several days putting together these comments with the intent of providing the specific kinds of information requested in the triage and feedback approach requested by Alder Burris. I also included some questions about the broader context to assist in evaluation of these concerns.

I hope these comments, suggestions, and questions are helpful.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter,,
Dolores Kester

Hello Alders Burris and Myadze:

Thank you for holding this community meeting where people can provide feedback about the Warner Mallards fireworks. Thanks also to Justin Markovski for facilitating the meeting.

I am Dolores Kester. I have owned a home on Winchester Street on the Northside since 1972. I have served on the board and as chair of the Sherman Neighborhood (District 12). I have served on the board of Wild Warner since its inception. I have practiced law in Wisconsin for not quite fifty years. The concerns expressed below are solely my own, and do not represent any group in which I participate.

You have asked that we focus on a summary of what worked and what didn't work during the last season, as well as the following:

- what were concerns based on our perspective

- What was a concern that never materialized but should be noted; and
- What was unexpected

Five observations:

1. A member of Wild Warner who is an older gentleman is a well-known sponsor of and participant in fishing activities in Madison and Dane County. In fact the pier in the lagoon was named in his honor recognizing his contributions to public fishing activities. On several occasions this summer tried to go to this pier to fish, but there was never any parking available because Mallards fans were using it all. This was brought to the attention of responsible individuals several times but no change has ever been made.

The same is true of the disabled playground area right next to that parking area. Any user coming to that playground could not use the space because there was no parking available for the public!

The parking lot for WPCRC is typically supervised by Mallards staff on game day to prevent fans from filling up that lot. Why is this not done at the non-city lot closest to Rainbow Shelter?

2. A concern that never materialized but should be noted: We are all just lucky that the three eagle chicks hatched this year did not suffer harm from fireworks despite Mallards rushing the first game of the season which had been planned for June 28th --also planned for this year's first firework. In my opinion, liberties were taken in interpreting US Fish & Wildlife Guidelines under the federal statute that protects migratory birds related to a broad interpretation of the term "fully fledged" in US Fish and Wildlife Guidelines for the Migratory Birds federal statute. This decision was made by limiting the decision maker to a parks staffer with very limited public input other than communications with SWIBA. The point being that Mallards pushed the first fireworks date, potentially putting the safety of the three chicks at risk.
3. What was unexpected that needs to be addressed or highlighted or lifted up: Compare suicides of purple martin chicks in a recent study of birds in and around Warner Park, which jumped out of their nests when fireworks startled them. They all died. Ever wonder why there are so few purple martins around Lake Mendota?
4. Mallards should not be launching their fireworks in the playing field at the corner of Northport Drive and N. Sherman Avenue. For one thing, I am reliably informed that this field is planned for use as children's sports fields. This area is also not the required distance from eaglets required under federal US Fish & Wildlife Guidelines, thus potentially putting at risk the safety of new chicks.
5. Number of games and time of day of fireworks

This past summer season of fireworks connected with Mallards games, the number of firework events was for the first time in a number of years increased from 6 to 7. This is too many fireworks. The increase from 6 to 7 fireworks events was an unexpected change antithetical to the public's expectation that there would not be more than six such events. Several of these events were noisier than usual. Also, when games run late, often fireworks don't start until later, meaning that they run late into the night which is contrary to public expectation.

Suggestions for short term solutions

- Roll back number of fireworks to 6 or less—goal should be drone show not oftener than once a year on the 4th
- City staff, quit treating the Mallards like they were members of your family
- Quit treating the public like uninvited guests at a party
- Forbid late fireworks shows
- Require reasonable parking and take other steps so the rest of the public can actually get access to their public park!!!

Final questions and conclusions

Warner Park is a public park under the supervision and stewardship of the City of Madison, yet in regard to the fireworks and related issues, I submit to you that the public interest is not well served.

Mallards are tenants under a lease with the city for the purpose of holding baseball games in the buildings and other structures surrounding the stadium. They are not a city agency. However, when they have a game, the public is essentially excluded from any use of the front half of Warner Park because Mallards and their fans take over all the space, excluding any others' park use.

In other words Mallards lease a small area but in practice take over a much bigger area preventing public use in the front half of the park. Does this serve the public interest? Why does the city feel it is reasonable to lease a big part of our main Northside public park for so many years, in effect giving this commercial enterprise a monopoly and excluding competition--whose only concern is profit. The city thereby excludes most other public uses of that half of the park, causes death of wildlife and birds, and harm to public health from contamination of the soil and water. Why does city feel it is ok to give Mallards permanent use of most of the eastern part of the park for half of the summer every summer? Where is the public benefit? **This is a public park, but not available for public use.**

Why does city feel it is reasonable to lease a big part of our main public park giving this commercial enterprise a monopoly excluding competition. The city thereby excludes most other public uses of that half of the park, causes death of wildlife and birds, and contaminates the soil and water permanently?

Why does city feel it is ok to give Mallards permanent use of most of the park for half of the summer every summer? Where is the public benefit? **This is a public park, but not available for public use for significant periods of time over many years.**

Is this lease arrangement with Mallards fair to the public interest? are its fiscal terms reasonable?

Is this contract with Mallards fair to other potential entrepreneurs who might obtain benefit from holding recreational events in this location?

I join others on the Northside in looking forward to working with you on fair solutions that permit balanced and equitable uses of Warner Park with opportunities available to all members of the public.

From: Debra Schrotz <dschrotz53@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 4, 2024 10:22 AM
To: Latimer Burris, Amani <district12@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Warner Park Fireworks

You don't often get email from dschrotz53@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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I am writing to oppose additional fireworks at Warner Park.

The Northside has to endure at least a month's worth of fireworks from the park and from individuals that set them off in parks, at the beach and private residences. This impacts people and animals and the environment with loud noise and pollution. Debris from illegal fireworks can be found on sidewalks and parking lots. Despite it being reported to the police nothing is ever done to stop the use of the illegal fireworks. Enough is enough. I get it for the few days before and after July 4 but they should not be allowed outside of that time period. Let the Mallards peeps invest in drones and do a light show in that manner.

Regards,
Debra Schrotz

Beginning of String

From: Latimer Burris, Amani <district12@cityofmadison.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 6, 2024 12:52 PM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Fw: Item no 11 on BOPC agenda 11/6/24--Informational Report Debriefing the Fireworks Shows at the Madison Mallards 2024 Season (District 12, District 18) INFORMATIONAL

Additional Fireworks Triage Commentary, please add to file #85775: Informational Debriefing for the fireworks shows

Alder Amani

Amani Latimer Burris
City of Madison Alder, District 12
Contact: [608/345-8747](tel:6083458747) text/cell (preferred)
City Council Office: [608/266-4071](tel:6082664071) (main line)
City Council Fax [\(608\)267-8669">608/267-8669](tel:6082678669)
Madison Common Council
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, #417
Madison, Wisconsin 53703

"Please excuse any typos or errors, human here"

From: asaloutos@tds.net <asaloutos@tds.net>

Sent: Saturday, November 2, 2024 3:46 PM

To: Dorothy Borchardt <dborchardt1@charter.net>

Cc: Latimer Burris, Amani <district12@cityofmadison.com>; Myadze, Charles <district18@cityofmadison.com>; Michelle Martin <mlmart29@yahoo.com>; Jennifer Argelander <jargelander@yahoo.com>

Subject: Item no 11 on BOPC agenda 11/6/24--Informational Report Debriefing the Fireworks Shows at the Madison Mallards 2024 Season (District 12, District 18) INFORMATIONAL

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Hi, Dorothy!

Regarding agenda item no. 11 on the Board of Park Commissioners agenda November 6, 2024, Informational Report Debriefing the Fireworks Shows at the Madison Mallards 2024 Season (District 12, District 18), Legistar ID No. [85775](#), this is informational. Neighbors may already be aware of this, but since this agenda item is informational, the BOPC can not vote on approving additional fireworks at Warner Park at this meeting. A vote on this will need to be properly noticed. I wanted to share this so everyone's expectations are aligned about what will happen on Wednesday. I've copied Eric Knepp on this email and, if I'm mistaken, he can correct us on this.

Thank you for staying on top of this and the great communication!

Cheers,

Alex

From: "Dorothy Borchardt" <dborchardt1@charter.net>

To: "Dorothy Borchardt" <dborchardt1@charter.net>

Sent: Saturday, November 2, 2024 11:48:26 AM

Subject: Warner Park fireworks: meeting 2024-11-06 Board of Park Commissioners

Hi Neighbors,

The Mallards are requesting several fireworks displays after games in 2025. Now is our chance to let the park commissioners know if the fireworks are a problem, waking up your children, upsetting your pets, and people with PTSD. I get several complaints from residents that live in the surrounding neighborhoods.

We want to be reasonable and support a display one or two times in celebration of our Independence Day. Allowing the Mallards request to be more important than the well being of our residents is unacceptable.

It is time for our northside neighborhoods to stand together in support of all our northside

neighborhoods.

Contact our alders: Amani Latimer Burris <district12@cityofmadison.com> Myadze, Charles <district18@cityofmadison.com> and the parkcommission@cityofmadison.com

See the information below from Don Lindsay of the Sherman Neighborhood Association and make a difference ... or don't complain.

Thank you,
Dorothy B

Fri. Nov. 1, 2024

Madison's Board of Park Commissioners will be meeting virtually on Wednesday, November 6, 2024 at 6:30 PM. The fireworks at Warner Park is item 11, loi@ 85775 on their agenda.

Below I have copied the relevant Agenda information. Those who were unable to attend the meeting held at Warner Park on Oct. 23, 2024 can use this meeting to make comments that further the discussion of fireworks shows at Warner Park.

Please share this information.

Thank you.
Don Lindsay

Web page for Legistar 85775

<https://madison.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=6901556&GUID=4A2097A1-2387-4C93-A7EB-813923D235AD>

Accessed 20241101

Title

Informational Report Debriefing the Fireworks Shows at the Madison Mallards 2024 Season (District 12, District 18)

Body

At the March 13, 2024, Board of Park Commissioners meeting, the Commission approved fireworks after the Madison Mallards baseball and Madison Night Mares softball games. The Commission requested that staff and the Mallards provide a debrief of the fireworks events after the conclusion of the playing seasons.

Agenda Information:

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

Wednesday, November 6, 2024 6:30 PM VIRTUAL

The City of Madison is holding the Board of Park Commissioners meeting virtually.

1.

Written Comments: Send comments on agenda items to:

PACommission@cityofmadison.com.

2.

Public Registration: Register your support or opposition to an agenda item at:

<https://www.cityofmadison.com/clerk/meeting-schedule>.

If you wish to speak at the virtual meeting on an agenda item, you must register.

When you register, you will be sent an email with the information needed to join the virtual meeting.

3.

Listen to Meeting: Call via phone to the Board of Park Commissioners meeting:

(877) 853-5257 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 869 4854 0115

4. If you would like to join the meeting as an observer, please fill out information at

<https://www.cityofmadison.com/clerk/meeting-schedule/watch-meetings-online>.

If you need an interpreter, translator, materials in alternate formats or other accommodations to access this service, activity or program, please call the phone number below at least three business days prior to the meeting.

For accommodations, please contact the Parks Division at 608-266-4711.

Written Comments can be sent to: PACommission@cityofmadison.com

...

Item 11 Legistar: 85775

Informational Report Debriefing the Fireworks Shows at the Madison Mallards

2024 Season (District 12, District 18)

INFORMATIONAL

End of String

From: Dorothy <dborchardt1@charter.net>

Sent: Saturday, November 2, 2024 12:32 PM

To: parkcomminson@cityofmadison.com <parkcomminson@cityofmadison.com>

Cc: Latimer Burris, Amani <district12@cityofmadison.com>; Myadze, Charles <district18@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Agenda #11

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

TO: Madison Park Commission

FROM: Dorothy Borchardt

Just a note to make sure you are aware how disrupted the fireworks are to the residents surrounding Warner Park. The fireworks wake up our children, upset our pets, and citizens with PTSD. I receive several complaints from residents that live in the surrounding neighborhoods.

I have supported the Independence Day fireworks at Warner Park and raised funds for the fireworks for several years.

However permitting the Mallards request to be more important then the well being of our residents is unacceptable.

Thank you for your time and attention.

From: Rep.Baldehy <Rep.Baldehy@legis.wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Friday, November 1, 2024 12:10 PM

To: Saiz, Gabriel A <GSaiz@cityofmadison.com>

Cc: Rep.Baldehy <Rep.Baldehy@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Rep.Hong <Rep.Hong@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Latimer Burris, Amani <district12@cityofmadison.com>; Myadze, Charles <district18@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Good to meet you briefly at Warner Park

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

Hello Gabriel,

Greetings from the down the street at the State Capitol. It was good to meet you briefly at Warner Park. Thank you for being there for the fireworks conversation last week. I'm sorry we did not have a chance to hear from you!

I've since taken the time to learn a little about "Love My Air" and the availability of air quality sensors. From involvement in the community that predates my work in this office, I know that Madison has long had an air quality issue, and we know that environmental issues have a disparate impact on marginalized communities. The installation of a city-wide network of air quality sensors is such a promising way to understand the distribution of potential air quality issues across the city, and I'm glad to see attention to the Northside, with its concentration of economic challenge and diverse population.

We represent the Northside of Madison, including Warner Park and the surrounding area until the end of the year and session, at which point the area will be in the 76th Assembly District, represented by Rep. Hong, cc'd here. I hope we might have a chance to meet in person or have a phone conversation next week or the following week, so I can be as updated as possible, and have the opportunity to advocate for all measures that will illuminate the air quality in our district. It will also be helpful to have more background as I respond to constituent concerns. I am cc'ing the alders who represent our constituents as a courtesy.

Thanks very much and best regards,
Sue

*Sue Pastor
Office of Rep. Baldehy
Assembly District 48
608-237-9148*

Beginning of String

From: Enjoyiana Nururdin <enururdin@captimes.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2024 6:17 PM
To: Alex Saloutos <asaloutos@tds.net>; Latimer Burris, Amani <district12@cityofmadison.com>
Cc: Paul Fanlund <pfanlund@captimes.com>; John Nichols <jnichols@madison.com>; Myadze, Charles <district18@cityofmadison.com>; Keegan Kyle <kkyle@captimes.com>
Subject: Re: Nice job on the article about the neighborhood meeting regarding fireworks at Warner Park

Good evening, everyone!

Thank you for reading and supporting the Cap Times, and for giving that feedback. I agree that it was an informative meeting and lots of perspectives were shared. I've added my editor to the email thread, so he's informed of the feedback, as well.

I look forward to hearing feedback about my future stories :)

Enjoyiana Nururdin, M.A.
“on-jee-ahna nerd-een” | she/her
Local Government Reporter
The Cap Times
text or call: 608-515-6181
[Become a Cap Times member](#)

From: asaloutos@tds.net <asaloutos@tds.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2024 4:16:25 PM
To: Amani Latimer Burris <district12@cityofmadison.com>
Cc: Enjoyiana Nururdin <enururdin@captimes.com>; Paul Fanlund <pfanlund@captimes.com>; John Nichols <jnichols@madison.com>; Myadze, Charles <district18@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Re: Nice job on the article about the neighborhood meeting regarding fireworks at Warner Park

Good point, Armani, thank you. Personally, I'd like to see the press recognize all of the parties involved for their good work and positive efforts when they can have a meeting to discuss an issue like this and everyone does such a fabulous job!

Good point, Armani, thank you. Personally, I'd like to see the press recognize all of the parties involved for their good work and positive efforts when they can have a meeting to discuss an issue like this and everyone does such a fabulous job! Onwards, Alex

From: "Amani Latimer Burris" <district12@cityofmadison.com>
To: "Alex Saloutos" <asaloutos@tds.net>, "enururdin" <enururdin@captimes.com>
Cc: "Paul Fanlund CapTimes" <pfanlund@captimes.com>, "jnichols" <jnichols@madison.com>, "Myadze, Charles" <district18@cityofmadison.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2024 3:51:47 PM
Subject: Re: Nice job on the article about the neighborhood meeting regarding fireworks at Warner Park

Thanks for the feedback and for sharing the article.

I hadn't seen it yet. That said, I agree it was a very productive meeting (lots of different points of view were represented) which was captured well.

Thankfully, everyone felt comfortable enough to express their differing opinions and sharing differences (in points of view).

Personally, it's actually what I value most in this thing called democracy. So maybe the title of the article was simply a catchy play on words?

Thanks again for the feedback,

Amani

Alder Amani

Amani Latimer Burris
City of Madison Alder, District 12
Contact: 608/345-8747 text/cell (preferred)
City Council Office: 608/266-4071 (main line)
City Council Fax (608)267-8669
Madison Common Council
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, #417
Madison, Wisconsin 53703

"Please excuse any typos or errors, human here"

From: asaloutos@tds.net <asaloutos@tds.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2024 3:07 PM
To: enururdin@captimes.com <enururdin@captimes.com>
Cc: Paul Fanlund CapTimes <pfanlund@captimes.com>; jnichols <jnichols@madison.com>;
Latimer Burris, Amani <district12@cityofmadison.com>; Myadze, Charles <district18@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Nice job on the article about the neighborhood meeting regarding fireworks at Warner Park

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

Good afternoon, Enjoyiana!

I hope you are well. I was at the meeting last week hosted by alders Amani Latimer Burris and Charles Myadze regarding firework at Warner Park, and I wanted to compliment you on the excellent article you wrote about the meeting, [Madison Mallards, residents clash again over fireworks at Warner Park](#). In particular I thought it was balanced, presenting both sides in a meaningful way, and included several quotes that accurately captured the sentiments of both the neighborhood and the Mallard's representatives. Thank you. I look forward to reading more of your stories.

Regarding the sensational headline, I know you didn't write it, so these comments are directed at Paul and John. It misrepresents the meeting and is a disservice to the Mallards representatives and neighbors at the meeting, and the readers of The Cap Times. I can't see how it was a hostile encounter between the parties by any stretch of the imagination. My recollection of the meeting was that all parties were respectful and civil, it was a positive experience for everyone, and there was a healthy and constructive exchange of information by all parties in attendance who participated in the conversation.

Cheers,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'A' followed by a stylized flourish.

Alex Saloutos
Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices
Cell: (608) 345-9009
Email: asaloutos@tds.net

—
End of String

Beginning of String

From: sluysb@aol.com <sluysb@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 26, 2024 4:19 PM
To: Latimer Burris, Amani <district12@cityofmadison.com>; Ryan, CJ
<CRyan@cityofmadison.com>; Justin Markofski <director@northsideplanningcouncil.org>;

Myadze, Charles <district18@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Re: Summary document from March meeting

Thanks to you and the staff in parks.

On Saturday, October 26, 2024 at 01:14:21 PM CDT, Myadze, Charles
<district18@cityofmadison.com> wrote:

Dear Beth

Thank you for reaching out. I listed a link below for your reference. Please let me know if you need more information.

Have a wonderful weekend!

<https://madison.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=A&ID=1136597&GUID=AC344340-FD81-43D8-B199-F04123FD4E99>

Charles Myadze
District 18 Alder

From: sluysb@aol.com <sluysb@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 26, 2024 9:11 AM
To: Latimer Burris, Amani <district12@cityofmadison.com>; Ryan, CJ
<CRyan@cityofmadison.com>; Justin Markofski <director@northsideplanningcouncil.org>;
Myadze, Charles <district18@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Re: Summary document from March meeting

Dear Alder,

I am writing to you regarding the memo that likely was created after the March 2024 meeting at Warner Park. it would have been the next BPC meeting where you were given a copy of that memo. I do not think it is available on Legistar.

Thank you for your time on this important public and environmental health issue.

Beth

On Friday, October 25, 2024 at 03:34:40 PM CDT, Myadze, Charles
<district18@cityofmadison.com> wrote:

Dear Beth,

Thank you for reaching out. I understand that having a clear understanding of where things stand on this matter is important. While I made some notes afterward for my reference, I rely on official

memos and documentation from city staff, along with the numerous emails I've received about this issue, to ensure all details are considered before making any decisions.

Since you've also requested this from CJ Ryan, her summary will provide the most comprehensive view once available. If any additional information from my end would be helpful, I'll keep you informed.

Thank you for being so patient as we gather all the information.

Best regards,
Charles Myadze
District 18 Alder



Ald. Charles Myadze
District 18
City of Madison ● Office of the Common Council
Room 417, City-County Building
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
Tel 608 571 7342 ● Fax 608 267 8669
Email district18@cityofmadison.com
Web <http://www.cityofmadison.com/council/district18>

In compliance with State public records law, the City of Madison retains copies of ALL email messages to and from this mailbox. Email messages may be released in response to appropriate open record requests.

From: sluysb@aol.com <sluysb@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, October 25, 2024 2:11 PM
To: Myadze, Charles <district18@cityofmadison.com>; Latimer Burris, Amani <district12@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Summary document from March meeting

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

Dear Alders,

In March of this year we met with the Mallards and city parks staff about the fireworks. I know that CJ Ryan took notes at that meeting and would use them to prepare a memo to the BPC members regarding the information we shared that night. Same thing happened at our meeting this week.

I am asking if you both received a copy of that document, especially you Alder Myadze as a member of the BPC.

If you have that document from city staff, can you please send me a copy? It would be helpful to read that and perhaps understand where we are better now coming from that meeting.

I have also requested this from CJ Ryan of parks.

Many thanks,

Beth

End of String

From: Fred Fass <frdfass@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, October 25, 2024 6:04 AM
To: Latimer Burris, Amani <district12@cityofmadison.com>
Cc: Kester, Dolores <dakester@sbcglobal.net>; sluysb@aol.com <sluysb@aol.com>
Subject: Re: November 6th.

You don't often get email from frdfass@aol.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hello Amani,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with the neighborhood about the fireworks at Warner Park.

We look forward to working with you in the future on this issue and am optimistic in finding a resolution.

Marie Jacobson / Chair / Wild Warner

From: Sherry Barnsley <junkbarnsley@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2024 6:48 PM
To: Latimer Burris, Amani <district12@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Fireworks in Warner Park

You don't often get email from junkbarnsley@sbcglobal.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

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I am writing to let you know that we enjoy the Fireworks shows that the Mallards put on each summer.

Please don't eliminate any of these shows.

Madison needs family friendly events and these nights are very popular for families to attend.

Thanks.

Sherry Barnsley
1022 Shasta Drive

From: Braithwaite, Michelle D <mbraithwaite@kraftheinz.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 11:38 AM
To: Ryan, CJ <CRyan@cityofmadison.com>; Latimer Burris, Amani <district12@cityofmadison.com>; Myadze, Charles <district18@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: RE: Warner Park Fireworks 2025

Some people who received this message don't often get email from mbraithwaite@kraftheinz.com.
[Learn why this is important](#)

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Adding District 12 and 18

From: Braithwaite, Michelle D
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 10:16 AM
To: CRyan@cityofmadison.com
Subject: Warner Park Fireworks 2025
Hello,

My name is Michelle Braithwaite. I am a long-time resident of the Northside. My daughter attended Mendota Elementary School, Sherman Middle School and graduated from East High School. My husband and I have been a host family for the Madison Mallards for over 20 years. We have developed long term relationships with these players and their families, a unique experience provided only because we are engaged in the community.

I have closely witnessed the evolution of the Madison Mallards and what Big Top has done for the Northside, including affordable baseball and softball options for families, seasonal jobs for the Northside youth, and entertainment of sorts including the fireworks and drone displays.

With that said, I am writing to you today to show my support for allowing the Madison Mallards and Madison Softball teams continue with fireworks nights in 2025. This should continue to be a Northside Madison tradition!

I have included my cell phone number should you have any additional questions for me.

Respectfully,

Michelle Braithwaite
608-212-7722

From: Deborah Emerson <dke8156@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 6, 2024 2:10 PM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Opposition to Fireworks

You don't often get email from dke8156@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Commissioners and Citizens:

While I have enjoyed fireworks all my life, we now understand their negative effects on our pets, wildlife, and environment. It's time to find other ways to enjoy large visual celebrations. Please refrain from issuing permits for fireworks displays and advance policies that allow other large visual displays that protect our pets, wildlife, and the environment.

Respectfully,
Deborah Emerson
1302 Menomonie Ln, Madison, WI 53704

From: Dave J. Bierman <dbierman@watco.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 6, 2024 2:16 PM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Cc: Dave J. Bierman <dbierman@watco.com>
Subject: City of Madison, Board of Parks Commissioners -11/6/2024 Letter Opposing Fireworks Warner Park Agenda Item 11

You don't often get email from dbierman@watco.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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

Attached above, please find attached letter BoP_PubComentLetter_Agenda-Item11_DJB_11-6-24 for inclusion into public comment, Agenda Item 11, 11/6/2024 Legistar Item 85775 Board of Parks Commissioner Meeting 11/6/2024

Please distribute this document to Board of Parks Commissioner Meeting and post to Agenda Item 11 (Legistar 785775) as testimony of record in opposition of approval of this item.

Thank You

David Bierman
514 Nova Way
Madison WI 53704
608-370-3701
dbierman@watco.com

11/6/2024

To: City Of Madison - Board of Parks Commissioners,

RE: Agenda Item 11 Fireworks Ban Warner Park

I am writing to request that firework displays permanently cease at Warner Park. The beautiful lights in the sky are serious detriment to public health and safety, pets, wild animals and birds, and our environment, and you are accountable to act in the best interest of public safety and health and welfare.

In the past the City of Madison eliminated fireworks due to the negative impacts and public outrage at Vilas Park, Law Park, and others including Warner Park Rhythm and Booms events. The reasons are still the same, people frightened by the sounds and sickened by the smoke, animals scared to the point of death, toxic smoke and hazardous chemical firework components, poisoning the park grounds, watersheds, and groundwater.

If fireworks negative impacts and effects on the people, animals and environment haven't changed, why then were they allowed to return after the ban in 2013? Failure to act in the best interest of public safety and health and welfare and baseball. Mallards Baseball.

Baseball? What does baseball have to do with fireworks? You take the family out to the ballpark, sit back watching a great game, kids participate in fun activities, eat a hot dog, cheer, buy some swag and experience baseball as it always has been, a great family activity. An experience that fills the Warner Park Duck Pond to capacity. Then fireworks, why?

Your family and the surrounding two-mile area are bombarded with sound decibel levels exceeding 110, the air is filled with perchlorate, and heavy metals, sodium, barium, strontium, magnesium, chromium from the firework gases and particles at levels 49 times higher than considered safe by OSHA, then becomes fallout and contaminates the ground, ballpark, Warner Park, and surrounding neighborhoods.

Overtime, all firework perchlorate and heavy metals either remain in the soil surface to expose humans, pets' flora and fauna throughout the parks and playgrounds or are moved by rain into the storm sewers, Warner Lagoon and Lake Mendota. It is not conjecture, it is science-based fact and a public health hazard that has the same cumulative effects as the former Rhythm and Booms shows and on everyone's health and environmental future.

Baseball alone is quite a bit safer for families than fireworks. I love baseball and am very grateful for what Mallards and the Mares ball games bring to generations of family experiences, memories, and our neighborhood. However, when considering the facts surrounding the negative impacts, as well as the discontent, disruption and ill effects impinged upon the constituents, PTSD survivors, pets, wild animals, of the neighborhoods surrounding Warner Park it is the correct decision to ban fireworks.

Mallards and Mares baseball have before and will again, fill the stadium without fireworks and safe alternate form of sky entertainment such as drone shows are always a possibility to satisfy the needs for the 4th of July. There are safe alternatives, so why not use them rather than continuing the firework attack on the public and environmental health.

Clearly past members of the Board of Parks Commissioners were accountable and acted in the best interests of public safety, health and welfare and their constituents. I ask you to do the same, and request that you take immediate steps to cease and permanently ban fireworks displays at all locations at Warner Park in the future.

David Bierman
District 18

From: susan McMurray <susanmcm17@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 6, 2024 2:43 PM
To: bstenzel@festfoods.com; Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>; All Alders <allalders@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: 2024 Warner Park Fireworks/ Madison Mallards

Some people who received this message don't often get email from susanmcm17@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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To: Board of Parks Commissioners
Re: Agenda item# 11 regarding Fireworks at Warner Park

I am a northside resident of the city of Madison. I attended the spring meeting on the Mallard's interest in expanding the number of fireworks events to express my concern about not only adding more events but about fireworks in general.

I believe traditional fireworks are disruptive and harmful to residents of the northside - human residents as well as pets and wildlife at Warner Park.

At that spring meeting, the option of moving toward quieter, less air polluting drone shows was discussed. I strongly support consideration of allowing only drone fireworks shows at Warner Park for the summer of 2025. I think moving to drone shows only would be an ideal way to balance the interest in having some fireworks without all of the hazards of traditional fireworks.

As the Board considers the Mallard's fireworks intentions for 2025, I urge you to require the team owners to present a plan to the commission by next April to conduct fireworks via drone exclusively for the summer of 2025. It can be done.

Thank you

Susan McMurray
1605 S. Golf Glen # C
Madison, WI 53704
608-535-2398
