

City of Madison

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Master

File Number: 87483

File ID: 87483 File Type: Resolution Status: Items Referred

Version: 1 Reference: Controlling Body: COMMON

COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

File Created Date: 03/05/2025

File Name: Adopting the Updated Elected and Appointed Official Final Action:

Code of Ethical Conduct

Title: Adopting the Updated Elected and Appointed Official Code of Ethical Conduct

Notes:

Sponsors: Bill Tishler Effective Date:

Attachments: PROPOSED: Updated Elected and Appointed Enactment Number:

Official Code of Ethical Conduct3.pdf, IN EFFECT: Elected and Appointed Official Code of Ethical Conduct Updated 7-2-24.pdf, BPW Presentation Elected and Appointed Official Code of Ethical Conduct.pdf, Updated Presentation Elected and Appointed Official Code of Ethical Conduct.pdf, Updated 7-17-25 Elected and Appointed Official Code of Ethical Conduct.pdf, BCC Code of Conduct Feedback Notes.pdf, Draft for Discussion Code of Expected Conduct - Govindarajan Alternate.pdf,

Public Comment re 87483.pdf

Author: Alder Nasra Wehelie Hearing Date:

Entered by: kkapusta-pofahl@cityofmadison.com Published Date:

History of Legislative File

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
1	Council Office	03/05/2025	Referred for Introduction				
	Action Text:	This Resolution was Ref	erred for Introduction				
	Notes:	Common Council Executive	Committee (3/25/25), Comm	on Council (3/25/25)			
1	COMMON COUN	ICIL 03/11/2025	Refer	COMMON COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE			Pass
	Action Text: A motion was made by Figueroa Cole, seconded by Duncan, to Refer to the COMMON COUNCIL						

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,. The motion passed by the following vote:

Notes: Additional Referrals to Board Of Public Works (5/7/25), Plan Commission (5/12/25), Board Of Park Commissioners

(5/14/25), Landmarks Commission

(5/19/25), Madison Public Library Board (6/5/25), Equal Opportunities Commission (6/12/25), Police Civilian Oversight Board (6/18/25), Transportation Commission

(6/25/25), Affirmative Action Commission (7/3/25), Economic Development Committee (7/10/25), Alcohol License

Review Committee (7/16/25), Disability Rights Commission (7/24/25), Common Council (8/5/25)

Ayes: 16 Michael E. Verveer; Regina M. Vidaver; Marsha A. Rummel; Nikki Conklin; Yannette Figueroa Cole; Bill Tishler; Tag Evers; Isadore Knox Jr.; Dina Nina Martinez-Rutherford; Jael Currie; Sabrina V. Madison; Charles Myadze; John P. Guequierre; John W. Duncan; Juliana R.

Bennettand Derek Field

Noes: 2 MGR Govindarajanand Barbara Harrington-McKinney

Excused: 2 Nasra Wehelieand Amani Latimer Burris

Non Voting: 1 Satya V. Rhodes-Conway

COMMON COUNCIL 03/12/2025 Referred **BOARD OF EXECUTIVE PUBLIC WORKS**

COMMITTEE

This Resolution was Referred to the BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS Action Text:

COMMON COUNCIL 03/12/2025 Referred **PLAN** 05/12/2025

EXECUTIVE COMMISSION

COMMITTEE

Action Text: This Resolution was Referred to the PLAN COMMISSION

COMMON COUNCIL 03/12/2025 Referred **BOARD OF PARK** 06/11/2025

EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER

COMMITTEE S

Action Text: This Resolution was Referred to the BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

COMMON COUNCIL 03/12/2025 Referred **LANDMARKS** 05/19/2025

EXECUTIVE COMMISSION

COMMITTEE

Action Text: This Resolution was Referred to the LANDMARKS COMMISSION

COMMON COUNCIL 03/12/2025 Referred MADISON 06/05/2025

EXECUTIVE PUBLIC LIBRARY

COMMITTEE **BOARD**

This Resolution was Referred to the MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD Action Text:

COMMON COUNCIL 03/12/2025 Referred **EQUAL**

OPPORTUNITIES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE COMMISSION

Action Text: This Resolution was Referred to the EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION

COMMON COUNCIL 03/12/2025 Referred POLICE CIVILIAN **EXECUTIVE OVERSIGHT**

COMMITTEE **BOARD**

Action Text: This Resolution was Referred to the POLICE CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT BOARD

COMMON COUNCIL 03/12/2025 Referred **TRANSPORTATI** 06/25/2025

EXECUTIVE ON COMMISSION

COMMITTEE

Action Text:

This Resolution was Referred to the TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION Action Text:

COMMON COUNCIL 03/12/2025 Referred **ALCOHOL** 07/16/2025

EXECUTIVE LICENSE COMMITTEE **REVIEW** COMMITTEE

Action Text: This Resolution was Referred to the ALCOHOL LICENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE

COMMON COUNCIL 03/12/2025 Referred **ECONOMIC** 07/16/2025

EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE COMMITTEE

Action Text: This Resolution was Referred to the ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

COMMON COUNCIL AFFIRMATIVE 03/12/2025 Referred 09/04/2025

FXFCUTIVE ACTION COMMITTEE COMMISSION 1 COMMON COUNCIL 03/12/2025 Referred DISABILITY 08/28/2025

EXECUTIVE RIGHTS
COMMITTEE COMMISSION

Action Text: This Resolution was Referred to the DISABILITY RIGHTS COMMISSION

1 ALCOHOL LICENSE 03/19/2025 Table Pass

REVIEW COMMITTEE

Action Text: A motion was made by Verveer, seconded by Barushok, to Table. The motion passed by voice

vote/other.

1 ALCOHOL LICENSE 03/19/2025 Take Off The Table Pass

REVIEW COMMITTEE

Action Text: A motion was made by Barushok, seconded by Verveer, to Take Off The Table. The motion passed by

voice vote/other.

1 ALCOHOL LICENSE 03/19/2025 Re-refer ALCOHOL 07/16/2025 Pass

REVIEW COMMITTEE LICENSE REVIEW

COMMITTEE

Action Text: A motion was made by Verveer, seconded by Barushok, to Re-refer to the ALCOHOL LICENSE

REVIEW COMMITTEE. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

1 BOARD OF PUBLIC 05/07/2025 Return to Lead with Council Office Pass

WORKS the

Recommendation for

Approval

Action Text: A motion was made by Ald. Guequierre, seconded by Williams, to Return to Lead with the

Recommendation for Approval to the Council Office. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

1 PLAN COMMISSION 05/12/2025 Return to Lead with COMMON Pass

the COUNCIL
Recommendation for EXECUTIVE
Approval COMMITTEE

Action Text: A motion was made by Guequierre, seconded by Heck, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation

for Approval to the COMMON COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The motion passed by voice

vote/other.

1 LANDMARKS 05/19/2025 Return to Lead with COMMON

COMMISSION the Following COUNCIL

Recommendation(s) EXECUTIVE

Recommendation(s) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Action Text: This Resolution was Returned to Lead with no comments from the commission.

Notes: The commission had no comments on the document.

1 MADISON PUBLIC 06/05/2025 Return to Lead with COMMON Pass

LIBRARY BOARD the COUNCIL Recommendation for EXECUTIVE

Approval COMMITTEE

Action Text: A motion was made by DeChant, seconded by Lovelace III, to Return to Lead with the

Recommendation for Approval to the COMMON COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The motion

passed by voice vote/other.

1 BOARD OF PARK 06/11/2025 Return to Lead with COMMON Pass COMMISSIONERS the COUNCIL

Recommendation for EXECUTIVE

Approval COMMITTEE

Action Text: Common Council Chief of Staff Kapusta-Pofahl gave an overview of the updated policy. This applies

to both Park Commission and subcommittees.

Motion made by Harrington, seconded by McDonald, to RETURN TO LEAD WITH THE

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL TO THE COMMON COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Motion passed by voice vote/other.

1 TRANSPORTATION 06/25/2025 Return to Lead with COMMON Pass

COMMISSION the COUNCIL

Recommendation for Approval EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Action Text: Common Council Chief of Staff Karen Kapusta-Pofahl provided verbal reports and was available for

questions.

Olson moved to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval, seconded by Webber. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

After this item, the meeting went to ITEM 3.

ECONOMIC 07/16/2025 Return to Lead with COMMON DEVELOPMENT the Following COUNCIL

COMMITTEE Recommendation(s)

Action Text: Duncan gave an overview of the Code of Ethical Conduct followed by questions and comments from

members. A motion was made by Bulgrin seconded by Liggon to return to lead with the

recommendation to adopt with the following recommendations:

1. That it stay a living document

2. That it is made available to the public

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Madison was absent at the time of the vote.

Notes: A motion was made by Bulgrin seconded by Liggon to return to lead with the recommendation to adopt with the following recommendations:

1. That it stay a living document

2. That it is made available to the public

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Madison was absent at the time of the vote.

1 ALCOHOL LICENSE 07/16/2025 Return to Lead with COMMON Pass REVIEW COMMITTEE the COUNCIL

Recommendation for

Approval

Action Text: A motion was made by Farley, seconded by Carter, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for

Approval to the COMMON COUNCIL. The motion passed by voice vote/other. Figueroa Cole abstains.

Recommendation to Add terminology regarding culture and speaking to members of the media.

Notes: Add terminology regarding culture and speaking to members of the media.

1 COMMON COUNCIL 08/05/2025 Re-refer COMMON Pass

COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Action Text: A motion was made by Govindarajan, seconded by Guequierre, to Re-refer to the COMMON

COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

1 EQUAL 08/14/2025 Return to Lead with Pass

OPPORTUNITIES the

COMMISSION Recommendation for

Common Council to

Adopt

Action Text: Commissioner Klebba made a motion to approve two with general changes; 1. define the acronym

BCC and be clear in the language when referring to appointed official and BCC member and make corrections throughout the document and 2. provide a clear link to the City of Madison website for public civilians to review the Alder's Code of Conduct to make complaints on Alder's behavior and lack

of conduct. It was seconded by Commissioner Ketcham. The vote was unanimous.

Return to Lead with Recommendation for Common Council to Adopt

Notes: Commissioner Klebba made a motion to approve two with general changes; 1. define the acronym BCC and be clear in the language when referring to appointed official and BCC member and make corrections throughout the

document and 2. provide a clear link to the City of Madison website for public civilians to review the Alder's Code of Conduct to make complaints on Alder's behavior and lack of conduct. It was seconded by Commissioner Ketcham.

The vote was unanimous.

1 POLICE CIVILIAN 08/20/2025 Return to Lead with COMMON Pass

OVERSIGHT BOARD the COUNCIL
Recommendation for EXECUTIVE

Recommendation for EXECUTIVE Common Council to COMMITTEE

Adopt

Action Text: A motion was made by Rearick, seconded by Calmese, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation

for Common Council to Adopt. The motion passed unanimously.

DISABILITY RIGHTS COMMISSION

08/28/2025 Return to Lead with

COMMON the Following COUNCIL

Recommendation(s) **EXECUTIVE** COMMITTEE

Action Text: Kapusta-Pofahl led the discussion.

Feedback submitted via email -

· Wendi: I felt that it was fairly straightforward and I don't have any changes.

- · Nakia: I was impressed by the ethics code's presentation. I do have a concern pertaining to the reversal of unethical behaviors from non-appointed and non-elected politicians. How can we ensure that we will not be bullied, harassed, and targeted by people who think we have money or can provide them with favors. In addition, what can stop someone or groups of people from telling lies on appointed and elected officials to get them removed from their seats or in trouble with the law? How can we ensure that we are protected?
- · Kathleen: Changes to the Code of Conduct should never be taken lightly or done hastily as they need to be done thoughtfully and as a response to the changing times and needs of the city, not only as a reaction to a particular incident. The proposed changes are clearly meant to foster a safe and respectful environment to conduct the important work of the city. Having heard the presentation and read the proposed updates to the Code of Ethical Conduct again I can say that I support these changes

Disability Rights Commission considered file 87483 at the meeting of August 28, 2025. No action was taken. Notes:

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

09/04/2025 Return to Lead with

COMMON the Following COUNCIL

COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Pass

Action Text: Alder Duncan presented the proposed changes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moze, seconded by Commissioner Mathews, to approve the

revisions to the code of conduct. The motion passed by voice/other.

Recommendation(s)

A motion was made by Commissioner Moze, seconded by Commissioner Mathews, to approve the revisions to the Notes:

code of conduct. The motion passed by voice/other.

COMMON COUNCIL 09/16/2025 RECOMMEND TO

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO COMMITTEE RE-REFER -

REPORT OF

OFFICER

Action Text: A motion was made by Tishler, seconded by Govindarajan, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO

RE-REFER - REPORT OF OFFICER to the 10/28/25 Common Council Executive Committee meeting

and the 11/25/25 Common Council meeting. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

Recommend to re-refer to the 10/28/25 CCEC meeting and the 11/25/25 Council meeting. Notes:

COMMON COUNCIL 10/07/2025 Re-refer COMMON Pass

> COUNCIL **EXECUTIVE** COMMITTEE

Action Text: A motion was made by Vidaver, seconded by Govindarajan, to Re-refer to the COMMON COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

Text of Legislative File 87483

Fiscal Note

No City appropriation required.

Adopting the Updated Elected and Appointed Official Code of Ethical Conduct

Body

WHEREAS, the City of Madison's vision is Inclusive, Innovative, and Thriving; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Madison is committed to equity, diversity, inclusion, equal employment and participatory government for all; and,

WHEREAS, the goal of our policy is for City work and meeting environments to be inclusive, equitable, and free of harassment, discrimination, and retaliation; and,

WHEREAS, we expect all members of the Common Council, the Mayor, and members of City Boards, Commissions, and Committees to treat their colleagues, City employees and members of the public in a welcoming, inclusive, fair, respectful, and equitable manner; and,

WHEREAS, in 2023, the Common Council passed RES-23-0000 adopting the Elected and Appointed Official Code of Ethical Conduct; and,

WHEREAS, in 2024, the Common Council passed RES-24-00450 adopting the Sexual Harassment Appendix to the Elected and Appointed Official Code of Ethical Conduct; and,

WHEREAS, the Updated Elected and Appointed Official Code of Ethical Conduct includes additional guidance on expected interactions between officials and members of the public, City staff, and the media; and,

WHEREAS, the Updated Elected and Appointed Official Code of Ethical Conduct also includes the procedure for censure of an alder for violation of the Code;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Madison Common Council adopts the Updated Elected and Appointed Official Code of Ethical Conduct.