

**From:** [Lisa Bertram](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#); [Mayor](#)  
**Subject:** Support for agenda item #86169  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 14, 2025 6:18:28 PM

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

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Dear Alders and Mayor Rhodes-Conway,

I write as a parent and community member to urge you to support the Ice Arena Resolution. The rinks are a vital resource for children and adults. My daughter has been skating there for nearly four years now and her experience with skating has been absolutely vital in her personal development -- the benefits of teamwork, perseverance, leadership, and friendship extend far beyond the activity itself. These rinks serve a wide range of users, including adapted sports (e.g., sled hockey), learn to skate classes serving preschoolers through adults, hockey, and figure skating. We are so grateful to those members of the skating and hockey community who have banded together to create this plan, and we hope you will vote in favor of the resolution tonight.

Thanks,  
Lisa Bertram

**From:** [Luke Bonney](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#); [Mayor](#)  
**Subject:** My support of the Madison Ice Arenas Resolution (#86169)  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 14, 2025 5:40:14 PM

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

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Hello Mayor Rhodes-Conway and City Council Members,

I am a long time member of the Madison east side community, having moved here in 2008. I grew up playing hockey, and still play hockey to this day. Hockey has always held a special place in my life. It's helped me build life-long friends, develop confidence in my own abilities, and provided a place to have fun and relax as an adult.

Since moving here in 2008, our family has grown. We now have 2 kids, Zeke our 6 year old son and Leona our 4 year old daughter. Both children are now learning how to play hockey at Hartmeyer. They love it. It's a way for them to have fun and connect with me, their dad. Last night, we skated as a family on lake Monona under the full moon. A memory they'll have forever that's uniquely Madisonian. Check out the attached picture. This is something we would not have been able to do had the kids not learned how to skate at Hartmeyer.

Part of picking Madison as a place to live for me and my family has been the community we've built around hockey, whether it be skating on the frozen pond at Tenney, getting our skates sharpened at Sutters, or playing games at Hartmeyer. And we're not alone. Many of our neighbors feel the same way, as I know they'll be emailing you as well (if they haven't already).

I'm confident in our ability to organize and raise the needed \$3m. Give us the chance to do it. Our children will all thank you.

Thanks for your consideration.

Luke



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Luke Bonney

Phone: 315-521-6173  
[www.redoxengine.com](http://www.redoxengine.com)

**From:** [Angela Butler](#)  
**To:** [Mayor](#); [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** In Support of Madison Ice Arenas  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 14, 2025 5:14:37 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from [angela.butler@mgschools.net](mailto:angela.butler@mgschools.net). [Learn why this is important](#)

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Good Evening,

My name is Angela Butler. I am an art teacher in the Monona Grove School District. I'm emailing to advocate for the Madison Ice Arenas.

I can personally attest to the positive impact of access to hockey, figure skating and open skate in our community. Several of my students play hockey or figure skate; in most cases since childhood. These student athletes take their academics seriously, and they are granted the privilege of representing our school and community on the ice. Going to watch their games is a winter highlight for my family, and it brings the community together.

My son is also a skater and has been playing hockey through the Madison Youth Hockey Association (Patriots). He's learned so much about respect and team work while building confidence and skills. We look forward to supporting his path forward through their programs and hope to watch him play for Monona Grove once day.

I strongly urge you to vote in favor of saving our rinks. The impact of losing them is too great for families. Thank you for your consideration.

Angela Butler  
Art Teacher  
Monona Grove High School

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**From:** [noreply](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** [All Alders] ICE ARENA  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 14, 2025 4:47:07 PM

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Recipient: All Alders:

Tuesday, January 14, 2025 – 4:43pm

Pat Feltskog

5305 Shawano Terrace

MADISON, Wisconsin. 53705-4732 Yes, by email. [pafeltsk@wisc.edu](mailto:pafeltsk@wisc.edu) All Alders ICE ARENA PLEASE VOTE NO TO FORGIVE THE DEBT OF THE ICE ARENA. IF PEOPLE WANT TO SKATE THEN THEY SHOULD PAY. THE MAYOR DID NOT MENTION THIS UNTIL AFTER THE REFERENDUM PASSED, ANOTHER ONE OF HER TRICKS.

**From:** [asaloutos@tds.net](mailto:asaloutos@tds.net)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Legistar ID No. 86169 -- Alternative Resolution  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 14, 2025 5:28:55 PM  
**Attachments:** [250112 ICEARENAS ALTERNATERESOLUTION V2.pdf](#)

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Good evening! I have attached an alternative resolution for Legistar ID No. 86169, which I'll speak to tonight during the public hearing. --Alex

**ALTERNATIVE RESOLUTION**  
**LEGISTAR ID NO. [86169](#)**

**Title:** Alternative resolution to mitigate institutional bias and advance racial equity for Madison’s residents, while ensuring continuity of operations, a sustainable financial future, enhanced facility quality, and fiscal responsibility in support of Madison’s ice arenas.

**WHEREAS:**

1. Skating—including hockey, figure skating, curling, and other ice sports—has long been a cherished activity in Madison, fostering a vibrant community of participants and enthusiasts of all ages, and contributing significantly to the city’s cultural, recreational, and social fabric;
2. Participation in youth sports provides significant physical, mental, and social benefits, and these opportunities should be accessible and equitable for all Madison residents;
3. Madison Ice Arena and Hartmeyer Ice Arena are valuable community assets, and the City of Madison recognizes the importance of the arenas in serving the skating needs of the community;
4. Skaters deserve high-quality facilities that meet their needs, and the City of Madison is committed to exploring sustainable and fiscally responsible solutions that balance these interests with the responsible use of taxpayer resources;
5. Madison Ice Arena, built in 1975, and Hartmeyer Ice Arena, built in 1960, appear to be at or near the end of their useful life;
6. Significant questions remain regarding:
  - a. The socio-economic background of the users and whether they live in Madison.;
  - b. How any city investment, financial assistance, or other consideration in support of the arenas aligns with its Racial Equity and Social Justice Initiative;
  - c. What financial support for the arenas is appropriate given the socio-economic demographics of the arena users and the percentage of users who live in Madison;
  - d. The arenas’ financial sustainability;
  - e. The accuracy and adequacy of the \$3 million estimate for deferred maintenance at Hartmeyer Ice Arena;
  - f. What long-term capital expenses will be required to maintain the arenas in the future;
  - g. What the best management model is to ensure long-term success of the arenas; and
  - h. The capacity of the community to support a \$3 million capital campaign for repairs at Hartmeyer Ice Arena, or to support a capital campaign for new arenas.
7. The use and impact of the Hartmeyer and Madison Ice Arenas extend beyond city boundaries, making this potentially a regional issue, and city policy is to “Pursue regional solutions to regional issues.”

8. A long-term solution that aligns the city's Racial Equity and Social Justice Initiative, best serves skaters and the public interest, ensures fiscal responsibility, and is viable and financially sustainable requires more comprehensive data and information, community engagement, and equity considerations; and
9. Additional funding sources, such as Park Impact Fees, Park Infrastructure Impact Fees, and state or federal grants may be available for the renovation of the arena or building new arenas that better serve skaters and the public interest.

**BE IT RESOLVED:**

10. The Parks Vision Superintendent is directed to assemble a nine-person Task Force comprised of the following members, subject to approval of the Common Council:
  - a. The designee of the President of Madison Ice, Inc.;
  - b. The designee of the President of East Madison Ice Collective;
  - c. The designee of the President and CEO of the Boys & Girls Club of Dane County;
  - d. The designee of the President of the Madison Area Sports Commission (a division of Destination Madison);
  - e. The designee of the President and CEO of the Madison Community Foundation;
  - f. The designee of the Dane County Executive;
  - g. An alder; and
  - h. Two community members.
11. The Parks Division shall provide staff support to the Task Force.
12. The Task Force shall commission a Feasibility Study and Needs Analysis for the ice arenas [and a multi-sport complex] by a [type of firm] to evaluate the following:
  - a. The cost-benefit comparison of renovating the arenas versus building new.
  - b. The best location for the new arenas;
  - c. What features new arenas should include;
  - d. Funding sources for the current arenas or the construction of new arenas;
  - e. The most effective management structure for the arenas; and
  - f. A financial sustainable operational model for the current or new arenas.
13. The Task Force shall commission a Facility Condition Assessment, Commercial Property Inspection, or comparable report to evaluate deferred maintenance costs, immediate repairs needed for safe operation, and long-term capital expenditures for both arenas.



14. The task force shall work with the Real Estate Department to complete an appraisal of the properties based on their current use and their highest and best use.
15. The Task Force shall commission a Capital Campaign Feasibility Study by a subject matter expert to determine the community's ability to support a capital campaign for maintaining the arenas or building new arenas.
16. The Department of Civil Rights is directed to complete a full Racial Equity Analysis of city support for the current and new arenas, which shall be completed when the Feasibility Study and Needs Analysis is Completed;
17. The task force shall commission an Operational Review of Madison Ice, Inc. by a qualified subject matter expert to determine opportunities for improvement in their operations.
18. The City shall use funds from Madison Ince, Inc's payments on the Land Contracts to pay for the aforementioned work, including the Feasibility Study and Needs Analysis ; Facility Condition Assessment, Commercial Property Inspection, or comparable report; Appraisal; Capital Campaign Feasibility Study, and Operational Review.
19. Madison Ice, Inc. is directed to provide the city with audited financial statements for the last five fiscal years within 120 days of approval of this resolution, and within 120 days of the completion of each fiscal year going forward until the Land Contracts are paid in full or otherwise, they are otherwise terminated.
20. The Task Force shall make their best efforts to complete this work within 18 months of their appointment .
21. During this time this work is being completed, the arenas shall be managed by [Madison Ice, Inc., Parks Department, or a Receiver]. If the Parks Division manages, budget.
22. The City Attorney is directed to deliver written notice of default to Madison Ice, Inc., for failure to make timely payment on the land contracts, If he has not already done so.
23. The City Attorney is directed to initiate, but not prosecute, strict foreclosure by filing the appropriate papers with the applicable court to protect the City's financial and legal interests in the properties, and allow appointment of a receiver if necessary.
24. Communication with the city regarding Madison Ice Arena or Hartmeyer Ice Arena shall be directed to the Parks Division Superintendent, or their designee.
25. If Madison Ice, Inc. continues to manage the arenas short-term, the Superintendent of Parks is directed to designate someone to sit on the Madison Ice, Inc. board within 30 days of approval of this resolution.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

26. Upon completion of aforementioned work and consistent with city policies and plans, the Task Force shall recommend to the Common Council:
  - a. A plan to maintain the current arenas or to build new arenas; and
  - b. The best management and ownership structure for the arenas.

27. Any decisions regarding debt forgiveness, ownership of the arenas, and capital investments shall be deferred until the Task Force makes their recommendations.

**From:** [Nathan Winn](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Support Hartmeyer!!  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 14, 2025 5:11:49 PM

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Hi Alders

I'm an adult recreational hockey player and parent of two children that have learned to skate at Hartmeyer Ice Arena. We value the role this facility has played in our community and want to see the resolution pass so it stays part of our lives!

Our local ice arenas aren't just for hockey families. They offer instruction for all ages so that kids can go out to our local parks and take advantage of the rinks and skating ponds that the city provides. This makes winter more fun for all of us!!

Please, please support this initiative and keep Hartmeyer part of our community.

Nate Winn

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Nathan Winn  
415.699.8610

**From:** [Elizabeth Cook](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Save Hartmeyer Ice Arena  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 15, 2025 3:29:07 PM

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

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Hello

I am Juliana Cook. Please help save Hartmeyer. It is really helpful to people. From having an all ice hockey team to just chilling on a boring winter day. It is important to me, my family, and my and my brother's friends. If it closes down, many people cannot experience the joy of Hartmeyer. So please help save our community and keep Hartmeyer.

Sincerely,  
Juliana Cook, Age 7  
6110 Ridgewood Ave.  
Monona, WI 53716

**From:** [Kim](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Ice arenas  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 15, 2025 3:29:23 PM

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I would just like to say I feel it is very important to do what ever is necessary to keep our ice arenas open. I am a hockey grandparent and it has been a life saver for my grandson. I can't imagine what he would do without it. If these smaller towns around us can keep their rinks operating Madison certainly can.

Thank you  
Kim Hasenbalg

**From:** [Priyanka Lucey](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#); [Mayor](#)  
**Subject:** Please Support the Ice Arena Resolution Today  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 15, 2025 3:29:17 PM

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You don't often get email from priyankalucey21@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Alders and Mayor,

I'm writing to ask for your support for Madison's community ice rinks - Hartmeyer Ice Arena and Madison Ice Arena - during tonight's city council meeting.

I grew up skating at both Madison Ice Arena and Hartmeyer Ice Arena, competing in individual figure skating with the Figure Skating Club of Madison and synchronized skating with Wisconsin Inspire. I graduated from Memorial High School last June and now attend Wellesley College in MA, where I skate on the Skyliners Senior synchronized skating team and represent Team USA in international competitions. In fact, I am sending this email after arriving in Salzburg, Austria to represent the US in an ISU Challenger Series competition.

For 74 years, these rinks have been pillars of our community, serving thousands of children and families across Dane County. They host several non-profit organizations, high school hockey teams, free programming for low-income families, adaptive skating and sled hockey for people with disabilities. Without MIA and Hartmeyer, skating opportunities in Madison would be very limited. Capitol Ice Arena near Middleton is now exclusively for hockey use, and Verona, McFarland, and Sun Prairie have varying but much more limited ice time for figure skating. The Learn-to-Skate program at the two Madison community rinks is likely the largest in the area. Madison and Hartmeyer Ice Arenas are in need of updates and repairs and cannot make these repairs without support for the resolution. The resolution being approved would allow the rinks to make updates and become bigger assets for the community—they could finally bid to host large skating and hockey events which bring in a ton of economic revenue for the entire city from the amount of participants coming from out of town/state.

Additionally, without the resolution's support, these programs—and the rinks themselves—are at risk of disappearing. Even if they remain as rinks, costs for user groups and community members will skyrocket. Many of these free or low cost (and even already high cost) programs will see their costs become completely unaffordable for many community members. Opportunities, especially for public skating and learn to skate programs would be much more limited, and less children would be able to participate in ice sports at a recreational level, which would have trickle down effects at a competitive level as well. High school hockey, among other programs, would become inaccessible. I am immensely grateful for the amazing experiences I had the opportunity to have as a skater at Madison and Hartmeyer Ice Arena. If costs were much higher, especially after the pandemic, I might not have been able to continue skating and have these opportunities, like traveling around the country with Wisconsin Inspire and winning the club's first national medal last year. I definitely would not have been able to continue skating at the level that I am at today and have the opportunity to skate for a top team and represent the US in international competitions, achieving a huge goal of mine.

Ice sports are already lacking in diversity for multiple reasons, one being high costs. By supporting the resolution, MII will have the opportunity to make updates without increasing

costs to an unaffordable level, and contribute to diversifying ice sports.

With proper investment and support, these facilities can continue to thrive for years to come. Thank you for your time and for considering this request. Your support will help preserve these ice rinks as a vital community asset for many years to come!

Sincerely,  
Priyanka Lucey

**From:** [Kristin Reitzell](#)  
**To:** [Mayor](#); [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Hartmeyer-Madison Ice Arenas # 86169  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 15, 2025 3:29:03 PM

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Hello,

I am writing to you on behalf of my entire family, the Reitzells. My 10 year old daughter, Mattie stated in regards to Hartmeyer potentially closing, "What!?! It's my home away from home!"

Mind you, she only played hockey for 2 years, but is a rink rat, and has met some of her very best friends at Hartmeyer over the years.

Her brothers both currently play hockey, John for Monona Grove High School, and Charlie is a 2nd year Madison Patriot PeeWee.

Our family has built a community of friends that are like a second family to us, over the past ten years from being at the Hart (as the kids like to call it), almost every day from September-March.

We see these people more than we see our own family!! We go through the wins and losses of games and life together, because Hartmeyer is a community, within a large metropolitan area. The rink brings together people from Shorewood, the east,south,and north sides of Madison, Cottage Grove, Deerfield, and Monona.

The Hartmeyer community supports the surrounding businesses regularly, and they support our teams too!

I truly wish the city council would have been at the Patriots PeeWee C State Final game last year in Verona, to see a true community come together to cheer for these 11-12 year old kids playing for state.

Kids, parents, grandparents, and alumni all cheering these kids on. No one cared what happened to them in their tournaments, they were just there to support the Patriots. Sports brings people together on every level, and every community needs to come together, the crazier this world gets.

The people that are willing to put money into and purchase this property understand Hartmeyer is a community, and are definitely not doing it for their own personal financial gains.

East Madison Ice is doing this for the Hartmeyer community, and the communities the rink supports, plus for the future of ice skating, hockey, and the youth of the area.

Why would you ever want to lose kids and programs to surrounding areas such as Sun Prairie, McFarland, Verona, and Waunakee. It would be a ripple effect, first the kids start playing hockey elsewhere, next the family leaves the city to move closer to the rink, and then more kids leave Madison Public Schools.

Everyone is always saying "support local businesses," the city could be a leader and support the sale of Hartmeyer to East Madison Ice, which is definitely local and must have for the community.

Thank you for your time and conderation



Kind regards,

Kristin, Chip, John, Charlie, & Mattie Reitzell

**From:** [Lynsey Roe](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#); [Mayor](#)  
**Subject:** In support of the Madison Ice Arenas Resolution (#86169)  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 15, 2025 3:29:14 PM

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

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Dear Mayor Rhodes-Conway and City Alders,

I am writing in full support of Agenda item #86169.

Hartmeyer has been an integral part of my life for almost 40 years, two generations in my family. I grew up at Hartmeyer watching my brother play hockey for the Madison Patriots from 1988-2001. I continued to watch my brother play for LaFollette High School from 2001-2004. My husband also played for the Madison Patriots and LaFollette High School. We continued to watch our nephew play hockey for the Madison Patriots and then the Eastside Lakers for his high school career.

Now, my husband and I have two kids involved in hockey through the Madison Patriots. Our son is 9 years old, a first year Squirt, and has been skating since he was 3. Our daughter is 5 years old and in her first year of games, and promises to keep working hard enough to beat her brother when she's older. We have met countless friends that have become like family, dating back to the years my brother and husband played for the Patriots in the 80s and 90s.

The City Council must approve this resolution to help invest in the future of youth sports in our great city. Not only does Hartmeyer (and MIA) host multiple hockey organizations, but there are also figure skating organizations that are run out of these facilities. This is an integral part of the Madison community, and it is in the best interest of our community for the financial burden of the loans MII has accrued to be "forgiven" and for another organization, East Madison Ice Collective, to take over Hartmeyer and really put in the blood, sweat, tears, and finances to work on getting the facilities up to date and in the best working order for the numerous organizations utilizing the facility.

Thank you for your time,

Lynsey Roe

**From:** [Samuel Sveen](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#); [Mayor](#)  
**Subject:** In Support of Hartmeyer Ice Rink  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 15, 2025 3:29:10 PM

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You don't often get email from sveen52@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hello Common Council and Mayor Rhodes-Conway -

**I'm writing in support of Hartmeyer Ice Rink and the resolution up for vote this evening!**

My kids and I look forward to every Sunday at the rink, gearing up and getting out on the ice. We live in the Marquette neighborhood and It is SO WONDERFUL to have a nice rink so close. As a lifelong hockey player I look forward to coaching my two young girls someday, and Hartmeyer is where I envision volunteering and spending so much time. I'm also a very handy person and hope to help with renovations and fixing things.

While we are only a few years here in Madison, I grew up in South Dakota and it is a point of pride to my family and friends that Madison has so many ice rinks, including Hartmeyer only a few minutes from our home, right in the middle of town, as opposed to 20 minutes to the fairgrounds. I also play hockey in a mens league in Sun Prairie and the 25 minute drive adds up in time and safety—especially in the dark during the winter.

Please consider voting to KEEP HARTMEYER ICE RINK.

Thank you,  
Sam

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**Samuel D. Welsch Sveen**  
email: [sveen52@gmail.com](mailto:sveen52@gmail.com)  
tele: 605 380 4012