

**From:** [Baggot, Robert](#)  
**To:** [City of Madison Police and Fire Commission](#)  
**Subject:** New Fire Chief  
**Date:** Monday, December 13, 2021 4:59:16 PM

---

Police and Fire Commission,

Thank you for seeking input on the hiring of a new Fire Chief. As a lifelong resident of the City of Madison and as a public servant for the city since 1998 both with the Police and Fire Departments I thank you for your service to the community.

With regards to the Fire Chief, it is my hope that we get the best candidate possible. I believe it is beneficial to have someone who is familiar with the city. Specifically the needs of the community, the level of service that is provided and the expectations of the community. It is also important to have someone who is familiar with the Fire Department in terms of our culture, personnel, day to day operations, strategic plan and mission. I believe there will be a lot of interest in the position both from within the department and outside of it. I believe that strong consideration to our internal candidates is warranted. The advantages of being familiar with the history of why we are set up the way we are in terms of structure, stations, staffing, protocols and guidelines, apparatus and equipment, special teams are all advantageous for managing our day to day operations as well as our anticipated future needs. The advantages of this level of familiarity with the city and the department should not be underestimated for our continued success. I believe a number of internal candidates from within the department that are also familiar with Local 311, charity work and community involvement.

As a resident I want the Fire Chief and members of the department to provide the best possible service. As a member of the department I want a Fire Chief that we respect and trust for aiding those of us in the field to provide that service.

Best wishes, thank you for your time and consideration.

Firefighter Bob Baggot