

From: [Riyad Alabbasi](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Support letter to the River Food Pantry
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 3:17:28 PM
Attachments: [Public Letter of Support - Version 2.docx](#)

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

Attached, please find my support letter to the River Food Pantry of the proposed 2023 budget amendment.

Thank you,

Riyad Alabbasi
Operations Specialist
c: (608) 422-9844 | RiverFoodPantry.org
The River Food Pantry
[Voted Best Charitable Organization & Best Customer Service in 2022](#)
People's Choice Awards!

Subject: Support The River, Support Our Community

To the Madison Common Council,

I wish to express my enthusiastic support of the proposed 2023 budget amendment, sponsored by Alders Myadze, Tishler, and Carter, allocating \$1 million to the construction of a larger, more efficient facility for The River Food Pantry on Madison's north side. A well-established organization with a proven track-record, The River is a key support for thousands of residents throughout the greater Madison area struggling with food insecurity. Moreover, the majority of the 11,000+ people who use the pantry's services reside in areas that the City of Madison itself has identified as Food Access Focus Areas (i.e., "food deserts").

By owning their facility, The River will be able to 1) ensure the long-term stability of the community support they provide and 2) substantially improve the overall capacity and efficiency of their operations. The proposed facility would more than double the pantry's operational space and provide the sustainable infrastructure needed to support The River's growing programs well into the future. Thus, investing in this project is not just about avoiding the loss of current services—it is about expanding these benefits to even more Madisonians.

I urge you to support this funding amendment, and by extension many of our most vulnerable neighbors.

Sincerely,

Riyad Alabbasi

3729 Lien Rd, Madison, WI 53704

From: [Rebecca Carpenter](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Please support The River Food Pantry with me, an employee
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 3:45:31 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-1493328106.png](#)

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

To the Madison Common Council,

As an employee of The River Food Pantry for the past 4 years, I wish to express my enthusiastic support of the proposed 2023 budget amendment—sponsored by Alders Myadze, Tishler, and Carter—allocating \$1 million to the construction of a larger, more efficient facility for The River on Madison’s Northside.

Since I started working at The River in 2018, the majority of our challenges have stemmed from the fact we outgrew our space many years ago. That makes sense considering the founders opened the pantry in 2006 with the intent of only serving a handful of Northside households.

Today The River is the busiest food pantry in Madison, Dane County, and all of South Central Wisconsin, serving well over 2,000 people facing hunger each week. Our team has always been open to innovate and adapt to meet our neighbors' growing and changing needs for food assistance, especially in the face of a global pandemic and today's rising inflation. Our current services include free groceries and freshly prepared meals for curbside pickup or delivery, online grocery orders, mobile meals, food recovery, and redistribution community partnerships. **If The River can manage to do all of this in an outdated, inefficient 11,000 sq ft rented warehouse, imagine the impact we will make in Madison's fight against food insecurity with the space and optimization that meets our pantry's needs!**

By owning a bigger facility, The River will be able to:

1. ensure the long-term stability of the community support we provide; and
2. substantially improve the overall capacity and efficiency of our operations.

The proposed facility would more than double our pantry’s operational space and provide the sustainable infrastructure needed to support The River’s growing programs well into the future. Thus, investing in this project is not just about avoiding the loss of current services—it is about expanding these benefits to even more Madisonians.

I urge you to please support this funding amendment, and by extension many of our most vulnerable neighbors.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Carpenter
4910 Comanche Way
Madison, WI 53704

Becca Carpenter (she/her/hers)

Communications Manager | The River Food Pantry
(414) 745-8060 | riverfoodpantry.org



Voted [Best Charitable Organization & Best Customer Service](#) in 2022 People's Choice Awards!

From: louie.pris@gmail.com
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: [All Alders] Sauk Creek Greenway Reconstruction Project
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 1:57:50 PM

Recipient: All Alders

Name: Louis Cornelius
Address: 13 Sauk Creek Circle, Madison, WI 53717
Phone: 608-833-5057
Email: louie.pris@gmail.com

Would you like us to contact you? No, do not contact me

Message:

Common Council Testimony on Sauk Creek Greenway Restoration Project: 11/15/2022

Dear Alderpersons:

My name is Louie Cornelius. I live in Sauk Creek, and I am participating in the efforts of the Friends of Sauk Creek Woods to support some overdue cleanup of the stream and woodland. I want to stress that this cleanup must be done with citizen participation and environmentally sound actions by the city.

Our family has lived in Sauk Creek for more than 34 years. It has been a wonderful place to live and raise our family. The Sauk Creek Greenway has certainly added to the beauty and attractiveness of our area. For our family and neighbors, it has been a conservancy greenway area with thousands of trees, wildlife, birds, plants, and walking paths.

I have attended several meetings on plans for the Sauk Creek Greenway Reconstruction project to try to gain a better understanding of the proposal. There are certain changes needed in terms of removing the dead trees that are clogging the creek's natural flow, dredging and deepening the creek and the detention ponds, stabilizing the slopes to prevent erosion, and fixing the storm pipes so that they can become operational.

Nonetheless, there is a great deal of confusion about the size and scope of the project. I have some concerns:

- First, a substantial number of trees are likely to be removed. A recent tree inventory showed that there are 5,595 trees in the Greenway. It is estimated that by the completion of the project, up to 80% of the trees may eventually be removed. There are some “noxious trees”—box elders, buckthorns, and black locust—that should be removed. Nonetheless, the removal of over 4,000 trees appears counter to state, county and city plans to preserve and protect urban forests and to slow the effects of climate change. Trees store carbon dioxide and help prevent urban heat islands that result from pavement and buildings that absorb and radiate heat.

- Second, the Engineering Department appears to view the Sauk Creek Greenway as a mowed grass stormwater channel. There are “best practice” options available to attain the objectives of the Greenway reconstruction while preserving a substantial amount of the woods and restoring and maintaining the natural habitat. We urge the City to review and consider these options. The initial phase of the Engineering Department’s plans to reconstruct the Greenway has raised concerns among residents as viewed by the experience of the area behind the Walgreen’s store on Mineral Point Road. In 2019, the city cut down more than 200 trees and replanted native grasses. The area, which once was a “woods,” is now most aptly described as a weed patch. At this moment, it reflects how the Sauk Creek Greenway might eventually appear, if recent plans proceed as proposed.

- Third, there does not appear to be much discussion or coordination between the City Engineering Department and the Trees and Parks Department, or between the city departments and the neighborhoods on the project. This project appears to be following the pattern established in past projects. The Engineering Department will send a postcard alerting the neighbors that work is proposed in the Greenway, and there will be an opportunity to express concerns. However, the project is generally ready to go. A few decades ago, we met with the Engineering Department when the detention area, berm, storm pipes and service path near the Old Sauk Road/High Point intersection were in the final planning stages before construction. The engineer assured us our concerns regarding the oak trees, water flows, storm pipe effectiveness, etc. would be taken care of. In the first week, the contractors came in and immediately removed two giant oak trees, and the sizes of the storm pipes subsequently were not large enough to handle the water flow effectively. As time has moved on, the grass and weed cutting as well as the general maintenance efforts have been curtailed, whether for budgetary reasons or other pressing priorities.

It is imperative that the city engage with the affected neighborhoods for citizen involvement and collaboration. I urge the Council and the Mayor to deny the City Engineers’ budget request for 2.3 million for the Sauk Creek project, and to set aside the 1.7 million already allocated from last year’s budget, until the affected neighborhoods obtain promises on substantive citizen participation and environmental protections.

Respectfully submitted,

Louis Cornelius
13 Sauk Creek Circle
Madison, WI 53717

From: [Aparna Dharwadker](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Oppose funding Agenda item #1 file number 73264: Stormwater Utility Capital Budget Project Number 11665 relating to the Sauk Creek Greenway Restoration project
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 1:21:20 PM

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

I am writing as a member of the Sauk Creek Neighborhood Association (residing at 7625 Farmington Way, Madison 53717) to register my opposition to the funding Agenda item and the related project identified in the subject line, above.

I have lived at my residence for 20 years, and there are clearly issues with the maintenance of the Greenway which runs behind my home. A number of mature trees have fallen into my backyard, and those of my neighbors on both sides, over the years, the last one in Summer 2014. There are a number of dead trees right behind my home that have not been removed by the city. After even 30 minutes of rain, my backyard fills with enough water to attract ducks. I have also heard from neighbors about the invasive tree species in the Greenway. And so on.

News of action by the City to address these problems would ordinarily be welcome. However, I want to register my protest against the Greenway Restoration project for the following reasons.

1. There has been no clear communication from the City to Sauk Creek residents, either by email or by regular mail, about the actions that are being proposed in the project. To the best of my knowledge, no direct community input has been invited by the City either. This is unacceptable, in view of possible changes that will have a profound effect on the ecology of the Greenway, and therefore on our daily lives.
2. What we have heard is that the City proposes to cut down about 5,000 trees, without providing an explanation or justification on engineering or ecological grounds. The cutting down of **healthy** trees is simply unacceptable for environmental reasons, given the far-reaching effects of that change. I understand that the Sauk Creek Greenway is not formally a "conservancy," and the management of storm water is a priority. But we have no information about how many trees need to be removed, and there is no explanation, from an engineering point of view, for why healthy trees need removal, or if it is even necessary to do so in order to manage the water runoff.
3. In early September this year we met with the mayor for more than an hour, and she assured us that we had "been heard" on all the various aspects of this issue. However, a meeting of Sauk Creek residents yesterday (13 November) indicated that there is still no clarity among us about what the City is planning to do, and why. We also do not know in what form the project is going to be presented at the City Council meeting tomorrow (15 November).

In short, as a neighborhood we need clear information from the City, and the opportunity to provide our input as Sauk Creek residents. In the meantime, please consider this email as part of the formal opposition to the Sauk Creek Greenway Project in its current form, and the Agenda item associated with it in File #73264.

Sincerely,

Aparna Dharwadker
Professor of English and Theatre Studies
University of Wisconsin-Madison

From: grdiak@wisc.edu
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: [All Alders] City budget
Date: Wednesday, October 12, 2022 7:19:52 AM

Recipient: All Alders

Name: George Diak
Address: 3823 Meyer Avenue, Madison, WI 53711
Email: grdiak@wisc.edu

Would you like us to contact you? Yes, by email

Message:

This is a copy of the communication that I sent to Mayor Rhodes-Conway regarding her budget proposal.

I am truly stunned by your proposed budget increase of nearly six percent. In a time of high inflation when families may be struggling just to put food on the table, pay their rent or property taxes and in general keep afloat, your budget, to which I am categorically opposed, has me wondering how you have gotten so out of touch with so many of the people of Madison. This city cannot be everything to everyone, certain financial limitations need to be recognized.

Dr. George R. Diak
Madison

From: kdietzman@sbcglobal.net
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: [All Alders] Proposed 2023 Budget
Date: Monday, October 17, 2022 10:15:10 PM

Recipient: All Alders

Name: Glori Sabin

Address: 10 Jubilee Cir, Madison, Wi 53718

Email: kdietzman@sbcglobal.net

Would you like us to contact you? Yes, by email

Message:

Dear Alders,

I am writing to ask that you PLEASE use common sense and discipline to turn down the Mayor's proposed 2023 budget. Specifically, I want to call your attention to the proposal that includes a one time 1,000 payment to each city employee. Do you realize that this would amount to a total figure of 3.4 million dollars? The city employees already receive a higher than average wage and a very desirable wage, by most peoples standards. How can you even think about justifying such nonsense at the expense of us tax payers, who are significantly struggling to just survive month to month with the economy like it is? I'm sure that this money isn't just sitting there waiting to be spent for this. You need to budget as if you are living within your means.

I hope and pray that you have a conscience and will therefore turn this budget down. This budget must represent the choice of the taxpayers and I assure you, they are not looking for you to continue frivolous spending that the city CANNOT afford. PLEASE do the right thing and do NOT accept this unrealistic and unnecessary budget item.

Thank you for your careful, sincere and conscientious decision.

From: [Mark Evans](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: comment on Sauk Creek restoration effort
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 3:02:53 PM

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

to members of the City of Madison Common Council:

I am and have been, strongly in favor of supporting the City's plan to improve the Sauk Creek drainage area.

My wife & I live within 1/2 block of this greenway/drainage area and I've walked through it many times over the past 20 years that we've lived here. I've always felt saddened by the poor quality of this forest, the vast number of invasives that have largely taken over and the degraded forest soils and eroded ditch that runs through it. It's a very poor representation of what a healthy forest could look like and could be such a better place to demonstrate the interplay of native restoration, a healthy habitat for native species, a beautiful area for local recreation and better erosion control to protect our lakes.

I attended the 1st community meeting that I know of about early planning around this effort several years ago and I spoke out in favor of this effort then. In fact, my brief comments in support of this work generated a standing ovation from the approximately 100 local residents in attendance. Since then, I've been looking forward to this project getting moved up the priority list to see real progress.

So you know, my background includes several decades of natural history and timber-stand improvement work and I was actually given a state award in NYS in 2000, for my life efforts around timber stand improvement efforts, so I have some perspective on what a healthy forest can be and what we should be doing to help, wherever possible, restore and care for our natural landscape, both for the benefit of us now, but for generations to come.

Please support this project. You are doing so for the protection of our lakes, for the respect we have for our native landscape and for the health of our neighborhood today and all of those residents who will live here in the future.

Respectfully,

Mark Evans, 608-576-4065, morpho6@tds.net
7635 Widgeon Way, Madison, WI 53717

From: [Faith Fitzpatrick](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: 2023 Budget Deliberations Item 73264 Capital Budget Amendments
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 6:36:18 AM

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

Dear alders, please reconsider the budget amendment for more funding for the Sauk Creek greenway project. The planned removal of trees is not necessary to fix the channel. The removal will do more harm to the environment and the surrounding community than the additional light to eroding streambanks. There are better solutions that would benefit the creek and the surrounding riparian zone. Other tree removals done for similar stormwater projects have had unexpected environmental consequences. Please slow down this project and allow more for real natural floodplain management for flood mitigation with the technical advice and local insights offered from the community.

Sincerely,

Faith Fitzpatrick
fafitzpa@gmail.com

From: [Ellen Foley in Madison, Wi](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Opposition to Agenda item #1 on tonight's agenda for budget item 73264 project number 11665 in the storm water utility capital budget
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 5:07:35 PM

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

Dear Alders,

We oppose budget item 73264 project number 11665 in the stormwater utility capital budget involving Sauk Creek restoration and strongly urge you to delay the budget decision on this project.

We have been researching this since 2018. While we cannot get appropriate details of this multimillion-dollar massive change to our neighborhoods, we have been given loud hints by the City Engineers that could only mean that thousands of the 5,500 trees will be removed. This will disrupt the environment of the Sauk Creek area and incur additional pollution in Lake Mendota, according to local scientists. Your approval of this project without more citizen engagement and transparency puts you in the position of defeating the city's Carbon Neutrality effort.

City officials have indicated that you do not have the power to stop a bike path in the Sauk Creek area, which will mean more trees removed and more disruption to birds, wildlife, and irreplaceable vegetation in the Riparian zone in an area already rimmed by bike lanes. This bike path will not be connected to any others, according to engineers. It will end in a cul de sac off Highpoint Road. Why build a bike path to nowhere? Some say the bike lobby is too strong for you to do the right thing. We, your voters, hold you responsible for the bike path plan, which your city employees will fund, build and maintain. You have authority here. Prove the naysayers wrong and use your power for the good of Madison's climate survival. We will hold you to that.

Thank you,
Ellen and Tom Foley
7432 Cedar Creek Trail
Madison, Wi, 53717

From: [Susan Freiss](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Support Community Care, Human Rights, & Racial Justice
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 11:20:58 AM

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

Dear Alders,

As you consider the city budget, I know you feel pressure to support more funding for police and policing, but please have the courage to take our city on a different path. Understand that building a safe community means supporting the dignity, humanity, and capacity of our BIPOC youth and communities. We must move against the tide of fear mongering that calls for increased policing.

I applaud the significant funds in this budget earmarked for things such as reproductive health, young adult employment programs, a purpose-built homeless shelter, affordable housing, and emergency management for climate change. Unrelated to this budget, I also applaud the city's work on guaranteed income. These allocations reflect our community values.

However, I strongly oppose adding six police to the force through the COPS grant regardless that the cost will not be immediately assumed by taxpayers. **Increasing the police force does not reflect our community values** or contribute to the safety of young people. (In fact, evidence shows that "[police encounters in early childhood increase risk of arrest in young adulthood for Black but not white](#)" youth; for more info on that, see [this](#), and [this](#)).

I believe Madison can be a leader in providing care rather than criminalization of our vulnerable community members. Programs like CARES represent an important step and an effective alternative to further policing. In order to do this, **CARES needs robust funding**. I support the Mayor's vision, but it is simply not enough. I want to see this program not only exist, but thrive as a viable alternative our city can be proud of.

As an educator and longtime resident of Madison I'm excited to see the portions of the city budget that honor community, care, human rights, and racial justice. But **we can and should do better**.

Thank you for your service to our community,

Susan Freiss
2079 Winnebago St.

--



Be willing to be surprised!

Susan Freiss

608-609-7961

[Jane Addams Peace Association](#)

From: [Reid Gresens](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Please Support The River With Me!
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 3:52:58 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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

Dear Alders,

I wish to express my enthusiastic support of the proposed 2023 budget amendment, sponsored by Alders Myadze, Tishler, and Carter, allocating \$1 million to the construction of a larger, more efficient facility for The River Food Pantry on Madison's north side. A well-established organization with a proven track-record, The River is a key support for thousands of residents throughout the greater Madison area struggling with food insecurity. Moreover, the majority of the 11,000+ people who use the pantry's services reside in areas that the City of Madison itself has identified as Food Access Focus Areas (i.e., "food deserts").

As an employee at The River, a new facility would be vital to aid in our service to the Madison community. A common phrase throughout our workday is "in the new building". We say that, because there are constantly ways that we can improve or expand our service to the growing number of Madison families in need, but we cannot due to our size constraints. For example, we need to install our new fridge to hold the food for the increase in community demand, but our electrical system cannot handle it without blowing a fuse, on top of the fact that we have nowhere to plug it in in our cramped space. Therefore, it is one of the many items on our list of ways to address the needs of the community, but can only be done "in the new building". Thus, investing in this project is not just about avoiding the loss of current services—it is about expanding these benefits to even more Madisonians.

I urge you to support this funding amendment, which will mean so much to the staff and our community.

Sincerely,

Reid Gresens

Controller | The River Food Pantry

(920) 619-7220 | riverfoodpantry.org



Voted [Best Charitable Organization & Best Customer Service](#) in 2022 People's Choice Awards!

From: [Lisa Hemmersbach](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: The River Food Pantry
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 4:00:32 PM

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

Subject: Support The River, Support Our Community

To the Madison Common Council,

I wish to express my enthusiastic support of the proposed 2023 budget amendment, sponsored by Alders Myadze, Tishler, and Carter, allocating \$1 million to the construction of a larger, more efficient facility for The River Food Pantry on Madison's north side. A well-established organization with a proven track-record, The River is a key support for thousands of residents throughout the greater Madison area struggling with food insecurity. Moreover, the majority of the 11,000+ people who use the pantry's services reside in areas that the City of Madison itself has identified as Food Access Focus Areas (i.e., "food deserts").

By owning their facility, The River will be able to 1) ensure the long-term stability of the community support they provide and 2) substantially improve the overall capacity and efficiency of their operations. The proposed facility would more than double the pantry's operational space and provide the sustainable infrastructure needed to support The River's growing programs well into the future. Thus, investing in this project is not just about avoiding the loss of current services—it is about expanding these benefits to even more Madisonians.

I am a new staff member at The River, and I feel blessed every day because I get to work with a fantastic team that truly cares about our community. Everyone at The River, from staff to volunteers, pours his/her heart and soul into meeting the needs of those less fortunate. Please help us to be able to continue helping our neighbors!

Sincerely,

Lisa Hemmersbach

4604 Turner Ave.

Madison, WI 53716

From: [Jenny Gmail](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Sauk Creek Greenway reconstruction project. — oppose
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 4:19:26 PM

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

Dear Madison Alders

I am writing to oppose the budget for the Sauk Creek Greenway reconstruction project until there is more transparency in the project.

My address is 17 St Lawrence Circle. My home is one of the closest to the creek. The most recent plan I have seen shows the creek bank moving 20ft closer to my home. This concerns me for a number of reasons.

1. During heavy rain my sump pumps currently run constantly. And so far have prevented basement flooding. I am concerned that if the creek is moved closer to my home — and even more water is moving through the channel — the water could overwhelm my sump pumps and cause flooding.
2. About 10 year ago, the city put in an access path to reach the sewer lines that run along the creek. We were told that the city had never been able to get at these sewer lines and with all of the development south of us since the lines were put in — without access the potential of a sewer link in our backyards was great. So why move the creek 20 feet closer to this recently engineered access path AND the sweet line!
3. The trees on our side of the creek are healthy and thriving where as the trees on the opposite bank are falling. By moving the creek 20Ft closer to our home we'd lose these trees — when there are downed and invasive trees on the other side of the creek.
4. I agree that the creek needs to be shored up. But I'm concerned that it will be over engineered and we'll lose too many trees. There are so few forests for families to explore and wild life to thrive in left in Madison. I just ask that this project be handled thoughtfully with an eye on preservation.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Jenny Iskandar.

Sent from my iPhone

From: lorenzovillanova@charter.net
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Council Meeting 11/15/22 Agenda Items 1 & 2
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 3:31:03 PM

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

I **oppose** Agenda Item 1 2023 Capital Budget number 3 **Public Market**. That \$6,000,000 is better spent somewhere else.

I **support** Agenda Item 2 2023 Operating Budget number 13 **Increase Alder Pay**. Please pay these hard-working alders what they are worth.

It's **ridiculous** that I couldn't register to support or oppose these things **individually** when I tried to register online. I would have had to support or oppose the **entire** Capital Budget or Operating Budget. Your Legistar system sucks. Thanks for listening.

Larry Jensen

1618 Jenifer St

Madison 53704



Virus-free. www.avg.com

From: [council](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: FW: "Urban preserve or degraded ditch? Madison greenway restoration plans spark backlash"
Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 10:57:29 AM

Hello,

The following email was received in the Council inbox.

- Council staff

From: Kirsck

Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 10:24 AM

To: council ; Tishler, Bill ; Conklin, Nikki ; Furman, Keith

Subject: "Urban preserve or degraded ditch? Madison greenway restoration plans spark backlash"

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

Greetings,

I live on the westside of Madison and am writing to you about Sauk Trails and an article dated November 14, 2022 in the Wisconsin State Journal titled "'Urban preserve or degraded ditch? Madison greenway restoration plans spark backlash". I have also written the author as, in my opinion, the article reads as biased against the City of Madison and invokes the imagery of the proverbial battle between David vs. Goliath with the "Friends of Sauk Creek" pitted against the giant City. However, the use of this allegory may not be accurate because in the article heavy hitters such as George Meyer, former DNR Secretary, and Michael Nostro, UW-Madison Climate Change Researcher are cited. In citing their credentials, the article lends credibility to their points; however, misguided or influenced their opinions are by their personal feelings and proximity to the project.

Let's examine more closely the climate change angle Michael Nostro argues. Yes, trees store carbon but an even more effective and reliable carbon sink is grasslands. Grasslands store most of their carbon underground, in their roots, and are not as likely as trees to release the carbon back into the environment. I can provide you with numerous citations supporting this fact or a quick Google search can provide them. Also, as Deputy City Engineer Greg Fries points out, the excessive erosion from this site is filling the downstream water quality ponds. There is a significant carbon footprint associated with the removal of sediment from these ponds that also needs to be factored into any argument using the climate change angle.

In his former role as DNR Secretary, I am sure George Meyer would have supported the City's effort to address this eroding channel, the downstream water quality impacts it creates, and the opportunity to restore the channel and surrounding land into more natural habitat resembling an oak savanna. In fact, the DNR issued stormwater permit for the City of Madison (I believe initially issued while George Meyer was DNR Secretary) requires that eroding conveyance channels be addressed and stabilized. Instead, as a homeowner adjacent to the eroding and unstable greenway, George Meyer appears unable to envision this enhanced condition but rather has allowed himself to become distracted by a bunch of invasive buckthorn, box elder, and black locust. George Meyer should realize that the "nature-based" approach of converting the greenway to habitat resembling an oak savanna will be far more conducive to deer, turkey, foxes, coyotes, and songbirds.

This greenway ultimately drains to Lake Mendota and huge efforts are ongoing to improve water quality in Lake Mendota. Yahara WINS has invested considerable effort in reducing sediment and phosphorus runoff from agricultural lands. As clearly documented in the U.S. EPA approved TMDL watershed study, reductions from urban sources are also necessary to meet water quality goals for Lake Mendota. The City of Madison is not proposing to install a concrete lined channel but rather a

natural system (still to be designed) that could check all the boxes – climate smart, stable water conveyance, improves downstream water quality, and creates sustainable aquatic and terrestrial habitat.

I am a water resource professional engineer with over 25 years' experience. I have conducted large watershed studies including ones that encompass Dane County all the way to small restoration projects and installation of management practices. There are a lot of water quality professionals that could have offered unbiased professional input regarding the Sauk Trail Greenway. Instead, this article cherry picked "experts" that live adjacent to the greenway and who seemingly out of fear have lost sight of what this area could truly become. I am also struck by the article's quotes "there is a trust issue" and "it's like everything's been decided" when Deputy City Engineer Greg Fries has clearly articulated that is simply not the case; however, it is easier for a mayoral candidate to take unfounded pot shots and play on constituents' fears to score political points than solve the problem. The Wisconsin State Journal article should have been titled "Metathesiophobia: Preventing Restoration of an Eroding Greenway".

The "Friends of Sauk Creek" instead of playing into fear and serving as an impediment to addressing the ongoing erosion and proliferation of invasive species in the greenway should utilize their resources collaborating with the city. Real friends support each other and the best way that the Friends of Sauk Creek could offer their support is in helping manage the transformation of the greenway into an Oak savanna. The vegetation establishment period can be difficult, and the greenway has a significant bank of invasive weed seeds waiting to germinate. The city likely lacks the necessary resources to truly manage the transformation of the site; however, the friend's group could weed and help prevent reestablishment of invasive species as the greenway transitions. I truly hope that you can see beyond the false claims and fears circulating around this restoration project and support the city in transforming the Sauk Trails Greenway.

Regards,

Kevin Kirsch, P.E.

Madison, WI

From: [Len Lindsay](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Cc: [Len Lindsay](#)
Subject: In the city budget, please support the amendment for The River Food Pantry and Our Community
Date: Friday, November 11, 2022 9:19:08 PM

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

Please join me in supporting our community and The River Food Pantry by showing your enthusiastic support for the 2023 budget amendment sponsored by Alders Myadze, Tishler and Carter to allocate \$1 million towards constructing a larger and more efficient facility for The River Food Pantry on the North side of Madison.

I have volunteered and supported The River myself since the day it first opened over FIFTEEN YEARS ago! The River Food Pantry has a proven track record spanning over those years and just won the BEST CUSTOMER SERVICE and BEST CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION awards three months ago in Madison.com's 2022 People's Choice Awards.

Over 11,000 people have relied on The River for their food and nourishment in the past, and the number of people needing their services is still growing. And let's not forget the FACT that The River has fed hungry children over and over and over and over and over again this year ... giving out over TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND meals to hungry kids! And that is over and above supporting entire families including the disabled whose lives literally are on the line here in Madison. Owning their facility will allow The River to accomplish two very important and significant things:

1. Ensure the long-term stability of the community support they provide
2. Substantially improve the overall capacity and efficiency of their operations

The proposed facility would more than double the pantry's operational space and provide the sustainable infrastructure needed to support The River's growing programs well into the future. Thus, investing in this project is not just about avoiding the loss of current services. No, it is much more! It is about expanding these benefits to even more people in Madison who need these services.

I fervently urge you to support this funding amendment, and by extension many of our most vulnerable neighbors.

As a VERY LONG term resident of Madison (for well over SIX DECADES), I thank you from the depths of my heart!

Len Lindsay

5501 Groveland Terrace

Madison, WI 53716

From: lorron.meyer@icloud.com
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: [All Alders] Public safety, fiscal responsibility and spending priorities
Date: Wednesday, September 21, 2022 9:42:24 AM

Recipient: All Alders

Name: Lorraine Meyer
Address: 1906 SHERIDAN DR, MADISON, WI 53704
Email: lorron.meyer@icloud.com

Would you like us to contact you? Yes, by email

Message:

I have lived in Madison on the north side for 30 years and I have voted and been an engaged citizen throughout my adult life. I am writing now to express concern regarding the direction our current mayor and her political ideology is taking our city. The amount and severity of crime is escalating at an unprecedented rate. I no longer feel safe in my own home or neighborhood. Our locked home was entered, car and other items were stolen. There is an alarming increase in guns being fired. Public safety should be a number one priority for government services and spending yet our current governing bodies have not made it a priority. Our police force needs to be supported with enough officers to keep up with all that they have to respond to and also be able to do preventive work in our community. They need to have the tools available to do their very difficult job without all kinds of rules that prevent them from apprehending criminals and when they do apprehend suspects, that there is a legal system that prosecutes persons convicted of crimes. People who steal cars, break into cars and homes are charged with operating a vehicle without the owners permission and released back into the community and commit the same crime again and victimize other citizens. With the rising price of homes, assessments have gone up so the amount of money for the budget should be adequate to fund basic government services so that police, parks, streets and projects that promote economic vitality eg the public market continue to be funded adequately and/or increased as needed . However, it seems the current prevailing political ideology only advocates for special pet projects at the expense of deterioration of fundamental government services. Now the mayor is proposing 1000 per full time employee in the city. I worked for the county and city for many years. When money was tight, everyone tightened their belts, positions were frozen or eliminated. The effects of inflation and the pandemic have affected everyone. Many lost their livelihood. The city employees have not lost their jobs/livelihoods yet the Mayor wants to give everyone who works for the city 1000. There is no longer a requirement for city employees to live in the city of Madison. This is not fiscally responsible government. It is not good stewardship of taxpayer's money that should be funding government services that protect and serve citizens who live in Madison.

From: [Jamie Midthun](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Support for The River Food Pantry
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 3:08:55 PM

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

Hello,

My name is Jamie and I am the River Delivers Coordinator for The River Food Pantry. I'm writing to you today, to ask for your support. The River is in desperate need of a new building. The existing building is bursting at the seams and our loading dock for deliveries could be safer. We need more space so we can serve more people. By getting a new building, we will have room to move...room to pack more orders...space to serve more customers. Right now, space is a limiting factor in how many people we can make deliveries to, because we don't have a lot of room to pack more orders. Your support will help us serve more people who desperately need food delivered to them.

Thank you for your consideration!

All the best,
Jamie Midthun
River Delivers Coordinator
The River Food Pantry

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: joynarv@gmail.com
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: [All Alders] Operating Budget
Date: Thursday, October 13, 2022 4:48:13 PM

Recipient: All Alders

Name: Joyce NARVESON

Address: 33 CHEROKEE CIR, UNIT 102, MADISON, WI 53704

Email: joynarv@gmail.com

Would you like us to contact you? Yes, by email

Message:

In addition to the concern about overall size of the increase proposed, I have several specific concerns:

- 1 I see no need for a program development/marketing position in the park dept. How about spending the on maintenance if any increase is granted.
- 2 The parking enforcement positions should be revenue producers?? Why eliminate these??
- 3 Why assume no increase in the water rates and budget a 5% increase from city funds?? The Water Utility should be self sustaining through the rate making process. An 18% increase is pending before the PSC and that or something very close will be in effect by early 2023.
- 4 I support programs for low income, but the number of the initiatives in this area is more than is affordable at one time.
- 5 I support the increase in the CARES program, but in addition I believe more funding is needed for community policing, security, traffic control. The only increase that I see budgeted is the federally funded positions.

From: [Jennifer Norr](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Support the River, End Hunger
Date: Saturday, November 12, 2022 11:07:34 AM

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

To the Madison Common Council,

I am writing to express my support of the proposed 2023 budget amendment, sponsored by Alders Myadze, Tishler, and Carter, allocating \$1 million to the construction of a larger, more efficient facility for The River Food Pantry on Madison's north side. A well-established organization with a proven track-record of service and fiscal responsibility, The River is a key support for thousands of residents throughout the greater Madison area struggling with food insecurity. Moreover, the majority of the 11,000+ people who use the pantry's services reside in areas that the City of Madison itself has identified as Food Access Focus Areas (i.e., "food deserts"). As a board member, I personally witness the good the River does in our Community. But we can do so much more. By owning their facility, The River will be able to 1) ensure the long-term stability of the community support they provide and 2) substantially improve the overall capacity and efficiency of their operations. The proposed facility would more than double the pantry's operational space and provide the sustainable infrastructure needed to support The River's growing programs well into the future. Thus, investing in this project is not just about avoiding the loss of current services—it is about expanding these benefits to even more Madisonians. I urge you to support this funding amendment, and by extension many of our most vulnerable neighbors.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Norr
6612 Greenbriar Road, Middleton, WI. 53562
jennifer.norr@gmail.com
847-903-8555

From: [Helen Osborn-Senatus](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Amendment Approval
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 3:08:02 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-cnsgngpm.png](#)

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

Dear Alders,

I am writing to share my support of passing the amendment to provide \$1,000,000 to The River Food Pantry as we work to secure a new building.

Throughout my 3 years with The River, change has been the one constant. Prior to the pandemic, we offered food in three ways. We now provide food to our community through seven different programs. This expansion of services has required an expansion of staff and space. We have out grown our warehouse, our kitchen, our offices, our parking lot, and even our garden.

To continue to evolve our services to be most useful to those we get to serve, we need our own space. This new space will allow our customers to continue to receive stable supplies of groceries with dignity and respect and will provide adequate space for volunteers to park and meet. As our services have grown, staff have adapted to the space they have to work within. A larger, dedicated space will increase efficiency and directly improve employee experiences.

I ask for your support as we work to serve our community in as many ways as possible,

Helen Osborn-Senatus, MSW
Director of Operations | The River Food Pantry
w: (608) 661-1223 | c: (786) 354-0599 |
RiverFoodPantry.org



Voted [Best Charitable Organization & Best Customer Service](#) in 2022 People's Choice Awards!

11/15/22 Madison City Council Meeting

Re: Agenda Item #1, File # 73264, Project Funding for Sauk Creek Greenway Restoration Project, #11665

I write to express my opposition to the earmarking of funds in the 2023 city budget for the renovation of the Sauk Creek Greenway and request that they be removed from the city budget for 2023. The city budget process of approving capital expenditures without a specific and detailed plan of the work to be done and the impacts that the project will have on the community is alarming. I believe the city budgeting process need to be refined to provide complete transparency to citizens and to the elected officials, so if you are approving taxpayers money for a project, you know exactly what the project entails. Today, that is not the case. Capital projects such as this, that will have impact the residents should start with community engagement and involvement in the development of the project, before it comes to the elected body for consideration to expend city funds. If you approve this project in this budget, you have no idea what the final product will look like and the impact it may have on the residents that you represent.

If this project is done incorrectly, it will have significant impact on the residents that live in the area surrounding the Sauk Creek Greenway. The city has already demonstrated their tactic on greenway management, in the first phase of this project on High Point and Mineral Point behind Walgreens. The result was a clear cutting of the majority of trees and vegetation in that section. The impact of a clearcutting of the remainder of the greenway would have negative impacts on residents who live in the area including:

- Impact on home valuation. There have been numerous studies published on the negative financial impacts that occur on property values when adjacent or proximal green space is removed.
- Environmental Impacts. The loss of so many trees would impact our local environment causing higher daily pollution counts and higher temperatures, let alone the impact on the entire city. As an environmentally friendly city, it is counter intuitive to me that they don't take a more surgical approach to the removal of established and healthy trees that remove a substantial amount of carbon from the air.
- The loss of habitat. The greenspace is home to many species, and they would be displaced or lost. This habitat adds to the uniqueness of this area, and it would be a shame to lose that.

The ask tonight is this:

1. Remove this from the budget for 2023
2. Develop a citywide policy on incorporating environmental studies on the impacts and preservation of greenspace throughout the city.
3. Develop a collaborative effort with neighborhoods that are adjacent to the Sauk Creek Greenway to help develop the plan for greenway preservation in concert with an effective drainage plan.

Randy R. Bruegman

313 Sauk Creek Drive

From: [Norman Sannes](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Cc: [Mayor](#)
Subject: More Tax and Spend
Date: Wednesday, October 12, 2022 12:33:15 PM

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

Here we go again, the mayor proposes a 6% spending increase in her 2023 budget. That increase includes a one time \$1000 payment (that has a \$3.4 million price tag) to city employees, many who have union contracts that were collectively bargained.. Madison's property taxpayers are the Mayor's money tree, many who are retired and on fixed incomes. This has to STOP.

I remember when the "water bill" was for water and sewer. The rest of the "fees" were covered by property taxes. Just smoke and mirrors to play the numbers game.

Hopefully, the city council alders can eliminate the mayor's crazy proposals.

Norman Sannes, Madison

From: [Susan Bruegman](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: 11/15/2022 Madison City Council Meeting Re: Agenda Item #1, File # 73264, Project Funding for Sauk Creek Greenway Restoration Project, #11665
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 10:01:00 AM

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

11/15/2022 Madison City Council Meeting

Re: Agenda Item #1, File # 73264, Project Funding for Sauk
Creek Greenway Restoration Project, #11665

11/15/2022 Madison City Council Meeting

Re: Agenda Item #1, File # 73264, Project Funding for Sauk
Creek Greenway Restoration Project, #11665

As a member of Friends of Sauk Creek Woods, I am writing to express my deep concerns regarding the restoration of the Sauk Creek Woods creek.

I support some OVERDUE cleanup of the stream and woodland, but it must be done with citizen participation and environmentally sound actions by the city.

The Greenway provides important sustainability features including its tree canopy that provides oxygen, reduces air and noise pollution, lowers summer temperatures, and provides a robust habitat for wildlife; birds, turkeys, deer, fox, insects, to name a few. To remove over 80% of the trees will destroy the environmental benefits we gain from its existence and is in direct opposition to the City's sustainability goal #7, which is to restore and maintain natural habitat, and the 2020 Madison Urban Forestry Task Force report encouraging tree canopies.

The city has not been clear on their intent, but previous projects including the one behind Walgreens and Tree Lane have not been executed as announced. The surrounding residents were told many trees would be saved, but it was basically clear cut with only a small number of trees remaining. It has since been abandoned by the city with weeds around the creek bed now. The noise level and heat have increased, the wildlife have mostly disappeared and it is an eyesore. We do not want this to happen to the Sauk Creek Woods.

The city has not welcomed citizen input, done an environmental impact study nor enlisted other departments' input on best current practices for lessening the impact the clean up will have on the beautiful greenway. This is critical to a positive outcome for the project,

I request the council and mayor deny the budget request until there is citizen participation and environmental protections in place.

Susan Bruegman
313 Sauk Creek Drive
Madison, WI 53717

From: [Anne Schoenemann](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Support the River Food Pantry
Date: Wednesday, November 9, 2022 7:07:01 AM

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

Madison Alders,

I encouraged you to vote yes and financial support the River Food Pantry. This is organization is vital to the health and well being of many people on the East side of Madison. It is a well run program and provides services the city does not offer. This investment is for a positive future on the East of Madison and our community as a whole.

Thank you for your time,

Anne Schoenemann

From: [Brian S.](#)
To: [All Alders](#); [Park Commission](#); [Crawley, Katie](#); [Knepp, Eric](#); [Shea, Ann](#); [Stelljes, Corey](#); [Freiwald, Ann](#); [Board of Public Works](#)
Subject: Nov 15 City Budget meeting-Sauk Creek Greenway
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 2:02:48 PM

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

Hello,

I am against the proposed spending for Sauk Creek Greenway plan to remove most of the trees and put in a bike path. The greenway looks nice and provides a much needed green natural area on this part of town. It supports animal, bird and plant life. It gives privacy to the home and condo owners nearby. It has a walking path for hikers to enjoy and some mountain bikers use it. It's a nice shady place to walk on warm summer days.

I understand if some stream improvements are needed for water drainage but I haven't seen a good reason for major changes. Removing many trees would be a mistake for many reasons. A paved bike path there would cause more problems than good. It would be noisy for people who live nearby, dangerous when bikers go fast or aren't safe, create rain runoff and require maintenance. There are already good sidewalks nearby that recreational bikers can use.

In 2019 the City cut down 200 trees in the South end of the conservancy near Tree Lane to make a paved path. That was a mistake. It doesn't look nice and ruined the natural habitat for animals and birds. Now people who live in Oakbridge condos see and hear the dreary back parking lot of Walgreens, the 7933 affordable apartment complex, and get noise from Mineral pt rd traffic, instead of the natural scenery and quiet they used to enjoy. When I go by there I rarely see anyone walking or biking on the paved path. It is seldom used. There were already good sidewalks in the area so the paved path wasn't needed. Here is an article about it: <https://tinyurl.com/ytrxkrpu>

Please don't repeat the same mistake you made in 2019 with the rest of Sauk Creek conservancy. Leave as much of it intact as you can with no paved path.

Sincerely,

Brian Shore

From: [alison tenbruggencate](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Cc: [Gwen Long](#)
Subject: Comment on Agenda Item 1, November 15, 2022 Common Council Meeting
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 11:10:06 PM
Attachments: [Agenda Item 1, Sauk Creek Renovation, 2023 Capital Budget, City-Council, 11-15-22 .docx](#)

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

Please accept the attached comment regarding Agenda Item #1 to be considered at tomorrow's Common Council meeting.

Thank you,

Alison TenBruggencate

11/15/22 Madison City Council Meeting

Re: Agenda Item #1, File # 73264, Project Funding for Sauk Creek Greenway Restoration Project, #11665

I write to express my opposition to the earmarking of funds in the 2023 capital budget for the renovation of the Sauk Creek Greenway. While I am advised that it is the practice of city departments to seek funds before putting a plan in place, the proposed funding in this instance is uniquely alarming to those of us concerned with protecting these woods.

Most of my fellow-residents who care for and enjoy these woods every day recognize that clean-up and restoration of the stream and woods has been needed for some time. However, since 2018, the ideas we have seen regarding the restoration have appeared excessive and heavy-handed. Faced with the decimation of more than 80% of the existing 6,000 trees in these woods, residents in the area have sought to intervene in favor of using more forestry and animal-friendly measures of restoring the green space stream. A ready example of what we seek to avoid exists behind the Walgreens on Mineral Point Road where another City Engineering-designed greenway renovation project was executed. There, vast numbers of trees were cleared to make way for excavation equipment, paying little heed to the forest that had existed, and leaving behind a weed-infested wasteland.

At \$2.3 million, in addition to \$1.7 million already allocated, the size of the proposed funding for the Sauk Creek renovation is alarming as it underscores the degree of over-engineering contemplated in preliminary plans we have heard about: streetlamps, concrete bike paths, and mountain bike paths. It seems as though there is no shortage money to expend on this project; yet, there has been no mention of an environmental study. And though neighbors have raised it repeatedly, there has been no advancement of the proposal to collaborate with forestry with the objective of protecting valuable trees, precious shade and important animal habitats. Perhaps this is an extraordinary idea from a city engineering perspective, but it is a solution that readily addresses all concerns.

Residents in the Sauk Creek area have been asking to not only be heard, but to have their concerns earnestly addressed. Allocating such a large amount of funds for this project without a plan, without an environmental impact study and without evidence of a sincere regard for preserving the important function of these woods, betrays a project that has already been decided. It is premature to allocate funding under these circumstances.

Thank you for your consideration of my thoughts on this matter.

Alison TenBruggencate

From: [Carol V.](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: City of Madison budget, agenda Item 2
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 3:43:47 PM

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

Dear City of Madison Alders,

As you debate the upcoming budget, I am asking that you look carefully at the proposed funding for Madison Metro public transit. Specifically, the Bus Rapid Transit system. which is not being funded by the wheel tax as was promised, but is taking money from the existing service. While the redesign may pull off the feat of providing better service with a significantly reduced budget, the current Equity Analysis is too deeply flawed to know for sure.

I suggest that the redesign be put on hold and the Alders consider putting money towards an Equity Analysis performed by a neutral consultant.

Regards,
Carol Van Hulle



November 15, 2022

City of Madison Common Council

Board Members

James P. Carter
Brett Gerber
Richard A. Hansen
Erbert Johnson
Dan Kroetz
Natalie Erdman
David Strelitz
Regina Dunkin
Mary R. Wright

Sent by email: council@cityofmadison.com

CC: Alder Syed Abbas, district12@cityofmadison.com

RE: Background on 2023 Capital Budget Amendment 4 on Tax Incremental District 52 and Rise Madison at 3401 & 3433 East Washington Avenue

Dear Common Council Members,

I would like to give you more background on amendment 4 to the 2023 Capital Budget, "TID 52 E Washington Stoughton Rd." Wisconsin Housing Preservation Corp. (WHPC) is a non-profit owner and developer of affordable housing based in Madison. We provide more than 8,500 high-quality apartments to Wisconsin residents across the socioeconomic spectrum.

As many of you know, WHPC is under contract to buy the former Bimbo bakery at 3401 and 3433 East Washington Avenue at the end of November. With support from the City of Madison and elected officials, we plan to build 245 new apartments at the 6.4-acre site along with more than 1.5 acres of green space for residents and 4,300 square feet of ground-floor commercial space. This development will be called Rise Madison, and all of the apartments at Rise will be affordable through the non-competitive 4% Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program. The area is well-served by public schools, community centers, health clinics, grocery, and employment opportunities, and it is located adjacent to Madison's future bus rapid transit red line stop at Wright-Fair Oaks.

In July 2022, the Common Council approved our land use application to rezone the property from light manufacturing to CC-T zoning that allows for multifamily residential use. The City's additional support for this development in the \$2,350,000 outlined in this budget amendment for TID 52 will help make the project a reality by closing the project's financing gap. Rise Madison aligns seamlessly with the City of Madison's TIF policy goals such as growing the property tax base, encouraging adaptive re-use of obsolete property, encouraging urban infill, and creating a range of housing types and specifically workforce and affordable housing. It will also help support the project as we implement sound mitigation strategies through upgraded building materials that attenuate noise to create a comfortable indoor environment for residents. This financing is crucial for the success of this project.

Thank you for your support of affordable and workforce housing in the City of Madison. We are excited about the prospect of bringing an additional 245 affordable apartments to this area. If you have any questions or would like to get in touch, you can reach me at mwalela@whpc.com.

Sincerely,

Megan S. Walela
Development Project Manager



608-807-1430



www.whpcorp.org



WHPC
150 E Gilman St
Suite 1500
Madison, WI 53703



Wisconsin Housing Preservation Corp.

From: [council](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: FW: Background on 2023 Capital Budget Amendment 4 and Rise Madison
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 2:18:19 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[WHPC Letter to Common Council on Rise Madison and Capital Budget Amendment 4 2022.11.15.pdf](#)
[image003.png](#)

Hello,

Please see the email below which was received in the Council Inbox.

- Council staff

From: Megan Walela
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 1:52 PM
To: council
Cc: Abbas, Syed ; Mike Slavish
Subject: Background on 2023 Capital Budget Amendment 4 and Rise Madison

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

Good afternoon – Please find attached a letter with further background information on capital budget amendment 4 and WHPC's project to redevelop the former Bimbo bakery on East Washington Avenue. In short, your support of this budget amendment will allow WHPC to bring 245 affordable apartments to Madison by helping us close the project's financing gap—while also aligning with the City's TIF policy goals. Thank you for your consideration and please feel free to get in touch with any questions.

Megan S. Walela, Development Project Manager

Wisconsin Housing Preservation Corp.

150 East Gilman Street, Suite 1500

Madison, WI 53703

608.620.9435

mwalela@whpc.com

From: [Larry and Ginny White](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Sauk Creek Greenway Improvements
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 8:45:19 PM

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

We urge you to deny the city's request for funding to reconstruct the Sauk Creek Greenway before engaging with the public on an acceptable plan.

We oppose a one-dimensional engineering approach that views the project as simply stormwater remediation. Environmental protection is also critically important, especially in view of climate change. Surely, a balance can be found between clearcutting 80% of the trees and allowing the greenway to continue as an unofficial conservancy.

This project has become controversial because the city failed to involve the public in its planning. Many talented, committed residents would like to get involved, if only the city would let them.

Sincerely,

Ginny and Larry White
71 Oak Creek Trail

From: patricia.wildgen@gmail.com
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: [All Alders] Sauk Creek Greenway
Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 7:05:55 AM

Recipient: All Alders

Name: Patricia Wildgen
Address: 7602 Farmington Way, Madison, WI 53717
Email: patricia.wildgen@gmail.com

Would you like us to contact you? No, do not contact me

Message:

Based on the recent WSJ article it appears that the city plans to take down a high percentage of trees in this Greenway and replace them with better drainage Fine and native grasses NO! I live across the street from the Greenway. The paths and forest need to be cleared of fallen trees but the area should be left as a forest. We see squirrels, owls, deer, and turkeys going in there. It provides privacy between Sauk Creek neighborhoods 1 and 2. DO NOT approve this large amount of money to support the current destructive plan.