

**From:** [noreply](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** [All Alders] \$22 million proposed referendum  
**Date:** Sunday, August 11, 2024 6:31:31 PM

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Recipient: All Alders:

Sunday, August 11, 2024 – 6:30pm

Jane Albert

she/her

2144 West Lawn Ave.

Madison, Wisconsin. 53711 Yes, by email. [jalbert4410@gmail.com](mailto:jalbert4410@gmail.com) All Alders \$22 million proposed referendum I will not even consider voting for this until I see a list of belt tightening measures Mayor Satya will implement in her own office!

The proposed referendum hurts children, families and the most vulnerable of our citizens.

From: [Nino Amato](#)  
To: [All Alders](#); [Mayor Nino Amato](#)  
Subject: 2025 Budget | Referendum & Proposed Budget Cuts  
Date: Sunday, August 11, 2024 9:51:05 PM

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## Mayor SATYA'S Scare tactics!

**PULLING THE PLUG**

**“Cut the Mayors  
bloated Staff by 50% &  
Cut the Mayors out of  
state travel = Funding  
for the Goodman  
Community Pool”**

**Community Pool.**  
**— Nino Amato**

**From:** [Joan bellkaul](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** UPCOMING REFERENDUM ON GARGANTUAN PROPERTY TAX INCREASE  
**Date:** Friday, August 9, 2024 10:21:23 AM

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

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I, together with many other property owners in the City of Madison, am poised to vote **NO** on the upcoming referendum. I am not alone. City of Madison residents on the ND General site are expressing outrage at the prospect of adding so much more to their already-crippling burden of city property taxes.. It is an "all-the-traffic-will-bear" situation this city is facing.

Decision Makers in the City of Madison need to **halt** ALL NON essential, "frill and pet-project /showboat" spending; **and, rather**, use the same kind of careful, budgeting and discretion on the use of our hard-earned taxpayer money, just as **we** have been forced to do as individuals, in the face of rising, unprecedented cost of living expenses, in order to remain solvent.

And when election time rolls around again, you can be sure that your stand on this issue will be a key factor in your re-election.

Sincerely,

Joan Bell-Kaul, Lead  
NEXTDOOR: Environmental, Nature and Wildlife Group, Admin. and Originator (1,125+ current membership).

**From:** [Books24u](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Re: No to a possible city budget referendum in November  
**Date:** Friday, August 9, 2024 4:22:18 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from books24u@aol.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hello Alders,

While reading about a possible \$22M city referendum for the November election in the Cap Times, a loud jet at the airport, most likely an F - 35 was taking off. True story. My thoughts were that at the federal level too much money is going to the War/Military Industrial Complex. At \$100M each for an F - 35, this is an example of too much money going somewhere else other than to on the ground funding to keep Madison great.

With Madison homeowners currently facing already high assessments, I'm planning on voting "no" on a referendum if one is placed on the ballot in November for a \$22M tax hike.

The city can always look at implementing more integrity and basic grit to efficiency measures that are helpful for all departments. The proposed cuts are bad for safety measures. And it doesn't make sense to cut bus routes and service after spending so much for the new bus stations and all of the red paint. I "see red" over that proposal. A stand against wasteful federal spending, especially for militarism, is something to stand for when it affects various budgets in Madison. What would former U.S. Senator William Proxmire say about the F - 35s in Madison? If federal funds helped cities in the past as Esser Funds did, why can't Madison fine some other federal funds to help out now?

Keeping Madison affordable is a stand to continually take for this great city!

Sincerely,

Steve Books  
625 Spruce St.  
Madison, WI 53715  
(608)358-7906

**From:** [Donna Coughlin](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax hike  
**Date:** Monday, August 12, 2024 1:29:22 PM

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[Some people who received this message don't often get email from dcoughlin12@charter.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

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Please budget more effectively. The \$22 million tax hike is outrageous & should not be approved.  
Donna Coughlin (Madison resident and taxpayer).  
Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Jean](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Cc:** [agarfield@captimes.com](mailto:agarfield@captimes.com)  
**Subject:** About the Proposed \$22M Tax Hike  
**Date:** Friday, August 9, 2024 12:49:14 PM

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[Some people who received this message don't often get email from jkdemuzio@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

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Greetings,

My husband and I have a few suggestions about how to get the city budget under control without raising taxes. They are:

- 1) Reduce the Mayor's office staff and research staff.
- 2) Reduce the salary of the city alders.
- 3) Reduce the salary of the mayor.
- 4) Mow the city parks less frequently.
- 5) Reduce city tree trimming to a minimum and do not cut down trees that still are alive but have been damaged. There is far too much over trimming with the city trees.
- 6) To the mayor: Be more efficient in your city management. (I did not vote for you because you have been fiddling with the rezoning of single family housing use.)
- 7) Make little budget cuts in every city department including the mayor's office.
- 8) Don't make blanket cuts to services or propose enormous property tax increases to home owners who are already not happy about rising property taxes.
- 9) Stop the Rapid Transit Project now! Embracing this project has already reduced bus routes in many parts of the city where bus service is the only means to get around.

I hope you and your office will consider some of these ideas.

Jean DeMuzio

Tony Milanowski

3313 Derby Down

Madison, WI 53713

**From:** [noreply](#)  
**To:** [City Budget](#)  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Contact  
**Date:** Thursday, July 11, 2024 4:11:54 PM

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Thursday, July 11, 2024 – 4:07pm

**Name**  
Jessica

**How would you like us to contact you?**  
Email

**Email**  
[jegilkison@gmail.com](mailto:jegilkison@gmail.com)

**Reason for Contact**  
Budget

**Message**

I'm writing with concern about the possible cuts to library services. Libraries provide essential services to our community, including to some of the most marginalized people. Cuts to our libraries impact all of us, whether directly or indirectly. We are better served by cutting the law enforcement budget, as their services benefit a smaller group of people and continue the cycle of the carceral system, perpetuating white supremacy and capitalism.



**From:** [Sharon Goss](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** proposed tax hike  
**Date:** Sunday, August 11, 2024 6:29:04 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from smleg68@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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I am opposed to any raise in property taxes. I live on Social Security and a small pension. My taxes on a modest home in Madison are well over \$8000/yr. I've lived many places and have never paid such high taxes. I can't afford to stay in my home if you keep raising taxes. .

I think alders and the mayor should look at whether all the growth you keep pursuing is paying its way. If not, then why not tax the people benefiting from growth? Perhaps the city could increase user fees on nontaxable properties, which we have a lot of. Are there other ways to generate income?

If the city is going to cut services, some would be ok with me. For example, my nearest library already has no Sunday hours so that seems like a place to start. Fees for parking is ok with me because I hardly go out. Cuts in bus service and social programs would also not impact me a lot. I would be happy to see less street repair; I think it's way overdone compared to other cities. We could all haul our own brush.

Thanks for asking.  
SG

**From:** [Terry Heiliger](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Feedback  
**Date:** Friday, August 9, 2024 11:44:28 PM

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[Some people who received this message don't often get email from badgerhm@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

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I know you're dealing with the psycho GOP legislature but we need to focus on getting our fair share of the state revenue sharing ( I think that's what it is).

The fact the City is proposing some of these cuts is ridiculous. If we can't afford those things for our safety and/or our benefits then we are in trouble especially since our property taxes have already skyrocketed.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [ckot@azkot.com](mailto:ckot@azkot.com)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** NO to \$22 million referendum  
**Date:** Monday, August 12, 2024 8:23:57 AM

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You don't often get email from [ckot@azkot.com](mailto:ckot@azkot.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

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This increase in property taxes places the burden on only real property owners. Tax renters as well. Renters use the same services without paying for them. Your property taxes are so high now that we have considered selling and leaving.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Carla Kot

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**From:** [noreply](#)  
**To:** [City Budget](#)  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Contact  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 31, 2024 9:06:48 PM

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Wednesday, July 31, 2024 – 9:03pm

**Name**

Lj meister

**How would you like us to contact you?**

Email

**Email**

[frdm1203@gmail.com](mailto:frdm1203@gmail.com)

**Reason for Contact**

Budget

**Message**

The library is the most important part of the budget. It needs to expand or remain the same. Figure out how to balance without cutting the library. People of middle n low income use this service. It also educates the next generation. Lj meister 2626 moland st

**From:** [Gayle Nimmerguth](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Referendum & Bus Service  
**Date:** Saturday, August 10, 2024 8:45:53 PM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from gayle1spirit@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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If there is no property tax referendum or it doesn't pass, please do not cut evening and weekend bus service. The unnecessary bus system overhaul has made things hard enough, so please give us a break and don't make things worse.

**From:** [Lynn Marie Pauly](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Referendum opinion from a District 15 resident  
**Date:** Saturday, August 10, 2024 12:06:05 PM

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

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To the Madison alders:

I'm submitting my comments regarding the propose \$22 million referendum that would raise property taxes to avoid service cuts.

I am strongly opposed to this referendum. The mayor's past spending obviously did not take into consideration the funding for the future years. Plus I do not believe she pushed hard enough to get state assistance.

Go back to the drawing board and reduce your referendum request by half and I will be more apt to support a referendum.

The mayor is not looking out for home owners who see property tax increases every year. I honestly feel that way.

Lynn Pauly  
District 15

In the last five years (Deficits of \$10-20 million) it is mostly the mayor and council adopting new spending initiatives without having a plan to fully fund them in the future years. Most of my structural deficits were in the range of \$2-3 million the result of increased energy or insurance costs.



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**From:** [George Shinnners](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** Budget - referendum question  
**Date:** Saturday, August 10, 2024 11:03:37 AM

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Some people who received this message don't often get email from georgeshinners217@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hello I have heard nothing regarding necessity of cutting back on spending multi-millions of dollars on “social engineering” projects. For instance, it appears the various housing projects are creating significant hidden costs in over site and control. I hope the Council has learned from this.

George Shinnners  
null

**From:** [Rosemary Sprenger](#)  
**To:** [All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** possible service cuts etc.  
**Date:** Saturday, August 10, 2024 3:15:44 PM

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

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I saw the recent article in the Cap Times and am giving you my feedback. Instead of raising taxes a lot, I'd prefer minor service cuts and also using much of the money in the rainy-day fund to avoid major cuts. I rent an apartment and am a senior citizen.

I'd like to be able to use the South Madison Library on Sundays in the cooler months, but eliminating evening hours might not affect me. When I've been there on a Sunday in the past, the staff have ample time to socialize, so reducing staff on Sunday would also reduce the time they'd have to visit with each other. I don't want the staff there to know I complained about this & appreciate the help they've given me over the years.

If bus service was cut on evenings, I might not be affected in the winter. I still want bus service on weekends, but use my car to get to the grocery store etc. I'm also eligible for paratransit service but rarely use it; if you cut that, you might be violating the Amer. with Disabilities Act.

Rosemary Sprenger



**From:** [dave stecher](#)  
**To:** [Streets; All Alders](#)  
**Subject:** 2025 City of Madison Budget Referendum Comments  
**Date:** Monday, August 12, 2024 3:48:26 PM

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

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Hi, I am writing in support of the budget referendum and the necessary tax increases.

However, if cost reductions are necessary, I see an opportunity to save costs in snow removal.

A typical residential street in many suburban style single family residential areas in the city requires two passes from the plow to clear the whole width. However, part of this street width is intended for street parking which is sparsely used in many single family areas due to ample driveway and garage space. Instead of using two passes to clear the whole street including the unused parking spaces, a single pass by the plow should provide sufficient width for two vehicles to pass by each other.

I request that the council and streets division look at the potential cost savings from providing just a single plow pass in all single family residential streets with minimally used on street parking - such as most neighborhoods to the West of Midvale. Providing a single plow pass would cut the required plowing time in half for these streets and would allow the city to save on plowing while ensuring the typically used portion of the streets are cleared quickly.

I would prefer to see city resources allocated to ensure sidewalks, crosswalks, and other pedestrian infrastructure are cleared as quickly as the streets, rather than having our overly wide residential streets cleared curb to curb.

-Dave Stecher

District 11 resident

**From:** [noreply](#)  
**To:** [City Budget](#)  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Contact  
**Date:** Sunday, July 21, 2024 2:31:44 PM

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Sunday, July 21, 2024 – 2:29pm

**Name**

Hannah Stocklein

**How would you like us to contact you?**

Email

**Email**

[stocklein@wisc.edu](mailto:stocklein@wisc.edu)

**Reason for Contact**

Budget

**Message**

To whom it may concern,

I would like to voice my support for Option C for the 2025 Madison Public Library budget moving forward, to continue to fund youth services and the Imagination Center at Reindahl Park. MPL is an absolutely crucial component of Madison, to cut the library's funding is to directly harm the community, especially those who rely on the library's free access to books, wifi, and youth services the most.

I have lived in Madison most of my life and I began using MPL as soon as I learned to read. As a child, I spent many hours at the Sequoya library in the old strip mall doing the scavenger hunts and reading Lemony Snicket books. Cutting Sunday hours would take this joy away from children who are unable to go to the library during school hours. To this day I continue to rely on the public library to read new release books in print and digitally through the Libby app. As a veterinary medical student, it is nice to use weekend and night hours to get off campus to study. Many other members of the community rely on the library as a safe place outside of the home to work.

Please consider how harmful cutting funding to MPL will be to the community.

Sincerely,

Hannah Stocklein (she/her)  
Co-president of Pathology & Lab Animal Medicine Club (SLAC)  
Class of 2026 DVM Candidate  
School of Veterinary Medicine  
University of Wisconsin - Madison