



Kim Richman
Coordinator
Buckeye-Grove Good Neighbor Project

*Thank you for allowing public input into the search for a Madison Police Department Chief. Public input is very important to us.

*My name is Kim Richman. I coordinate the Buckeye-Grove Good Neighbor Project.

*If you aren't familiar with the **Good Neighbor Project**, it is the Madison Police Department's community safety program. <https://www.cityofmadison.com/police/community/good-neighbor-project/>

*The GNP mission statement is: "When we take the time to get to know our neighbors, we feel a stronger sense of community. It's comforting to know we have neighbors who are looking out for us and will help us. The police officers who live and work in our neighborhoods also care about our safety and well-being. When we get to know our neighborhood officers and work together with them to solve problems, we create an even larger social support network where everyone feels surrounded by people who care".

*Our far-east side group is over 650 members strong and growing since organizing the project in December.

Unlike other groups and individuals, we DO NOT AND WILL NOT make demands, but here are some requests...

WE REQUEST....

- ...a chief who is experienced and has proven that he or she can lead and direct effectively and is consistent in act and deed.
- ...a chief who is not afraid to praise and defend his/her officers, but also not afraid to discipline officers when warranted.
- ...a chief who has a personal history of wanting to help and protect the community.
- ...a chief who is articulate and can clearly communicate and state facts in the face of constructive criticism as well as false accusations.
- ...a chief who can spend every waking hour working to change the anti-law enforcement culture in Madison so that city leaders and MPD are working TOGETHER, and do not hesitate to let that be known and seen in public.
- ...a chief who will fight to continue the MPD way of PRO-active policing like we have now and listening to understand the needs of the public.....

.....Part of proactive community policing is a philosophy that speaks to the relationships between MPD and the people served in order to achieve some important goals. Examples are prevention of crime, enhanced quality of life, and greater degrees of public trust. Community policing is really policing of the people, **JOINTLY WITH THE PEOPLE** and listening to and understanding the needs of the public for the achievement of common goals. **IT STARTS AT THE TOP WITH THE CHIEF.**

- A chief who can set the right tone at the top, as did past Chiefs in David Couper, Noble Wray, Mike Koval, and Vic Wahl. This means following procedures and directives and **NOT BE SWAYED** by changing public opinions and especially **POLITICAL** opinions.
- A chief who will fight to continue and embrace community programs like the C.O.R.E team, Madison Addiction Recovery Initiative, Amigos en Azul (Friends in Blue), the Mental Health Unit, the special Victims Unit focusing on Human Trafficking, youth academies, and in our case the Good Neighbor Project. We also need a chief who will continue the Community Academy and the Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events training and Ride-Along programs (all of which I proudly participated in). The programs above (and there are more) **SHOULD** be continued and embraced by the new chief. All of these programs are a very important bond between MPD and the residents of Madison. Look them up.

We respectfully make no demands, but are our requests and hopes.

We understand that there is a push by the mayor to expedite the selection process. The citizens of Madison, deserve to get the right person for the job no matter how long the process takes and we appreciate the PFCs response to that demand. The mayor should have no part of the selection for political purposes.

We also understand that there are people and/or groups documenting these statements to interpret the public's input. There is **NO** need for interpretation of **our** statements. They are what they say. **WE** request the above in a new Chief and **WE** deserve it.

And **WE** are the members of the Buckeye-Grove Good Neighbor Project, as well as the hard-working, law-abiding, tax paying residents of Madison.

Thank you.

Kim I. Richman

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