

# SHIA FISHER

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1 October 2020

Common Council  
Executive Council  
The City of Madison

210 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd  
Room 103, City-County Building  
Madison, WI 53703

## DEAR EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS,

I am interested in holding a seat on the City of Madison Police Civilian Oversight Board. Currently I serve on Dane County Equal Opportunities Commission, I am also a Student Senator at Madison College. Recently I was appointed to Chair the brand-new Ad-Hoc Committee addressing Racial Inequity at Madison College. In the last two semesters, I have earned a 4.0 GPA at Madison College and will graduate this semester with an Associate in Science. Next I plan to continue studies in the Spring at UW Madison studying research methodology applied to computer science, data and statistics. My first engagements in formal discussions was during my employment with Madison Metropolitan School District as a Tutor Coordinator in the Title VI Native American / Alaskan Indian Tutor Program.

In this role, I was able to present in front of the Parent Committee our findings on academic performance districtwide regarding both middle and high schoolers. I found that by listening to the topics beyond the classroom that dealt with racial disparities, folks around the table were deeply moved by the data and mitigating strategies. Since that experience, I was also a volunteer in a Rotary Club in Madison where I became President-Elect. With a focus toward reentering the University I instead spent several months as a producer for a weekly radio program at WSUM 91.7FM Madison entitled "On Wisconsin."

I collaborated with student journalists and learned through this leadership role, that leading is often about listening more than anything else. Leading is about discovering hidden talents and sharing responsibility too. I feel I can demonstrate a healthy amount of experience as both a leader and a learner throughout my recent history. As a lifelong Madisonian who has tested many boundaries during my youth, I can certainly speak to what feels like to be unheard or unaccounted for. I hope I can use my voice to help others searching for their own voice. I hope I can be a part of a board that seeks accountability.

I believe in carefully identifying problems and discussing solutions. I believe in finding the most efficient route to applying a plan, especially one as robust as this. If there is one thing, I learned from my experience in the Dane County Sheriff's Citizen Academy, I have learned that law enforcement is made up of real people. I view this board as one that is looking at the real people who are also impacted by law enforcement. The more we can humanize each other the better I think we can apply the 177 recommendations from the MPD Ad Hoc Committee Report to build our community into an even better place to live. Thank you.

Shia Aaron L. Fisher

