



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

Meeting Minutes - Approved COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, October 15, 2018

4:30 PM

Meets the 3rd Monday of the month.
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room 108 (City-County Building)

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair Delmore at 4:32 pm, following verification that a quorum was present and the meeting had been properly noticed.

Present: 7 - Zach Wood; Patricia A. Lasky; Patrick E. Delmore; Tyler D. Leeper; Elizabeth A. Bookland; Dea Larsen Converse and Patricia J. Gadow

Excused: 1 - Timothy D. Baker

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Lasky, seconded by Leeper, to Approve the Minutes. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

PUBLIC COMMENT

none

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

none

NEW BUSINESS

[53181](#)

LED Street Lighting and Potential Health Concerns

Attachments: [Blue light letterhead.pdf](#)

Jeff Lafferty of the Department of Public Health discussed the potential health impacts of LEDs and how it is dependent on the amount of exposure and repeated exposure. Shielding to direct light only where needed the most and managing the system appropriately are ways of limiting exposure. Benefits of LEDs include reduced glare and using less energy.

Members discussed a desire to have a better understanding of the City's current LED technology implementation and what is being done in other cities.

[53184](#)

Discussion on the August 20, 2018 rain event and current status

Attachments: [COE Flooding Presentation 10-15-18.pptx](#)

Jojo O'Brien of City Engineering presented a summary of the flood event that happened on August 20, 2018, and the weeks following. The storm ranged up to 14" in 8 hours. Both Lake Mendota and Monona were well above target elevation before the storm hit. Summary was provided of the damage to city infrastructure from the initial storm as well as the isthmus flooding afterwards. Lake levels and groundwater levels continue to be high with additional rainfalls.

Future measures include assessing the feasibility of new infrastructure to reroute storm sewer during high lake levels. Raising the elevation of Johnson St at Tenney Park is being considered. City Engineering will be hiring a Public Information officer to help with increased outreach and preparedness for residents.

[53182](#)

Report from Beth Bookland regarding opportunities for COE to assist in recycling efforts

Attachments: [Recycling in Madison WI.docx](#)

Beth Bookland presented on her findings regarding the benefits and potential barriers for recycling. People want to do the right thing, but don't always know what that is. Recycling markets have changed over the years, but recycling practices have not. Cost of recycling is still less than landfilling rates.

Common recycling mistakes Madison residents make include: loose plastic bags, loose bottle caps (should be screwed to bottle), lightweight cups (eg. red solo cups), rigid plastics (eg. 5 gallon buckets, toys, sleds), wet or greasy cardboard. Education can help reduce these errors, which inevitably make recycling costs higher and reduces the purity of the recycled material. Madison is over 50% rental units, so there is large turnover in these residences. Future discussions should also include ideas for "reducing" and "reusing".

[53183](#)

Report from Dea Larsen Converse regarding opportunities for COE to reduce chloride levels in water softeners.

Attachments: [Report from Dea Larsen Converse regarding opportunities for COE to reduce](#)

This tem was Deferred to the next meeting.

REPORTS

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[42158](#)

Report of Chair

Delmore mentioned future meeting topics including Odana Golf Course water reuse for November meeting.

- 5 [42159](#) Report from Board of Public Works

 none
- 4 [42160](#) Report from Water Utility Board

 none
- 6 [42161](#) Report from Solid Waste Advisory Committee

 Bookland reported that leaf collection flyers will be included in upcoming water bills to increase residence education/awareness.
- 7 [42162](#) Report from Board of Health for Madison and Dane County

 Lasky reported that she will serve on the Pesticide Management task force as a representative for Public Health.
- 8 [42163](#) Staff Report

 Eberhardt reported that the greatermadisonvision.com survey is live. City is holding Salt Certification Trainings in October. The Board of Public Works will be appointing a new member at the next meeting, as well as discussing new City Engineering policies as they related to private drainage problems on private property, flood control relief remediation. Additionally, a technical work group is being formed to study appropriate operating orders for the Yahara chain of lakes and to study the necessary actions to reduce the risk of flooding in the future.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Gadow, seconded by Wood, to Adjourn at 6:05pm. The motion passed by voice vote/other.