

## **July 2007 Northside News**

It's been an interesting few months on the Council. We passed a local purchasing policy, so the City can support local businesses by purchasing from them. We've been dealing with the Water Utility and trying to address the problems there. We've considered various developments, alcohol licenses (including approving one for El Corral on Packers), and public works projects – all part of the daily business of running the City.

I've been working on pedestrian safety in several neighborhoods, including along Aberg, and to address a few “problem houses” that some of you have alerted me to. I'm also focusing on transportation issues –strengthening our bus system and making it easier to access our neighborhoods by bike. I'm on the Board of Education - Common Council Liaison Committee, so I'll be working on educational issues as well. Ald. Schumacher and I have been working with the Mallards and the Mayor's office to do a feasibility study for renovating Warner Park Stadium. I'm pleased this is moving forward and hope that the study will provide us with the certainty we need before we invest millions of dollars in the project.

Looking forward, the Council will be discussing the Alcohol License Density Plan, which would limit new licenses in the downtown area, and the Nuisance Abatement Ordinance, which could serve as a mechanism for the Police and Building Inspection Unit to address properties in the city in which there are a high number of police calls and/or building code violations. Most importantly, we'll begin to discuss the capital budget in September and the operating budget in October. I'm on the Board of Estimates, so I'll be deeply involved in the budget process. Please contact me if you have ideas or to let me know your priorities for Madison's budget. And enjoy the rest of summer!

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