

September 2007 Emerson East Neighborhood Newsletter

Dear Emerson East Neighbors –

There's so much going on at City Hall these days, I barely know where to begin. I'm continuing to work on improving the bus system. If you have ideas on how to make Metro better, please contact me or visit www.mymetrobus.com and click on 'take survey'. You may also have noticed that bike access across the Yahara is getting better – the sidewalks along Johnson have been widened, and they're working on the connection to the Yahara River Parkway. I'll be working next on making the crosswalk at First and Johnson safer.

In addition, I've been paying a lot of attention to the Water Utility, trying to make sure that our drinking water stays safe, that we protect our aquifer, and that we fix the problems that have come up in that department. As you know, Well #3 is being abandoned. I've been participating in the working group that is trying to identify a site for a replacement well. See http://www.cityofmadison.com/water/Documents/MWU_WellNews_0707.pdf for more information on that project.

Unfortunately, our neighborhood is still dealing with some safety and crime issues. I encourage you to work with EENA and Emerson Neighborhood Watch, and as always, please don't hesitate to report suspicious or disruptive behavior to the police, and let me know if you have concerns.

Other issues that are coming before the council include the chronic nuisance abatement ordinance (which could help address the few seriously unresponsive landlords in the city), the alcohol license density plan (which would limit the number of bars downtown), the proposal to establish a regional transit authority, just to name a few. We're also headed into budget season, which is always a challenge. If you have thoughts about the budget and what our priorities as a city should be, please let me know.

I am currently sitting on the following committees:

- Board Of Education - Common Council Liaison Committee
- Board Of Estimates
- Common Council Organizational Committee
- East Washington/Capitol Gateway Build Steering Committee
- Long Range Metro Transit Planning Ad Hoc Committee
- Madison Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
- Sustainable Design And Energy Committee
- Warner Park Community Recreation Center Advisory Committee

If you have any questions about the work we're doing on any of these, please drop me and email at district12@cityofmadison.com or call me at 242-4426. Thank you, and enjoy the rest of the summer!

Satya