

Dear Neighbors,

The leaves are starting to turn, the days are getting shorter, and the nights are getting cooler- it must be fall and budget time in the City of Madison. There's been a lot of talk about public safety recently, so it will be no surprise to you that public safety is a major focus of the Mayor's budget this year. Some highlights of the Executive Budget include:

- \$3 million for the Police Department, including 30 new officers
- \$59,000 more for graffiti removal
- \$183,000 more for building inspection
- \$85,000 more for youth programming to provide positive alternatives
- Stable funding for the Office of Community Services and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program
- Full funding for Metro with no cuts in service or fare increases

I'm pleased that the Mayor has invested in the prevention side of public safety and not just the enforcement side, which has dominated so much of the discussion about safety so far. We should be able to look at the City's budget and see a reflection of the community's values; this budget appears to be an excellent starting point for representing what the entire city needs and wants. All the budget information is available at [www.cityofmadison.com](http://www.cityofmadison.com), and I'm happy to answer questions about it (or the budget process). I encourage you to get involved and tell me what your budget priorities are. There are meetings on the budget at the following times:

- **Tuesday, October 16, 6:30 p.m.**  
Public Hearing at the Common Council Meeting  
Council Chambers (City-County Building, Room 201)
- **Monday, October 29, 4:30 p.m.**  
Board of Estimates Meeting  
Madison Municipal Building, Room 260
- **Tuesday, November 6, 6:30 p.m.**  
Public Hearing at the Common Council Meeting  
Council Chambers (City-County Building, Room 201)
- **Adoption/Public Hearing on Amendments**
  - **Tuesday, November 13, 6:30 p.m.**  
Council Chambers (City-County Building, Room 201)
  - **Wednesday, November 14, 7:00 p.m. (if needed)**  
Madison Municipal Building, Room 260
  - **Thursday, November 15, 7:00 p.m. (if needed)**  
Madison Municipal Building, Room 260

Another issue for our neighborhood is the change in ownership at The Sandlot. The Juliuses are moving on to bigger and better things, and I want to thank them for running a successful neighborhood business and wish them well. I'd also like to welcome Nick, the new manager. Since there is a change in management, Nick will be going to the City for the appropriate licenses and permits. I'm working with him to address the concerns the neighborhood has had in the past. Please contact me with any questions about this process.

Finally, I want to congratulate EPNA and EENA on the first (of many, I hope) very successful EEEP!Fest block party. It was a great event with live music, food, games and lots of neighbors. Thanks to all the individuals, groups and neighborhood businesses that participated and/or donated time and money to make this the great day it was.

As always, feel free to contact me with questions or thoughts about city issues.

Satya