

## Need to know more about City Government?

The City of Madison Government Resource Guide can help!

[www.cityofmadison.com/Council/councilmembers/resourceGuide.cfm](http://www.cityofmadison.com/Council/councilmembers/resourceGuide.cfm)

Here you will find:

- Board, Commission, Committee Information & Procedures
- City Organizational Chart
- Information on the Budget Process
- Open Meetings Law
- Information on the Mayor and Common Council
- Information on individual City Departments//Divisions



Still have questions?  
Contact Council Staff at  
(608) 266-4071 or  
[council@cityofmadison.com](mailto:council@cityofmadison.com)

*Genuine politics - even politics worthy of the name - the only politics I am willing to devote myself to - is simply a matter of serving those around us: serving the community and serving those who will come after us. Its deepest roots are moral because it is a responsibility expressed through action, to and for the whole. - Václav Havel (Czech politician)*

### Madison Common Council Office

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City of Madison  
Common Council

## What is an Alder's Role in the City of Madison?



[cityofmadison.com/council](http://cityofmadison.com/council)

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# What is an Alder's Role in the City of Madison?

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## The Basics

Conduct yourself in a professional manner.

Attend and participate at Council Meetings.

Be available to constituents.

Follow all Ethics rules and other applicable standards of conduct.



Common Council  
[www.cityofmadison.com/council](http://www.cityofmadison.com/council)

City's Ethics Code  
[www.cityofmadison.com/attorney/ethics](http://www.cityofmadison.com/attorney/ethics)

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## The Core Alder Job

Advocate for your district and your constituents in the City process.

Serve on City committees as appointed and be an active, prepared and equal participant.



Communicate actively with your constituents in multiple ways (e.g. listservs, newsletters, website, and meetings) about City resources and issues, policy debates, development proposals, and other relevant information.

Participate fully in the process of developing and approving the annual City Budget.

Communicate the needs and views of your constituents to City staff, committees and the Council.

City Committee Information  
[www.cityofmadison.com/mayor/mycommit](http://www.cityofmadison.com/mayor/mycommit)

City Budgets  
[www.cityofmadison.com/finance/budget](http://www.cityofmadison.com/finance/budget)



## Additional Important Responsibilities

Act as a liaison between the committees you serve on and the Council; and sponsor legislation for those committees.

Participate in the development and implementation of a Council Legislative Agenda.

Prepare and educate yourself and your constituents on city-wide and/or controversial policy topics or issues that come before the Council, and engage in the debate and decision-making process around them.

Advance policy issues important to your district and the City.

Help make City government accessible and welcoming to all Madison residents.

Resident Information  
[www.cityofmadison.com/residents](http://www.cityofmadison.com/residents)