

Dear District 17 Residents & Business Community,

As the year comes to a close, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for the continued support and engagement from our vibrant community. Serving as your Alder has been an honor, and I am excited to share some of the remarkable accomplishments we've achieved together in 2023. A copy of this letter is also included in my blog so that you can easily select hyperlinks.

Achievements and Milestones: A Reflection on My Term as Your Alder

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND EVENTS

- Organized and led a neighborhood Walk in partnership with the Sandburg Neighborhood Association. This walk also included staff from Madison Police Department, Parks, Streets, Traffic Engineering, and Planning.
- Hosted a district-wide Community Engagement & Civics Award Dinner at Sandburg Elementary School.
- Kicked off the Eastside Alders Meet & Greet to Foster community connections and collaboration with an event in District 17.
- Attended and engaged with residents at the Westchester Block Party.



EDUCATION AND YOUTH INVOLVEMENT

- Volunteered to lead a Black girls group at Sandburg Elementary School.
- Early in my term as Alder, I organized a book fair at Sandburg Elementary School. The books came courtesy of a donation from the Madison Reading Project. I loved helping to “fully reinvigorate the energy that existed” before the pandemic, and was joined by other local leader including Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway, former Superintendent Carlton Jenkins, and Madison School Board members Ali Muldrow and Maia Pearson.



PUBLIC SAFETY AND POLICING

- Meet regularly with City staff to address challenges in the district.
- Attend monthly updates on the current temporary men's shelter on Zeier Road.
- Organized a meeting in partnership with East Towne Mall's leadership to strengthen partnerships among providers serving the temporary men's shelter. This meeting gathered Community Development, Madison Police Department, Porchlight, Catalyst For Change, JCPenney leadership among other interested collaborators.
- Regularly meet with Madison Police Department's leadership.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT

- Held neighborhood meetings including for the WisDOT/City Interstate, Hayes Road and Pumpkin Hollow Developments.
- Worked with Traffic Engineering to fund improvements in the recent budget for the safety of children crossing near Portage Road and Tomscot Trail, as well improving pick-up and drop-off at Sandburg Elementary School.
- Held in person meetings with City staff and neighbors to address challenges related to large item dumping.

FINANCIAL ADVOCACY

- Co-sponsored Approving the ACRE Pre-Development Grant Program (\$300,000).
- Together with my colleague on the Common Council, Alder Regina Vidaver, we took the lead in securing an additional \$2.6 million in funding for the Madison Public Market. This financial boost was instrumental in overcoming the latest hurdle, as construction bids had come in over budget.
- Worked with Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway and Madison Public Library Director Greg Mickells to secure an additional \$2 million in the recent budget to fully fund the construction of Madison Public Library's Imagination Center at Reindahl Park.
- Worked with Dane County Supervisor Patrick Miles to secure \$1 million in additional funding from Dane County to support the Madison Public Market.



COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

- Collaborated with various City departments, including Police, Parks, Streets, Traffic Engineering, Civil Rights, and Planning to address the ongoing needs and challenges in the district.

RECOGNIZING SMALL BUSINESSES

- One of the first things I accomplished was passing a resolution to recognize and honor small business owner Leslie Watkins for her exceptional contributions to the community.

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SHARING

- Worked proactively to inform constituents about the Northeast Area Planning process.
- Held regular office hours both in person and virtual.
- Sent out a weekly blog update to subscribers.



Helpful Information

Subscribe and stay connected to the most recent **winter updates** at www.cityofmadison.com/residents/winter/

Find current **development proposals** at <https://bit.ly/3tQd0jm>

Follow updates on the **permanent men's shelter** at www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/projects/bartillon-shelter

Follow updates on the **Imagination Center at Reindahl Park** at www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/projects/imagination-center-at-reindahl-park

Large item collection: Building Inspection can be emailed directly at binspection@cityofmadison.com or called at (608) 266-4551. You can also fill out a Junk, Trash, Debris report-a-problem message at www.cityofmadison.com/reportaproblem/

Follow Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) updates at www.cityofmadison.com/metro/routes-schedules/bus-rapid-transit

Plans for the Coming Year

If you haven't already, I encourage you to **subscribe to my weekly district updates** by visiting www.cityofmadison.com/council/district17 and clicking on the subscription option on the left side of the page.

Looking ahead, I am excited to announce plans for a **spring townhall** and a series of workshops at Sandburg Elementary School. Additionally, **business owners** can anticipate receiving invitations to a meeting where we will delve into discussions about challenges and solutions to enhance small business development in our district.

Rest assured, I am committed to maintaining **active involvement** by expanding office hours and collaborating closely with fellow Alders. Together, we will address housing shortages and affordability concerns. Stay tuned for updates on a proposed Neighborhood Resource Team specifically for the Sandburg area. ***Your engagement and support are crucial, and I look forward to working collaboratively to build a thriving district.***



ALD SABRINA MADISON
OFFICE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
210 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR BLVD RM 417
MADISON WI 53703

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Thank You!

I extend my sincere gratitude to Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway for her exceptional leadership and collaboration. I am truly grateful for her unwavering support for the Imagination Center at Reindahl Park and her active involvement in community events within our district. A heartfelt thank you also goes out to my fellow Alders, the dedicated Common Council Office staff, and the outstanding individuals throughout the City who contribute tirelessly to the efficient functioning of our community.

I am indebted to the Sandburg Elementary School community, the Sandburg Neighborhood Association, and our neighbors for their warm reception and assistance since my taking on the role as your Alder in October 2023.

Choosing District 17 as your place to live, work, and play is a decision I deeply appreciate. With confidence, I believe that our collective efforts will further enhance our district into a place we can all take pride in calling home.

I express my appreciation for your ongoing trust and collaboration. As we approach the holiday season, I extend warm wishes to you and your loved ones for a joyous holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Warm regards,

Sabrina Madison
Alder, District 17
district17@cityofmadison.com

