

# The City of Madison Welcomes the Town of Madison Fact Sheet

The City of Madison will welcome a great portion of the Town of Madison on October 31, 2022. The dissolution of the Town is based upon the terms of the Cooperative Plan entered into by the City of Madison, the City of Fitchburg, and the Town of Madison in 2003. The process of dissolving the Town and wrapping up its business, is called the Final Attachment.

## What is the purpose of this fact sheet?

The purpose of this factsheet is to share information about municipal services in the City of Madison with you in preparation of the final Town of Madison Attachment. There is nothing that you as a resident or property owner need to do. **Until October 31, 2022, your address will remain in the Town of Madison and the Town will be responsible for providing you municipal services in the same manner it currently does.** Also, the attachment to the City **will not** affect the school district in which your property is located.

For more information visit [www.cityofmadison.com/Townofmadison](http://www.cityofmadison.com/Townofmadison) (also available in Spanish and Chinese)

## Are there any services that the City of Madison is currently providing?

Yes. In 2020, the City of Madison agreed to take over the Fire, Emergency Medical and Building Inspection services from the Town of Madison, effective Nov. 1, 2020. Town residents might have already noticed that the City of Madison is now responding to calls for these service in the Town along with inspection related services.

**\*\*Calls for any Police emergency service now and after October 31, 2022, shall continue to be made by dialing 911.\*\***

**As part of the dissolution of the Town of Madison, some properties will become part of the City of Fitchburg and others will become part of the City of Madison. How do I know which City will the property where I live or work at will be part of?**

The City of Madison has created an interactive map that will allow you to type your address or use your mouse to find your parcel and learn which City will provide the public services you need. To learn more visit:

[www.cityofmadison.com/city-hall/town-of-madison/map](http://www.cityofmadison.com/city-hall/town-of-madison/map)

## What are the advantages of being served by the City of Madison?

Town residents and property owners will be eligible for City services and programs after official attachment Oct. 31, 2022. Some of those services include:

- Home Rehab Loans
- Rental Rehab Loans
- First Time Homebuyers
- Housing assistance or public housing through the City of Madison Housing Authority

- City of Madison Housing Resources
- Neighborhood Grants
- City Arts Grants
- The application program for the **Child Care Assistance Program** is currently open and Town of Madison residents who are in sections of the Town that will be attached to the City of Madison are now eligible to apply.
  - The City of Madison Child Care Assistance Program pays child care costs on a sliding fee scale for families who reside within the City of Madison, are ineligible for Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy, and who meet the program eligibility requirements. The goal is to ensure high quality stable care for qualifying families with an emphasis on low-income families and families with high need

For further information visit: [www.cityofmadison.com/townofmadison](http://www.cityofmadison.com/townofmadison)

### **What is an attachment?**

Many people are familiar with the term annexation, which describes the statutory process when a City or Village expands by adding territory from an adjoining Town. An attachment has the same result, but occurs not based upon statutory processes, but based upon processes determined by the municipalities involved through a Cooperative Plan. The end result is the same and the territory in question is brought into the City or Village, even if the process is different.

### **Why is the City of Madison attaching properties of the Town of Madison?**

Prior to 2003, the Town was the subject of numerous annexations of its territory by both the City of Madison and the City of Fitchburg, and there were multiple legal and political disputes among the municipalities about the future of the Town territory. Based upon the decades of disputes, the prospect of continued boundary disputes and protracted litigation, and an uncertain long-term future for the Town, the parties entered into the Cooperative Plan to determine the Town's future with certainty, end boundary disputes, and establish a basis for the intergovernmental cooperation between the parties during the nearly 20-year transition period while protecting the Town's tax base and continued operations during this period. At the end of the protected period, on October 31, 2022, the Town will cease to exist and will be absorbed into the two Cities.

### **How does this impact the Town of Madison residents, property owners, and business owners?**

Final attachment of the Town to the Cities will directly impact all Town residents, property owners and employees, and, to a lesser extent, the residents and property owners of the Cities. Town residents will be immediately eligible for City services and programs, and will vote in the November 2022 election in the Cities.

Town property owners will also be eligible for City programs, and will receive 2022 tax bills in December 2022 from the City of Madison.

### **Home Fire Safety**

In 2009, the Madison Common Council approved an ordinance to improve home fire safety. That ordinance now applies to homes and apartments that were formerly in the Town of Madison. The ordinance requires a smoke alarm in every bedroom and within 6 feet of every bedroom door. Smoke alarms must be powered by a 10-year tamper resistant battery or household power with battery backup. Smoke alarms must be installed and/or replaced by December 31, 2023, although for your safety we would strongly recommend doing so as soon as possible.

In the spring and summer of 2023, the Madison Fire Department intends to offer free smoke alarm installations in owner occupied single-family dwellings. Please watch for more information relative to the free smoke alarms.

## **How is refuse, large item and recycling pickup handled in the City?**

### **Trash & Recycling**

Before the final attachment, the City of Madison Streets Division will determine if trash and recycling service will be provided your property. If you receive curbside collection service from the Town and are attached to the City of Madison, you will likely receive collection service from the City of Madison's Streets Division. The first collection by the City of Madison will occur the week of October 31, 2022.

Trash and recycling will be picked up the following dates:

- Residents in the Fordem Ave area = Tuesdays (recycling every other week)
- Residents in the Morland Rd area = Thursdays (recycling every other week)
- Residents in the rest of southside area = Mondays (recycling every other week)

Schedules <https://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/refuse/collectionlookup.cfm>

If service will be provided, you will receive one trash cart and one recycling cart from the Streets Division prior to the first collection. You will also receive a collection calendar that informs you when to set out the trash and recycling for pickup.

You will be expected to put the correct items into those carts. Learn what goes into each cart at the Streets Division's website [www.cityofmadison.com/streets](http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets)

In order to have your carts collected, they need to be out at the curb in the space between the sidewalk and the curb by 6:30am. Please avoid placing carts directly in the street.

### **Large Item Collection**

Large items are items that are too big for your collection carts, like furniture or appliances. Large item pickup is only provided after you schedule collection in a public street. You will be eligible to schedule large item pickup on October 31, 2022. In order to schedule your pickup, go to [www.cityofmadison.com/LargeItemWorkOrder](http://www.cityofmadison.com/LargeItemWorkOrder). You can also contact the Streets Division offices to help schedule the pickup. Some items do require additional fees.

You may contact the City's Streets Division at 608-266-4681 for Madison west of Park St. or 608-246-4532 for Madison east of Park St. with questions about trash, recycling and large item pickup.

More information about all of the Streets Division services, including brush collection, yard waste collection, snowplowing, pothole repair, and urban forestry services by visiting [www.cityofmadison.com/streets](http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets).

### **Special Consideration: Private Roads**

The City of Madison Streets Division does not collect trash, large items, brush, recycling, and yard waste from private roads. The Streets Division does not provide snowplowing on private roads, either. If your home is on a private roadway, please contact the Streets Division offices to discuss the specific plan for your home. Call 608-266-4681 for Madison residences west of Park St. or 608-

246-4532 for Madison residences east of Park St.

### **Will my children go to the same school?**

Yes. School district boundaries **are not** affected by your attachment into the City.

### **Will my address change?**

A majority of the properties in the Town of Madison will retain their current address. Some Town of Madison properties will require an addresses change due to having a non-conforming or a non-uniform street address and conflicts with City Ordinances (MGO 10.34). The purpose for uniform street addresses is to enable emergency vehicles to respond quickly to calls, expedite postal and other delivery services, eliminate confusion, and locate businesses and residences without difficulty or delay. Residents will be notified if their address will be changing.

Some example reasons for a change of address include:

- The address numbers are out of sequential order, located in the wrong hundred block, or have odd numbers that should be on the even side of the street and vice versa.
- The front door of the house faces a different street than what the current address is using.
- A multi-tenant commercial building has the tenants using the same address (duplicate address) instead of individual addresses or suite numbers.
- The name of the street has changed.

Other information about the process:

- The United States Postal Service will receive a copy of all of the Town of Madison addresses that are changing. They will have a cross reference to the old address and keep the old address in their database for at least a year.
- The properties with address changes will need to post the new address number on their house/building or in a place that can be seen from the street. The City of Madison does not use fire run number signs or allow numbers solely located on street mailboxes. The posted numbers must be at least 4 inches tall and attached to the house or directional signage. They need to post numbers and not characters (example: must be 430 and not Four Thirty). Any questions about posting locations can be directed to the [Fire Department](#).

### **Is my mailing city now Madison and does my ZIP code change?**

Continue to use your existing postal city and zip code. Your mail will continue to go to the same post office.

### **Where will I vote?**

You can verify your registration, polling place, sample ballot and absentee ballot status at [myvote.wi.gov/](http://myvote.wi.gov/). Because the attachment happens close to the General Election, there will be more information posted on this website and shared closer to the date to make sure residents know what options they have.

- **November 2022 Election**

Your vote will be counted in the Town of Madison for all 2022 elections, except the November 2022 General Election. Votes cast in the November 2022 Election will be administered and counted in the City of Madison. There will be no need to re-register. The voter's registration will be transferred from the Town to the City as soon as ballots are printed for the November Election.

Additional information about voting can be found on the City of Madison Clerk's Office Website: [www.cityofmadison.com/clerk](http://www.cityofmadison.com/clerk)

### **Who will be my City representative?**

The City of Madison has a Mayor and 20 Alders that represent specific areas of the City. Alder district boundaries was reconfigured in 2021 through the redistricting process. In October 2022, Town areas will be added to adjacent alder districts in the City, therefore determining your specific Alder.

There is a Town of Madison Redistricting map that shows the planned assignment of Town land to various Alder Districts. Draft Legislative District boundaries under consideration by the state place Town land in a separate Assembly District than the rest of South Madison, necessitating creation of new wards for Town land. Polling places will be assigned at the time wards are adopted by the City Council.

Map link: <https://tinyurl.com/27cy7t9h>

### **What police station do I call?**

You can find Madison Police Department's Districts at [www.cityofmadison.com/police/districts/](http://www.cityofmadison.com/police/districts/)  
**Continue to use 911 for all emergency police, fire and ambulance calls.**

### **Will I have any new bills, fees or taxes?**

- All properties in the City of Madison will begin receiving monthly municipal service bills, which are administered by the Madison Water Utility. The bill may include some or all of these categories of charges: water, sanitary sewer, urban forestry, landfill remediation, public fire protection, and storm water. Additional information and a sample utility bill can be found here: <https://www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/sanitary-sewer/madison-municipal-services-bill/utility-bill-explainer>. Storm Water Utility credits/adjustments may be available for lands over five acres that are actively farmed, for properties that do not discharge to the storm system, and for properties that have direct drainage discharges to waters of the state (eg. Wingra Creek, Lake Monona). All of these credits/adjustments are only available to you if you apply for the credit and are approved. Contact the City Engineering Division at 608-266-4751 for additional information.
- All City of Madison residents owning a dog or cat that is 5 months of age or older must have their pet licensed. Any questions may be directed to the City Treasurer's Office at 608-266-4771. <https://www.cityofmadison.com/finance/treasury/dog-cat-licenses>
- If you are the owner of the property, your real estate tax amount will be different, since you are in a different local municipality. Some services are billed separately and not placed on your

real estate tax bill. Water, sanitary sewer, landfill remediation, public fire protection, urban forestry and stormwater utility billings are all included on the monthly utility bill rather than on the tax bill.

- In addition to Dane County's wheel tax, a \$40 City of Madison local vehicle registration fee will be due at the time of vehicle registration or renewal with the state Division of Motor Vehicles after October 31. As required by state law, please update your vehicle kept in (VKI) status to reflect its location in the City of Madison at the following website: <https://wisconsin.gov/pages/online-srvcs/other-srvcs/vki.aspx>

### **As a property owner, will my property be reassessed?**

Your property will be assessed, along with all other property in the City, as of January 1 of the year following the final attachment. The City values all property at full market value every year. Annual assessment notices are typically mailed to property owners in April. For more information and resources, please visit the City Assessor webpage at <https://www.cityofmadison.com/assessor/>

### **Right now, my property is served by a well and/ or a septic tank. Will I have to tie on to the City water and sewer system?**

The City of Madison Water Utility has no current plans to extend sewer to properties not currently served. Once municipal water is available to your property you will be required to connect to the public water system. Until the water main is extended, your private well will continue to be the source of water for your home but must obtain a well operation permit from the Madison Water Utility.

The City of Madison Sewer Utility has no current plans to extend sewer to properties not currently served. Once municipal sewer is extended up to your property, property owners will be required to connect to the public sewer system and pay all applicable connection fees. Until such time as the City does extend sewer, your private septic system will continue to be the source of sanitary sewer service for your home. Your septic system must be kept in good standing with the Department of Public Health.

The City of Madison Water Utility will not be taking over the Lake Forest Water Cooperative when the Town of Madison attachment occurs in October of 2022. Members of the Lake Forest Co-op may continue to receive water from the Cooperative after the attachment and do not have to connect to the City's public water system at this time, because these parcels do not currently have access to a municipal water main.

If after connecting you are interested in keeping your private well for outdoor use only, you may do so after completing the permitting process. Contact the Madison Water Utility at 608-266-4654 for more information on obtaining a well operation permit or 608-266-4647 for information related to connecting to municipal water if available.

Learn more information on the Water Utility website: <https://www.cityofmadison.com/water/water-quality/private-wells/faqs-attached-properties-municipal-water-requirements>

### **Will the attachment affect the zoning of my property?**

The Common Council adopted ordinances zoning all Town of Madison properties to City of Madison zoning districts at its September 6, 2022 meeting. The City zoning of the property will take effect at 11:59 pm on October 30, 2022 when the Town attaches to the City. Questions about the zoning of

Town parcels as of October 31 should be directed to Zoning at [zoning@cityofmadison.com](mailto:zoning@cityofmadison.com) or (608) 266-4551.

Detail information about zoning districts can be viewed on the Town of Madison Interactive Map: <https://www.cityofmadison.com/city-hall/town-of-madison/map>

**Additional information on City of Madison services is available at the City's website:**  
[www.cityofmadison.com](http://www.cityofmadison.com)

**A roster including contact information for various City officials and agencies is available at:**  
<https://www.cityofmadison.com/clerk/about/city-roster>