

SUBMITTED BY WAUSAU CITY COUNCIL AGENDA FORM ONLINE

	<p>I opposes this resolution! Wausau loses creditability with me for proposing such an unfriendly proposal. Arden Emmerich Emmerich Properties</p>
	<p>I have serious concerns regarding the proposed Environmental Justice resolution. Section 4 of the resolution states "The City of Wausau will incorporate environmental justice into City of Wausau ordinances, codes, policies, and processes, which could include review of existing codes which will be conducted with appropriate revisions to bolster and improve environmental justice outcomes." I perceive this statement as giving the City of Wausau permission to impose an unlimited number of new or revised fees, regulations, and ordinances on Wausau residents and businesspeople. These new or modified regulations would add uncertainty and costs that would crush businesses and signal to those business owners to invest in other communities, outside of Wausau, that will create a more stable, predictable, and friendly business environment. New regulations would also strangle residents with higher taxes, more government intrusion, and red tape in their lives, thereby making Wausau a less desirable place to live. For the good of Wausau residents and businesses, I ask that the Council vote against this resolution. Thank you.</p>
	<p>Hello, over the past 6-8 months since I have declared candidacy for the Democratic nomination for US Senate (Ron Johnson's seat) in 2022, I have become incredibly concerned about the welfare of our communities across the nation and in particular, my own community, Wausau. The strength of this country, its democracy and its future is rooted in the strength of our communities built on respect, dignity and diversity. As you represent this community, I hope you will also represent and center the needs of our low income, poor and working families in the fight for social justice, environmental justice and a Community for All.</p>
	<p>I support environmental and social justice for the poor, low income, working and people of color in Wausau. I also support the resolutions for Environmental Justice and a Community for All.</p>
	<p>I support the resolutions on economic justice and community for all.</p>
	<p>I am requesting that this resolution be passed by the city council.</p>
	<p>I strongly support the environmental justice resolution. These toxic sites need to be cleaned up properly right away for the health and well-being of the community and our children's future. Money and redevelopment is not more important than the lives of the residents of Wausau. Full stop.</p>
	<p>I support this resolution</p>

	<p>Why are we now seeing a surge of calls for acknowledgement and justice for marginalized and underrepresented groups in our Community? Business as usual has failed them and we won't be silent anymore. What's best for business and the Chamber of Commerce hasn't trickled down to poor, low income, working and people of color. The economic success and cultural dominance of the top 1 percent hasn't created a community of love, empathy, and understanding for all.</p> <p>The heart of gold image of the Chamber is tarnished by its generous contributions to politicians to support an undemocratic filibuster that limits voting rights and blocks a \$15 minimum wage that could raise 32 million out of poverty. Its successful challenge to the Governor's stay at home measure has most likely contributed to the 25,000 COVID deaths since the ruling, and they threaten to bring suit to any further lifesaving mask mandates. The cries of the forgotten are being overpowered by the whines of business advocates and the 40 percenters.</p> <p>Business as usual has prioritized high end development as the trough from which crucial social programs must depend for funding, while hundreds wait for a roof over their heads and thousands of all races and sexual identities struggle against a poverty rate exceeding the states by 50%. Yet wealth for the top 1 percent continues to explode, by over \$25 trillion nationally.</p> <p>Business as usual tries to convince us that companies such as 3M have our best interests at heart. The practice of this \$133billion multinational has resulted in billions of dollars of environmental lawsuits due to sickness and wrongful deaths correlated to their dumping of toxic chemicals into our environment, including military bases. Documents suggest they knew about the toxicity for decades. In Wausau the stream of dioxin trickling into our River appears to trace back to their oldest standing plant in the world. Convince the families of the 6 dead and 143 made ill working in and living next to the Crestline plant of the altruism of these industries. Five of the last 6 contaminated sites in Wausau have been found in poor working class and diverse neighborhoods.</p> <p>Business as usual has us wrongly believing that preventing pollution to move downwind, downstream, and downhill destroys jobs and the economy. Studies indicate no such substantial cost to jobs while benefits to health exceed minimal job loss by 300%. Business as usual has us believe resolutions that call for acknowledgement of wrongdoings, participation of the most disproportionately impacted, and justice, are telling people what to think. Yet, remaining silent tells us that believing in the myth that business as usual benefits us.</p> <p>End business as usual. Act on the calls of the citizens living around industrial sites to stop their expansion. Aggressively seek public funding and private collaborations to support the needs of poor and working class Wausonians. Pass the resolutions for environmental and social justice.</p> <p>When the bottom rises everyone is lifted in a community for all!</p> <p>Bruce Grau Wisconsin Poor People's Campaign Wausau</p>
	<p>Environmental justice. I am in favor of this to protect our residential neighborhood.</p>
	<p>I am writing to ask you to support the Environmental Justice resolution. Please prioritize the health and wellbeing of all residents of Wausau and especially those that are poor, low income, and marginalized. Even though I live in a different part of the state, I urge you to recognize that the decisions you make about the environment affect us all. I am a mother to 4 young children. I worry about the future they will face if we continue to contaminate the water and air and don't reduce our contributions to global climate change. 3M and other big polluters are making billions of dollars in profits and CAN AFFORD to clean up and operate in a way that doesn't put the people of Wausau and ultimately all of our children and future generations at risk. Please support the Environmental Justice resolution.</p>
	<p>Please support the proposed environmental justice resolution. It should not be controversial that we prioritize every Wausau resident enjoying the same access to resources & the same protection from environmental hazards & their associated health risks. This is a resolution the council should be proud to support.</p> <p>Thank you, Lauren Henkelman</p>

	<p>We share the same water as sportsmen and sportswomen. You might think a fight for environmental justice for our working poor and working class, has anything to do with people like me who like to fish and my friends who like to hunt. But it's all interrelated because it all comes down to clean water. People deserve good corporate citizens and clean water to live their best lives. Demand more of 3M! Demand more of your corporate citizens! The least amongst us deserves so much more than what they are getting now!</p>
	<p>I support environmental justice for the poor, low income, working and people of color in Wausau and the resolutions for Environmental Justice.</p>
	<p>Minimizing pollution at its source benefits everyone downwind, downstream, and downhill.</p>
	<p>To the Wausau City Council - I support environmental justice for the poor, low income, working and people of color in Wausau. And I strongly support the resolutions for Environmental Justice.</p>
	<p>I support Clean Water for Wausau efforts to hold 3M accountable for affecting the water in the city.</p>
	<p>Please establish an Environmental Justice resolution that will mandate the City to actively seek the participation of those most impacted by pollution in the process of assuring a clean and beautiful environment for all to enjoy.</p>
	<p>Please protect the important water resources of Wisconsin and stop 3M pollution. Thank you</p>
	<p>3M got ahead because they were willing to sacrifice the well being of others. low income people pay the price. The republican talking points of jobs are tainted by the billionaires who fund their campaigns.</p>
	<p>I support the proposed resolution for environmental justice, especially considering that 3M's oldest and most polluting plant in the entire world is right here in Wausau. We don't have to poison our city to have decent jobs. Clean air, clean water, and clean earth for everyone, right here and right now. Let's set the environmental standards others will follow!</p>
	<p>I urge you to pass this resolution. It is vital for protecting the well-being of the poor and working people of color in Wausau. Thank you?</p>
	<p>We all have to take action at all levels of government to clean up our environment and protect our water supply.</p>
	<p>I support environmental and social justice for the poor, low income, working and people of color in Wausau, and so support the resolutions for Environmental Justice and a Community for All. While I don't live in Wausau, many close friends do, and the wellbeing of Wausau affects Milwaukee.</p>
	<p>Hi, My name is Randy Radtke, 244 Wyatt Street, Wausau, WI 54401 I will not be able to make it on Tuesday August 10, 2021 due to work but I would like to just make sure the mayor and council know that my opinion on the Environmental Justice Resolution hasn't changed could you please pass this on to the Mayor and the rest of city Council? Thank You!</p> <p>Dear Mayor and city council members, I just want to voice my support on the Environmental Justice Resolution. I just am going to repeat what I said awhile back because my opinion on this hasn't changed. I feel that with the ugly history of environmental contamination in Wausau I feel this resolution will be a step forward to a more brighter, cleaner and positive future for our city. I hope our city council votes to pass this resolution.</p> <p>Thank You, Sincerely, Randy Radtke City of Wausau Resident</p>
	<p>All citizens of WI need environmental justice and clean water, air and land.</p>
	<p>It is time to consider ALL your constituents when it comes to climate justice.</p>

I have had trouble coming up with words that are not already in the resolution to state just how important it is for this City to start moving forward with a conscious effort to include Environmental Justice in planning. The words defining the concept in the resolution nearly say it all: Environmental Justice is “the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies” and Environmental Justice is achieved when “everyone enjoys the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards, and equal access to the decision-making process to have a healthy environment in which to live, learn, and work.”

The words of the Environmental Engineer published in the WSAW story concern me greatly because it shows we do not, in fact, take into account the impact of decisions on minority and low-income areas. “I as Environmental Engineer for the City of Wausau for the past 8+ years am aware of zero (0) instances during that time, or any time previous, where minority groups or low-income areas have shouldered any additional burden or have been disproportionately affected by environmental consequences as the result of any environmental violations in any of the issues or areas I have been involved with.”

This is precisely the problem, if our Environmental Engineer is not “aware”, they need to be. In the 2012 Brownfield planning grant application we specifically called out the neighborhood and the Hmong community being disproportionately affected.

Most of my low-income neighbors do not have the time, energy or resources to regularly attend City meetings and stay up on what resolutions and ordinances are being proposed and what the implications are, they are struggling day in and day out. Do not take their silence for disinterest, they (rightly) expect the City to be taking their concerns into account even when they cannot afford to speak to you directly. They deserve to be accounted for. The City needs to actively engage these populations.

I strongly support the resolution and hope the City will take the words to heart, making Environment Justice a priority consideration underlying all planning.

Good Day, my name is William Harris, I am the Marathon County Board Supervisor for District 3.

I want to first thank Madam Mayor Rosenberg and the City Alderpersons for your time and consideration in reading my comments.

I am writing to express my unwavering and zealous support of both the “We Are Wausau” resolution and the resolution supporting “Environmental Justice.” I urge all alderpersons to vote in favor of both resolutions.

The “We are Wausau” Resolution is a statement about love of community and its residents. It also affirms publicly the City’s values and commitment to being an open and inclusive place where all are welcomed and valued. It’s about the furthering of our great city’s shared purpose and goals of fostering an environment where we celebrate our differences and meet our challenges together. In doing so, we ensure that our beloved community is diverse, inclusive and continues to grow and offers opportunities for us all. Our greatest asset is our people that bless this city with a variety of talents, abilities, expressions, backgrounds and experiences. We are great not despite our differences, but because of them. Our current businesses and our ability to attract businesses, our ability to thrive and flourish is dependent upon our ability to recruit and embrace a creative, innovative, and diverse workforce.

Turning our backs on those that are different because of their race, gender, age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, mental or physical capabilities or other protected class will only stand to turn us back to a hurtful past rather than a rich and vibrant future. The world is changing, and we can choose to acknowledge it, acknowledge those around us, and live in it, or succumb to it. As leaders you are the shepherds of this great city, stewards entrusted with providing for and maintaining the health and well-being of every resident and are charged with leading the city forward. We can’t give way to our worst impulses of fear, ignorance, anger and hate. You have a responsibility to ensure this city’s economic success and future prosperity, that means dispelling with conspiracy theories and upholding the truth, that means addressing the disparities a number of our underserved and marginalized populations face, including those posed by environmental and health hazards by passing the “Environmental Justice” Resolution and in doing so you protect those residents equitable share of environmental benefits, and community assets while investing in

	<p>their safety and health too, it means leading the community to meet all of our great challenges, it means exhibiting good judgment, it means standing for what you know in your heart is right, and it means bringing us together as a community.</p> <p>We are united as a Wausau, if we can listen to each other, if we can try to understand one another, if we can support each other, if we can lift each other up, if we can love one another, and celebrate everyone’s contributions. We are Wausau, can’t just be some aspirational slogan though, it must be who we truly are and who we want to continue to be, in every facet. Truly, I say unto you, if we are to move forward at all, we must do so together, forging a better path as a community that cares, a community united, and as a community for all.</p>
	<p>In regards to the environmental justice resolution (agenda item 21-0808),</p> <p>I am excited to see such a resolution be proposed in my hometown. Wausau is a wonderful place to live and this resolution aims to enhance and preserve that quality. As our community moves forward, it is important that we demonstrate that we are good stewards of our resources, our natural spaces, and most importantly our community members.</p> <p>It has come to my attention that the Chamber of Commerce opposes this resolution. As a small business owner primarily serving the Wausau area. I am disappointed to hear that, for two reasons. Firstly, this resolution does not create any ordinance (burdensome to business, or otherwise) and as such should not be of concern. Second, and more importantly, this resolution does provide a guiding principle to keep our governance focused on shared long term goals--such as enhancing our thriving community in ways that will last for our children, and grandchildren. This is our communities greatest strength. Our lovely town looks better and better every year. We will can not only create a good place for our families to want to stay, but attract other young families and talented professionals by virtue of our wonderful location and strength of values.</p> <p>Our community is a special place and we should be honored to take steps to further that, rather than timidly letting a few larger players slowly erode those qualities.</p> <p>Thank you for considering our role in shaping this precious community,</p> <p>Tenzin Botsford Red Door Family Farm</p>
	<p>Wausau needs to open its eyes and see the big picture. Continually allowing big corporations to rape and pillage our area and livelihoods while simultaneously trying to pull the wool over the eyes of our hardworking population is shameful and WRONG. Trying to sway local businesses and solicit questionable politicians to lobby in favor of allowing our environment and health to be slowly destroyed is called CORRUPTION and needs to be STOPPED NOW. There are better and more favorable solutions to achieve that will be better suited for benefiting our community, our people, our health, our economy and our environment. Time to open our eyes wider, view the big picture, the future... and WORK TOGETHER AS A COMMUNITY. 3m does not care about our community... their only concern and priority is PROFIT. This is counterproductive for our community’s best interests.</p>
	<p>As a life-long resident of the southwest side of Wausau, and as a citizen who values the safety and lives of my fellow Wausau citizens, I urge you to pass the Environmental Justice Resolution, as written. I know that pressures are high from both citizens on one side of this subject, and from business & business interest groups on the other side of this subject, and that council members often feel pulled in many directions. I do, however, have faith that our Council members will, after disseminating the volumes of information regarding this issue, both past & present, pare it down to the simple fact that you are elected & sworn to represent the best interest of the "people" of our city, and it is the people (not the business/boards/corporations), who's health and safety are being put to a vote with this resolution. Please consider this carefully for us. Thank you for your hard work and attention to our concerns in this matter</p>

I am new to getting involved in local politics; however, I'm not new to hearing the voice of the Lord. My spirit is very disturbed by the verbiage that passed in the Economic Development Committee last week, August 3, 2021. In my opinion, the wording is divisive and it will not unify anyone. The word, equity, has become a politically divisive word as Marxist groups have infiltrated the schools and political arena over the past number of years, hoping to change our country into a socialist society while going after one community at a time. I suspect some members of this committee know that.

If the committee really would like to bring unity and healing to our community, they will change the wording so that key words used are not so offensive. I feel the changes that Lisa Rasmussen offered as a compromise last week sounded much more inclusive for all.

I also want to mention that I found Mr Neal to be very rude and offensive. I do not appreciate being told that because I don't agree with strong, offensive words, such as equity, I do not deserve to be a parent. Shame on that man! I am praying for him and also pray that he will ask the Lord for help with his communication skills going forward.

I am a God fearing resident of Wausau and I want this community to be able to live together in unity and peace. The Lord sees what is in the hearts of the members of this committee. He knows your true intentions. I ask that everyone take another moment of reflection before voting one final time.

Thank you.

Tori Glenetski



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1323 S. Eleventh Ave., Wausau, Wisconsin 54401-5998

Phone: 715.842.5666

August 9, 2021

Ms. Mayor and Alderpersons:

RE: Our opposition to proposed resolution To Support Environmental Justice ("The Resolution")

Kolbe & Kolbe Millwork Co., Inc. ("Kolbe") has several concerns about The Resolution which is being considered at the upcoming common council meeting. The Resolution infers there are substandard practices and procedures in place to consider environmental justice in a) the development of ordinances, and b) encouraging public engagement in the City's decision making. Why are the substandard practices not enumerated, the means to achieve them identified, and expected outcomes stated? Furthermore, achieving "Environmental Justice" is a subjective measure, certainly nothing that can be objectively measured. It just becomes a politically-charged interpretive matter.

The city has aggressively used Community Development Block Grants and other government programs to improve the quality of neighborhoods by remediating brownfields, improving housing and infrastructure, and removing blight—isn't that Environmental Justice in action? Actions speak much louder than a nebulous resolution!

In striving to achieve Environmental Justice, there is fear that the city will develop ordinances in areas where expertise is lacking. Additional city ordinances in areas normally handled by the EPA, the Wisconsin DNR, and even OSHA become an additional burden on businesses, and have the potential to be politically motivated, rather than based on the science and expertise of these regulators. The Resolution should restrict the city from encroaching on the authority of the aforementioned regulators. In addition, the use of a subjective standard of environmental justice to change zoning codes to punish businesses desiring to expand or locate within Wausau is problematic on many fronts.

Kolbe is proud to be a part of District 10 for the past 75 years! We've diligently worked with the city and our neighbors over the years to be a good corporate citizen in the neighborhood. In fact, 67 of our team members reside in District 10. And while there are always gripes about neighborhoods throughout the city, with numerous suggestions for improvement, I am confident that the vast majority of our 368 team members living in the city are generally pleased to call Wausau "home".

Sincerely,

KOLBE & KOLBE MILLWORK CO., INC.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeffrey DeLonay".

Jeffrey DeLonay, President

Wausau City Council Members

I support the Environmental Justice Resolution that will be discussed and voted on by City Council Members Tuesday, August 10, 2021 for these reasons.

1. The Declaration of Independence states in its opening words: “We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are **life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness.**”

2. The Constitution states: “We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, **establish Justice**, ensure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, **promote the general Welfare**, and **secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity**, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.”

3. Each City Council Meeting begins with the Pledge of Allegiance. Let us remember the final words, “**with Liberty and Justice for all.**”

These words and documents guide us in our everyday actions and provide a framework, not only for ourselves and our fellow Americans, but for all parts of government.

Here are a few examples of liberty.

****Liberty means freedom** for children and adults to play in a city park where the soil is free of contaminants.

****Liberty means that all people have safe water to drink** that is free of lead, PFAs, and other contaminants.

****Liberty means that all people have equal access to fresh air** that is free of pollution and harmful particulates.

****Liberty means that all people have the freedom and right to petition their government to address the inequities**, either past or present, that they themselves face and/or our fellow Americans face.

“Environmental Justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, national origin, or income with respect to the

development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.” USEPA website.

Environmental Justice means addressing the injustices of the present, admitting the injustices of the past, and moving forward towards Environmental Justice for All.

For the sake of all people in the Wausau and surrounding areas, vote yes on the Environmental Justice Resolution. It is the right thing to do.

Thank you.

Joyce Luedke

3605 Cross Pointe Blvd. Apt 371

Weston, Wisconsin 54476

715-298-2777

From: [Thea Territo](#)
To: [DG Clerk](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] ENVIRONMENTAL RESOLUTION
Date: Sunday, August 8, 2021 9:01:34 PM

Hi. My name is Thea Territo and I currently live here in Wausau at 708 Fulton #201. I would like to record my position on this matter and state that I strongly support the Environmental Justice Resolution and would like it passed. I share this address with Gerry Taylor, who also sends her support in the matter. These issues can make or break some people's opinions of Wausau, as we've seen. Thank you for the work that is being done.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thea Territo

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Thea S. Territo

Mary Goede

From: Clare Ostwald <apple62@charter.net>
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 9:56 AM
To: DG_Clerk; Tom Kilian
Subject: [EXTERNAL] City council meeting

I am requesting the council's support of the Environmental Justice Reform at tonight's meeting. It is extremely important for the welfare of Wausau residents. I Thank-you for your attention.

Clare Ostwald

My note to the City Council regarding the We are Wausau Resolution

I have reviewed the “We are Wausau Resolution” and am wondering why this resolution is on your Agenda?

The City council is the foundation of city government and is responsible for setting Policy. This resolution is not policy, it is Social activism by your Mayor.

Last month an attempt was made by The Mayor to pass the Counties “A Community for All Resolution” as a City Document. You voted against this and returned it to committee for review.

This new statement was crafted after a lively discussion in the Economic Development committee. The content of this statement, which is primarily opinion and assumption, lacks factual content.

I have lived in Wausau my entire life; it is not a Racist community in fact it is just the opposite. I just read an article in Wausau Neighbors written by a newcomer to Wausau exuding the amazing experience she has had as a new resident. I am not surprised; Wausau has always promoted a positive atmosphere for its visitors and residents and will continue to do so.

It is not your personal responsibility to promote or facilitate equity and access to resources. It is also not your responsibility to achieve social and economic goals for the residents of Wausau. Your job is to create a positive environment, through policy, for those who choose to achieve it!! Wausau does not need to entangle itself in a progressive political movement that will divide our community.

The Mayor should not mandate her personal opinions on the Council or the city. If you allow this resolution to pass, it will continue the use of our City as a Political tool.

Wausau does not need this drama and the bad press that is invited to our community.

This resolution should be defeated on the basis that it is social engineering, Divisive for our community, and not in accordance with the Core Values of the City.

Please vote NO on this Resolution Thank you Deb Hadley