

**Committee on Judiciary, Law Enforcement and General Services on 2026-06-16 9:30 AM - This meeting will be held in Room 203-R, and will be live-streamed on the County Legislative Information Center:
<https://milwaukeecounty.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>**

Meeting Time: 06-16-26 09:30

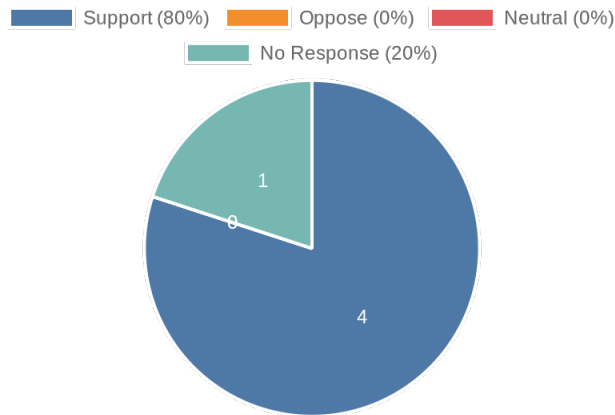
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Committee on Judiciary, Law Enforcement and General Services on 2026-06-16 9:30 AM - This meeting will be held in Room 203-R, and will be live-streamed on the County Legislative Information Center: https://milwaukeecounty.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx	06-16-26 09:30	26	5	4	0	0

Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



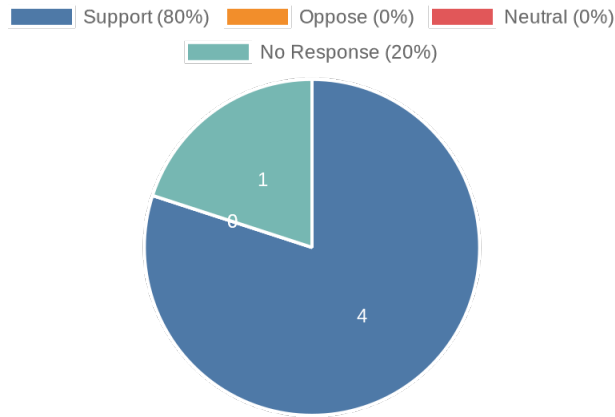
**Committee on Judiciary, Law Enforcement and General Services on 2026-06-16 9:30 AM - This meeting will be held in Room 203-R, and will be live-streamed on the County Legislative Information Center: <https://milwaukeecounty.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>
06-16-26 09:30**

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
1 26-507 A resolution/ordinance amending the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances Section 63.047 - Graffiti to permit the limited use of chalk on horizontal publicly owned surfaces.	5	4	0	0

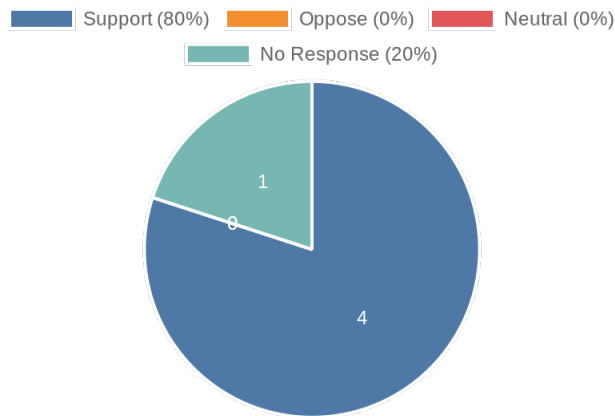
Sentiments for All Agenda Items

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Overall Sentiment



Amy Donahue

Location:

Submitted At: 10:28am 06-16-26

I support this amendment. I am a parent and my children love to use chalk and participate in using their free speech. I support their rights, and mine! My kids have been present chalking when officers have shown up in response to complaint calls, and were scared and intimidated by this unnecessary response.

Davis Remmel

Location:

Submitted At: 9:34am 06-16-26

I am a resident living at 1671 N Prospect, only 500 feet away from the Brady Street Bridge. I walk across the bridge at least twice a day. I enjoy seeing its chalkings, and maybe would even like to participate myself! I have never seen a hateful message written there, and I like the color and vibrancy the chalking adds. It transforms an otherwise dull and boring bridge into a place that feels lived, and that brings me a sense of community. I have read the ordinance, and I urge the council to pass this resolution to legalize chalking.

Eliza Woods

Location:

Submitted At: 8:58am 06-16-26

Whether to draw a hopscotch course, direct people to a destination, or to protest ongoing atrocities around the world, the beauty of sidewalk chalk is that it makes a strong yet temporary impact. To criminalize its use, deeming it vandalism, allows the Sheriff's Department to be weaponized against something a rainstorm can simply wash away. This designation is illogical, a waste of time and money, and a threat to free speech.

I strongly support resolution 507 and urge this committee to pass it.

Thank you,
Eliza Woods

District 13 voter

Matthew Anshus

Location:

Submitted At: 5:07pm 06-15-26

Res 507

I'm writing in strong support of Resolution 507 to explicitly make the use of chalk exempt from criminal penalty.

For decades chalk has been used in parks, walkways, and playgrounds. It's been used to make possible games like four-square, hopscotch, and marbles. It gives children a chance to enjoy the outdoors while making art. And to advertise yards sales and lemonade stands.

In recent years social media is full of examples of chalk artists turning sidewalks into beautiful, sometimes whimsical, and often optically amazing sights.

Equally important chalking provides a legal, non-destructive way to make speech in line with the first amendment. Yet without creating permanent damage to our public spaces.

The claim that sidewalk chalk, already in use for decades, now rises to the level of vandalism is absurd.

What has changed is the recent practice of summoning law enforcement to chill free speech. It is deeply un-American that uniformed Sheriff deputies respond to these allegations, whether they issue tickets or whether they threaten to do so. This is essentially a form of "SWATTING" - sending in armed officers for everyday, non-violent activity. The only lawbreaker in such a situation is indeed the one filing the false police report.

Clarifying that chalk is not illegal has additional benefits to the county. It avoids civil rights lawsuits and penalties for the county in cases of discriminatory and/or selective enforcement.

It improves readiness of the Sheriff's Department for actual criminal behavior.

And it keeps open an avenue for folks who wish to express themselves legally, whereas they might as well use a permanent option if the penalty is the same for chalk.

I encourage everyone on the committee to speak with parents of young children in their community on this issue. And to look at works by chalk artists like Julian Beever and Kurt Wenner.

Too often in our current political climate we are seeing rights of expression being eroded, and this small change can help to bolster the First Amendment.

Thanks for your consideration,

Matthew Anshus
Milwaukee, WI
voter in District 1

Rachel Stiles

Location:

Submitted At: 1:22pm 06-15-26

Sidewalk chalk is NOT graffiti or vandalism. It is a safe and temporary form of public art and expression. If we can have festivals like Art & Chalk Fest that draw in hundreds of people and no one opposes, there is no reason it should also be considered graffiti on pedestrian areas such as parks and bridges. Those who are opposing the use of chalk in public areas are not doing so because they are against chalk- they're using chalk as an excuse to police free speech and community messaging that they don't agree with, specifically in regards to Palestine.

Drawing with chalk is not damaging to property and it washes away. Please amend this to permit the use of chalk in public areas to encourage more art and creative expression in Milwaukee.