

**From:** Spiker, Scott  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 30, 2025 12:49 PM  
**To:**  
**Cc:** Litscher, Jarrett <[Jarrett.Litscher@milwaukee.gov](mailto:Jarrett.Litscher@milwaukee.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Water street safety

Hi, \_\_\_\_.

Thanks for the really helpful feedback. I appreciate you sharing it, especially given your background [...].

I know we've talked before, but could you provide your address for our records? I'll take out your identifying information and share your ideas with the other alders involved and add it to this file.

I think #1 is what will happen in the short term.

As far as #2 goes, MPD hemmed and hawed quite a bit on this, but they did mention some legitimate concerns. Without a natural barrier, like a river or a lake, this will be difficult unless you expand the boundaries significantly. But it's an idea worth exploring, and one where it's worth looking into what other cities are doing/have done.

I'm not sure we could do #3 without infringing on the existing property rights of bar/nightclub owners who have licenses (and, hence, property rights) that currently allow them to extend their activities beyond midnight. Then there are the additional issues of "why let the bad behavior of the few ruin things for everyone else" and "won't this just displace the nonsense to another location outside of the downtown entertainment district."

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**From:**  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 30, 2025 12:39 PM  
**To:** Spiker, Scott <[Scott.Spiker@milwaukee.gov](mailto:Scott.Spiker@milwaukee.gov)>  
**Subject:** Water street safety

Hello, I am a constituent [a law enforcement officer familiar with the area in a past role].

What to do? I see only three actionable solutions. You could flood the zone with officers on weekends. We did that in the past. I remember those overtime opportunities back in the day. That works if the city is willing to pay the overtime and reduce the presence of officers in other parts of the city. Maybe the MCSO could contribute squads and deputies? Would the bar owners be willing to pay a sort of "safety assessment" to fund those efforts?

Second, reduce access to the area. I don't know how that could be done on Water St. The Deer District perhaps, because the river acts as a boundry, MLK could be closed to traffic, with State and Juneau acting as north and south boundries.

Third, and most radically, close the downtown bars at midnight. People will be less intoxicated, and more likely to disperse to an area of the city they can drink until the traditional bar time.

Good luck. I look forward to seeing how city government addresses this.