



**City of Racine, Wisconsin
Common Council**

AGENDA BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

INTRO TO COUNCIL DATE: May 19, 2026

STANDING COMMITTEE DATE: May 26, 2026

FINAL ACTION COUNCIL DATE: June 2, 2026

DEPARTMENT: City Attorney's Office

Prepared By: Deputy City Attorney Marisa L. Roubik

SUBJECT: Communication sponsored by Alder Land on behalf of the City Attorney's Office submitting the claim of Christine Daugherty for consideration for disallowance.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Christine Daugherty filed a claim with the City of Racine requesting \$27,000.00 in un-itemized damages related to allegations that her 2013 Fiat 500 became immobilized after becoming encased in ice due to accumulated water run-off while the vehicle was parked on the street in or around 2700 Anthony Lane in Racine on or about January 23, 2026, through January 2, 2026. Upon inspection by the City, it was determined that the source of the water was a sump pump that was discharging from the property at this location. As such, the owner of 2700 Anthony Lane may be liable for this damage, but the City is not. Furthermore, the City denies liability due to a defect in the claim as filed.

For these reasons, it is the recommendation of the City Attorney's Office that this claim be disallowed.

BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS:

Christine Daugherty, of 2700 Anthony Lane #14, Racine, Wisconsin 53404, filed a claim with the City of Racine requesting \$27,000.00 in un-itemized damages related to allegations that her 2013 Fiat 500 became immobilized after becoming encased in ice due to accumulated water run-off while the vehicle was parked on the street in or around 2700 Anthony Lane in Racine on or about January 23, 2026, through January 2, 2026.

32 Upon inspection by members of the City's Department of Public Works and the Racine Water
33 Utility, it was determined that the source of the water was a sump pump that was discharging from the
34 property at this location. As such, the owner of 2700 Anthony Lane may be liable for this damage, but the
35 City is not.

36 Furthermore, the claim that the claimant filed with the City on or about February 12, 2026, did not
37 include an itemized statement of the relief sought, as required by law. The claimant requested damages of
38 \$27,000.00; however, the claimant failed to include any itemization of those alleged damages. As such,
39 the claimant did not satisfy the statutory requirements for filing a claim containing an itemized statement
40 of the relief sought, in accordance with Wis. Stat. § 893.80(1d). Therefore, the City denies liability due to
41 a defect in the claim as filed.

42 For these reasons, it is the recommendation of the City Attorney's Office that this claim be
43 disallowed.

44
45 **BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

46 Assuming the recommendation to disallow this claim is adopted, this item would have a \$0.00
47 impact on the City's budget.

48
49 **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

50 That the disallowance of this claim be recommended for approval.

51