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3 **2022 RES-119**

4 **AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH THE RAGATZ FAMILY AND THE FOUNDATION**
5 **FOR DANE COUNTY PARKS FOR IMPROVEMENTS AND NAMING RIGHTS AT**
6 **MENDOTA COUNTY PARK**

7 The Ragatz Family, in loving memory of Karen and Thomas Ragatz, have generously
8 committed a donation of \$1.5 million to develop a shelter, accessible playground,
9 parking lot, trail, fitness nodes and related improvements at Mendota County Park.

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11 The donation will be received and administered by the Foundation for Dane County
12 Parks, a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising funds to support Dane County Parks.

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14 A contract has been developed to outline the roles and responsibilities of the County,
15 Foundation and Ragatz Family. The project is anticipated to take approximately two
16 years to complete, with construction anticipated in 2024. The contract anticipates that
17 the County will contribute \$240,000 towards the construction costs.

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19 In recognition of the \$1.5 million gift, the improvements will be named in memory of
20 Thomas and Karen Ragatz. Thomas and Karen were married for 55 years and both
21 passed away in 2021. Through their partnership, they worked hard to bring principles,
22 compassion and economic resources to the people and causes they believed in.

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24 Additional recognition and thanks to the Ragatz Family for their contributions is
25 anticipated as the project matures, for example at groundbreaking or ribbon-cutting
26 events.

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28 The revenue and expenditure obligations outlined in the contract will be included in the
29 2023 County Budget.

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31 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Dane County thanks the Ragatz Family for
32 their generous donation and the Foundation for Dane County Parks for their partnership,
33 which creates the framework for philanthropic giving that benefits Dane County Parks;

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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Dane County Board of Supervisors approves a
36 contract with the Ragatz Family and the Foundation for Dane County Parks for
37 improvements at Mendota County Park and authorizes the County Executive and
38 County Clerk to execute the contract;

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40 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the improvements funded by the gift shall be named in
41 honor of Thomas and Karen Ragatz for twenty five years after construction completion
42 unless extended by mutual agreement in the future.