

DANE COUNTY CONSERVATION FUND GRANT AWARD TO THE  
TOWN OF WESTPORT (LENA, LLC)

The Town of Westport, in partnership with Groundswell Conservancy, has applied to the Dane County Conservation Fund Grant Program for financial assistance for the acquisition of approximate 105.45 acres of land from Lena LLC. The land is located off CTH M and Woodland Drive and lies in between DNR Six Mile Creek Fishery Area lands to the west and the Westport Town Hall and Daleo soccer fields to the east. It contains a mixture of grasslands, wetlands and woods.

The Town's acquisition of this parcel connects a corridor of public lands that surround the north side of Lake Mendota. This land will protect existing wetlands, and provide opportunities for wetland enhancement and restoration and offer stormwater management benefits to enhance Lake Mendota water quality. The land creates additional open space for passive and organized public recreation, trail connections, native vegetation restoration, and wildlife and pollinator habitat.

The estimated project costs for the acquisition total \$6,009,724.00. The Town has committed \$5,000,000 and has applied for a grant award in the amount of \$1,000,000 plus transaction costs. Dane County Park Commission recommends up to \$1,004,900 in county matching funds for the acquisition and related transaction costs.

County grant funds will be from the Dane County Conservation Fund and the term of the debt issued to support this expenditure will be 20 years.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that a grant of \$1,004,900 to the Town of Westport is approved by the Dane County Board and the Dane County Executive and that the County will pay up to the grant amount based on actual project expenses.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Dane County Clerk and Dane County Executive are authorized to execute documents necessary to effectuate the grant award, which may include grant agreements, management agreements, and the acceptance of an easement that will vest in Dane County according to Wisc. Stats. 27.05(3), and that the land interests be managed under the jurisdiction of the Dane County Park Commission.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the Dane County Land & Water Resources Director and Real Estate Coordinator, are authorized to approve closing and reimbursement documentation for grant projects and the transfer of an easement to Dane County and the Controller is authorized to issue checks necessary to effectuate the transactions authorized through the grant award.