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MEMORANDUM

| TO: | Zoning and Land Regulations Committee | <i>Zoning</i> (608)266-4266, Rm. 116 |
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| FROM: | Brian Standing, Senior Planner | |
| DATE: | October 22, 2015 | |
| SUBJECT: | 2015 Ordinance Amendment 18 (Amending Dane County Farmland Preservation Plan) | |

This amendment would bring the *Dane County Farmland Preservation Plan* into consistency with the following amendments to the *Dane County Comprehensive Plan* approved within the last calendar year:

• (2014 OA-68, effective 6/23/15). Originally requested by the Town of Verona, this amendment reclassified approximately 188 acres from "Rural Development" to "Farmland Preservation" in the *Town of Verona/Dane County Comprehensive Plan*.

Chapter 91 of the Wisconsin Statutes requires that the *Farmland Preservation Plan* be consistent with the *Comprehensive* Plan, and that amendments are certified by the state. Staff from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection have reviewed the proposed amendment and have recommended it for certification by the Secretary Ben Brancel. Final certification is expected by 10/29/2015.

Chapter 91, Wis. Stats. also requires that any areas zoned into a Farmland Preservation Zoning district be consistent with the *Farmland Preservation Plan*. Petition 10906 (also on the October 27 agenda would bring the properties affected by this plan amendment back into A-1(ex) zoning. Once the plan amendment and rezones are complete the affected landowner will once again be eligible for state Farmland Preservation income tax credits.

I hope this meets your needs. Please feel free to contact me at <u>standing@countyofdane.com</u> or 608-267-4115 if there any questions or concerns.