



Memorandum

To: Dane County Personnel and Finance Committee
CC: Beth Petersen, Johanna Soto, Laura Weiner,
From: Ronda Schwetz
Date: August 22, 2022
Re: Travel Exception to Co. Ord. 20.16 request

We supported Zoo Keeper Elise Gorchels to travel to the Orangutan Species Survival Plan (SSP) Husbandry Course and Workshop from August 15 -19, 2022 in Little Rock, AR. Arkansas is one of the Dane County prohibited travel states by ordinance 20.16. At the time, we did not realize this was one of the prohibited states. Ms. Gorchels is our primary orangutan keeper, and the expert knowledge gained from attending an orangutan husbandry course and workshop can only be found in this conference. Additionally, in June, our female orangutan gave birth to a healthy infant and this information and ability to connect with other orangutan care experts is of particular value.

We have supported the cost of this workshop and husbandry course for \$1,391. We respectfully request for the Personnel and Finance Committee to approve this exception.

Sincerely,
Ronda Schwetz

Ronda Schwetz
Executive Zoo Director
Henry Vilas Zoo