

AUTHORIZING A CONSERVATION AND TRAIL EASEMENT
IN THE TOWN OF CROSS PLAINS

Dane County Land & Water Resources Department (LWRD) recommends the purchase of a Conservation and Trail Easement on approximately 152 acres in the Town of Cross Plains from Michael Coyle for \$1,090,000. The property is included in the Ice Age Complex at Cross Plains (Complex) boundary.

Encompassing approximately 1500 acres, the Complex was established by the Department of the Interior in 1971 because of its distinct landscape. The northern and eastern edges of the Complex were covered by the glacier and ice-dammed lakes, while the remainder of the site is in the Driftless Area. The area was chosen for the Johnstown Moraine and its various definitive glacial features and its proximity close to a large population center and increasing urbanization.

The Complex is a project involving many partners including the National Park Service, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ice Age Trail Alliance and the county, which own and also manage the land according to a general management plan.

The Coyle parcel is in the southern end of the Complex boundary, bordered by W. Mineral Point Road to the north and Timber Lane to the east. It is mostly tillable land and contains "Coyle Pond", an approximately 14 acre pond. The proposed easement will allow agricultural uses on the property and limit development on the parcel. The easement also includes a 30 foot corridor along the east side of the property for the Ice Age Trail.

Funds for the purchase are available in the Dane County Conservation Fund. The debt issued to support this expenditure will have a term of 20 years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors and the Dane County Executive hereby authorize the purchase of a Conservation and Trail Easement on approximately 152 acres from Michael Coyle for \$1,090,000 plus miscellaneous costs according to Wis. Stats. Chapter 27.03(3); and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Dane County Land & Water Resources Department Director and the Real Estate Coordinator are authorized to administer the closing and the transfer of the easement above-mentioned property to Dane County, and the Controller is authorized to issue checks necessary to effectuate the transaction.