

1 2017 RES-356
2 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF LAND IN THE SUGAR RIVER NATURAL
3 RESOURCES AREA
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5 The Dane County Parks & Open Space Plan (POSP) recommends the acquisition of
6 land within the Sugar River Natural Resource Area. The Sugar River is a significant
7 natural and recreational resource that is a popular destination for trout fishing, canoeing
8 and kayaking. The County and others seek to increase access to the Sugar River and
9 surrounding lands, and several key Sugar River purchases have been made in recent
10 years, including the Falk/Wells Wildlife Area near Paoli.

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12 The Land & Water Resources Department has recently negotiated the acquisition of
13 approximately 60 acres from Ziegler Dairy Farms in the Town of Verona that includes a
14 nearly 2/3-mile stretch of two-bank frontage along the Sugar River. The tract hugs the
15 Sugar River and protects an adjacent wetland. The property offers an ideal canoe/kayak
16 launching spot, as well as unique cultural resources, including an 1860's limestone
17 Greek Revival house that was a historic stagecoach stop and two cataloged Native
18 American mound sites. The purchase also includes a permanent easement for limited
19 public hunting access over an additional 110 acres of adjacent private property.
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21 The purchase price for the approximately 60 acre acquisition and the adjoining public
22 hunting easement on 110 acres has been established at \$636,000. Funds for the
23 purchase are available in the Conservation Fund. The debt issued to support this
24 expenditure will have a term of 20 years. The County intends to apply for DNR
25 Stewardship grant dollars to offset the purchase price.
26

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors and
28 the Dane County Executive hereby authorize the purchase of approximately 60 acres
29 from Ziegler Dairy Farms, Inc. or assigns for \$636,000 according to Wis. Stats Chapter
30 27.03(3); and
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors and the Dane
33 County Executive hereby authorize applications to the Wisconsin DNR and other
34 agencies for grants to offset the purchase costs, and the Dane County Clerk and Dane
35 County Executive are authorized to execute grant and partnership documents necessary
36 to maximize cost-sharing from project partners; and
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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors and the Dane
39 County Executive hereby accept any grant funds awarded by the Wisconsin DNR or
40 other partners; and
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42 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Dane County Land & Water Resources
43 Department Director, Real Estate Coordinator, or Acquisition and Planning Specialist are
44 authorized to administer the closing and the transfer of the above-mentioned property to
45 Dane County, and the Controller is authorized to issue checks necessary to effectuate
46 the transaction.
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