



State of Wisconsin  
Governor Tony Evers

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**Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection**  
Secretary Randy Romanski

Brian Standing, Senior Planner  
Dane County  
Planning and Development  
Via email  
[Standing.brian@danecounty.gov](mailto:Standing.brian@danecounty.gov)

October 10, 2024

**Re: Certification of the Dane County Farmland Preservation Plan Map Amendment**

Dear Brian:

Attached is a department order certifying Dane County's Farmland Preservation Plan map amendment under s. 91.16, Wis. Stats. The certification process is now complete.

We look forward to working with you in the future on farmland preservation in Dane County. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Jackson".

Tim Jackson  
Farmland Preservation Program  
608-224-4630

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**STATE OF WISCONSIN  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

<b>DANE COUNTY FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN MAP AMENDMENT FOR THE TOWNS OF ALBION, BLUE MOUNDS, COTTAGE GROVE, CROSS PLAINS, DEERFIELD, DUNKIRK, DUNN, MEDINA, MONTROSE, OREGON, PLEASANT SPRINGS, RUTLAND, SPRINGFIELD, VERONA, VIENNA, THE CITY OF FITCHBURG AND THE VILLAGE OF WINDSOR</b>	<b>ARM Division Docket No. 025-00000-P-22 M-1024</b>  <b>ORDER CERTIFYING AMENDMENT TO DANE COUNTY’S CERTIFIED FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2032</b>
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**INTRODUCTION**

Dane County has asked the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (“DATCP”) to certify a proposed amendment to the farmland preservation plan pursuant to s. 91.16, Wis. Stats. DATCP has considered the request and adopts the following decision:

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

- (1) DATCP is an agency of the State of Wisconsin, and is responsible for administering Wisconsin’s farmland preservation law under ch. 91, Wis. Stats., as repealed and recreated by 2009 Wis. Act 28.
- (2) Dane County is a county of the State of Wisconsin.
- (3) In order for a county and its residents to participate in the farmland preservation program, a county must have a state-certified farmland preservation plan. Among other things, the certified plan must clearly designate farmland preservation areas that the county plans to preserve for agricultural use.
- (4) Dane County currently has a state-certified farmland preservation plan. The current state certification is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2032.
- (5) Under s. 91.16(8), Wis. Stats., the certification of a farmland preservation plan does not cover any subsequent plan revision (adopted after July 1, 2009) unless DATCP certifies that plan revision.
- (6) On September 18, 2024, DATCP received from Dane County a request to certify an amended farmland preservation plan map for the towns of Albion, Blue Mounds, Cottage Grove, Cross Plains, Deerfield, Dunkirk, Dunn, Medina, Montrose, Oregon, Pleasant Springs, Rutland, Springfield, Verona, Vienna, the City of Fitchburg and the Village of Windsor under s. 91.16, Wis. Stats. The county submitted the application in the form required under s. 91.20, Stats. The application included the certifications required under s. 91.20(3), Wis. Stats.
- (7) On October 1, 2024, DATCP confirmed by letter that the Dane County farmland

preservation plan map amendment certification application was complete, and that DATCP would proceed to review the complete application.

(8) Under s. 91.16(3)(a), Wis. Stats., DATCP may certify a county plan based on the county’s certification under s. 91.20(3), Wis. Stats., that the plan meets applicable certification standards under s. 91.18, Wis. Stats.

(9) DATCP may certify a farmland preservation plan if the plan meets applicable statutory standards under s. 91.18, Wis. Stats. DATCP may certify based on the representations contained in the county’s application, but may conduct its own review and verification as it deems appropriate.

(10) Under s. 91.10(2), Wis. Stats., the farmland preservation plan must be consistent with the county comprehensive plan, if the county has a comprehensive plan.

(11) Under s. 91.16(2)(b), Wis. Stats., the certification of an amendment to a certified farmland preservation plan expires on the date that the certification of the farmland preservation plan expires.

(12) Under s. 91.16(9), Wis. Stats., DATCP may withdraw its certification at any time if DATCP finds that the certified plan materially fails to meet applicable certification standards under s. 91.18, Wis. Stats.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

(1) Based on Dane County’s certification that the attached county farmland preservation plan map amendment for the towns of Albion, Blue Mounds, Cottage Grove, Cross Plains, Deerfield, Dunkirk, Dunn, Medina, Montrose, Oregon, Pleasant Springs, Rutland, Springfield, Verona, Vienna, the City of Fitchburg and the Village of Windsor meets applicable certification requirements under s. 91.18, Wis. Stats., DATCP may certify that plan map amendment until December 31, 2032, the date that the Dane County farmland preservation plan expires.

(2) Certification does not apply to plan amendments made after the certification date, unless DATCP certifies those amendments.

(3) DATCP may withdraw its certification at any time if DATCP finds that the certified plan materially fails to meet applicable certification standards under s. 91.18, Wis. Stats.

### **ORDER**

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT:


(1) The proposed Dane County Farmland Preservation Plan maps for the towns of Albion, Blue Mounds, Cottage Grove, Cross Plains, Deerfield, Dunkirk, Dunn, Medina, Montrose, Oregon, Pleasant Springs, Rutland, Springfield, Verona, Vienna, the City of Fitchburg and the Village of Windsor, dated September 18, 2024, are hereby certified under s. 91.16, Wis. Stats.

(2) The certified farmland preservation plan area for Dane County is titled “Farmland Preservation.”

(3) This certification expires at the end of the day on December 31, 2032.

Dated this 9th day of October, 2024.

STATE OF WISCONSIN, DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND  
CONSUMER PROTECTION

By   
Brian D. Kuhn, Acting Administrator  
Division of Agricultural Resource Management

Parties for Purposes of Review Under s. 227.53, Wis. Stats.: **Dane County**

Copies to:

Brian Standing, Senior Planner  
Dane County  
Planning and Development  
Via email  
[Standing.brian@danecounty.gov](mailto:Standing.brian@danecounty.gov)