

**2014 RES-563
AUTHORIZING STREAMBANK EASEMENTS FOR
SYFTESTAD CREEK AND WEST BRANCH SUGAR RIVER TRIBUTARY**

Dane County has negotiated the purchase of two streambank easements. One streambank easement includes over a mile of stream frontage on land located along Syftestad Creek in the Town of Perry. The other streambank easement is on land located along a tributary to the West Branch of Sugar River in the Town of Primrose, which will provide legal access from Highway G to an existing streambank easement. Both of the streams are cold-water trout streams identified as Tier I Stream Project Areas in the *Dane County Parks & Open Space Plan 2012 – 2017*. The purpose of the easements is to provide permanent public fishing access, protect water quality, and preserve fish and wildlife habitat.

Acquisition of these two streambank easements will continue the success and popularity of the permanent streambank easement program, which was established through the Land & Water Legacy Fund in 2007. To date over 19 miles have been permanently protected and are available for public use. Overall this program is an affordable and efficient way to provide permanent public access to restored trout streams while keeping the property in private ownership and without negatively impacting surrounding agricultural uses.

The purchase price of the streambank easement on Syftestad Creek is \$67,100 and the purchase price of the other streambank easement is \$2,500. The purchase prices are based on a sales study completed by a general certified appraiser. The sales study provides a formula for calculating values throughout the project area that takes into account the approximate amount of stream frontage and acreage of land within the streambank easement corridor.

Funds for purchasing the streambank easements are available in the Land & Water Legacy Fund. The debt issued to support this expenditure will have a term of 10 years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dane County Board of Supervisors and the Dane County Executive hereby authorize the purchase of Streambank Easements plus associated costs from Mays/Windsor and Losenegger and according to Wisc. Stats. 27.05(3), and that the land rights be managed under the jurisdiction of the Dane County Park Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Dane County Clerk and Dane County Executive are authorized to execute documents necessary to effectuate the Purchase of the property rights by Dane County,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Dane County Real Estate Director, Real Estate Coordinator and Acquisition and Planning Specialist are authorized to administer the closings and the transfer of the above-mentioned rights to Dane County and the Controller is authorized to issue checks necessary to effectuate the transaction.