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2 2018 RES-420
3 URGING ALLOCATION OF SPACE FOR SPIRITUAL CONTEMPLATION
4 IN THE CONSOLIDATED DANE COUNTY JAIL

5 In 2017, Dane County approved the consolidation of its three jail facilities into a single building.
6 The consultants Mead and Hunt are currently designing a structure to be located on West
7 Wilson Street to adjoin the Public Safety Building. The consolidated jail will have almost 100
8 fewer beds than the three existing facilities. It will also include space for medical services,
9 youthful inmate housing, and programs and activities.

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12 There has been recent discussion of the importance of spiritual reflection for those who are
13 incarcerated. While some have advocated for inclusion of a chapel in the design of the new
14 facility, others point out that a broader and more inclusive conception of a spiritual space would
15 be appropriate.

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18 The design of the consolidated jail must balance competing needs. It may be necessary for a
19 multi-purpose space to serve as a place of contemplation at scheduled times, rather than being
20 available solely for this use.

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23 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Dane County Board of Supervisors recognizes
24 the importance of affording individuals the opportunity to choose to engage in spiritual reflection,
25 and hereby expresses our desire that the Sheriff work with his office and any consultants,
26 including Mead and Hunt, to identify ways to accommodate space for this activity within the
27 design and construction of the consolidated jail.

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