

AUTHORIZING A PURCHASE OF LAND FOR WAAKIKIŽU
NATURAL RESOURCE AREA

Dane County Land & Water Resources Department (LWRD) recommends the purchase of approximately 36 acres of land located in the Town of Westport and the Village of Waunakee from the Kennedy Family Limited Partnership and the Thomas J. and Beverly K. Kennedy Revocable Trust for the Waakikižu Natural Resource Area.

The parcel is within the larger North Mendota Natural Resource Area Boundary and is bordered by county owned land to the west and a railroad on the east. The parcel's approximately 13 acres of wetlands connect to county owned wetlands, and are centered on approximately 2100 feet of Six Mile Creek frontage. The rest of the parcel is made up of some woods and croplands. Access to the property would be provided by an easement granted from Huntingwood Way through the southwest corner of the parcel.

Due to development pressure to the south, expansion of Waakikižu Natural Resource Area east to the railroad tracks would allow protection of Six Mile Creek and the existing wetlands, offering opportunities for wetland enhancement and storm water management benefits to enhance Lake Mendota water quality.

The sellers have agreed to a purchase price of \$1,200,000. Funds for the purchase are available in the 2023 Dane County Conservation Fund and Lake Preservation & Renewal Fund budget. 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 approximately 36 acres of land from the Kennedy Family Limited Partnership and the Thomas and Beverly Kennedy Revocable Trust for \$1,200,000 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 above-mentioned property and easement to Dane County, and the Controller is authorized to issue checks necessary to effectuate the transaction.