



Dane County Cultural Resources Planning Subcommittee

TOWN AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT OVERVIEW

MAY 9, 2023

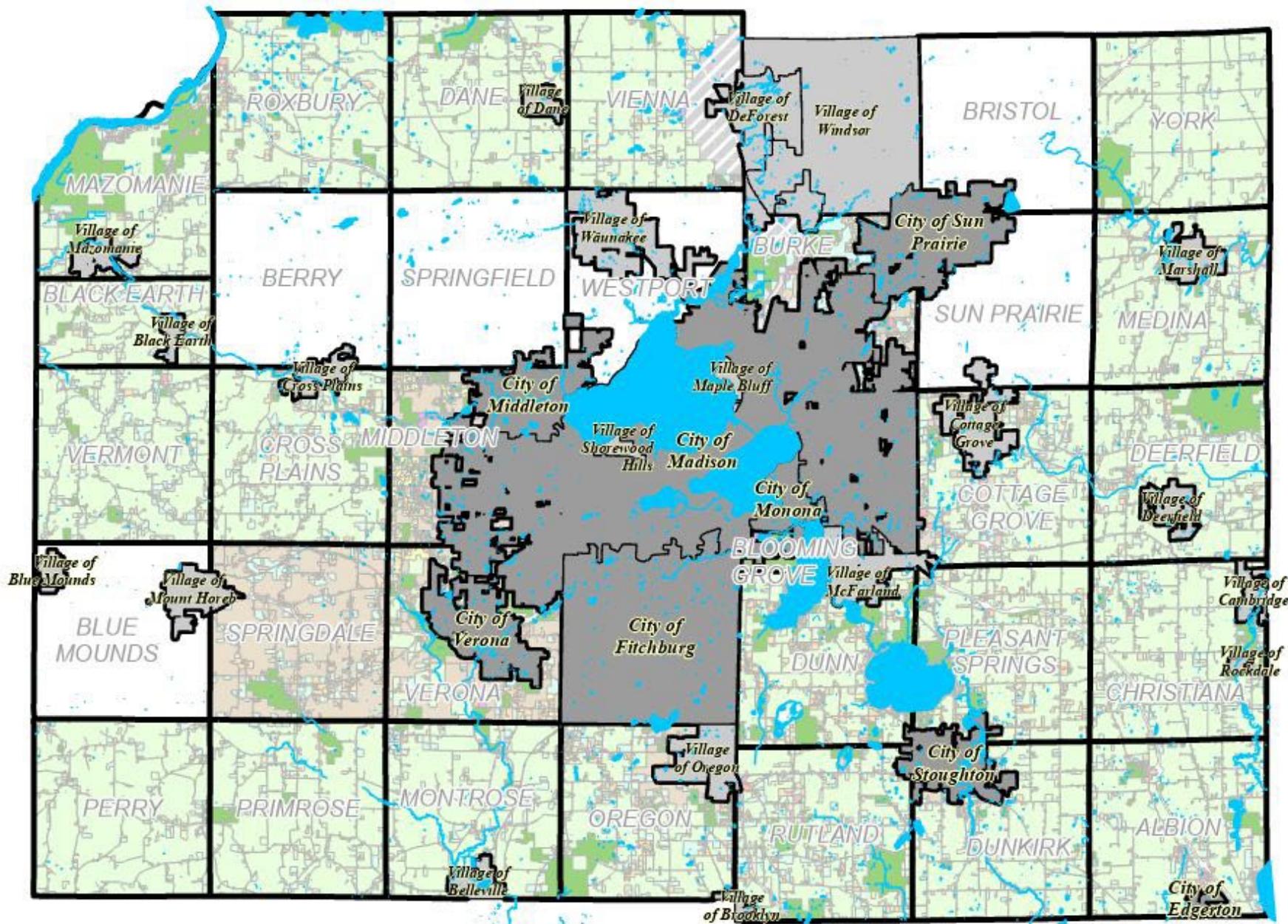
Statutory Authority



Chapter 59 (Counties):

- ▶ S. 59.69 County Zoning
- ▶ S. 59.692 County Shoreland/Wetland Zoning
- ▶ Chapter 60 (Towns)
- ▶ S. 66.1001 (Comprehensive Planning)

Dane County Zoning & Comprehensive Planning



Dane County Comprehensive Plan

- ▶ Chapter 82, Dane County Code
 - ▶ Dane County Comprehensive Plan (2007, 2015)
 - ▶ Volume I: Goals, Policies and Objectives
 - ▶ Issues and opportunities, Housing, Economic Development, Community Facilities, Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources, Transportation, Intergovernmental Cooperation, Land Use and Implementation
 - ▶ Volume II: Issues and Opportunities and Background Data
 - ▶ Dane County Farmland Preservation Plan (2022)
 - ▶ Individual Town Comprehensive Plans
 - ▶ Adopted by County Board (for towns under county zoning)
 - ▶ Automatically adopted (for towns under town zoning)
 - ▶ City and Village Plans (automatically adopted under state statute)

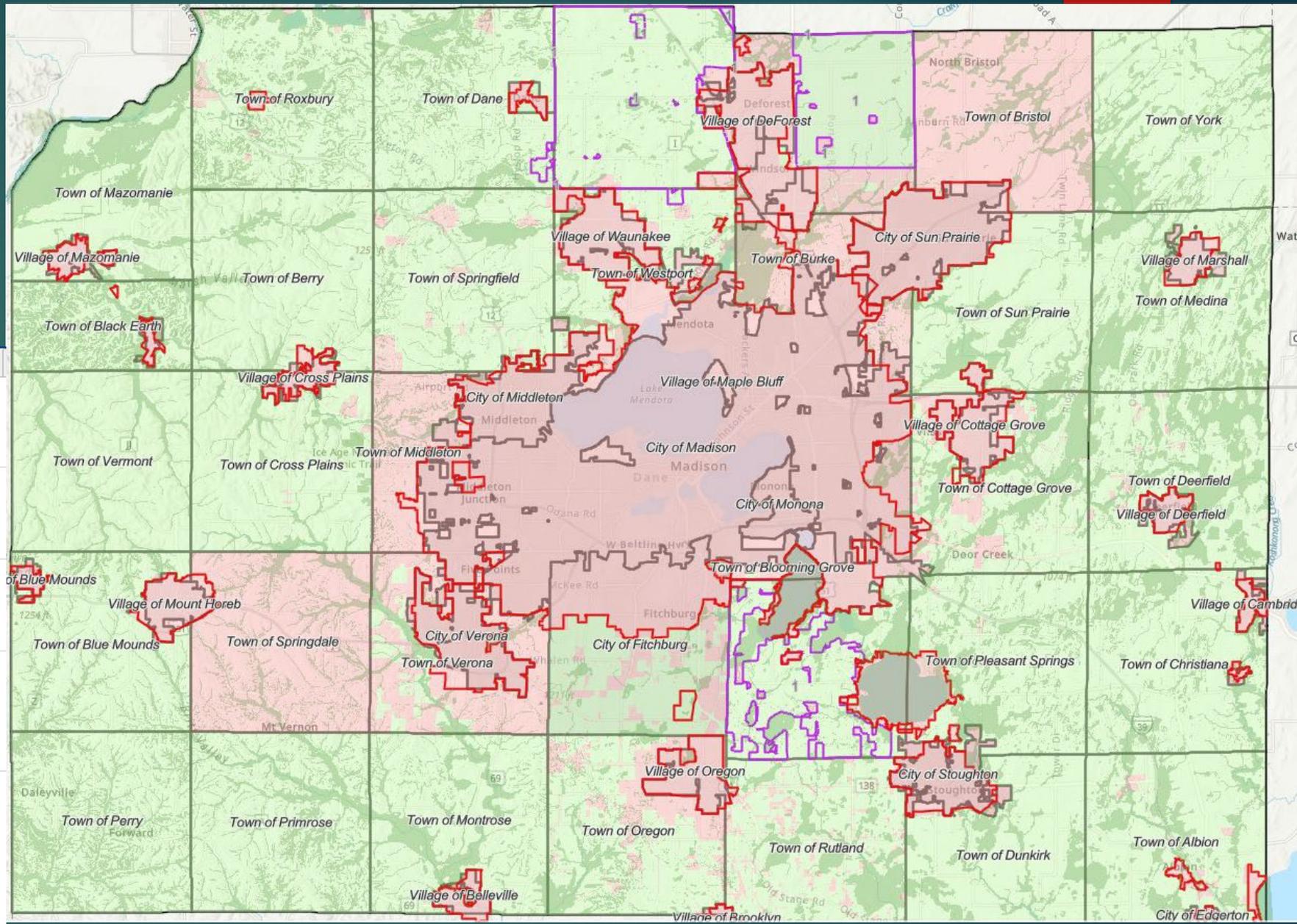
Dane County Zoning

- ▶ Chapter 10, Dane County Code
 - ▶ Controls use of land
 - ▶ Comprehensively rewritten in 2019
 - ▶ Adopted by 25 towns
 - ▶ Rudimentary Historic Preservation Overlay district (limited usage, protects only burial sites)
- ▶ Section 59.69, Wisconsin Statutes
 - ▶ County board and majority of town boards must approve any zoning ordinance amendments
 - ▶ County board and affected town board must approve all rezone petitions (map amendments)
 - ▶ Specific allowances for historic preservation

Dane County Farmland Preservation Plan

Legend

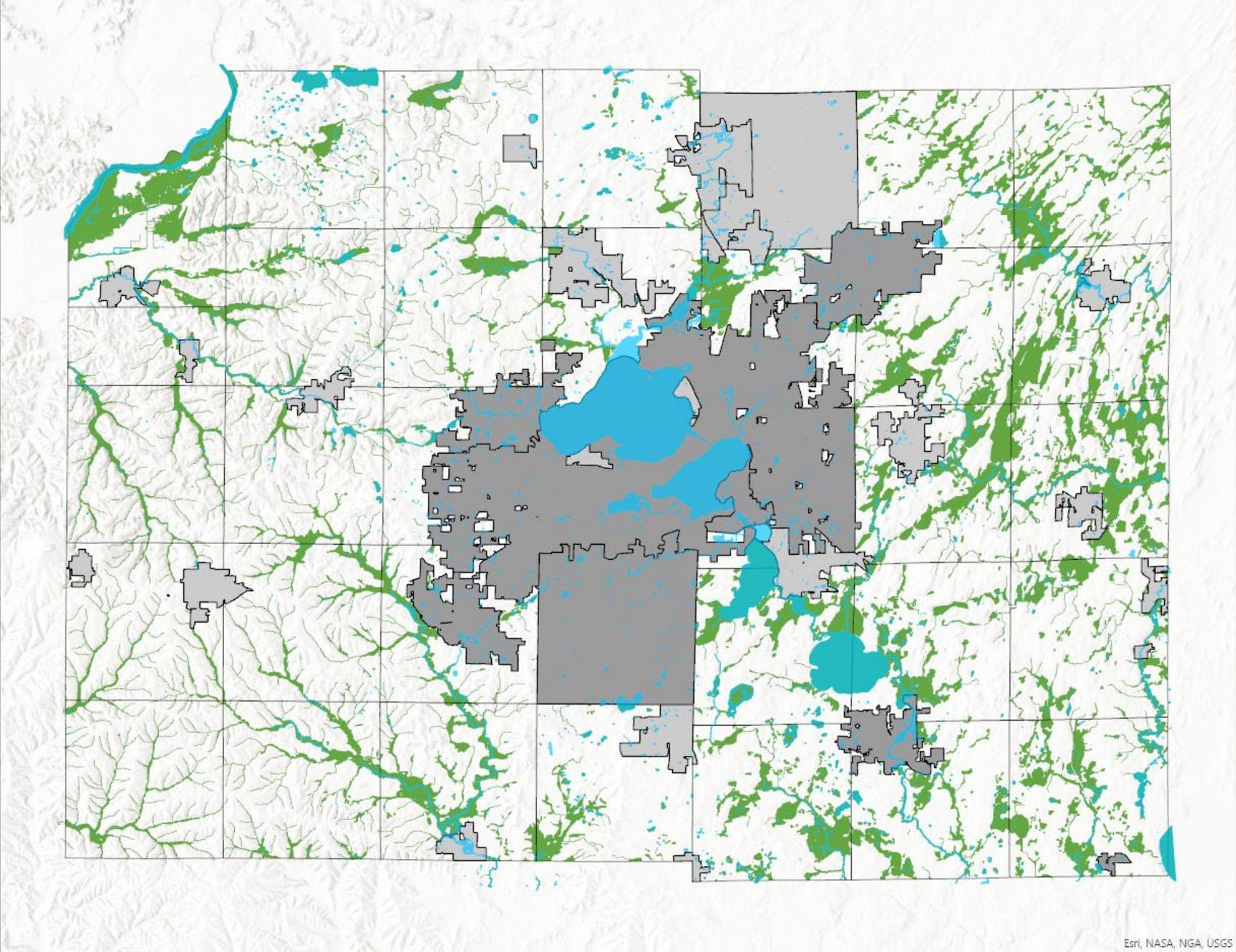
- Resource Protection Corridors**
- Urban Service Areas**
- Agricultural Enterprise Areas**
- Farmland Preservation**
 - Farmland Preservation
 - Not Farmland Preservation
- Municipalities**
 - City
 - Village
 - Town



Dane County Farmland Preservation Plan

- ▶ Chapter 82, Dane County Code
 - ▶ Makes farmers eligible for farmland preservation income tax credits
 - ▶ Comprehensively rewritten in 2022
 - ▶ Applies in 29 towns, 2 villages, 1 city and 3 extraterritorial jurisdictions
 - ▶ Requires nonfarm density caps, siting criteria and FP zoning to preserve farmland
- ▶ Chapter 91, Wisconsin Statutes
 - ▶ Farmers can qualify for tax credit of \$7.50 / acre / year
 - ▶ Land uses limited in Farmland Preservation Area
 - ▶ Requires compliance with county soil and water conservation standards

Environmental Regulations



Dane County Environmental Regulations

- ▶ Shoreland / Wetland Zoning (Chapter 11, Dane County Code)
 - ▶ Applies within 1000' of lakes, 300' of rivers/streams in all towns
 - ▶ Applies to all wetlands in all towns
 - ▶ Prohibits most development within 75' of ordinary high water mark or wetland boundary
 - ▶ Sets impervious surface limits
- ▶ Floodplain Zoning (Chapter 17, Dane County Code)
 - ▶ Applies in 1% floodplains of all towns
 - ▶ Limits development in floodfringe
 - ▶ Prohibits development in floodway
- ▶ Both make allowances for nonconforming buildings

Permitting related to buildings and development

- ▶ County only
 - ▶ Zoning permits
 - ▶ Shoreland / Wetland / Floodplain permits
 - ▶ Erosion Control and Stormwater permits
 - ▶ Agricultural Conservation compliance
 - ▶ Sanitary permits
 - ▶ County Highway access
- ▶ County and town
 - ▶ Rezones and conditional use permits
 - ▶ Land divisions
- ▶ Town only
 - ▶ Building permits
 - ▶ Driveway permits

Education and Financial Assistance Tools

- ▶ Dane County UW Extension
- ▶ Land Conservation Cost-share
- ▶ Conservation Grants
- ▶ Planning and Development plan assistance