

**From:** [Anna M Bierbrauer](#)  
**To:** [Standing, Brian](#); [Levine, Aaron](#)  
**Cc:** [Alfonso Morales](#)  
**Subject:** Comments on Cultural Resource Plan  
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Hello, Aaron and Brian.

I am a new faculty member of the Landscape Architecture department with experience in cultural resource preservation and Alfonso passed the Cultural Resource Plan along to me for review.

First off, I want to commend you on a job well done! I know how long and arduous getting to this point can be and I am impressed with how fully your group has considered and integrated current preservation issues. Not easy to balance this kind of process.

After reviewing the document, I have a few comments. Please pardon my intrusion if these words/issues have all been hashed out and I am coming to the party late. As a cultural landscape historian with past experience on landscape treatment plans, historic landscape management, and community-engagement experience, and research in climate extremes, I personally think landscape and landscape-oriented professionals needs to play a larger role in the plan. Overall, there were a few elements I wanted to bring attention to in the current language. Hopefully the notes can be helpful and not add more consternation to the process.

I look forward to hearing how this develops and would love to continue the conversation.

Have a nice weekend.

Best,  
Anna

Policies and Programs:

A. Establish a Dane County Historic Preservation Commission that includes Dane County residents with expertise in history, architectural history, architecture, <landscape architecture or landscape history> and archaeology, to:

(3) The Historic Sites Preservation Commission shall be composed of 10 members. The membership shall be composed of: 1 architect, architectural historian, <landscape architect, or landscape historian>; 1 historian qualified in

the field of historic preservation; 1 licensed real estate broker; 1 County Board Supervisor; 1 qualified archaeologist; 1 representative of Dane Arts, 1 representative of Ho-Chunk Nation or make a reasonable effort to find members with these qualifications; and 3 citizen members. Each member shall have, to the highest extent practicable, a known interest in historic preservation.

Regarding this section below: I have added in "cultural" to the types of resources permits might impact. My concerns are two-fold:

1. #3 only lists "historic architectural or archaeological" but leaves out landscape—a professional concern given my background but also a concern given the rapid development of Dane County and changing character of the greater metropolitan region. State-designated Rustic Roads are prioritized, but what about Dane County's interest in rapidly changing landscapes? Additionally, later on it is sometimes just "historic and architectural" which leaves some overall ambiguity about the implementation.
  2. The language is currently inconsistent with the later emphasis on "Other Cultural Resources" --these other cultural resources do not currently receive the same amount of protection when it comes to reviewing and granting permits. In "Other Cultural Resources" Policies and Programs #3, they are only considered as adjacent concerns to "historic and archeological resources". Given the desire to involve the Ho-Chunk nation and other underrepresented groups who may have more ephemeral cultural resources, this uneven protection seems problematic.
3. Continue to review all zoning petitions, conditional use permits and zoning permits for any impacts to historic architectural, <cultural>, and archaeological resources.
- A. Require applicants to attain a letter of affirmation from Dane County that the project does not have any negative impacts on known historic, <cultural>, or archeological resources.
- 3.B. Require applicants to consult with the Dane County Historic Preservation Commission and/or the Wisconsin Historical Society to resolve any identified conflicts.

Lastly, two small edits:

Other Cultural Resources #2:

A. Mobilize public opinion to place a higher value on <ephemeral> cultural resources ~~resources~~.

Policies and Programs:

2. Identify gaps, unmet needs, and <populations or geographic areas with poor access to cultural resources>. >>> This needs rewording for clarity...."with poor access to historic designation of cultural resources"? "with undocumented cultural resources"?

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