

2016 RES-477

AUTHORIZING STREAMBANK EASEMENT ON THE WEST BRANCH OF THE
SUGAR RIVER – BROWN & MAYNARD

Dane County has negotiated the purchase of a streambank easement along the West Branch of the Sugar River in the Town of Montrose. The easement will run through a 40 acre parcel that contains a meandering stretch of the stream. The West Branch is a cold-water trout stream identified as a Tier I Stream Project 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 easement is the appraised value of \$42,390. Funds for purchasing the streambank easements are available in the Lake Preservation & Renewal 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 County Executive hereby authorize the purchase of a streambank easement from Brown & Maynard for \$42,490 and that the land rights be managed under the jurisdiction of the Dane County Park Commission according to Wis. Stats. 27.05(3).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Dane County Clerk and County Executive are hereby authorized to execute the described easement and related documents on behalf of Dane County; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Land & Water Resources Deputy Director or Real Estate Coordinator are authorized to administer the closing and the transfer of the property interest to Dane County and the Controller is authorized to issue checks necessary to effectuate the transaction.