

2025 RES – 165
**DANE COUNTY CONSERVATION FUND GRANT AWARD TO
ICE AGE TRAIL ALLIANCE – BROOKS**

The Ice Age Trail Alliance (IATA) has applied to the Dane County Conservation Fund Grant Program for financial assistance to purchase approximately 99 acres in the Town of Berry to connect IATA's Cross Plains Segment to its Table Bluff Segment. The property is bisected by CTH KP and sits adjacent to the IATA's Swamplovers Preserve on the west side and next to the Village of Cross Plains Hickory Hill Conservancy and IATA's Anderson Preserve on the east side. The property has varied topography and contains wetlands, a trout stream, ponds and woodlands. Acquisition by IATA would create 605 acres of contiguous public land managed by IATA, eliminating .7 mile of road walk and replacing it with .75 miles of new off road trail while protecting the wetlands and stream within the Black Earth Creek Watershed.

The estimated project costs for the acquisition total \$1,118,600. IATA is prepared to cover 50% of project costs and is seeking a grant for the remaining 50%. The Dane County Park Commission recommends granting up to \$559,300 in County matching funds.

The term of the debt issued to support this expenditure will be 20 years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that a grant of \$559,300 to Ice Age Trail Alliance is approved by the Dane County Board and the Dane County Executive and that the County will pay up to the grant amount based on actual project expenses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Dane County Clerk and Dane County Executive are authorized to execute documents necessary to effectuate the grant award, which may include grant agreements, management agreements, and the acceptance of an easement that will vest in Dane County according to Wisc. Stats. 27.05(3), and that the land interests be managed under the jurisdiction of the Dane County Park Commission.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Dane County Land & Water Resources Director and Real Estate Coordinator, are authorized to approve closing and reimbursement documentation for grant projects and the transfer of an easement to Dane County and the Controller is authorized to issue checks necessary to effectuate the transactions authorized through the grant award.