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2024 RES-240
APPROVING A CAPITAL GRANT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF
THE CENTER FOR BLACK EXCELLENCE IN THE CITY OF MADISON

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The 2022 Capital Budget included \$810,000 and the 2023 Capital Budget included \$1,200,000 to support the development of the Center for Black Excellence on West Badger Road in the City of Madison.

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The 65,000 sf Center will be: “an iconic destination that showcases and nurtures Black talent and contributions, while affirming and uplifting the Black community. The Black community is creating a transformational, state-of-the-art facility where Black excellence is experienced through Black innovation, business, art, and events. Hundreds of Black people have led, inspired, and influenced the design of The Center.”

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Located in the heart of Madison’s historically Black neighborhood, The Center will provide a strong anchor for maintaining the diversity of South Park Street, avoiding gentrification and displacement.

The project will be anchored by a multi-purpose performance venue, a black box theater, a performance lounge space, community commons, art gallery, meeting rooms for a plethora of educational events for adults, a youth and family center focused on art and culture, art studio and maker spaces, a recording studio, and coworking space focused on developing the next generation of leaders.

The Department of Administration worked with Corporation Counsel to develop an agreement to deliver the budgeted funds to the project.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors approves the agreement between Dane County and Center for Black Excellence and Culture, Inc. in the amount of \$2,010,000 and the County Executive and County Clerk are authorized to execute the agreement.