

1 **2023 RES-322 (as amended by PW&T on 2-6-24)**

2 **URGING DANE COUNTY’S CONTRACTORS AND VENDORS**
3 **TO WORK WITH LOCAL, HIGH-ROAD EMPLOYERS**

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5 Dane County Government invests hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars annually to serve
6 county residents, and build the local economy by making every effort to ensure that public
7 dollars are used to support good jobs.

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9 A large portion of the county’s annual investment in programs, initiatives, and infrastructure is
10 carried out through contracts with vendors for goods and services. Many of these contracts
11 involve significant expenditures that have the potential to employ a substantial number of
12 workers on large and complex projects, such as the recent award of a contract for the Dane
13 County Jail Consolidation Project.

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15 Dane County Government wishes to lead by example through ~~setting an expectation~~
16 ~~expressing a desire~~ that vendors who contract with the county will prioritize hiring local
17 businesses that represent “high-road” employment practices.

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19 High-road employers commit to a wide array of practices and policies, such as local hiring
20 requirements, prevailing wage standards, gender and racial equity hiring requirements,
21 workforce development and training, and other policies that value and protect basic worker
22 dignity.

23
24 The benefits of choosing to work with vendors and contractors that engage local, high-road
25 employers are several fold. Local, high-road employers provide good jobs with safe workplaces,
26 decent pay and benefits, and are more likely to attract and keep talented and productive
27 workers. High-road employers assist county government by contributing to the future of a
28 healthy and stable local economy and guarding against the use of taxpayers’ dollars to
29 subsidize inequitable labor practices.

30
31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors commits to
32 supporting local employers who employ high-road labor practices for the advancement of a strong
33 and equitable workforce in the county.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors ~~expects-urges~~ its
35 vendors and contractors, now and in the future, ~~will-to~~ make every effort to prioritize hiring and
36 subcontracting with local, high-road employers that are committed to the local economy.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors urges other
38 municipalities in the county and the state to promote among their vendors and contractors the
39 prioritization of local, high-road employers on their projects.

40 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors is unequivocal that while
41 the perspective represented herein does not establish a requirement or contingency for the award
42 of any Dane County contract, the foregoing principles are an expression of deeply held, long-
43 standing values in Dane County that remain a bedrock of our communities.