



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS County of Dane

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April 19, 2013

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Supervisor John Hendrick, Chair, Dane County Board

SUBJECT: Appointments to the Dane County Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee

As you may know, the Dane County Code of Ordinances requires a review of the Dane County Comprehensive Plan five years after the effective date of the plan. The County Board adopted the plan in October of 2007 with an effective date of January 1, 2008, so the time has come to address this requirement. Section 82.56 (2) (a) of the Code of Ordinances indicates that “the chair of the Dane County Board of Supervisors shall appoint a Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee to review the plan and make recommendations regarding any necessary revisions.”

By way of this memo, today I am making the following appointments to the Dane County Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee:

Supervisor Chuck Erickson, former co-chair Comp. Plan Steering Committee
Renee Lauber, as the representative of the Dane County Towns Association
Supervisor Patrick Downing, chair of EANR
Supervisor Al Matano, Madison Area Transportation Board (MPO)
Supervisor Patrick Miles, chair of ZLR
Supervisor Heidi Wegleitner, Health and Human Needs Committee
Eileen Kelley, as a representative of the Dane County Cities and Villages Association
Gary Werner, as the representative of the environmental community

I would suggest that the steering committee review the comprehensive plan from the perspective of long-term sustainability. For example, with increasing rainfall in southern Wisconsin and more frequent extreme precipitation events, we must do a better job of preparing for and preventing flooding. One way to prepare for flooding would be to prohibit development on hydric soils, which by definition were created during times when they were submerged for substantial periods and therefore may be submerged again in a future of increased rainfall and rising groundwater. I believe this perspective reflects the interests of Dane County as we consider future development and conservation goals.

I have asked Supervisor Erickson and Ms. Lauber to convene the initial meeting. I anticipate that the review of the Comprehensive Plan will be completed by November 1, 2013. The County Board will adopt revisions to the plan by December 31, 2013. The Department of Planning and Development will again take the lead providing staff support to this effort.