

## **RESOLUTION 2008-04**

### **RAILS TO TRAILS RESOLUTION**

#### **A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CONVERSION OF THE RAIL LINE FROM MAZOMANIE THROUGH THE SAUK PRAIRIE AREA INTO THE BADGER AMMUNITION PLANT**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Prairie du Sac, Village of Prairie du Sac, and the Village of Sauk jointly developed a Comprehensive Plan per Wisconsin Statutes that calls for the development of a river front trail along the Wisconsin River; and

**WHEREAS**, the development of such a trail will bring economic benefit to the regional area through riverfront reinvestment and revitalization; and

**WHEREAS**, Travel Green Wisconsin, an environmental initiative of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation has identified the value of all forms of tourism to the economic development of communities; and

**WHEREAS**, recreational use trails have historic merit and economic impact to areas in which they have been developed; and

**WHEREAS**, the rail line from Mazomanie across the Wisconsin River through the Sauk Prairie area has been out of service since 1997; and

**WHEREAS**, a critical span of the same rail line has been removed at the Sauk City Bridge; and

**WHEREAS**, the repair and replacement of the bridge span will be excessive in cost and is not economically viable due to its extremely limited use or potential; and

**WHEREAS**, the adjacent communities have determined the plan for a recreational trail is in the immediate and long term economic best interests of their communities and the region as a whole; and

**WHEREAS**, the Comprehensive Plan supports the future extension of the trail north into and through the Badger Army Ammunition Plant to Devil's Lake Park is critical to the plan's objectives; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Prairie du Sac, Village of Prairie du Sac, Village of Sauk City, the Village of Mazomanie, and the Village of Merrimac have all approved resolutions supporting the effort of allowing the rail line to be banked for the purpose of Rails to Trails.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the board of the Town of Merrimac that the Town of Merrimac respectfully requests that the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and the Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission permit recreational activities on the rail line from the Village of Mazomanie through the Sauk Prairie community by allowing the rail line to be banked for the purpose of rails to trails; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town respectfully requests that the Sauk County Board of Supervisors endorse and pursue the banking of the rail line for the purpose of Rails to Trails; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a true and accurate copy of this resolution be provided the Sauk County Board of Supervisors and the State and Congressional representatives elected to represent the County of Sauk, Wisconsin.

**SO RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF THE TOWN OF MERRIMAC:**



Richard A. Grant, Chair  
Town of Merrimac



Tim McCumber, Town Administrator  
& Clerk - Treasurer  
Town of Merrimac

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly passed by the Town Board of the Town of Merrimac on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of May 2008, and approved by the Town Chair on that date.



Tim McCumber, Town Administrator &  
Clerk- Treasurer