

SUPPORTING CREATION OF A MULTI USE TRAIL BETWEEN
THE VILLAGE OF MAZOMANIE AND DEVIL'S LAKE STATE PARK

Efforts are being made by citizens to expand two proposed multi-use trails in Dane and Sauk counties that would connect miles of existing paths in southern Wisconsin. One of the trails being considered by community leaders would stretch from the City of Middleton to the Village of Mazomanie, generally along State Highway 14. The other trail would run from the Village of Mazomanie through the Villages of Sauk City and Prairie du Sac to Devil's Lake State Park eventually hooking up with the 400 State Trail at the City of Reedsburg. Both proposed trails have been identified by the Department of Natural Resources as important State Trail links.

Communities along the proposed Mazomanie-to-Middleton trail route are currently applying for grants to fund a feasibility study to research such a trail, which would generally parallel Highway 14, but could branch into more rural areas, like along Black Earth Creek.

The second trail from Mazomanie to Devil's Lake State Park is proposed to be installed adjacent to an existing railroad facility. Currently, the rail spur between the Village of Mazomanie and the Village of Sauk City is no longer actively being used, except for the storage of railroad cars near the Village of Mazomanie. The Villages of Sauk City and Prairie du Sac have submitted resolutions to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and the Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission in strong support of the installation of a multi-use trail along the existing railroad facility. The Village of Mazomanie has also passed a resolution in support of the creation of this trail, requesting that the proposed trail from Sauk City to Devil's Lake State Park be expanded to the Village of Mazomanie along the railroad right-of-way owned by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, which is administered by the Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission and leased to the Wisconsin and Southern Railroad Company. In May of 2008, the Lower Wisconsin Riverway Board adopted a resolution endorsing conversion of this rail corridor to a multi-use trail.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dane County Board of Supervisors hereby supports efforts to develop two proposed multi-use trails, one trail from Middleton to Mazomanie and the second trail from Mazomanie to Devil's Lake State Park utilizing an inactive rail corridor.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission, Lower Wisconsin Riverway Board and the villages of Mazomanie, Black Earth, Prairie du Sac and Sauk City.

Submitted by Supervisors Ripp, Schlicht and Kostelic, July 17, 2008.

Referred to EXECUTIVE, ENVIRONMENT/AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES and PARKS.

7/23/08 Parks Commission recommends adoption. (6-0)

8/5/08 Environment, Agriculture & Natural Resources recommends adoption. (7-0)

8/7/08 Executive Committee recommends adoption. (10-0)

adopted by county board Sept. 18, 2008