

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_-2013

APPROVING THE SAUK COUNTY FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN

**WHEREAS**, The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) is an agency responsible for administering Wisconsin's farmland preservation law pursuant to Wis. Stat. ch. 91; and

**WHEREAS**, in order for a county and its residents to participate in the farmland preservation program, a county must have a state-certified farmland preservation plan pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 91.10 which clearly identifies farmland preservation goals, objectives and policies and areas that the county intends to preserve for agricultural use; and

**WHEREAS**, the development of the *Sauk County Farmland Preservation Plan* has had considerable input from persons representing various aspects of the agriculture community; and

**WHEREAS**, each town farmland preservation plan map represented in the plan has been formally approved by the respective town board as identifying areas the town wishes to preserve for agricultural uses and areas which may be considered for development within the next 15-years and;

**WHEREAS**, agriculture is a significant economic driver in Sauk County with over 1,900 working farms and 358,900 acres under production or reserved for future production and results in the sale of farm products and valued-added products of over \$450 million annually; and

**WHEREAS**, adoption of the *Sauk County Farmland Preservation Plan* by the Sauk County Board of Supervisors and subsequent certification by DATCP will allow participating Sauk County farms and agricultural property owners in towns zoned Exclusive Agriculture or as part of the Fairfield Agriculture Enterprise Area, to continue to qualify for farmland preservation tax credits; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 91.10(2) the *Sauk County Farmland Preservation Plan* must be included, and be made part of the *Sauk County Comprehensive Plan*.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Sauk County Board of Supervisors met in regular session, that the *Sauk County Farmland Preservation Plan*, hereby attached as Appendix A, and made part of the *Sauk County Comprehensive Plan*, is hereby formally and officially adopted as required by Wis. Stat. §§ 91.10 and 66.1001.

For consideration by the Sauk County Board of Supervisors on November 12, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

**CONSERVATION, PLANNING, AND ZONING COMMITTEE**

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GERALD LEHMAN, CHAIR

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FREDERICK HALFEN

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JUDY ASHFORD

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DON NOBS

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JOHN DIETZ

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DENNIS POLIVKA

Fiscal Note: No Impact  
MIS Note: No Impact