

**From:** [Bill Connors](#)  
**To:** [Task Force on Farmland Preservation](#)  
**Cc:** [Stouder, Heather](#)  
**Subject:** Comment About Current Ag Use or Vacant Land in Madison  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 9, 2022 4:17:46 PM

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Members of Task Force on Farmland Preservation:

I noticed that the Comprehensive Plan map of current land uses shows that land within existing business parks such as The American Center which--

- does not yet have buildings constructed on it
- but has already been subdivided
- and already has streets and water mains and sewer mains to serve the parcels

--is marked as being currently used for agriculture or vacant. That is accurate. It is common practice to farm currently vacant parcels within business parks to generate revenue and to take advantage of the agriculture-use limitation on the value of land for property tax purposes until buildings are constructed on the parcels.

I hope that the task force will recognize that it would be bad for the city as a whole, at the very least grossly unfair, and probably a taking that would require payment of compensation if the city government attempted to mandate that vacant parcels within business parks which are currently being farmed must be preserved for urban farming.

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