

From: [Stouder, Heather](#)
To: [McAuliffe, Daniel](#); [Fruhling, William](#); [Parks, Timothy](#)
Subject: Fw: Support for Saving Hartmeyer Natural Area
Date: January 21, 2020 9:41:43 PM

Please file to share with PC on 2/10.

From: Jenny Kox <jennymkox@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2020 9:37:36 PM
To: All Alders; Stouder, Heather; ledell.zellers@gmail.com; vscholtz44@gmail.com
Subject: Support for Saving Hartmeyer Natural Area

I support the City of Madison Oscar Mayer Special Area Plan Option C - Conservation and other opportunities to purchase and save all 30 acres of the Hartmeyer property historic wetland and surrounding upland ecosystem between Roth Street, the old Oscar Mayer plant, Commercial Avenue, North Sherman and adjacent railroad corridors as a nature park and shared community space.

I believe it can:

- Help Madison preserve and enhance important railroad corridor and bike path nature area ecological connections on the 'String of Pearls' with other Madison parks and natural areas on Madison's North and East Side with green corridor connections from Hartmeyer to Tenney Park, Warner Park, and the Starkweather Creek and Cherokee.
- Offer year round access for North and East Side residents and workers in nearby businesses to regularly enjoy nearby nature.
- Help provide access to nearby nature to socially and economically disadvantaged families and kids who cannot easily visit outlying parks for nature recreation opportunities or afford regular access to other forms of recreation.
- Help meet Madison's Social Justice and Community Building goals by offering people and especially kids the opportunity to experience the Awe of Nature - seeing and hearing nature and living things up close - which has been documented to increase empathy for nature and empathy for other human beings in a time our society is struggling with perceived divisions.

In its simplest terms providing public access to Hartmeyer Natural Area as a nature park will help preserve a rare historic large urban natural area where people can enjoy simple outdoor relaxation time visiting this urban wetland natural area gem and enjoying the beauty of nature throughout the seasons.

The Ecological Benefits of saving Hartmeyer Natural Area as a nature park are preserving and enhancing this large contiguous parcel of increasingly rare urban wetland and surrounding natural habitat for the cranes, bluebirds, hawks, frogs, pollinators, bees, butterflies, fox, and other birds and wildlife that already live there and future generations of birds and wildlife already facing climate change and many other ecological challenges

Saving this core natural area parcel will also help provide a large urban ecological refugium (preservation area) to help sustain healthy populations of native bees, butterflies, birds, amphibians and other native species throughout smaller parcels and yards in adjoining North and East Side neighborhoods and along connecting nature corridors.

There are opportunities for the City of Madison to partner with Dane County, DNR, Groundswell and other groups to help find funds and grants for cost of purchasing wetland and surrounding upland ecosystem acres.

Saving Hartmeyer Natural Area is an important part of continuing to build collaborative connections to achieve the above goals working together with the City of Madison, Dane County, Groundswell, and local Environmental, Neighborhood, Business, Social Justice, and Sustainability groups.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Marie Kox
1230 Monica Lane
Madison, Wisconsin