

RESOLUTION FOR SAFER BEACHES AND CLEANER LAKES

Safe beaches for swimming are a Clean Water Act goal and a priority for Dane County. Based on elevated bacteria levels from 2005 through 2007, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources included these 9 city beaches on the state's impaired waters list for 2008:

| <u>Lake</u> | <u>Beach Name</u> |
|--------------|--|
| LAKE MONONA | Bernies, Brittingham, Esther Park, Olbrich Park, Olin Park |
| LAKE MENDOTA | Marshall Park, James Madison Park, Spring Harbor |
| LAKE WINGRA | Vilas Park |

The Yahara Capitol Lakes Environmental Assessment and Needs (CLEAN) agreement made improving beach health a priority. The Yahara CLEAN beaches team reviewed all the impaired beaches for treatment possibilities and determined that Bernie's and Vilas Beaches have the most viable treatment options.

There are many sources of beach pollution including uncontrolled storm water runoff. To address this, Dane County has made 18 Urban Water Quality grants to address storm sewer outfalls. The City of Madison has also installed controls at approximately eight outfalls, three of which were partially funded by Dane County.

While these efforts all help improve the quality of the lakes and beaches, Dane County residents and communities would benefit from a more coordinated and aggressive approach to insure safer beaches.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors directs Public Health of Madison Dane County to continue working with the Dane County Land and Water Resource Department, the City of Madison Engineering Division and Parks Department, the Dane County Lakes and Watersheds Commission, the University of Wisconsin, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to examine the feasibility of implementing recommendations at each of the impaired beaches from the Yahara CLEAN final report, and prepare a Safer Beach Plan for each impaired beach to address water quality and minimize the number of impaired days. Four beach plans are due by July 1, 2010, and the remaining five beach plans are due by July 1, 2011. The beaches should be prioritized by number of people using them and ease of clean up.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Safer Beach Plans should consider the following practices for improving water quality: installing catchment devices at storm sewer outfalls near beaches, controlling parking lot runoff in areas with adequate space for bioretention systems, controlling geese and other natural sources of nutrients and pathogens, educating people about proper diaper usage and disposal and the problems associated with animal feeding, and other measures needed to make the beach safer more enjoyable for swimming. Additionally, the plans will include estimated costs and potential methods to pay for further analysis and possible cleanup costs for the nine impaired beaches.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Safer Beach plans should be implemented as soon as possible pending available resources and funding.

Submitted by:

(primary sponsor)

Referred to:

- ☐ Executive
- ☒ Hlth/Hum Needs
- ☐ Pers/Finance
- ☐ Pub Prot/Jud
- ☐ Pub Wks/Transp
- ☒ Envir/Ag/Nat Res
- ☐ Zoning/Land Reg

☒ Board of Health

☒ Lakes and Watershed Commission

☐ Approved as Submitted

☐ Fiscal Note Not Required

☐ Policy Note Not Required

☒ Forward to:

for completion of:

☒ Policy Note

Public Health - Madison & Denelo.

☒ Fiscal Note