

Agenda #12 –

Adopting the Milwaukee Street Special Area Plan as a Supplement to the City of Madison Comprehensive Plan

Within the Milwaukee Street Special Area Plan, north of Milwaukee Street, Madison Parks currently owns three parcels that are not contiguous. These parcels are shown on p. 10 of the plan and consist of nearly 14 acres in total (northern parcel 9 acres, southern parcel 3 acres, and strip to access the park 1.5 acres). [For context, the total amount of existing parkland is equivalent to Eastmorland Park to the south of Milwaukee Street, Westmorland Park, or Wingra Park.] The existing parkland is nearly surrounded by greenway property held by City Engineering; the majority of the greenway consists of wetlands and floodplains. Approximately 51 acres of property located to the east of the pond is held by City Engineering.

The Madison Food Policy Council has recently adopted their recommendations to the Milwaukee Street Special Area Plan, which have been shared with you tonight. Parks staff feels that urban agriculture, particularly placing this plan area into an Urban Agricultural District, would not be the best fit for this planning area.

Parks staff recommends the following changes to the plan for consideration by the Board of Park Commissioners:

1. **Public Parks** (p. 10) – revise last two sentences in this paragraph to state:

“North of Milwaukee Street, the Parks Division owns parkland that was acquired through the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship program. This land is deed-restricted for outdoor recreation purposes only and is currently classified as a conservation park. See Map 9 on page 12.”

2. Modify **Map 9: Future Land Use and Street Plan** (page 12) to differentiate between existing parkland, new parkland, existing open space and potential new open space held by City Engineering. Most of the property held by City Engineering consists of wetlands and floodplain and would not be suitable for urban agriculture.
3. **Green & Resilient** (p. 25), Recommendation 3, revise as follows:

“Uses for new parkland should include both passive and active recreation opportunities and consider the ideas identified on p. 15 when developing plans for future park and open spaces.”