

Dane County Land & Water Resources Department
Parks Division

Joleen Stinson, Interim Parks Director Laura M. Hicklin, Director Joe Parisi, Dane County Executive

Friday, October 29, 2021

Board of Park Commissioners City of Madison Parks Division City-County Building, Room 104 210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd Madison, WI 53703

Dear City of Madison Board of Park Commissioners,

The Dane County Parks Division is committed to working with the Dane County Department of Waste and Renewables on the Rodefeld landfill conversation and planning for future recreational opportunities with the proposed Sustainability Campus.

Dane County Parks staff met with the Dane County Department of Waste and Renewables this year to kick off the planning process for converting the Rodefeld Landfill into natural/recreational space. Although in its early stages of planning this conversion, Dane County Parks will incorporate this property into our next Park and Open Space Plan (2024-2029).

As you know, cities all over the world have converted closed landfills into parks. With planning and innovative engineering, these projects have increased the amount of open green space in urban areas, improving the environment and increasing the quality of life for residents. One successful example in our system is Badger Prairie County Park, in Verona. This 317-acre park is located just east of the City of Verona at the intersection of County Highway PB and US Highway 18 and 151. It serves as the center of the Ice Age Trail Junction Area. The park has a shelter facility, play fields, mountain bike trails, a playground, two dog parks (including a small dog park), and an aeromodeling field. The park also provides access to Military Ridge State Trail and a segment of the Ice Age National Scenic Trail.

Dane County Parks is looking forward to working with the Dane County Department of Waste and Renewables and the City of Madison. It is exciting to begin to think about the recreational opportunities for the projects.

Warm regards,

Joleen Stinson, Interim Director Dane County Parks