



Sauk Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce

Resolution No. 8-20-2008

WHEREAS, the Sauk Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce supports the Town of Prairie du Sac, Village of Prairie du Sac, and Village of Sauk City Comprehensive Plan that calls for the development of a river front trail along the Wisconsin River to allow users to enjoy the scenic vistas, watch wildlife and to spark riverfront revitalization and reinvestment which calls for the utilization of the unused Rail Line; and

WHEREAS, the Sauk Prairie comprehensive Plan is in agreement with and supported by the Values and Criteria of the Final Report of the Badger Reuse Committee and the charter of the Badger Oversight and Management Commission; and

WHEREAS, Travel Green Wisconsin, a Wisconsin Environmental Initiative in partnership with the State of Wisconsin Department of Tourism, and Thrive, the Madison Region Economic Development Enterprise, to which the Villages of Prairie du Sac and Sauk City belong to through their membership in the Sauk County Development Corporation, have clearly identified the values of all forms of tourism to the economic development of our communities; and

WHEREAS, the Rail Line from Mazomanie across the Wisconsin River at Sauk City and through the Villages of Prairie du Sac and Sauk City and the Town of Prairie du Sac to Highways Z and 78 has been out of service since 1997; and

WHEREAS, the *Wisconsin Bicycle Transportation Plan 2020* prepared by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and *The Economic Impact of Bicycling in Wisconsin* prepared by the Governor's Bicycling Coordinating Council and the Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin in conjunction with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation have identified the specific values of bicycle tourism to economic development; and

WHEREAS, a critical span of the Sauk City railroad bridge has been removed; and

WHEREAS, sufficient repairs and replacements for the Rail Line cannot be made with acceptable public expenditures; and

WHEREAS, the future extension of the trail north from Highway Z and Highway 78 through the Badger Army Ammunition Plant to Devil's Lake State Park requires that any rail easement granted through Badger Army Ammunition Plant not be permanent and should be dependent on the economic viability of the existing United Coop fertilizer plant; and

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WHEREAS, the future extension of the trail north from Highway Z and Highway 78 through the Badger Army Ammunition Plant to Devil's Lake State Park is critical and necessary to the realization of the full potential of the Sauk Prairie Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Prairie du Sac, Village of Sauk City, and Village of Prairie du Sac held a joint meeting on March 25, 2008 to consider this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sauk Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce hereby engages its Board of Directors and Membership to aggressively pursue the conversion of the Rail Line to a recreational trail; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Sauk Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests that the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and the Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission permit recreational and scenic activities on the Rail Line through the Town of Prairie du Sac, Village of Prairie du Sac, and Village of Sauk City by allowing the Rail line to be banked for the purpose of Rails to Trails; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Sauk Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests that the Sauk County Board of Supervisors endorse and pursue the banking of the Rail Line for the purpose of Rails to Trails; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon pass of this resolution a true and accurate copy of this resolution shall be provided to all Sauk County Board of Supervisors and State and Congressional representatives elected to represent the County of Sauk, Wisconsin.

Passed and adopted this 20th day of August, 2008.

By: 

Name: Pete Cicero

Title: President, Sauk Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

ATTEST:

By: 

Name: Leslie Bruner

Title: Executive Director, Sauk Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce