



# DANE COUNTY

**Joe Parisi**  
County Executive

March 21, 2017

To: Local Units of Government, Stakeholder and Non-Profit Groups

From: Joe Parisi, Dane County Executive

Re: 2012-17 Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan Update

The Dane County Parks Division is requesting input to update a plan that helps determine how Dane County manages its outdoor resources, including what recreation activities are important to them and what may make residents more likely to visit a park or participate in an outdoor activity. The Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan is a countywide comprehensive outdoor recreation and natural resource plan that must be updated every 5 years to maintain eligibility for State Stewardship grant funds. Updates to the plan include identifying recreational needs and significant natural, cultural, and historical resources in the county to be considered for protection. The planning process will seek input from Dane County residents that will help guide future park and trail development projects over the next 5 years.

Dane County Parks will facilitate 2 public information meetings to kick off the planning process. Each meeting will include short presentations on the history and status of the Dane County Parks system, information on how citizens and stakeholders can participate throughout the planning process, and time for public comment. The first meeting will be held at 7:00p.m. on March 30th at the Community Center/Town Hall of Cross Plains, 3734 County Road P, Cross Plains, WI 53528. The second meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on April 5th at the Village of Cottage Grove Village Hall, 221 E. Cottage Grove Road, Cottage Grove, WI 53527.

As an added outreach effort, Dane County Parks has prepared a survey to further explore the overall public awareness of the park system and any improvements that could be made to promote a larger and more diverse group of users. The survey only takes about 5 minutes to complete and results can be monitored throughout the planning process. The survey is available on line at:

<http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07edx78f4aj02u6mqc/start>

More information about the County Parks and Open Space Plan can be found on the Dane County Parks Division website at:

<https://parks-lwr.dane.wisconsin.gov/Information/Planning-Development>

We look forward to hearing from you!

If you have any further questions, please contact: Chris James, Senior Landscape Architect

[james@countyofdane.com](mailto:james@countyofdane.com)

Phone: 608.224.3763