



CARPC Resolution No. 2026-12

Recommending to the Wisconsin DNR an Amendment of the *Dane County Water Quality Plan* by Adopting Revised *Policies and Criteria for Environmental Corridor*

WHEREAS, In March 1975, Dane County was designated by the Governor of Wisconsin as an area that has substantial and complex water quality control problems, and certified such designation to the federal Environmental Protection Agency; and

WHEREAS, the *Dane County Water Quality Plan (DCWQP)* is the approved areawide water quality management plan for the Dane County region, first adopted in 1979 and since amended from time to time by recommendation of CARPC and approval by Wisconsin DNR; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission (CARPC) is a regional planning commission duly created by Executive Order of Governor Jim Doyle in 2007 under Wis. Stats. § 66.0309; and

WHEREAS, CARPC is authorized to carry out a range of planning activities, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §66.0309(8), and contracts with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to conduct areawide water quality management planning for the Dane County region; and

WHEREAS, as part of its areawide water quality management planning work, CARPC applies the policies and criteria related to Environmental Corridors during reviews of development plans, and works to continuously update and refine the mapped Environmental Corridor pursuant to Chapter NR 121; and

WHEREAS, the execution of Environmental Corridors is currently dictated by the [Policies and Criteria for Environmental Corridors](#) (adopted February 28, 2008); and

WHEREAS, CARPC has prepared the *Policies and Criteria for Environmental Corridors* which, upon approval by Wisconsin DNR as an amendment to the DCWQP, will replace prior policy document referenced above; and

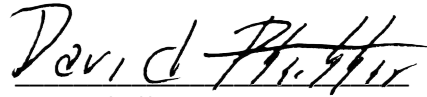
WHEREAS, upon DNR approval, these policies will apply to new development and redevelopment sites within the Sewer Service Area for sites where the “full scope” of the project, as described by Wis. Stats. § 66.10015, is not already known (i.e., the Environmental Corridor will not be retroactively updated based on these policies where the “full scope” of the project was known prior to approval of these policies); in cases where the first filing of a local approval which includes the “full scope” of the project has already occurred upon approval of these policies, then the existing policies in effect at the time of filing will apply; and

WHEREAS, outreach efforts were made to all local units of government and interested parties in Dane County, draft materials have been made available publicly on the CARPC website, and a public hearing was held during the Regional Planning Commission meeting on May 14, 2026, to hear testimony on the proposed update.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission hereby recommends approval to the Wisconsin DNR an amendment of the DCWQP by adopting the revised *Policies and Criteria for Environmental Corridor*.

June 11th, 2026

Date Adopted



David Pfeiffer, Chairperson



Cynthia Richson, Secretary