



REDWOOD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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August 4, 2009

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Dear Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council,

On behalf of the Redwood County Board of Commissioners, we wish to express our support of the efforts and vision of the Green Corridor Legacy Program. We believe the overall concept falls well within the scope of the Board's objectives and outcomes for the short and long term goals of Redwood County in the development of the Green Corridor project.

The Redwood County Board is especially appreciative of the excellent relationship and communication provided by members of the Green Corridor Legacy Program. They plan the project using a three step approach and update the Board of each phase of development.

There are in excess of 17,000 acres of existing conservation easements, most of which are along the primary river corridors and fall within the recreational zone of Redwood County's comprehensive plan. It is the preference of the Board of Commissioners to convert these private properties to DNR recreational lands open to public use, with the understanding that some of these properties may have a portion that is still being farmed.

Within these recreational corridors, there are connecting critical habitat properties that are not enrolled in an existing conservation program. We would support the acquisition of these properties to create contiguous, extended recreational corridors, including additions to existing DNR management programs.

The Redwood County Board of Commissioners will consider all other acquisition proposals on their individual merits and within the scope of the county's adopted comprehensive plan.

The Board has reviewed the project proposals for the Green Corridor Legacy Program with the local volunteers and concur the proposals are consistent with our priorities. We strongly encourage the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council to consider these projects and to give your final approval.

Sincerely,

REDWOOD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Al Kokesch, Board Chair
Redwood County Board of Commissioners

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