

To: Grant Foster, District 15 Alder  
+ Dane County Supervisor Kristen Audet

From: Eastmorland Community Association

Date: April 13, 2021

**RE: Voit Farm and the "Save the Farm" initiative**

Dear Alder Foster and Supervisor Audet,

We write to you today to express our community's support for the Save the Farm project. We urge you to publicly support the project, speak with your colleagues and relevant staffs about its potential benefits, and vote on any resolutions or policies within your jurisdiction that help further the project's core values.

We the Eastmorland neighbors share in the goal of the Save the Farm Project to provide affordable sustainable housing, accessible and ecologically meaningful greenspace, and serve as a model for building equity and community among people of all identities. This parcel of land represents a unique opportunity for the City and County to positively guide development in our area over the coming decades.

By supporting the vision of Save the Farm, either via direct purchase, or an economic partnership, you and your colleagues would be taking steps towards fulfilling many goals declared by the City and County, including flood mitigation, greenspace conservation, improvement of opportunity for economically marginalized individuals, and continued support of small business owners.

Our neighborhood has long aimed to be a tight-knit and friendly community. We believe that continued support of affordable locally owned retail, business, and residential space alongside careful environmental choices will continue to contribute to the vibrancy and diversity of experiences on the east side of Madison. With that in mind, we recognize that some members of our community (predominantly people of color, individuals who are economically disadvantaged, and those with other minoritized identities) have not always had an opportunity to be heard in how our City grows. Allowing development of this parcel without community engagement and a holistic vision would be a big loss for the east side of town. We believe that the vision put forward by Save the Farm takes many steps towards a positive shared future.

Thank you for your consideration,

  
Eastmorland Community Association *president*

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