



August 26, 2021

To Representatives of the City of Madison and Dane County:

The SASY Neighborhood Association writes to express its support for the Save the Farm initiative, a citizen-led effort to acquire and redevelop a former agricultural property surrounded by several Madison neighborhoods including ours.

A large expanse of mostly open space in our midst, the 65-acre Voit Farm offers a unique opportunity to pursue multiple socially desirable objectives, as proposed by hundreds of community members themselves. These desired outcomes include:

- Increasing the supply of affordable housing in the east side of Madison;
- Producing food and energy in a sustainable manner for community use;
- Restoring the health of the local ecosystems supporting this area;
- Designing a neighborhood that promotes healthy, low-impact outdoor activity;
- Integrating mobility with existing transit networks and bicycle paths; and
- Serving as a model for building community grounded in core values of diversity, equity, and social justice

The goals that guide SASY Neighborhood Association's involvement in redevelopment proposals affecting our area are very much aligned with Save the Farm's vision for the Voit parcel. This initiative will also advance a number of goals strongly supported by the City of Madison and Dane County, such as preserving green space, protecting water quality, and building low-impact housing to serve a diversifying population. We expect Save the Farm to apply for conservation grants and other funding sources available from the city and county to assist in the acquisition of this property. In our view, the innovative and forward-looking plan put forward by Save the Farm is deserving of city and county funding available for once-in-a-generation land acquisition opportunities like this one. Indeed, for Save the Farm's vision to become a reality, your support is vitally needed.

Sincerely,

/s/Ryan Koglin

President, SASY Neighborhood Association