



# Environmental Corridors Report Update

**May 21, 2025**

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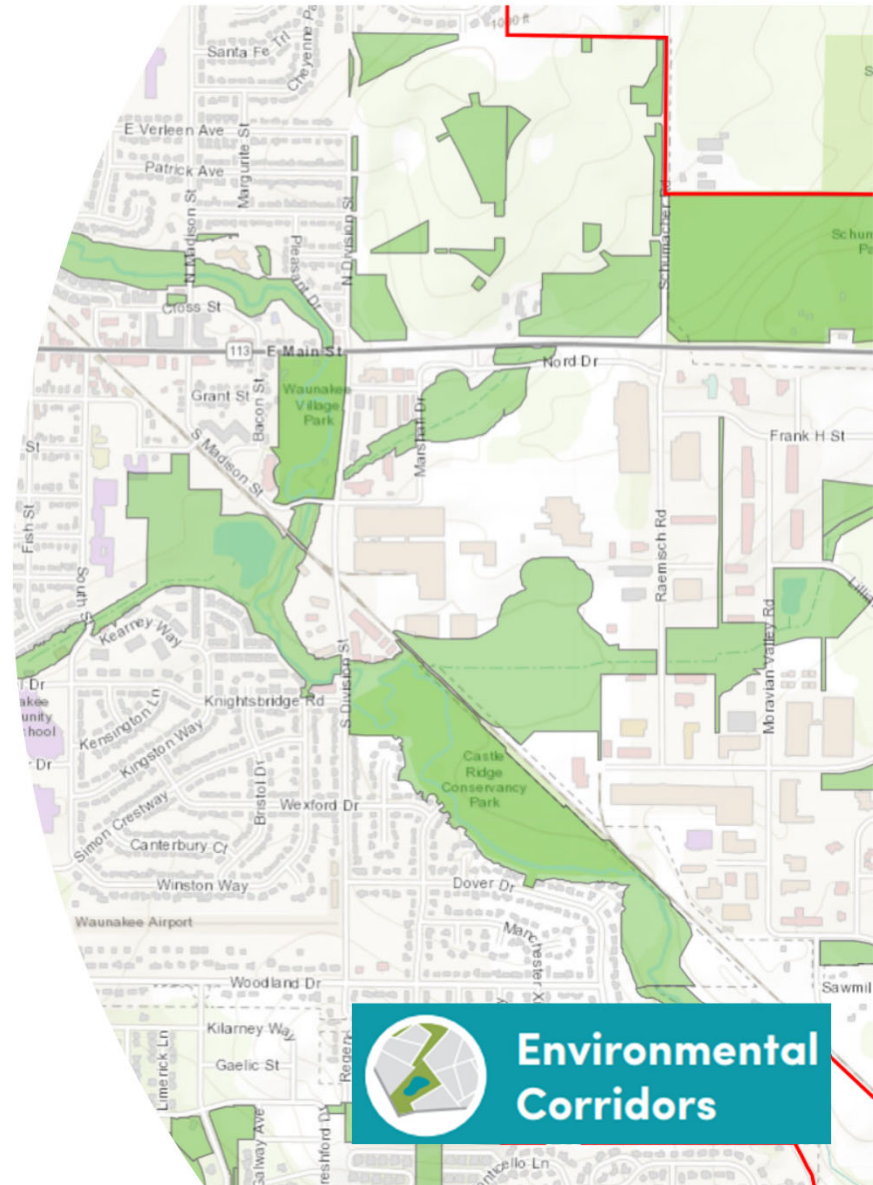


# "EC" Report Update

## Environmental Corridors

Generally contiguous systems of open space and environmentally sensitive areas within urban service areas that are protected from development

- Environmentally sensitive lands
- Natural and cultural resources
- Lands for stormwater management, recreational use, or open space functions



# EC Report Update

## 2025 Update

- Key part of CARPC's role in administration of the Dane County Water Quality Plan (DCWQP)
- March 2025 – WDNR approved updated report
  - Available on [DCWQP website](#)



# Report Revisions

## UPDATED

- Background info
- Further discussion on element functions and values
- Mapping criteria & procedures
- New EC Fact Sheet

## CLARIFIED

- Terms & definitions
- Element definitions & inclusions
- Implementation of existing policies
- Policies for Major & Minor changes and exemptions

## ADDED

- Voluntary Environmental Corridors
- Stepping Stones concept
- Climate change & resilience





# Future EC

## Estimated Environmental Corridors

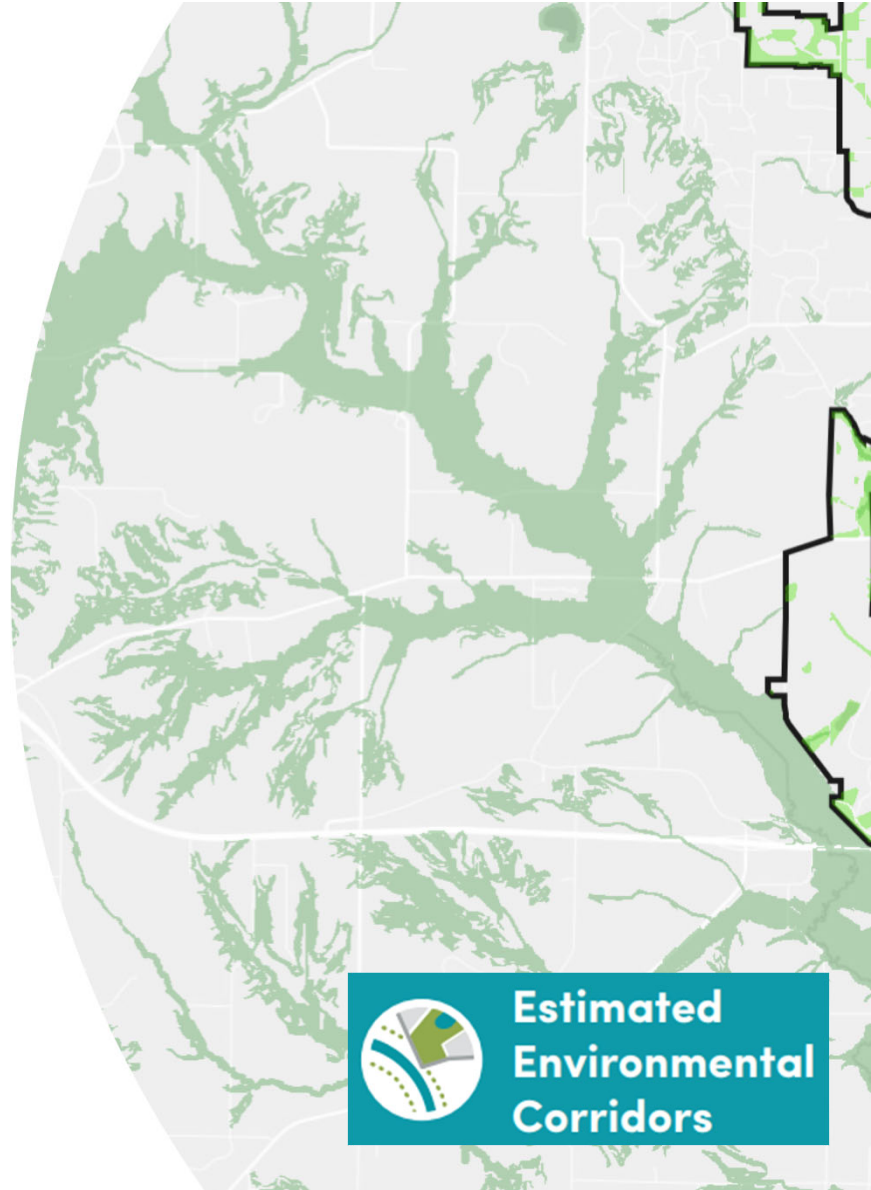
### *(Formerly: Protection Areas)*

Preliminary estimates of lands that would be required to be designated as Environmental Corridor if brought into an urban service area

- Environmentally sensitive lands
- Natural and cultural resources
- Lands for stormwater management, recreational use, or open space functions



**Estimated  
Environmental  
Corridors**



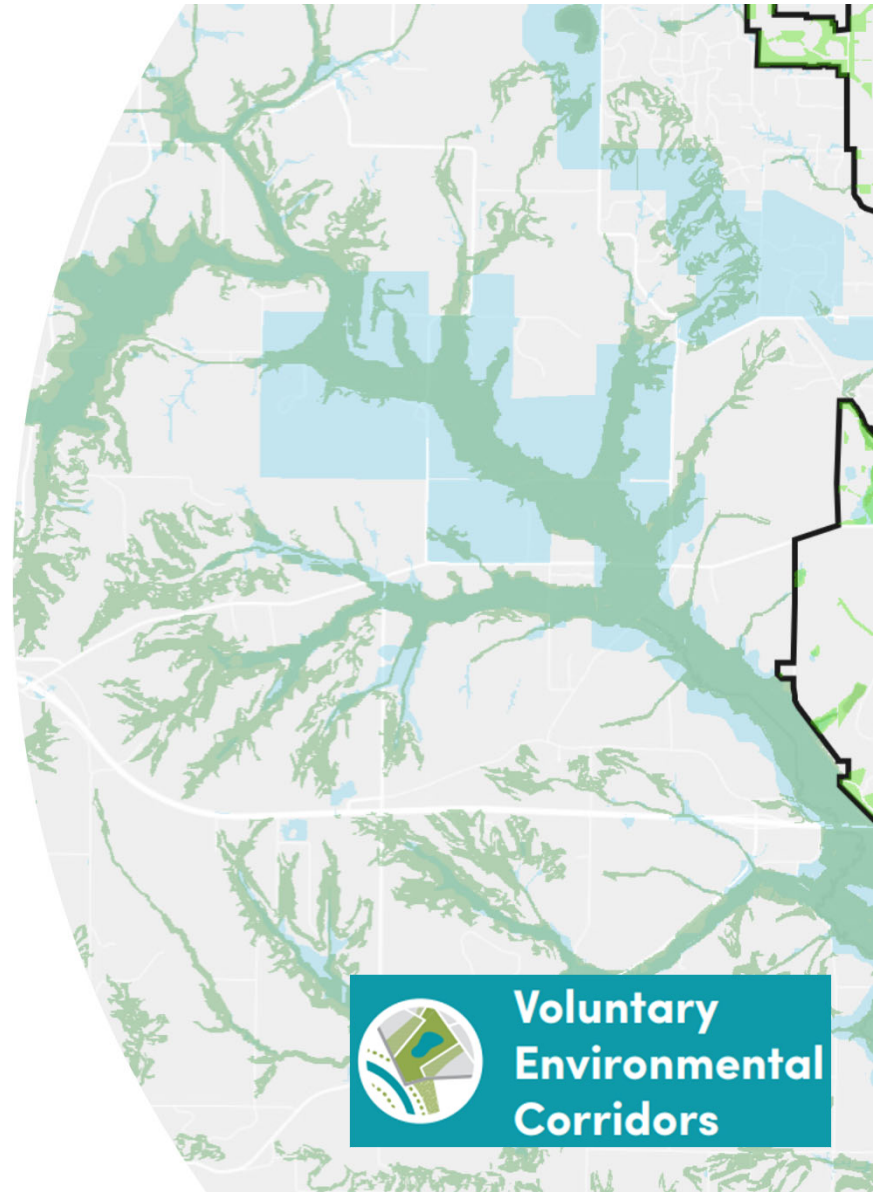
# Future EC

## Voluntary Environmental Corridors

### *(Formerly: Stewardship Areas)*

Lands recommended for voluntary inclusion in Environmental Corridors that provide important benefits but lack legal protections

- Old-growth woodlands
- Potentially restorable wetlands / hydric soils
- 0.2% annual chance floodplain
- Ice Age Trail Corridor / NRAB
- Internally drained areas



# Questions?

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