



CITY OF VERONA
111 Lincoln Street
Verona, WI 53593
(608) 845-6495
veronawi.gov

COMMON COUNCIL AGENDA

DATE: **TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2026**

TIME: 7:00 PM

LOCATION: COUNCIL CHAMBERS
111 LINCOLN ST.
VERONA, WI 53593

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Public Comment
5. Approval of the minutes of May 11, 2026 Common Council Meeting
6. Mayor's Business
 - A. Gun Violence Awareness Day Proclamation
7. Announcements
8. Administrator's Report
9. Engineer's Report
10. Committee Reports
 - A. **Finance Committee**
 1. Discussion and Possible Action Re: Payment of the bills
 2. Discussion and Possible Action Re: Approve \$4,000 for Professional Services related to Office of Energy Innovation (OEI) grants at multiple City facilities
 - B. **Personnel Committee**
 1. Discussion and Possible Action Re: Allowing up to three additional part-time fire fighters to receive Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) benefits in 2026
 - C. **Public Works, Sewer and Water Committee**
 1. Discussion and Possible Action Re: Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) Policy
11. New Business

A. Discussion and Possible Action Re: Potential Expansion of Arrowhead Pharmaceuticals and Tax Incremental District No. 8

12. Adjournment

Luke Diaz, Mayor

POSTED: May 22, 2026

Verona City Hall
Verona Public Library
Miller's Market

All agendas are posted on the City's website at: www.veronwi.gov

Watch live on the City's YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/VeronaWIMeetings>

The online meeting agenda and all support materials can be found at www.veronawi.gov. Anyone with questions prior to the meeting may contact the City at (608) 848-9942 or jaulik@veronawi.gov.

PUBLIC COMMENT SPEAKING INSTRUCTIONS

PUBLIC COMMENT INFORMATION: As permitted by the Wisconsin open meetings law, the Common Council has chosen to list a public comment period on Council meeting agendas to offer an opportunity for valued public comments. The Common Council may not engage in back-and-forth discussion or take formal action during this period. If the item is not currently on the agenda, the Council may consider deferring the subject to a later meeting when specific notice can be given.

VIRTUAL PUBLIC COMMENTS: Members of the public can participate in Public Comment by using Zoom via a computer, tablet, or smartphone, or by calling into the meeting using phones, as described immediately below. You will not be able to view the meeting from Zoom. This is only for participating in Public Comment.

Virtual public comments can be given by anyone who is a resident or owns or leases property in the City of Verona. This does not include property that is to be annexed into the City of Verona.

The speaker shall turn on their video camera, if they have one, and speak into their electronic device for attendees to see and hear. The speaker shall verify that members can see and hear them. The speaker can show information on their virtual screen for all to see but must inform the City Staff ahead of the meeting if this will occur when signing up to speak virtually.

Join the virtual meeting via computer, tablet, or smart phone:

Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89148302528?pwd=lg2F9qeBFdT2QkVmg0mhYmcaugXOZg.1>

Passcode: 747655

Join the virtual meeting via phone by dialing:

312 626 6799

Webinar ID: 891 4830 2528

Passcode: 747655

IN-PERSON PUBLIC COMMENTS: In-person public comments can be given by anyone (resident or non-resident of the City of Verona). This would include property that is to be annexed into the City of Verona. If speaking in-person, the speaker does not need to sign up to speak prior to the meeting. During the in-person public comment agenda item, the speaker can walk to the podium and must speak into a microphone. The speaker can submit maps or drawings to City Staff one (1) hour prior to the meeting to ensure that these can be shared virtually. The speaker cannot hand out items in the meeting to members or City Staff as these items cannot be clearly seen virtually. Speakers are not required to register to speak.

- **WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENTS:** You can send comments to the City Council on any matter, either on or not on the agenda, by emailing jaulik@veronawi.gov or in writing to Common Council, 111 Lincoln Street., Verona, WI, 53593.

IF YOU NEED AN INTERPRETER, MATERIALS IN ALTERNATIVE FORMATS, OR OTHER ACCOMODATION TO ACCESS THE MEETING, PLEASE CONTACT THE CITY CLERK AT 845-6495 AT LEAST 48 HOURS PRECEDING THE MEETING. EVERY REASONABLE EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO ACCOMMODATE YOUR REQUEST.

CITY OF VERONA
COMMON COUNCIL
MINUTES

May 11, 2026

Council Chambers

1. Call to Order: Mayor Diaz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call: Mara Helmke, Chris Weiss (via Zoom), Patrick Lytle, Beth Tucker Long, Alejandro Hernandez (Via Zoom), Lachlann Swanson, Phil Hoechst, and Spencer Harrison were present. Also present: City Administrator Jamie Aulik, City Engineer Carla Fischer, City Attorney Bryan Kleinmaier, Director of Planning and Development Lucas Sivertsen, EMS Director Patrick Anderson, and Police Chief Dave Dresser.
4. Public Comment:
 - Scott Seid, 308 Monte Cristo Cir., spoke in opposition to the proposed Backus property development.
 - Bob Cravens, 312 Monte Cristo Cir., spoke in opposition to the proposed Backus property development.
 - Dane Barre, 312 Monte Cristo Cir., spoke in opposition to the proposed Backus property development.
 - Jessica Lanius, Art House 360, spoke in support of the proposed art sculpture.
5. Approval of the minutes from April 21, 2026 and April 27, 2026 Council Meetings

Motion by Helmke, seconded by Harrison to approve the minutes from April 21, 2026 and April 27, 2026 Council Meetings.

6. Mayor's Business
 - A. Public Works Appreciation Week Proclamation
 - B. National Police Week Proclamation
 - C. EMS Week Proclamation
 - D. Plan Commission Appointment: Mayor Diaz appointed Mike Harnkard.
 - E. Next Council Meeting: **Tuesday, May 26th**
 - F. Update on Fitch-Rona EMS - Chief Patrick Anderson: Anderson stated there is a new ambulance this year, the district owns 6. In 2025 they had a 5.5% increase in calls.
7. Announcements: None

8. Administrator's Report:None

9. Engineer's Report: Carla Fischer presented the report, and it was entered in to the record.

10. Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee

1. Discussion and Possible Action Re: Payment of the bills

Motion by Helmke, seconded by Lytle to pay the bills in the amount of \$647,733.68. Motion carried 8-0.

2. Discussion and Possible Action Re: Community Center Elevator Repair

Motion by Helmke, seconded by Lytle to approve the Community Center elevator repair in an amount not to exceed \$110,000 with \$53,000 coming from the facility replacement fund. Motion carried 8-0.

B. Personnel Committee

1. Discussion and Possible Action Re: Administrative Policy No. 69 - Communications Policy

Motion by Helmke, seconded by Tucker Long to approve Administrative Policy No. 69 - Communications Policy. Motion carried 8-0.

2. Discussion and Possible Action Re: Plan Review Contract (E-Plan Exam)

Motion by Helmke, seconded by Hoechst to approve Plan Review Contract (E-Plan Exam). Motion carried 8-0.

C. Plan Commission

1. Discussion and Possible Action Re: Resolution No. 26-014 for a Conditional Use Permit for permanent outdoor display located at 600 Hometown Circle

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Tucker Long to approve Resolution No. 26-014 for a Conditional Use Permit for permanent outdoor display located at 600 Hometown Circle. Motion carried 8-0.

2. Discussion and Possible Action Re: Resolution No. 26-015 for a Certified Survey Map to create one (1) lot and three (3) outlots located at 3040 Shady Oak Lane and Ardent Glen Subdivision

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Harrison to approve Resolution No. 26-015 for a Certified Survey Map to create one (1) lot and three (3) outlots located at 3040 Shady Oak Lane and Ardent Glen Subdivision. Motion carried 8-0.

3. Discussion and Possible Action Re: An initial review for an event space located at 221 Horizon Drive.

Tucker Long and Helmke spoke in support of the event space. They had some concerns regarding parking and walkability to the property.

D. Public Safety & Welfare Committee

1. Discussion and Possible Action Re: Application for a Class "B" Fermented Malt Beverage and Reserve "Class B" Intoxicating Liquor License from Ian's Pizza Verona, LLC, d/b/a Ian's Pizza Verona located at 303 W. Verona Ave., Jeffrey Eich, Agent

Motion by Hoechst, seconded by Swanson to approve an application for a Class "B" Fermented Malt Beverage and Reserve "Class B" Intoxicating Liquor License from Ian's Pizza Verona, LLC, d/b/a Ian's Pizza Verona located at 303 W. Verona Ave., Jeffrey Eich, Agent contingent upon final building and fire inspections. Motion carried 8-0.

E. Public Works, Sewer & Water Committee

1. Discussion and Possible Action Re: Release of Permanent Limited Easement along new Country View Road right-of-way

Motion by Tucker Long, seconded by Swanson to approve the release and permanent limited easement along new Country View Road right-of-way. Motion carried 8-0.

11. New Business

- A. Discussion and Possible Action Re: Sculpture by Gene Delcourt

Motion by Helmke, seconded by Harrison to accept the sculpture by Gene Delcourt. Motion carried 8-0.

B. Discussion and Possible action Re: Development Agreement Between the City of Verona and Aldi Inc. (Wisconsin)

Attorney Kleinmaier highlighted the lien waiver request and that Aldi is requesting not to install a natural gas line to the property. Tucker Long asked if we could require them to have a letter of credit with the city instead of applying a special charge. Kleinmaier stated that the special charge would be more appropriate than a letter of credit without a known end date.

Motion by Tucker Long, seconded by Swanson to approve the Development Agreement Between the City of Verona and Aldi Inc. (Wisconsin) subject to final approval by the City Attorney and City Administrator. Motion carried 8-0.

C. Discussion and Possible Action Re: Ordinance No. 26-1091 Amending Title 2, Chapter 3, Section 12 of the Code of Ordinances, Municipal Judge Qualifications

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Helmke to approve Ordinance No. 26-1091 Amending Title 2, Chapter 3, Section 12 of the Code of Ordinances, Municipal Judge Qualifications. Motion carried 8-0.

D. Discussion and Possible Action Re: Resolution No. R-26-016 - Ordering a Special Election for Municipal Judge

Motion by Tucker Long, seconded by Harrison to approve Resolution No. R-26-016 - Ordering a Special Election for Municipal Judge. Motion carried 8-0.

E. Discussion and Possible Action Re: Employment Agreement - City of Verona and Judge Bill Weigel

The Common Council may convene in a closed session for discussion and possible action regarding a Municipal Judge employment agreement as authorized by Section 19.85(1)(c) of the Wisconsin Statutes to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee subject to the jurisdiction or authority of the City of Verona. The Common Council may reconvene in open session to discuss and take action on the subject matter discussed in the closed session.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Helmke to approve an Employment Agreement - City of Verona and Judge Bill Weigel. Motion carried 8-0.

F. Discussion and Possible Action Re: Potential property purchase - 308-310

Plympton Street

The Common Council may convene in closed session as authorized by Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. The Common Council may reconvene in open session and take action on the closed session item.

Helmke asked what the property would be used for besides potentially affordable housing. Aulik stated that an option would be to create a multi-use path linking West Verona Avenue to Plympton Street where people are already walking through.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Tucker Long to go into closed session at 9:01 p.m. as authorized by Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. The Common Council may reconvene in open session and take action on the closed session item. Motion carried 8-0 on roll call vote.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Helmke to reconvene in open session at 9:22 p.m. Motion carried 8-0.

Diaz stated that staff will continue discussions with the property owner.

G. Discussion and Possible Action Re: Offer to Purchase - 2159 Range Trail, Verona

The Common Council may convene in closed session as authorized by Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. The Common Council may reconvene in open session and take action on the closed session item.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Harrison to go into closed session as authorized by Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or

bargaining reasons require a closed session. The Common Council may reconvene in open session and take action on the closed session item. Motion carried 8-0 on roll call vote.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Hoechst to reconvene in open session at 9:38 p.m. Motion carried 8-0.

12. Adjournment: Motion by Hoechst, seconded by Helmke to adjourn at 9:39 p.m. Motion carried 8-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Holly Licht, City Clerk

2026 CITY PROCLAMATION
DECLARING THE FIRST FRIDAY IN JUNE TO BE
NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

This proclamation declares the first Friday in June to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day in the City of Verona, WI to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence and to declare that we as a country must do more to end this public health crisis.

WHEREAS, every day, 130 people in the United States are killed by gun violence and more than 260 are shot and wounded, with an average of more than 19,000 gun homicides every year; and

WHEREAS, people in the United States are 26 times more likely to die by gun homicide than people in other high-income countries; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin has an average of 767 gun deaths every year, with a rate of 12.9 deaths per 100,000 people, a crisis that costs the state 8.4 billion dollars each year, of which 144.3 million is paid by taxpayers. Wisconsin has the 37th highest rate of gun deaths in the US; and

WHEREAS, gun homicides and assaults are concentrated in cities, with more than half of all gun homicides in the nation occurring in 42 cities; and

WHEREAS, cities across the nation, including in Verona, are working to end the senseless violence with evidence-based solutions; and

WHEREAS, protecting public safety in the communities they serve is mayors' highest responsibility; and

WHEREAS, support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from those who are a danger to themselves or others; and

WHEREAS, mayors, council members, and law enforcement officers — in partnership with local violence intervention activists and resources — know their communities best, are the most familiar with local criminal activity and how to address it, and are best positioned to understand how to keep their citizens safe; and

WHEREAS, gun violence prevention is more important than ever as we see gun violence continue to impact communities across the country;

WHEREAS, in January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton was tragically shot and killed at age 15; and on June 5, 2026 to recognize the 29th birthday of Hadiya Pendleton (born: June 2, 1997), people across the United States will recognize National Gun Violence Awareness Day and wear orange in tribute to —

- (1) Hadiya Pendleton and other victims of gun violence; and
- (2) the loved ones of those victims; and

WHEREAS, the idea was inspired by a group of Hadiya’s friends, who asked their classmates to commemorate her life by wearing orange; they chose this color because hunters wear orange to announce themselves to other hunters when out in the woods, and orange is a color that symbolizes the value of human life; and

WHEREAS, anyone can join this campaign by pledging to wear orange on June 5th, the first Friday in June 2026, to help raise awareness about gun violence; and

WHEREAS, by wearing orange people across the United States will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors; and

WHEREAS, we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the hands of people who should not have access to them and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our families and communities safe.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mayor Luke Diaz of the City of Verona, WI declares June 5, 2026 to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day. I encourage all citizens to support their local communities’ efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

Signed this 26th day of May 2026.

Luke Diaz, Mayor

CITY OF VERONA ENGINEER REPORT

for May 26, 2026

MAJOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS (CITY)

COUNTRY VIEW ROAD – VARIOUS PROJECTS

Project includes a new segment of Country View Road from approximately 0.8 miles north of Milky Way (south limit) to approximately 900' south of County Highway PD (north limit). The project will include a two (2) lane rural section that will relocate the existing Country View Road to the west of the existing houses on Country View Road.

- Phase 2 – Paving of the multi-use path is scheduled for 2026.
- Phase 3 – Utility installation is complete. Curb and gutter placement will take place in May, with paving to follow in early June.

Project Website: <https://www.veronawi.gov/859/Country-View-Road-Epic-Lane---CTH-PD>

HYPER DRIVE ROADWAY AND BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION

The project includes a new 2-lane roadway from 500 feet north of the USH 18/151 and CTH G/Dairy Ridge interchange to a new intersection located 800 feet northeast of the Military Ridge State Trail. Approximate construction length is 7,000 feet. Project includes a new proposed bridge crossing over the Sugar River and Military Ridge State Trail and realignment and restoration of the Sugar River.

The goal is to provide a secondary access point from the south via US 18/151 & CTH G/ Dairy Ridge interchange for Epic's planned campus growth. Existing roadway infrastructure along Northern Lights Road is at capacity and cannot handle additional traffic during the weekday AM and PM peak hours.

Project Website: <https://www.veronawi.gov/866/West-Road-Dairy-Ridge-to-Country-View>

Construction: Earthwork and excavation of Ponds are underway. A temporary construction access road has been constructed from Dairy Ridge Road to the Sugar River.

EDWARD STREET (FROM WESTRIDGE TO THOMPSON STREET)

The project includes some concrete sidewalk, driveway, and curb/gutter repairs along Edward Street between Westridge Parkway and Thompson Street. Underground utility construction is not planned, but minor repairs to water or sewer infrastructure will be completed during the project. Sidewalk is planned to be extended from Birchwood Lane to Thompson Street. The existing asphalt pavement will be removed and new asphalt pavement will be constructed.

Construction is complete and final vegetation establishment will be achieved in Spring 2026.

Project Website: <https://www.veronawi.gov/923/Rehabilitation-Projects>

WISDOT US 18/151 (COUNTY G TO WIS 69)

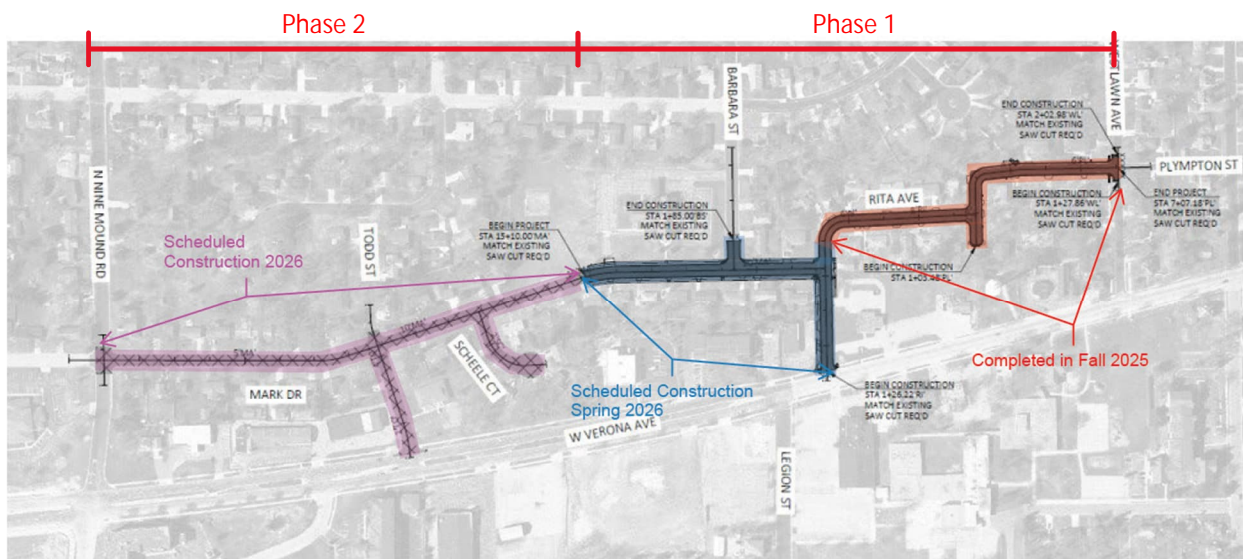
The purpose of the project is to address safety, route importance, and traffic congestion at the US-18/151 & W Verona Ave/Epic Lane interchange and the US 18/151 & County G interchange.

Construction is in progress. Visit the Construction Project Website for weekly updates (Select Schedule / "Check out the weekly update"): <https://projects.511wi.gov/us18151-danecounty/>

MARK DRIVE, RITA AVENUE, PLYMPTON STREET RECONSTRUCTION

The project includes the replacement of water main and sanitary sewer, adding new storm sewer, installation of sidewalks, and pavement reconstruction. The overall limits will be broken into two (2) phases and separate bid openings.

- Phase 1: Construction work has resumed along Mark Drive and Rita Avenue. Rita Ave is closed at Verona Ave to facilitate the installation of new sewer and water main. Mark Drive is open to local traffic. Work is expected to continue through July.
- Phase 2: Construction is expected to begin in May and continue throughout 2026.



PS17 FIRM CAPACITY IMPROVEMENTS

Project includes improvements to Pump Station 17. Construction is ongoing through spring of 2026.

LOWER BADGER MILL CREEK INTERCEPTOR, PHASE 5 & 6

Project includes the installation of sanitary interceptor pipe by MMSD through Ardent Glen (LBMCI Ph 5) and from Shady Oak Lane to Mid Town Road (LBMCI Ph 6). Pavement marking on Shady Oak Lane was completed on November 24, 2025 and erosion mat installation was finalized for the Shady Oak Lane right-of-way on November 26, 2025. Lining of the MMSD sanitary sewer manholes through Ardent Glen and along Shady Oak Lane was completed by Red Horse in March 2026.

Final completion of the project up to Midtown Road is expected by June 2026.

Project Website: <https://www.madsewer.org/project/lower-badger-mill-creek-interceptor-phases-5-6/>.



MAJOR DESIGN PROJECTS

PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY

Staff have restarted conversations with the project architect. Updated layouts will be presented to Public Works Committee.

Project Website: <https://www.veronawi.gov/757/Public-Works-Utilities-Parks-and-Recreat>

SOUTHEAST ELEVATED TANK AND WATER BOOSTER STATION DESIGNS

Project design is commencing. Anticipate kickoff meeting in late May or early June.

SOUTHWEST ELEVATED TANK PRELIMINARY DESIGN

Preliminary report and Water Supply Service Area Plan (WSSAP) were provided to the City in May 2026.

WEST SIDE LIFT STATION UPGRADES

This project involves a rehabilitation of the existing West Side lift station and converting it from a prefabricated steel can lift station into a submersible lift station.

Progressing towards final design for anticipated advertisement in June 2026.

DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

WHISPERING COVES

- Phase 1: The stormwater force main and wetland restoration are outstanding and must be completed prior to City accepting the public improvements. Home building has begun.
- Phase 2: Watermain loop through Phase 2 required for Apex development. Watermain loop design is complete, and construction is expected to begin in May 2026.

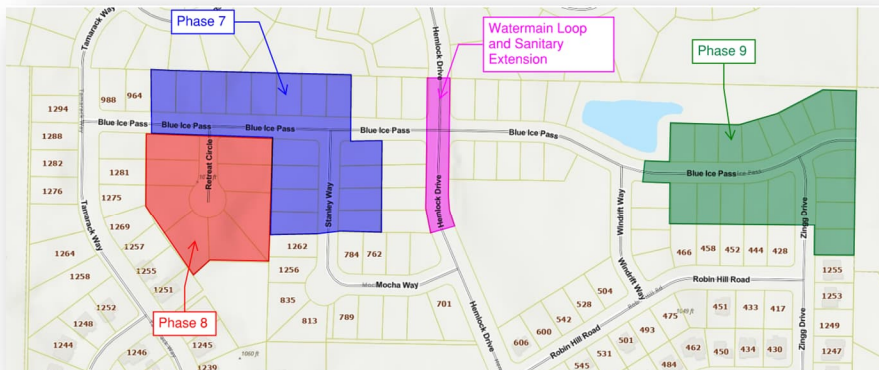
AVALON RIDGE

Storm sewer and sanitary sewer installation completed. Watermain work scheduled to be completed before June. Avalon Court construction is underway with dry utility (cable, electric, etc.) installation in May.

Design Plans have been received for the multifamily buildings. It is anticipated that the building construction will begin in June 2026.

KETTLE CREEK NORTH

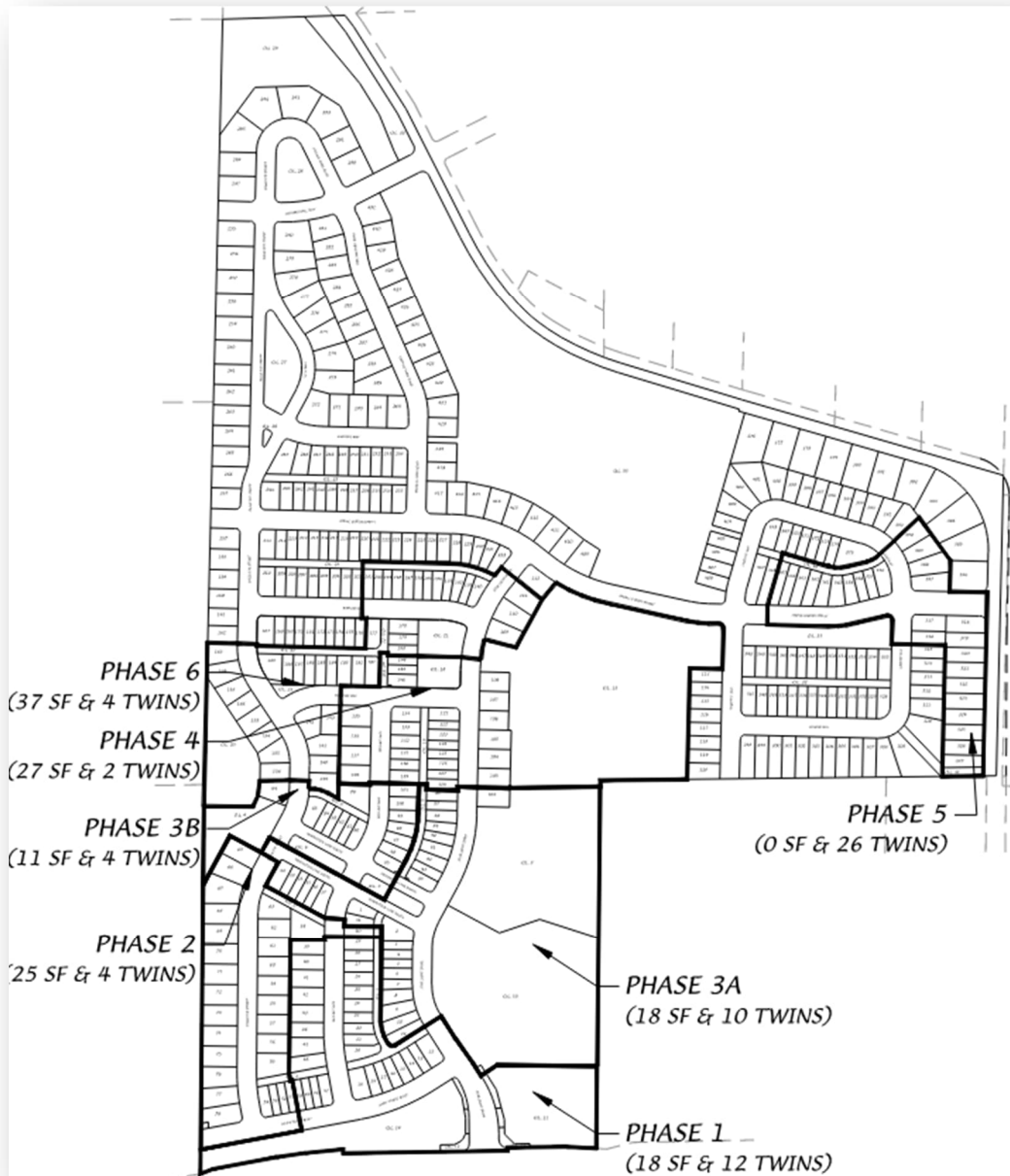
- Phase 7 & 8: Contractor completing punch list work.
- Hemlock Utility Extension: Design is complete. Construction is expected to begin in May 2026.
- Phase 9: 90% Engineering Plans have been submitted for review.



ARDENT GLEN

- Phases 1 - 4: Contractor completing punch list work.
- Phase 5 (including Shady Oak Lane): Expected to begin in 2026.
- Phase 6: 30% Engineering Plans have been submitted for review. This phase is expected to be constructed in 2026. **Early grading permit is being requested and reviewed to start filling operations.**

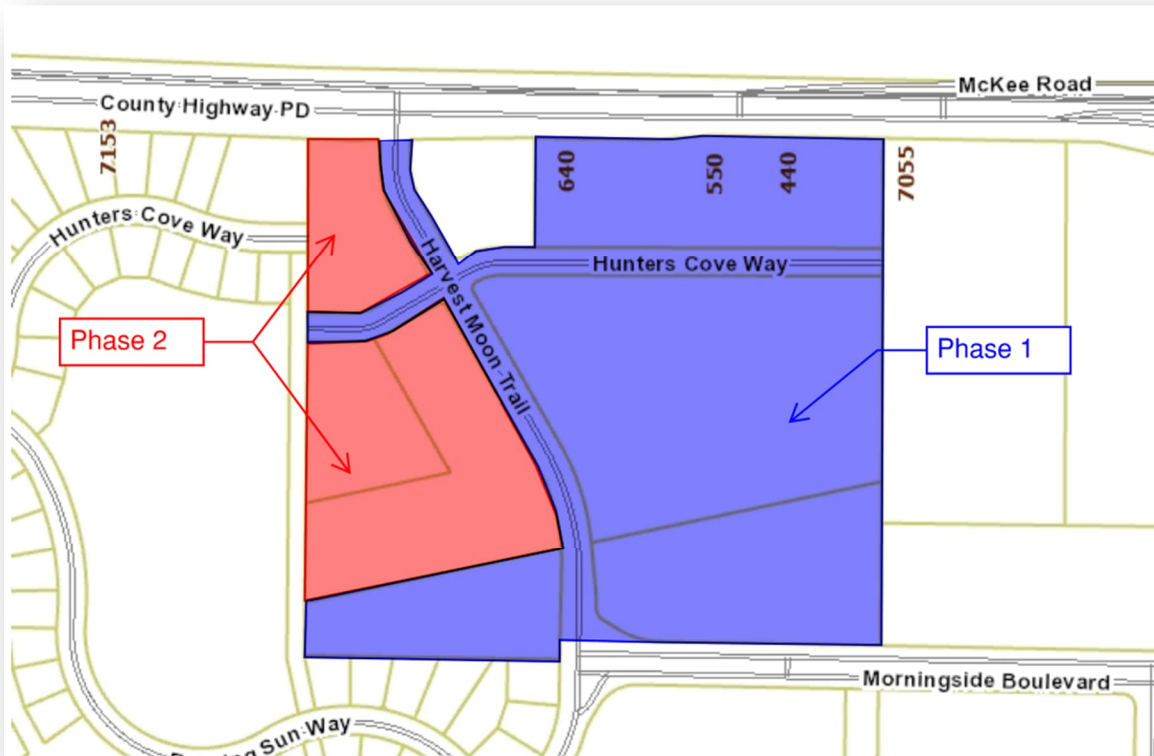
DNR approved the flood study on Oct. 9, 2023. FEMA issued a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) on May 1, 2024.



THE APEX AT VERONA – DREGER

Phase 1: Restoration and punch list work is underway.

Phase 2: A watermain loop will be required through Kettle Creek North and Whispering Coves to provide adequate service to this phase. Water main loop construction will begin the week of 5/18/26.



SSM HEALTH

This project includes the reconstruction and urbanization of Valley Road, an extension of public sanitary and water to the site, and the construction of a medical building.

Eastbound off ramp from US 18/151 has reopened. Asphalt pavement on STH 69 is scheduled for May 2026. A punch list walkthrough of STH 69 is scheduled with WisDOT and City staff for Thursday, May 21, 2026.

Valley Rd, from STH 69 through the western limits of the SSM project, will be closed through June 8. Valley Road is scheduled for final paving in June 2026.

STORMWATER SERVICES

PUBLIC STORMWATER PONDS

Cohiba Pond, a small man-made dry detention basin on the west side of Cohiba Court, constructed in 1997 as part of the Gateway Estates subdivision, requires maintenance to improve stormwater treatment and general neighborhood aesthetics through native seeding. **Regrading/reseeding of Cohiba Pond and stabilization is anticipated between Fall 2026 and Spring 2027. City staff is planning to schedule a neighborhood meeting with adjacent residents before the project starts.**

Inspections of the public stormwater ponds (wet ponds, dry ponds, bioretention ponds, etc.) started in April 2026 and is expected to be completed by early June 2026.

STORM DRAIN MURAL APPLICATION

The City was awarded a new storm drain mural through the Madison Area Municipal Stormwater Partnership (MAMSWaP) and Dane County. The storm drain mural will be located at Country View Elementary School. A local artist, together with students, will paint the mural in late May. The Storm Drain Mural Map can be viewed at: [Storm Drain Mural Tour – Dane County, WI](#).



CITY OF VERONA

111 Lincoln Street
Verona, WI 53593-1520

Jamie J. Aulik, City Administrator

Phone: (608) 848-9942 Email: jaulik@veronawi.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Common Council, City of Verona
From: Jamie J. Aulik, City Administrator
Date: May 20, 2026
Re: Summary of Agenda Items – May 26, 2026, City Council Meeting

Below is a summary of items on the agenda for the upcoming Council meeting:

Finance Committee:

- Discussion and Possible Action Re: Approve \$4,000 for Professional Services related to Office of Energy Innovation (OEI) grants at multiple City facilities
 - Potential motion: Move to approve \$4,000 for Professional Services related to Office of Energy Innovation (OEI) grants at multiple City facilities (insert funding source)
 - The City is preparing to submit two OEI grant applications on June 30 focused on sustainability and community resiliency initiatives. The proposed projects focus on various solar energy, battery storage, and potentially geothermal systems to offset the energy needs at multiple City facilities.
 - An *OEI Renewable Energy and Energy Storage (Activity #1)* grant application to install a solar PV and battery storage project at the Community Center. After reviewing the grant criteria, staff believe the Verona Community Center is the strongest candidate for an Activity #1 application due to the program's emphasis on community resiliency. The Community Center is the best positioned facility to function as a public-facing resiliency hub during emergencies and extended power outages.
 - Potential resiliency benefits include:

- Heating and cooling access during extreme weather events
- Charging stations for devices and medical equipment
- Community gathering space during prolonged outages
- Enhanced public safety and continuity of services
- The consultant services include grant development and technical support for a Community Center solar PV and battery storage project, including application preparation, data analysis, and evaluation of project options and funding scenarios. Services also include development of narrative and supporting materials addressing sustainability, energy resilience, and anticipated energy and community benefits.
- *An OEI Comprehensive Energy Planning & Feasibility Study (Activity #3)* grant application evaluating solar, geothermal, battery, microgrid and resiliency opportunities at multiple City facilities.
 - The second OEI grant will fund a study to evaluate solar, geothermal, battery, microgrid and resiliency opportunities at City Hall, the Fire Department, Senior Center, Community Center, and Public Works.
 - The consultant services include grant development and coordination services for a feasibility study examining solar, geothermal, battery storage, and potential microgrid systems across City facilities, including development of technical narratives, implementation strategies, and resiliency plans. Services also include project partner coordination, application preparation and submission, and ongoing grant administration and support.
- The projects will demonstrate a visible and meaningful investment in sustainability while directly benefiting Verona residents.
- Professional grant writing and technical assistance is recommended to strengthen the City’s application and improve competitiveness for grant funding.
- Because this is an unbudgeted expense, a funding source will need to be identified to cover the expense.

Personnel Committee:

- Discussion and Possible Action Re: Authorizing up to three additional part-time fire fighters to receive WRS benefits in 2026

- Potential motion: Move to approve authorizing up to three additional part-time fire fighters to receive WRS benefits in 2026
- At present staffing levels, the Verona Fire Department is experiencing challenges with shift coverage, resulting in increased overtime costs for full-time staff.
- Continued staffing shortages and increased overtime demands may begin to negatively affect employee morale and time-off availability for full-time personnel.
- The proposed solution would allow up to three additional part-time firefighters to become eligible for WRS benefits. WRS eligibility is triggered when an employee exceeds 1,200 hours worked on a rolling annual basis.
- A survey of neighboring communities by Interim Chief Becky McCright found that most fire departments are allowing part-time staff to receive WRS benefits.
- The estimated cost of the proposal is approximately \$120,000 and would be funded through existing vacancies in the Fire Chief and Battalion Chief positions. Long-term Fire Department staffing levels and operational needs are expected to be further discussed as part of the 2027 budget process.
- An additional benefit of the proposal would be increased leadership development opportunities for part-time staff, helping to strengthen the pipeline of future leaders within the fire service.
- The Personnel Committee unanimously recommended approval of authorizing up to three part-time firefighter positions to receive WRS benefits in 2026.

Public Works, Sewer and Water Committee:

- Discussion and Possible Action Re: Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) Policy
 - Potential motion: Move to approve the Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) Policy
 - Multiple requests are received each year to install rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFB). This policy formalizes the conditions, criteria, procedures, and rules to evaluate the requests to determine if a RRFB should be installed.

New Business:

- Discussion and Possible Action Re: Potential Expansion of Arrowhead Pharmaceuticals and Tax Incremental District No. 8
 - Potential motion:
 - Mayor Diaz and City staff recently met with leadership from Arrowhead Pharmaceuticals and representatives from Livesey Company regarding a potential expansion project within the Verona Technology Park.
 - Arrowhead Pharmaceuticals has outgrown its location in the University Research Park and is currently evaluating two potential expansion locations, including its existing Verona location in the Verona Technology Park.
 - Discussion focused primarily on the location of a potential future roadway and the possibility of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) assistance related to the project.
 - At the conclusion of the discussion, it was determined that the next appropriate step would be to obtain feedback from the Common Council regarding its level of support for the proposed expansion and the potential use of TIF assistance.

Legacy Solar Co-op

Scope of Work Proposal: OEI Grant-Writing Work City of Verona

Legacy Solar Co-op is a member-owned cooperative that helps Wisconsin businesses, homeowners, and community institutions develop affordable, high-quality solar and energy efficiency projects. LSC simplifies the technical and procurement complexities of the solar marketplace, helping organizations make informed project decisions.

Scope of Work Summary:

Provide grant development, technical analysis, coordination, and compliance support services for the City of Verona's 2026 Office of Energy Innovation (OEI) grant application efforts, including:

- An *OEI Renewable Energy and Energy Storage (Activity #1)* grant application for a solar PV and battery storage project at the Community Center; and
- An *OEI Comprehensive Energy Planning & Feasibility Study (Activity #3)* grant application evaluating solar, geothermal, battery, microgrid and resiliency opportunities at multiple City facilities.

Services for OEI Grant Activity #1: Renewable Energy and Energy Storage

1. Support preparation of a grant application for a solar PV and battery storage project at the Community Center.
2. Assist with technical analysis, project scoping, grant narratives, and supporting documentation related to renewable energy, resiliency, and municipal energy planning objectives.
3. Review utility data, facility information, conceptual project layouts, and contractor-provided documentation to support application materials.
4. Assist in evaluating project alternatives, funding scenarios, estimated energy savings, and implementation priorities.
5. Support development of narratives related to sustainability, energy resilience, energy equity, greenhouse gas reduction, and public education.

Services for OEI Grant Activity #3: Comprehensive Energy Planning & Feasibility Studies for Microgrids

1. Support preparation of a grant application for a feasibility study of solar, geothermal, battery storage, and microgrid systems (as applicable) at City facilities, including City Hall, the Fire Department, Senior Center, Community Center, and Public Works.
2. Assist with development of feasibility study narratives, phased implementation strategies, resiliency planning objectives, and preliminary microgrid concepts.
3. Coordinate with City staff, technical partners, consultants, and OEI representatives regarding grant requirements and application development.
4. Attend coordination meetings and assist with submission of narratives, technical documentation, budget information, and supporting materials.
5. Provide general grant administration, document review, and coordination support before and after grant award execution.

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Cost of Services: \$4,000

\$2,000 is due at contract signing

\$2,000 is due upon completion of the OEI grants by June 30, 2026

Thank you for considering Legacy Solar Co-op’s professional consulting services as you plan your solar future. Please sign below to allow us to start working on your project.

Approved by (signature): _____ Date: _____

Name / Title: _____

*Sign/Scan, and [Email](#), pay online, or **Mail** this and your payment to:
Legacy Solar Co-op -- P.O. Box 7622, Madison, WI 53707-7622*

Proposed Alternative Model to Fire Department Staffing

Current Staffing Model:

The department's current staffing model is designed to ensure consistent operational coverage for all scheduled shifts through full-time staffing allocations. Under this approach, the department budgets for 201 shifts annually, including vacation and Kelly day coverage, at a wage rate of \$45.54 per hour for 24-hour coverage periods, in addition to a 15% retirement contribution. While this model provides dependable staffing and operational continuity, it also represents a significant ongoing personnel expense within the department's budget.

In addition to being a costly option, this model relies heavily on existing staff members to backfill coverage for approved time off. As a result, maintaining minimum staffing levels can place additional strain on personnel and may increase the potential for mandated coverage assignments which reduces staff morale.

At their May 18, 2026 meeting, the Personnel Committee unanimously recommended allowing up to three additional part-time fire fighters to receive WRS benefits in 2026.

Part-time with WRS

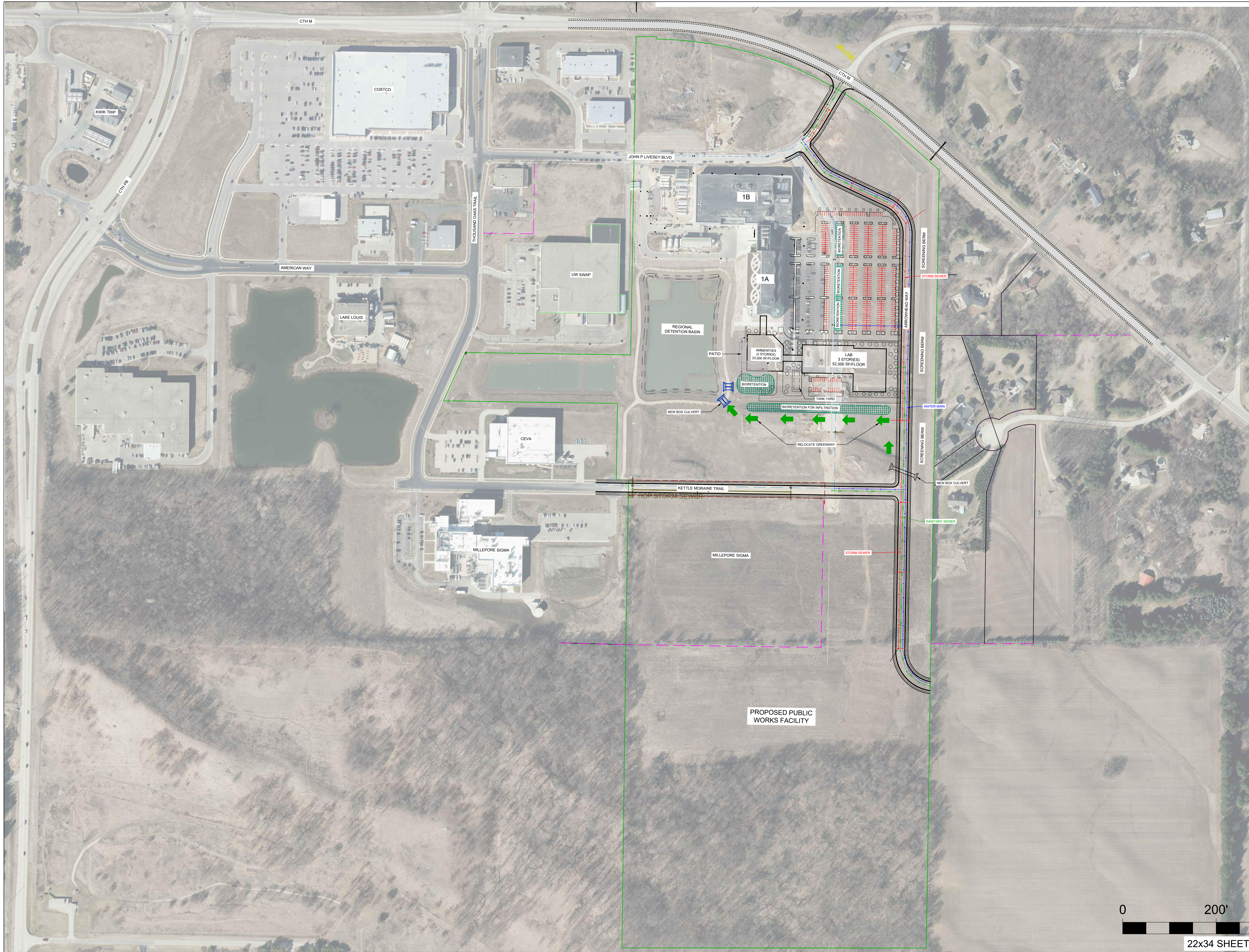
The proposed part-time coverage model would maintain the same level of operational shift coverage while using part-time personnel at a lower hourly wage rate. This approach is intended to improve overall budget efficiency and reduce personnel expenditures (overtime) without negatively impacting service delivery or operational readiness.

By transitioning these shifts to part-time staffing, the department could significantly reduce costs while continuing to meet operational needs. Similar staffing concepts are widely used by neighboring departments and have proven successful in supporting recruitment, retention, and employee morale.

Conclusion

This proposal is intended to maintain operational readiness and service continuity in a cost-effective and financially sustainable manner. Maintaining coverage for all scheduled shifts remains a top priority for the Verona Fire Department.

Interim Fire Chief Becky McCright

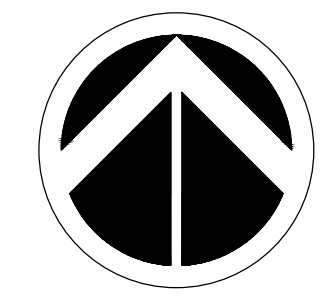


CONCEPT A

ARROWHEAD EXPANSION

CITY OF VERONA, DANE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

D'ONOFRIO KOTKE AND ASSOCIATES, INC.
 7530 Westward Way, Madison, WI 53717
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 YOUR NATURAL RESOURCE FOR LAND DEVELOPMENT



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