

September 8, 2010

#### Officers

Joe Sensenbrenner, President Dr. Nancy Frank, Vice President Earle Edwards, Treasurer

#### **Board of Directors**

Bob Boelter Brigid Elliott-Boger Jim Bradley Judith Guyot Henry Hamilton III William Lynch Harold "Hal" Mayer

Legal Counsel Doug Buck Foley and Lardner

Staff Thomas R. Dunbar FASLA Executive Director

Marcia Caton Campbell, PhD Milwaukee Director

Jeff Rainwater RLA, LEED AP Senior Project Manager

Kate Stalker Special Projects Coordinator

Anne Whalen Business Manager Department of Planning and Development 215 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd Madison, WI 53701

RE: Letter of Intent Resilience Research Center Land Use Application Submittal

## Dear

Please accept this letter of intent and attached plans as our formal request for review and approval of the Land Use Application for Rezoning, Demolition Permit, and Conditional Use.

Project:	Resilience Research Center 501 E. Badger Road Madison, WI
Owner:	Center for Resilient Cities 200 N. Blount Street Madison, WI 53703
Planner/Architect/ Construction Mgr	Hoffman LLC PO Box 8034 122 E College Ave, Suite 1G Appleton, WI 54912

# **Project Location**

The site is 3.85 acres located on the south side of E. Badger Road, just east of Rimrock Road, and south of the Beltline. It is bounded on the west by existing City of Madison storm water management basins, on the north by E. Badger Road and Badger Bowl, to the east by existing residential, and to the south by existing residential and the City of Madison's Badger Park.

# **Project Description**

The Resilience Research Center will transform a vacant school building and site on Madison's South Side into a neighborhood support center, with productive urban agriculture and a project- based charter middle school. It will serve as a multigenerational neighborhood hub for socializing, learning, training, research, and healthy resilient living.

The lead project partners, in addition to the immediate neighborhoods, are Will Allen and Growing Power, the Center for Resilient Cities, Badger Rock Middle School and Madison Gas and Electric. Support and program partners include Sustain Dane, Community Action Coalition, Community Groundworks and MACLT – all organizations with urban agriculture expertise and extensive practice in working with communities.

# **Activity Areas**

The Resilience Research Center will encompass six major areas of activity:

## • Neighborhood-Based, Neighborhood-Focused Services (Mixed Use)

The neighborhood presently offers little in the way of neighborhood-focused businesses. (Examples: coffee shop, market, other needed services.) The plan offers up to 5000 square feet of space to accommodate neighborhood focused business.

#### • Intensive Urban Agriculture

The entire site will be involved in year-round food production outdoors including community gardens, hoop houses and greenhouses using sustainable growing practices, including worms-as-compost-creators, and fish. Training in food production, preparation, service and marketing will involve entrepreneurial youth development with an emphasis on"green" neighborhood jobs.

# • Neighborhood Center

The campus will serve as an active hub of youth and teen programming, adult services, senior activities, community activities, events, and gatherings, and "green" job development.

# • Project-Based Charter Middle School – Bring Back Badger

A 120-student project-based charter middle school will feature an interdisciplinary program focusing on environmental sustainability with culturally-relevant teaching. Approximately 50% of the students will be from the immediate neighborhoods. The campus serves as a living laboratory for hands-on exploration and study of food production and science, energy and water use, and

community cooperation—all crucial areas of knowledge for future academic and job success.

# • Energy Services Center

Madison Gas and Electric and the Resilience Research Center will demonstrate a wide range of innovative approaches to green, energy-efficient design, ranging from low-cost alternatives that anyone can use at home to higher-cost elements that demonstrate cutting-edge technologies and design.

#### • Research/Measurement and Outreach

All of the above activities— neighborhood center and services, intensive urban agriculture, charter school, and energy use in addition to water and health—will be accompanied and enriched by applied research, measurement, testing, and outreach. The goals are to enhance quality improvement of all activities, operations, and services and to make significant contributions to knowledge in every area.

D '	• .	D
Prot	ant.	1 Jota
LIU		Data

Total Site Area -	3.85 acres (166,448 square feet)
Main Building -	51,645 gross square feet (2-story)
Greenhouses (2) -	3,472 gross square feet
Parking -	60 stalls proposed
Concrete Surface	27,687 square feet
Nature Pave	10,187 square feet
Decomposed Granite	5,148 square feet
Green Space	85,299 square feet

**Project Schedule** 

Demolition of the existing building is scheduled to begin in January of 2011. Site construction will begin in Spring, 2011, and completion of the project is planned for Summer, 2012.

Sincerely,

Thomas R. Dunbar, FASLA Executive Director Center for Resilient Cities 200 N. Blount Street Madison, WI 53703

# Resilience Research Center (501 E Badger Rd) Land Use Application Submittal

September 8, 2010

# Project Description:

The Resilience Research Center will transform a vacant school building and site on Madison's South Side into a neighborhood support center, with productive urban agriculture and a project- based charter middle school. It will serve as a multigenerational neighborhood hub for socializing, learning, training, research, and healthy resilient living.

The lead project partners, in addition to the immediate neighborhoods, are Will Allen and Growing Power, the Center for Resilient Cities, Badger Rock Middle School and Madison Gas and Electric. Support and program partners include Sustain Dane, Community Action Coalition, Community Groundworks and MACLT – all organizations with urban agriculture expertise and extensive practice in working with communities.

# **Activity Areas**

The Resilience Research Center will encompass six major areas of activity:

# • Neighborhood-Based, Neighborhood-Focused Services (Mixed Use)

The neighborhood presently offers little in the way of neighborhood-focused businesses. (Examples: coffee shop, market, other needed services.) The plan offers up to 5000 square feet of space to accommodate neighborhood focused business.

# • Intensive Urban Agriculture

The entire site will be involved in year-round food production outdoors including community gardens, hoop houses and greenhouses using sustainable growing practices, including worms-as-compost-creators, and fish. Training in food production, preparation, service and marketing will involve entrepreneurial youth development with an emphasis on "green" neighborhood jobs.

# Neighborhood Center

The campus will serve as an active hub of youth and teen programming, adult services, senior activities, community activities, events, and gatherings, and "green" job development.

# Project-Based Charter Middle School – Bring Back Badger

A 120-student project-based charter middle school will feature an interdisciplinary program focusing on environmental sustainability with culturally-relevant teaching. Approximately 50% of the students will be from the immediate neighborhoods. The campus serves as a living laboratory for hands-on exploration and study of food production and science, energy and water use, and community cooperation—all crucial areas of knowledge for future academic and job success.

# Energy Services Center

Madison Gas and Electric and the Resilience Research Center will demonstrate a wide range of innovative approaches to green, energy-efficient design, ranging from low-cost alternatives that anyone can use at home to higher-cost elements that demonstrate cutting-edge technologies and design.

# • Research/Measurement and Outreach

All of the above activities— neighborhood center and services, intensive urban agriculture, charter school, and energy use in addition to water and health—will be accompanied and enriched by applied research, measurement, testing, and outreach. The goals are to enhance quality improvement of all activities, operations, and services and to make significant contributions to knowledge in every area.