

Groundswell Conservancy Policy

Name: **Public Policy Issues**

Approval: Approved by Board of Directors May 26, 2010

Before deciding to engage in a public policy issue that may lie outside of the Groundswell Conservancy's mission and methods of operating, the Board of Groundswell Conservancy considers the following:

- Does the issue in question directly relate to the mission of Groundswell Conservancy and its efforts to protect the distinctive landscape of the Dane County region and its traditional land uses?
- Would involvement with the issue further or diminish Groundswell Conservancy's interests and credibility with its partners, supporters, and the communities in which it works?
- Does the issue affect the region as whole or strategic land and water resources within the region that provide major community benefit (versus private interests)?
- Is there a need for the expertise and assistance of Groundswell Conservancy?
- Does Groundswell Conservancy have the necessary resources and expertise to participate?
- What is the likelihood of success?
- Can the issue be engaged collaboratively with widespread community partners?
- How important is the issue in light of Groundswell Conservancy's other priorities?
- Involvement in the issue cannot jeopardize Groundswell Conservancy's 501(c) (3) non-profit tax status.

Groundswell Conservancy is accredited by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. Policies may be updated to reflect changing accreditation standards and practices, as well as changing local organizational needs.