

Proposal to relocate the Division of Forestry Headquarters

Update and Discussion

February 5, 2016

2015 WI Act 55

(1) RELOCATION OF DIVISION OF FORESTRY HEADQUARTERS.

The department of natural resources shall develop a plan to move the headquarters of the division of forestry from the city of Madison to a northern location in this state.

In the plan, the department of natural resources shall provide in detail the costs of relocating the headquarters, a timeline for implementing the relocation, and a list of options for northern locations in this state.

The department of natural resources shall complete the plan in time for the plan to be included in the department of natural resources' 2017–19 biennial budget request.

Process to develop proposal

February 2016:

- Engage the Council on Forestry to help identify the desired outcomes of the forestry community and the criteria to ensure the desired outcomes are achieved.

February – April 2016:

- Division will conduct analysis of the options (i.e. location and positions).
- Seek staff input as we conduct the analysis.
- Use a request for information (RFI) process from towns/counties that are interested in the HQ to be located in their domain.

May 2016:

- Determine the preferred options and draft a timeline for the proposed relocation based on the cost/benefit analysis of the different options.

July 2016:

- Request staff and Council on Forestry to comment on the proposal.

August 2016:

- Secretary will review and approve the plan in time to submit as part of the DNR budget in September.

Winter/Spring 2017:

- Legislature debates the proposal as part of the State budget in winter of 2017.

June 2017:

- If the proposal is included in the final budget, the department will initiate a process for implementing the move. The length of time this takes will be dependent on several factors including selected location, facility, HQ staffing levels, etc.

Current Division of Forestry Staff Locations

- Staff with geographic responsibilities
- Staff with statewide responsibilities:
 - Located across the state
 - Located in Madison (i.e., Headquarters)

Discussion

1. Write down your thoughts for each question
2. Find group of 4-5 and share your thoughts
(write on flip chart)
3. Look at your list and ask: “What is the most important criterion to achieve the purpose of the move?”
 - Narrow your list to the top 3-5 items
4. Share list with the whole group

Discussion Questions

1. How do you define headquarters?
2. What are the attributes that make a successful headquarters?
3. What are the benefits of having the Forestry headquarter's in a northern location?
4. What do you hope would change with the Forestry headquarter's in a northern location? What would you want to remain the same?
5. What are the criteria for which positions should be at a northern location?
6. What are the elements and attributes of a desirable location?