



RESOLUTION # _____

**TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LA CROSSE COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

ITEM # _____

BOARD ACTION

Adopted: _____
For: _____
Against: _____
Abstain: _____
Abs/Excd: _____
Vote Req: _____
Other Action: _____

EXECUTIVE

COMMITTEE

ACTION

Adopted: _____
For: _____
Against: _____
Abstain: _____
Abs/Excd: _____

RE: TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTERS

WHEREAS, "Data centers, data hosting and similar data storage or processing" are currently an authorized use in the "Light Industrial District" and "Industrial District" of the La Crosse County Zoning Code [s. 17.14(2)(j)]; and

WHEREAS, the La Crosse County Zoning Code does not currently further define types of "Data Centers" and does not sufficiently address the possible environmental, economic, health, safety, land use, infrastructural, and general welfare concerns that may result from the location, construction, and operation of Data Centers; and

WHEREAS, Data Centers typically feature high-performance servers, storage arrays, networking equipment, cooling systems, and power backup solutions to ensure uninterrupted operation; and

WHEREAS, concerns have been raised about the potential environmental, economic, health, safety, land use, infrastructural, and general welfare issues related to the location, construction, and operation of Data Centers, including electrical connections, energy demand, electromagnetic fields, noise pollution, impacts on air quality and water resources, water use, and fire hazards; and

WHEREAS, in May of 2026, the County Board of Supervisors authorized the creation of an ad hoc committee to study Data Centers and make recommendations to the Executive Committee and full Board of Supervisors [Resolution #2-5/26]; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §59.69(4), the County may enact a moratorium that is not a "development moratorium" as that term is defined in Wis. Stat. §66.1002(1)(b); and

WHEREAS, a moratorium would allow the county time to fully explore, analyze, and research the environmental, economic, health, safety, land use, infrastructural, and general welfare impacts of Data Centers and develop consistent zoning and regulatory standards to be applied to Data Centers in La Crosse County;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §59.69(4), hereby enacts the following moratorium:

1. Notwithstanding any other provision in La Crosse County Ordinance Chapter 17, there shall be a moratorium on the receipt of applications and the granting of all permits or approvals for the siting or construction of Data Centers. The purpose of this moratorium is to allow La Crosse County time to research the possible environmental, economic, health, safety, land use, infrastructural, and general welfare effects of Data Centers and establish consistent zoning and regulatory standards to be applied to Data Centers in La Crosse County. It will also allow the ad hoc committee to complete their study and make recommendations to the Executive Committee and full Board of Supervisors regarding any permanent amendments to County Ordinances. The moratorium shall be in effect for a period of 18 months from the date this resolution is published or until the County Board adopts any amendments to the Zoning ordinance recommended by the ad hoc committee or rescinds this moratorium, or both. The moratorium enacted is not

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intended to be, and does not, constitute a “development moratorium” as that term is defined in Wis. Stat. § 66.1002(1)(b).

2. For purposes of this moratorium, “data center” and “data centers, data hosting and similar data storage or processing” means one or more facilities housing computing, networking, or data-management equipment that can store, process, retrieve, or distribute more than 1 petabyte (1,000 terabytes) of data or that consume more than 2MW of electricity.

FISCAL NOTE: No material fiscal impact to the County. The County would not collect zoning permit revenue for new data centers during the moratorium.

Date: _____

Date: _____

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR

RECORDING CLERK

	Reviewed Only	Recommended	Not Recommended	
Co. Admin.	_____	_____	_____	Requested By: Dillon Mader and Lia Manock
Fin. Director	_____	_____	_____	Date Requested: May 13, 2026
Corp. Counsel	_____	_____	_____	Drafted By: Corporation Counsel
Board Chair	_____			

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this _____ Day of _____, 2026