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## GOV. EVERS ANNOUNCES FORWARD MADISON AS RECIPIENT OF MINOR LEAGUE SPORTS GRANT

Madison, WIS.- Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers announced today that Forward Madison is one of 17 recipients of the Minor League Sports Grant, launched in the summer of 2021. The grants are funded by the American Rescue Plan of 2021 aimed to stimulate the economy that was significantly impacted due to the ongoing pandemic. Wisconsin has a storied minor league sports history, with successful franchises in operation throughout the state across multiple sports. The Flamingos 2020 season was considerably affected by the virus, with strict stadium seating policies and limited capacity being put in place for the health and safety of the fans. Overall, this caused a significant drop in revenue for the club. Support from ticket holders, the corporate community and the City of Madison allowed Forward Madison to persevere through the financial hardship and remain viable for the 2022 season and beyond. Receiving this grant only furthers Forward Madison's position to financially recover from the pandemic.

"As the only professional soccer club in the state of Wisconsin, Forward Madison is fortunate to be an important part of the local sports and entertainment landscape," said Chief Operating Officer Conor Caloia. "The Club would like to extend our gratitude to Governor Evers and his staff for recognizing the vital role that minor league teams play throughout the State and for committing to the long-term stability of these key organizations."

The Flamingos will return to play their 2022 season in early April, 2022 at Breese Stevens Field on the near East side of Madison.

**About Forward Madison FC:** Forward Madison FC is a charter member of USL League One, launched in the spring of 2019. The Flamingos finished fourth in their inaugural USL League One season, drawing a league-best 4,292 fans per match to Breese Stevens Field. More information and registration for the team's weekly newsletter is available at <a href="https://www.forwardmadisonfc.com">www.forwardmadisonfc.com</a>. Follow the team on <a href="facebook">Facebook</a>, <a href="https://instagram">Instagram</a> and <a href="fwitter">Twitter</a>.