

BARBARA DITTRICH

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 38th Assembly District

For Immediate Release Contact: Rep. Barbara Dittrich July 29, 2021 608-266-8551

Rep Dittrich Tours Tornado Damage in Concord

National Weather Service Confirms EF-1 Tornado in the early hours of July 29th

Madison – Representative Barbara Dittrich (R – Oconomowoc) joined Town of Concord Board Members, Western Lakes Fire Chief Brad Bowen, Jefferson County Administrator Ben Wehmeier, Jefferson County Deputy Sheriff Jeff Parker, Governor Tony Evers, and Wisconsin Emergency Management officials in touring the serious damage resulting from an EF-1 tornado ripping through the area in the early morning hours of Thursday, July 29, 2021.

"Seeing the damage first hand is truly stunning. Aside from the force of mature trees snapped like twigs, ripped roofs, and billboards twisted like tin foil, the most heartbreaking scene was that of the Zastrow farmstead with a generations-old barn and one home a total loss. It is a miracle that no one was injured.

"Equally as remarkable is how this close knit community wasted no time in volunteering to help one another with clean-up of the multiple downed limbs and blown debris.

"I want to thank the quick action of our first responders including Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, Western Lakes, Ixonia, Sullivan, and Rome Fire Departments in keeping everyone safe. They have all had a very stressful week, especially in light of the home explosion in Rome on July 27th.

"I also thank Wisconsin Emergency Management and the Governor for their prompt survey of the area. The damage has been shocking to the community and will require the help of the state.

"As with any difficulty, citizens with ongoing challenges as a result of the tornado are always welcome to contact my office directly at 608-266-8551 or by e-mail <u>Rep.Dittrich@legis.wisconsin.gov</u> where we will connect you to the appropriate assistance."

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