



**Forest Preserve District of Cook County
Board of Commissioners**

Minutes of the Real Estate Committee

9:30 AM

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

**Sand Ridge Nature Center, 15891 Paxton
Avenue, South Holland, Illinois**

ATTENDANCE

Present: Anaya, Moore, Aguilar, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita,
K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

Absent: Deer (excused) and Gainer (2)

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Chairwoman Anaya asked the Secretary to the Board to call upon the registered public speakers, in accordance with Forest Preserves Code of Ordinances, Section 1-5-4.

No Public Speakers

COMMITTEE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of 05/14/2024

A motion was made by Vice Chairperson Moore, seconded by Commissioner Daley, to approve 24-0270. The motion carried by the following vote:

Present: Anaya, Moore, Aguilar, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita,
K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

Absent: Deer (excused) and Gainer (2)

Presented by: EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

EASEMENT REQUEST

Request: Requesting authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to grant permanent and temporary easements to the Illinois Department of Transportation (“IDOT”) at the intersection of Golf Road and Barrington Road for safety improvements to the intersection and construction access.

Reason: The easements are needed for IDOT to construct new turning lanes at the intersection for safety purposes. The road will be widened, and the intersection’s trail connections will be re-built to Americans with Disability Act (“ADA”) standards. The term of the temporary easement is five (5) years, or completion of construction, whichever comes first.

The area for the permanent easements is 0.089 acres, or approximately 3,876 square feet, and the area for the temporary easements is 0.854 acres, or approximately 37,200 square feet. IDOT indicates that no trees are expected to be removed for this project.

Easement Fee: \$3,950.00 for permanent easements and \$6,100.00 for temporary easements

Tree Mitigation Fee: \$0.00

Concurrence(s): The Chief Financial Officer has approved this item. Final easement is subject to legal review and approval.

District(s): 15

A motion was made by Commissioner Morrison, seconded by Commissioner Quezada, to approve 24-0215. The motion carried by the following vote:

Present: Anaya, Moore, Aguilar, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

Absent: Deer (excused) and Gainer (2)

Presented by: EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

PROPOSED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

Department: Department of Planning and Development

Other Part(ies): Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (“MWRD”), Chicago, Illinois

Request: Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with MWRD for Land Acquisition, Concept Planning and Preliminary Engineering for a Multi-Benefit Project in Southeast Cook County

Goods or Services: Collaboration and cost sharing on the land acquisition, concept planning and preliminary engineering for a joint project to provide ecological restoration and nature-compatible outdoor recreation and flood control improvements along Deer Creek and Third Creek (the “Project”)

Agreement Number(s): N/A

Agreement Period: Two (2) years from the Effective Date of the Agreement (“Initial Term”) with one (1) one-year optional extension upon approval of the Parties’ respective Boards of Commissioners

Fiscal Impact: Costs for this preliminary stage of the Project would be shared by the Parties but would be submitted separately to the Parties’ respective boards for approval. The Forest Preserves would be responsible for land acquisition costs with support from MWRD if needed. Authority for land acquisition costs for each acquisition parcel would be submitted separately to the Forest Preserves Board of Commissioners and, if necessary, to MWRD’s Board of Commissioners. MWRD would be responsible for all consultant costs associated with concept planning and preliminary engineering for the Project.

Accounts: N/A

District(s): 5, 6

Summary: Authorization is requested to document an understanding and commitment between the Parties to collaborate and share costs on the preliminary stages of a large-scale multi-benefit project that would advance the mission and goals of both agencies. The Forest Preserves is in the process of acquiring land along Deer Creek and Third Creek, located between the villages of Glenwood and Ford

Heights, as part of its Southeast Cook County Land Acquisition Plan and other plans to make Cook County more resilient to the effects of climate change. MWRD has also identified this area as a prime location to create stormwater storage to provide flood relief along Deer Creek, Thorn Creek and the Little Calumet River. There is an opportunity to collaborate on a joint project to accomplish the goals of both agencies more expeditiously, economically and comprehensively and leverage state and federal funding through partnership. The Parties intend to collaborate at this preliminary stage to acquire land and design nature-based outdoor recreation opportunities and achieve ecological restoration of 350-750 acres of newly-acquired land on an accelerated schedule. The Project would also direct stormwater from Deer Creek and Third Creek into a series of hydraulically connected stormwater storage areas to provide a minimum of 1,650 acre-feet of volume on the land. The flood control improvements will benefit the villages of Ford Heights, Glenwood, Thornton, South Holland, Lansing and Calumet City.

An Intergovernmental Agreement is needed at this stage to coordinate the preliminary stages of the Project, including land acquisition, concept planning and preliminary engineering, which is necessary for the Parties to plan subsequent agreements addressing final design, construction, operation and maintenance to be presented to their respective Boards of Commissioners. Final Intergovernmental Agreement is subject to legal review and approval.

A motion was made by Vice Chairperson Moore, seconded by Commissioner Daley, to approve 24-0188. The motion carried by the following vote:

Present: Anaya, Moore, Aguilar, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

Absent: Deer (excused) and Gainer (2)

Presented by: EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZING AND ADOPTING THE NAME SHISHKO MBISHKE FOR THE PRESERVES KNOWN AS CHERRY HILL WOODS SLOUGHS

WHEREAS, on September 11, 2018, the Forest Preserves of Cook County ("Forest Preserves") Board of Commissioners approved a resolution to officially recognize and adopt names of Forest Preserves Lands and Amenities (Board Item No. 17-0178); and

WHEREAS, the Board and the Forest Preserves recognize that names are an important part of creating

a sense of place and belonging, in honoring natural features or events, and that names may impart powerful and positive meaning for people; and

WHEREAS, the preserves informally referred to as Cherry Hill Woods Sloughs, located at 41.6700322, -87.8611659 / 41° 40' 12.12" N, 87° 51' 40.20" W in the Village of Palos Park, will henceforth be named Shīshko Mbishke (pronounced: SHISK-ko BEESH-keh); and

WHEREAS, the site was formerly labelled on U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps from 1963 using a name containing a derogatory and sexist slur. This offensive name was removed from the Federal Register in 2022 and was never officially adopted by the Forest Preserves; and

WHEREAS, Shīshko Mbishke translates to “muskrat swamp” in Boodewaadamiimowin (Potawatomi language), honoring a native animal that plays a significant role in the creation story of the Potawatomi people; and

WHEREAS, this name was selected in collaboration with community partners including the Trickster Cultural Center, the Tribal Office of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, the American Indian Center, the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, and the Chicago American Indian Community Collaborative, underscoring the Forest Preserves’ commitment to valuing and embracing the perspectives of the Native American community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Toni Preckwinkle, President and the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby recognize and adopt the name Shīshko Mbishke for the preserves formerly known as Cherry Hill Woods Sloughs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, appropriate action will be taken to register the new name with the U.S. Board on Geographic Names and initiate updates of all recorded surveys and maps, both printed and electronic.

A motion was made by Vice Chairperson Moore, seconded by Commissioner Daley, to approve 24-0174. The motion carried by the following vote:

Present: Anaya, Moore, Aguilar, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

Absent: Deer (excused) and Gainer (2)

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner FRANK J. AGUILAR, seconded by Commissioner MAGGIE TREVOR, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Present: Anaya, Moore, Aguilar, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

Absent: Deer (excused) and Gainer (2)

Respectfully submitted,



Chairman



Secretary

A complete record of this meeting is available at <https://fpdcc.legistar.com>.