



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

Journal of Proceedings for the FPD Board of Commissioners

10:00 AM

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

**Brookfield Zoo Chicago, 8400 31st Street,
Brookfield, Illinois**

ATTENDANCE

Present: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore,
S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Absent: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

CONSENT CALENDAR

There are no Consent items for this meeting.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

1. Dione Goree, Friends of the Forest Preserves
2. Benjamin Cox, Friends of the Forest Preserve
3. Dr. Sathya Chinnadurai, Sr. Vice president, Brookfield Zoo Chicago
4. Dr. Matt Allender, Director of Conservation, Medicine + Science
5. Linda Hampton, ZAP! Program
6. Kylon Hampton, ZAP! Program
7. Tosca King, Bishop Shepard Little Memorial Center - ZAP! Program
8. Barbara East, Bishop Shepard Little Memorial Center - ZAP! Program

PRESIDENT

25-0242

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

REPORT

Department: Office of the General Superintendent

Request: Receive and File

Report Title: Conservation and Policy Council Monthly Report

Summary: Created in 2014, the Conservation and Policy Council advises the President, Board and the General Superintendent about conservation policies and practices, including the implementation of the Next Century Conservation Plan's vision of vibrant, ecologically healthy and welcoming forest preserves system.

Each month, a member of the Conservation and Policy Council will provide a verbal report detailing the work that the Conservation and Policy Council is doing as well as their recommendations to the Board regarding policies, practices, and other strategic initiatives of the Forest Preserves.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Daley, to defer 25-0242.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Absent: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0298

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED APPOINTMENT

Appointee(s): Brandon Hayes

Position: Council Member

Department/Board/Commission: Conservation and Policy Council

Effective date: 9/9/2025

Expiration date: 12/31/2025

The Council Nominating Committee recommends the appointment of Brandon Hayes to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Megan Bang.

Brandon Hayes founded Bold Bison Communications and Consulting in 2019 to provide forward-thinking communications solutions, engaging strategy and facilitation services, and inspiring workshops and trainings for nonprofits, particularly in the conservation, climate, and local food movements. Bold Bison is a national firm-working from Florida to Alaska-with geographical emphases in the Great Lakes, Texas, and the West Coast. Clients include the Chicago Region Food System Fund, Chicago Wilderness Alliance, Giant Sequoia Lands Coalition, Green Spaces Alliance of South Texas, Houston Audubon, Iowa State University, The Land Trust Alliance, Montana Land Reliance, The Morton Arboretum, Nantucket Conservation Foundation, National Forest Foundation, and River Network, among many others including dozens of land trusts. Bold Bison is a Certified LGBT Business Enterprise. Brandon is Chair of the Board of Directors of the Institute of Conservation Leadership and is Board President of Chicago Artists for Action. He is a long-time volunteer for the International Crane Foundation's Annual Midwest Crane Count.

A motion was made by Commissioner Britton, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to refer 25-0298 to Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

25-0301

Presented by: HEATH WOLFE, County Auditor

REPORT

Department: Office of the County Auditor

Request: Refer to Audit Committee

Report Title: FPDCC Open Recommendations Report for July 2025

Report Period: July 2025

Summary: This report was designed to communicate the status of Open Recommendations regarding the Forest Preserve District of Cook County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Degnen, seconded by Commissioner Morrison, to refer 25-0301 to the Audit Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0305

Sponsored by: TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

REQUEST FOR GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT AUTHORITY TO APPROVE AND EXECUTE AGREEMENTS FOR INTERCONNECTION OF DISTRIBUTED ENERGY RESOURCES FACILITIES

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) desires to install, operate, and maintain solar and other energy-generating equipment or “distributed generation facilities” for the benefit of the Forest Preserves at certain locations now or in the future; and

WHEREAS, in order for the distributed generation facilities installed by the Forest Preserves to generate electricity to offset use, the Forest Preserves must connect said facilities to the electrical grid through various utility companies such as Commonwealth Edison (“ComEd”); and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Commerce Commission per Title 83 of the Illinois Administrative Code requires the Forest Preserves, as the interconnection customer, and the connecting utility company to sign and execute various interconnection agreements for the use and connectivity of any distributed generation facilities (“interconnectivity agreements”); and

WHEREAS, the interconnectivity agreements contain nontraditional terms, including a perpetual agreement term length, that cannot deviate from the form agreement provided and promulgated in the Administrative Code; provided, however, that the agreements may be terminated with proper notice; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves desires to execute such interconnectivity agreements with utility companies for various capital improvement projects focused on sustainability throughout the Forest Preserves.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby authorize the Forest Preserves’ General Superintendent, to approve and execute all agreements for the Interconnection of Distributed Energy Resources Facilities with a Capacity Less Than or Equal to 10 Megavolt-Amperes; provided, that the spend related to the interconnection required under any such agreements does not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) per year or one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) in the aggregate.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 25-0305. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0312

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED GRANT AWARD

Department: Department of Resource Management

Grantee: Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”)

Grantor: The Nature Conservancy via the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Request: Authorization to accept grant and to enter into grant agreement

Purpose: To conduct 94 acres of habitat restoration at Powderhorn Lake and Eggers Grove

Grant Amount: \$225,000.00

Grant Period: 9/9/2025 - 11/30/2027

Fiscal Impact: \$363,000.00 in direct cash match, plus in-kind staff support for the planning, implementation, and monitoring of the programs

Accounts: Professional Services 51036.520840; Grant and Mitigation 51010.521314 and 51010.521444; and all future Professional Services accounts

Concurrences: The Chief Financial Officer has approved this item. Final agreement is subject to legal review and approval.

District(s): 4

Summary: The Forest Preserves has been sub-awarded funds from The Nature Conservancy through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Sustain Our Great Lakes Program in support of habitat restoration at Powderhorn Lake in Burnham and Eggers Grove in Chicago. Restoration activities include invasive shrub removal, along with prescribed burning and the collection and propagation of native seed to enhance plant diversity at each site. The project will feature extensive use of a recently constructed water control structure (Board Item No. 20-0169); this will enable adjustments to water levels beneficial for maintaining emergent vegetation and habitat for marsh birds.

Total project costs are \$588,000.00 of which the Forest Preserves will contribute \$363,000.00 or approximately 62% in direct cash match. Additionally, in-kind staff support may be provided for the planning, implementation, and monitoring of the programs.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 25-0312. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0311

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT AMENDMENT

Department: Department of Finance and Administration

Other Part(ies): Cook County Government, Chicago, Illinois

Request: Authorization to enter into the Fourteenth Amended and Restated Intergovernmental Agreement between the County of Cook (the "County") and the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") for the reimbursement or payment for certain services rendered by various County departments and by the Forest Preserves.

Goods or Services: The County and the Forest Preserves wish to amend and restate the Thirteenth Amended and Restated Intergovernmental Agreement (approved by their respective Boards of Commissioners on 11/21/2024 and 11/19/2024 for FY 2025) whereby they provide various services for each other.

Agreement Number: N/A

Agreement Period: 1/1/2026 - 12/31/2026

Fiscal Impact: Not to exceed \$2,447,177.00 in expenditures and \$1,802,845.00 in revenue

Accounts: Various districtwide corporate expenditure and revenue accounts

District(s): Districtwide

Summary: The County and the Forest Preserves entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement on 8/21/2012 authorizing the parties to perform various services for the other, in accordance with the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act. The parties agreed to provide various services and to provide reimbursement or payment for said services. The Intergovernmental Agreement was further amended around or about 4/25/2013, 6/18/2014, 9/8/2015, 11/15/2016, 6/6/2017, 4/25/2018, 9/26/2018, 2/21/2019, 10/22/2020, 1/28/2021, 10/5/2021, 10/18/2022, 11/14/2023, and 11/19/2024 to allow for additional cooperation. The Fourteenth Amended and Restated Intergovernmental Agreement consolidates the prior agreements into one Intergovernmental Agreement, so the parties can refer to one agreement, and this document also contains additional services and reimbursements for FY 2026. This is a one-year agreement covering services and reimbursements from January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 25-0311. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0292

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED CONTRACT

Department(s): Department of Facilities and Fleet

Vendor: ASH North America, Inc., D/B/A Aebi Schmidt North America, Chilton, Wisconsin (parent company of Monroe Truck Equipment, Inc., Monroe, Wisconsin)

Request: Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to enter into and execute

Good(s) or Service(s): Upfit or modification of certain fleet vehicles based on Sourcewell contract #062222-AEB expiring 8/15/2026

Contract Value: \$600,000.00

Contract Period: 9/9/2025 - 8/15/2026 with one (1) year optional renewal to be exercised at the discretion of the General Superintendent, subject to the renewal of the underlying contract on which the piggyback contract is based.

Estimated Fiscal Impact: FY 2025 \$150,000.00, FY 2026 \$300,000.00, FY 2027 \$150,000.00 (optional)

Accounts: Vehicle Purchase 51033.560266, 51001.560266 and 51009.560266

Contract Number(s): #74000016712

Concurrences: The Chief Financial Officer has approved this item. Final contract is subject to legal review and approval.

Piggyback contract based on a Cooperative Procurement Agreement with no MWBE participation goals.

District(s): Districtwide

Summary: On September 19, 2023, the Forest Preserves Board of Commissioners authorized a one-time purchase with ASH North America, Inc., D/B/A Monroe Truck Equipment, Inc. (a subsidiary of Aebi Schmidt North America), in the amount of \$599,041.00 for the upfit of twenty-three (23) vehicles, based on Sourcewell Contract #062222-AEB (Board Item No. 23-0498). The vendor provides vehicle installation services such as warning lights and plowing components that are necessary for daily field operations. The Department of Facilities and Fleet is requesting funds for the continuous upfitting of future and recently purchased vehicles under the same Sourcewell Contract.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 25-0292. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0293

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED CONTRACT

Department(s): Department of Facilities and Fleet

Vendor: Ameresco, Inc., Framingham, Massachusetts

Request: Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to enter into and execute

Good(s) or Service(s): Energy Consultant Services for Natural Gas and Electricity for Forest Preserves-Owned and Leased Facilities

Contract Value: \$528,312.00

Contract Period: 10/1/2025 - 9/30/2028 with one (1) two-year renewal option to be exercised at the discretion of the General Superintendent.

Estimated Fiscal Impact: FY 2025 \$24,879.00, FY 2026 \$100,260.00, FY 2027 \$103,263.00, FY 2028 \$106,365.00, FY 2029 \$109,548.00 (optional), FY 2030 \$83,997.00 (optional)

Accounts: Professional Services 51001.520830

Contract Number(s): #74000016656

Concurrences: The Chief Financial Officer has approved this item. Final contract is subject to legal review and approval.

The vendor has met the Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Ordinance via direct participation.

District(s): Districtwide

Summary: Under this contract, Ameresco, Inc. will provide energy consultants, procurement, bill payment and data management services for the procurement of and budgeting for electricity, natural gas, and renewable energy for Forest Preserves facilities. Due to deregulated energy markets, the Forest Preserves can seek energy supply from multiple sources, which may result in operational savings. Due to the complexity and number of Forest Preserves accounts, however, it is in the best interest of the Forest Preserves to hire a subject matter expert to assist the Forest Preserves with the process. This contract is also crucial for the continued data aggregation with respect to utilities to assess their impact on the Forest Preserves' goal of reducing greenhouse gases.

Ameresco's fee for the services provided is assessed as a percentage of the amount of energy procured for the Forest Preserves. In addition, the data management and bill consolidation/validation process are flat annual fees per account. The Forest Preserves publicly advertised a Request for Proposal for these services. Three (3) firms responded, and Ameresco was found to be the most qualified vendor by the Forest Preserves evaluation committee. Ameresco has provided energy consultant services to the Forest Preserves since 2020.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 25-0293. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0295

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED CONTRACT

Department(s): Department of Facilities and Fleet

Vendor: Davis Equipment Corporation D/B/A Turfwerks, Johnston, Iowa

Request: Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to enter into and execute

Good(s) or Service(s): Jacobsen Repair Parts and Service

Contract Value: \$375,000.00

Contract Period: Five (5) years from date of execution

Estimated Fiscal Impact: FY 2025 \$18,750.00, FY 2026 \$75,000.00, FY 2027 \$75,000.00, FY 2028 \$75,000.00, FY 2029 \$75,000.00, FY 2030 \$56,250.00

Accounts: Equipment Supplies and Maintenance Service 51033.540275; and all future Equipment Supplies and Maintenance accounts

Contract Number(s): #74000016690

Concurrences: The Chief Financial Officer has approved this item. Final contract is subject to legal review and approval.

Sole Source contract with no MWBE participation goals.

District(s): Districtwide

Summary: The Forest Preserves’ Facilities and Fleet department is requesting to purchase Jacobsen repair parts and equipment service on a sole source basis from Davis Equipment D/B/A Turfwerks. Jacobsen repair parts and service are needed for the maintenance and repair of Landscape Maintenance equipment, such as heavy-duty commercial lawn mowers used for daily field operations. Davis Equipment D/B/A Turfwerks is the only full line Jacobsen authorized dealer in the state of Illinois.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 25-0295. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0307

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED CONTRACT

Department(s): Department of Law Enforcement

Vendor: Mark43, Inc., New York, New York

Request: Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to enter into and execute

Good(s) or Service(s): Records Management System and Evidence Management System for the Department of Law Enforcement

Contract Value: \$652,883.50

Contract Period: 10/31/2025 - 10/30/2028 with two (2) one-year extension options to be exercised at the discretion of the General Superintendent

Estimated Fiscal Impact: FY 2025 \$114,359.04, FY 2026 \$161,265.60, FY 2027 \$92,219.04, FY 2028 \$92,219.04, FY 2029 \$94,985.61 (optional), FY 2030 \$97,835.17 (optional)

Accounts: Professional Services 51001.520840

Contract Number(s): #74000016672 issued under Project #24-70-010618

Concurrences: The Chief Financial Officer has approved this item. Final contract is subject to legal review and approval.

The contract specific Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise goal for this contract was set to zero.

District(s): Districtwide

Summary: The Department of Law Enforcement proposes to enter into an agreement with Mark43, Inc., for “Software as Services for a Records Management System and Evidence Management System” which includes Case Management, Evidence Management, and an Analytics platform (“System”). This System will enhance the flow of information to our officers which will help increase the safety of the patrons of the Forest Preserves and of our officers, assist in swiftly generating accurate reports and provide the ability to inventory and track evidence.

The applications used in Mark43’s system will facilitate a secure and efficient exchange of critical information across the entire Department of Law Enforcement. This system will also interface with applications used by Law Enforcement, including the Cook County Sheriff’s Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system, Cook County’s DACRA system (to prepare citations), and Lexis/Nexis (to prepare Illinois Traffic Crash Reports). Additionally, this operating system will be used to meet the local, state and national reporting requirements.

The proposed agreement is a form software agreement that may include non-standard provisions for the Forest Preserves, including with respect to disclaimers, limitations on liability, warranties, and indemnification. The vendor was selected after a publicly advertised Request for Proposals, to which four (4) firms responded. Mark43 was found to be the most qualified vendor by an evaluation committee.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 25-0307. The motion carried by the following vote:

Commissioner Anaya voted "present"

Ayes: Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (13)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

Present: Anaya (1)

25-0254

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Department(s): Department of Conservation and Experiential Programming

Vendor: Chicago Zoological Society, Brookfield, Illinois

Request: Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") to extend and increase contract

Good(s) or Service(s): Animal food and bedding for utilization at the Forest Preserves Nature Centers to care for live animals.

Original Contract Period: 3/20/2022 - 3/19/2026

Proposed Contract Period Extension: 3/20/2026 - 4/7/2027

Total Current Contract Amount Authority: \$140,000.00

Original Approval: 2/8/2022, \$140,000.00

Previous Increase(s): N/A

This Increase Requested: \$35,000.00

Estimated Fiscal Impact: FY 2026 \$10,000.00, FY 2027 \$25,000.00

Accounts: Supplies and Materials - NOC 51001.530252

Contract Number(s): #74000010503

Concurrences: The Chief Financial Officer has approved this item. Final amendment is subject to legal review and approval.

Sole Source contract with no MWBE participation goals.

District(s): Districtwide

Summary: The Forest Preserves' Department of Conservation and Experiential Programming ("CEP") is requesting an extension of the agreement that was approved at the February 2022 Board meeting (Board Item No. 22-0020) to continue to tap into the purchasing power of the Chicago Zoological Society (the "Zoo") on a sole source basis for animal food and bedding for utilization at the Forest Preserves Nature Centers to care for live animals. This agreement allows the Forest Preserves' CEP Department to easily order and pick up food for live animals, through the Zoo's commissary, where items are stocked for animal care. The Zoo purchases in much larger quantities, which enables the Forest Preserves to acquire animal care supplies at a lower cost. The Forest Preserves would like to extend the agreement to align with the extension of the larger agreement between the Forest Preserves and the Chicago Zoological Society, expiring in 2027 (see Board Item No. 25-0197).

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 25-0254. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0303

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Department(s): Department of Planning and Development

Vendor: Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd., Rosemont, Illinois

Request: Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") to extend contract

Good(s) or Service(s): Phase III engineering services for construction oversight relating to construction of approximately 1.7 miles of the Des Plaines Trail from Bryn Mawr to Lawrence Avenue also known as Segment 3

Original Contract Period: 8/1/2022 - 7/29/2024*; Administrative Extension 8/1/2024 - 7/31/2025 (*Board approved term ended on 7/29/2024 but due to clerical error end date of 7/31/2024 was entered on executed contract)

Proposed Contract Period Extension: 8/1/2025 (retroactive) - 7/31/2026

Total Current Contract Amount Authority: \$688,543.00

Original Approval: 5/10/2022, \$688,543.00

Previous Increase(s): N/A

This Increase Requested: N/A

Estimated Fiscal Impact: N/A

Accounts: Professional Services 51009.520830, 51010.520830, 51029.520830, 51031.520830 and 51036.520830; and future Construction and Development accounts

Contract Number(s): #74000010547 issued in response to RFQ #19-80-67G2

Concurrences: The Chief Financial Officer has approved this item. Final amendment is subject to legal review and approval.

The Minority-and Women-Owned Business goals are not applicable for this amendment as there is no increased fiscal impact.

District(s): 9

Summary: The extension of the Phase III Engineering Services contract for the Des Plaines River Trail, Segment Three, is necessary to address the punch list items mandated by the City of Chicago before they can approve the work at the River Road and Bryn Mawr pedestrian crossing. To complete these tasks, the contractor had to obtain a new permit from the City of Chicago Office of Underground Construction which takes 3-6 months. The Phase III Engineer oversees the coordination and execution of punch list items and facilitates Illinois Department of Transportation (“IDOT”) audits to close-out the construction contract.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 25-0303. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (12)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

Present: Anaya and Britton (2)

25-0304

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Department(s): Department of Planning and Development

Vendor: Warehouse Direct Inc. D/B/A Midwest Office Interiors, Woodridge, Illinois

Request: Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to increase and extend contract

Good(s) or Service(s): Office Furniture Supply and Installation

Original Contract Period: 12/27/2024 - 3/26/2026

Proposed Contract Period Extension: Five-year optional renewal to be exercised at the discretion of the General Superintendent, subject to the renewal of the underlying contract on which the piggyback contract is based.

Total Current Contract Amount Authority: \$150,000.00

Original Approval: 12/27/2024, \$150,000.00

Previous Increase(s): N/A

This Increase Requested: \$550,000.00

Estimated Fiscal Impact: FY2025 \$50,000.00, FY2026 \$100,000.00 (optional), FY2027 \$100,000.00 (optional), FY2028 \$100,000.00 (optional), FY2029 \$100,000.00 (optional), FY2030 \$50,000.00 (optional); FY2031 \$50,000.00

Accounts: Building Improvements 51009.560105, 51031.560105, 51033.560105 and 51036.560105; Institutional Supply Expense 51001.530189; and future Construction and Development accounts

Contract Number(s): #740000015078

Concurrences: The Chief Financial Officer has approved this item. Final amendment is subject to review and approval by Legal.

Piggyback contract based on a GSA Procurement Agreement (Contract No. GS-27F-0015S) with the HON Company, LLC; no Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise participation goals.

District(s): Districtwide

Summary: The Forest Preserves has purchased some new furniture after completion of new facilities at the Salt Creek Landscape Maintenance Headquarters and renovations at the new Caldwell Woods Wellness Center and its General Headquarters. However, it has identified additional needs for furniture at these facilities and future renovations at other facilities including, but not limited to, Indian Boundary Landscape Maintenance Headquarters, North Branch Landscape Maintenance Headquarters, Skokie Resource Management Regional Headquarters, Dan Ryan Visitors Center, Trailside Museum of Natural History, Thatcher Woods Pavillion, and the Central Warehouse. Warehouse Direct Inc. D/B/A Midwest Office Interiors is an authorized distributor of the HON Company, LLC for GSA Contract No. GS-27F-0015S.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 25-0304. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0306

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Department(s): Department of Law Enforcement

Vendor: Axon Enterprise, Inc., Scottsdale, Arizona

Request: Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to increase contract

Good(s) or Service(s): Purchase of an additional twenty-five (25) Body Worn Cameras, twenty-five (25) Taser units, as well as all related licensing, software, warranties, cloud storage and training services for law enforcement.

Original Contract Period: 1/1/2025 - 12/31/2029

Proposed Contract Period Extension: N/A

Total Current Contract Amount Authority: \$2,000,000.00

Original Approval: 10/22/2024, \$2,000,000.00

Previous Increase(s): N/A

This Increase Requested: \$460,934.35

Estimated Fiscal Impact: FY 2025 \$129,061.63, FY 2026 \$110,624.24, FY 2027 \$110,624.24, FY 2028 \$110,624.24

Accounts: Equipment 51001.540132

Contract Number(s): #74000014996

Concurrences: The Chief Financial Officer has approved this item. Final amendment is subject to legal review and approval.

Piggyback contract based on a Cooperative Procurement Agreement with no MWBE participation goals.

District(s): Districtwide

Summary: On October 22, 2024, the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners approved the Department of Law Enforcement piggybacking off the University of Nebraska Master Agreement 3544-21-4615 between the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska and Axon Enterprise, Inc., for the purchase of one hundred (100) Body Worn Cameras, one hundred (100) Taser units, and other items (See Board Item No. 24-0431). Now, the Department of Law Enforcement is proposing to amend the piggyback contract previously authorized and executed to allow for the purchase of an additional twenty-five (25) Body Worn Cameras and twenty-five (25) Taser units, and all related licensing, software, warranties, cloud storage and training services. Additional body worn cameras, Taser units, and ancillary services are critically needed due to increased hiring of sworn police personnel.

The Law Enforcement Officer-Worn Body Camera Act along with the recently passed Illinois SAFE-T Act requires the use of officer-worn body cameras. Axon Enterprise has been providing both body-worn cameras and Taser units to the Department of Law Enforcement since 2019.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 25-0306. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (12)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

Present: Anaya and Britton (2)

25-0316

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Department(s): Department of Planning and Development

Vendor: Interface Engineering, Chicago, Illinois

Request: Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to increase contract

Good(s) or Service(s): Professional Services to provide architectural and engineering design and construction administration services for a new heating and air conditioning system for the Forest Preserves’ General Headquarters in River Forest.

Original Contract Period: 12/15/2021 - 3/14/2025; 3/15/2025 - 3/14/2026 (Administrative Extension)

Proposed Contract Period Extension: N/A

Total Current Contract Amount Authority: \$351,628.00

Original Approval: 12/14/2021, \$184,846.00

Previous Increase(s): 3/25/2022, \$17,450.00 (Administrative Increase); 4/5/2022, \$55,215.00 (Board Approval); 2/7/2023, \$74,989.00 (Board Approval); and 8/27/2025, \$19,128.00 (Administrative Increase)

This Increase Requested: \$38,610.00

Estimated Fiscal Impact: FY 2025 \$38,610.00

Accounts: Professional Services 51009.520830, 51031.520830, 51033.520830, 51034.520830 and 51036.520830; and future Construction and Development accounts

Contract Number(s): #74000009962 issued under RFP #21-80-44

Concurrences: The Chief Financial Officer has approved this item. Final amendment is subject to legal review and approval.

The Vendor has met the Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Ordinance via direct participation.

District(s): 9

Summary: The original scope of services was for design, construction administration and commissioning of a new Very High Efficiency (VHE), all-electric heating and cooling (HVAC) system at the Forest Preserves' General Headquarters. Additional services are needed for the continuation of commissioning required by a ComEd grant for the VHE HVAC system following an unforeseen installation problem. Piping was installed incorrectly between equipment units that had already been tested and commissioned, requiring re-installation and recommissioning. As the Engineer of Record for the new HVAC system, Interface Engineering is uniquely qualified to provide the additional services in a timely, correct and complete manner.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 25-0316. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0317

Sponsored by: TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ITEM AMENDMENT

Department: Office of the General Superintendent

Request: This item makes a correction to reporting date for receipt of additional ARPA funds.

Item Number: 24-0523

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Original Text of Item:

PROPOSED RESOLUTION FOR ADDITIONAL ARPA GRANT FUNDING FROM COOK COUNTY TO THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2021, the federal government authorized the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (“ARPA”), which includes \$1.9 trillion in federal stimulus funds to hasten the United States’ recovery from the economic and health effects caused by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, specifically, the federal government has authorized and allocated a federal award of approximately \$1,000,372,385 of ARPA funding to Cook County (“County”) to assist the County in its recovery from the economic and health effects of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on June 24, 2021, the County’s American Rescue Plan Act Framework (the “ARPA Framework”) was presented to the Cook County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the Cook County Board of Commissioners via Resolution 21-3654 accepted the ARPA federal award to assist the County in its recovery from the economic and health effects of COVID-19 in the amount of approximately \$1,000,372,385.00; and

WHEREAS, the County has sub-awarded certain funds to the Forest Preserves of Cook County (see Board Items Nos. 22 -0289, 23-0308, and 24-0245); and

WHEREAS, the County may have additional ARPA funds available to sub-award to the Forest Preserves of Cook County via either amendments to current agreements or funding new projects via new agreements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Forest Preserves of Cook County to accept as a sub-recipient any and all additional ~~APRA~~ ARPA grant funds designated for the Forest Preserves by Cook County as authorized by the Cook County Board of Commissioners.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Forest Preserves of Cook County shall provide a report to the Board of Commissioners no later than March ~~11, 2025~~ specifying of each applicable year that specifies any additional ARPA sub-award funds ~~received~~ awarded pursuant to this resolution in the prior year.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 25-0317. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0088

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

REPORT

Department: Department of Finance and Administration

Request: Receive and File

Report Title: Procurement and Disbursement Report

Report Period: 6/1/2025 - 7/31/2025

Summary: Submitting the Procurement and Disbursement Report for the periods of June and July 2025. The report is to be received and filed in compliance with Section 1-8-2 (BB) of the District's Code of Ordinances.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to receive and file 25-0088. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0161

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

REPORT

Department: Department of Finance and Administration

Request: Receive and File

Report Title: Vehicle Steering Committee Annual Report

Report Period: 1/1/2024 - 12/31/2024

Summary: This report is required per Section 1-14-1 (Districtwide Vehicle Steering Committee) of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Code of Ordinances. The report addresses changes to the District owned vehicle inventory for fiscal year 2024.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to receive and file 25-0161. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0300

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

REPORT

Department: Department of Finance and Administration

Request: Receive and File

Report Title: Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (the “ACFR”)

Report Period: Fiscal Year Ending 12/31/2024

Summary: The ACFR has been prepared by the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) for the fiscal year ending 12/31/2024. The report has been prepared in accordance with the principles and standards for the financial reporting set forth by the Government Accounting Standards Board and audited by a firm of independent auditors retained by the Forest Preserves.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to receive and file 25-0300. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0315

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

REPORT

Department: Departments of Legal and Finance

Request: Receive and File

Report Title: Workers’ Compensation Reports (June 2025 and July 2025)

Report Period: 6/1/2025 - 7/31/2025

Summary: The Forest Preserves of Cook County Departments of Legal and Finance are submitting Workers’ Compensation Claim Payments for the months of June and July of 2025. Payments total \$79,686.07 for June 2025 and \$71,159.39 for July 2025.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to receive and file 25-0315. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0309

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Department: Department of Conservation and Experiential Programming

Summary: Forest Preserves of Cook County Calendar of Events and Activities
9/9/2025-10/20/2025

Please check the Forest Preserves of Cook County's website for updates and changes.

Friday, 9/12; 4pm–7pm

Faire at the Square, Cummings Square, River Forest

Drop in and enjoy our creative-reuse carnival! The games will be made from repurposed materials. You can win prizes, learn about local plants and animals and explore other activities. *For more information, please call (312)533-5751.*

Friday, 9/12; 7pm–9pm

Movie Under the Stars, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington

Attention all movie lovers! Join us on our front lawn for a special movie viewing. *Registration required. Please call (847)381-6592.*

Saturday, 9/13; 9am–4:30pm 12pm–3pm

Fall Nature Fest, LaBagh Woods, Chicago

Join us and learn from environmental groups while enjoying food. You can see performances by the Jesse White Tumblers, animal ambassadors and more! *This event will be held at groves 1-4 and it is presented with Cook County Commissioner Bridget Degnen. For more information, please visit the website.*

Saturday, 9/13; 9am–4:30pm

Celebration of Roots, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland

Celebrate the region's rich migration history during National Hispanic Heritage Month with music, games, food and more. *This is a bilingual program that will be held in English and Spanish. For more information, please call (708)868-0606.*

Thursday, 9/18; 7pm

Adult Night Hike, Spears Woods, Willow Springs

Bring a beverage and take a guided 2-mile hike in the night sky and view nocturnal animals. *Registration required. Ages 21 and up. Please call (312)533-5751.*

Friday, 9/19 through Saturday, 9/20; 9am–4:30pm

Fall Nature Camp, Rolling Knolls, Elgin

Participants can learn about the significance of harvest season in Native American culture while participating in various activities. *The program is presented by Trickster Cultural Center. For more information, please visit the website.*

Friday, 9/19; 6pm–9pm

Acoustics under the Stars, Camp Shabbona Woods, South Holland

Join us for a night celebrating folk music. Enjoy musical performances, a guided walk and hot dog roast. Everyone is welcome to bring their own instruments and join in the musical fun! There are limited camping spots available. *Registration required. Please call (708)868-0606 or visit the website.*

Friday, 9/19; 7pm

Sunset Night Hike, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook

Enjoy a guided hike and learn about nocturnal animals. *Registration required by 9/17. Ages 6 and up. The cost is \$5 per person. Please call (847)824-8360.*

Friday, 9/19; 5pm–10pm

Annual Palos Night Sky Picnic, Pioneer Woods, Willow Springs

Explore Palos Preserves at night, nestled within the largest Urban Night Sky Place. Bring your own food, beverages and chairs. The activities will include live entertainment, exhibits, presentations and viewing the night sky on telescope. *Registration required. For more information, please visit the website.*

Saturday, 9/20; 9am–3pm

National Clean Up Day, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook

Join us and help care for our natural world by making River Trail and the surrounding preserves cleaner. *Registration required. Supplies will be available onsite. Please call (847)824-8360.*

Saturday, 9/20; 1pm

Hasta luego, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont

Join us for a presentation about the bird migration journey from the Chicago region to Mexico. *Registration required. Please call (630)257-2045.*

Sunday, 9/21; 1pm

Music in Nature, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont

Enjoy the sounds of the violin and cello in the forest! Missing Piece, a musical ensemble dedicated to making music in conversation with our environment, will be performing a 2021 composition "*Diminishing 5ths*" by Chicago composer and sound artist Shi-An Costello. The piece is a meditation on the natural materials of our instruments and an imaginative journey into how we make music in a changing environment. The event will also include an educational talk, and a guided nature walk. *Registration required. For more information, please visit the website.*

Thursday, 9/26; 5pm–7pm

Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration, Irene C. Hernandez Family Picnic Grove, Chicago

Join us and celebrate the vibrant Hispanic culture of Chicagoland. *For more information, please visit the website.*

Saturday, 9/27; 9 am

Trash Bash, Bunker Hill Groves 1 & 2, Chicago

Our event partners will be collecting electronics, prescription drugs, books, musical instruments, bikes, clothing and more. The first 25 donors receive a free, “Don’t be Trashy” t-shirt. Learn more about volunteer opportunities at the Forest Preserves, enjoy green giveaways courtesy of the Cook County Department of Environment and Sustainability & MWRD and participate in a self-led litter cleanup. Supplies will be provided!

Saturday, 9/27; 11am–2pm

Party for the Preserve: Salsa Dance, Thatcher Woods, River Forest

Celebrate National Public Lands Day with a Salsa Dance Party! Participants can enjoy live music, dance lessons, food and more. *This is a bilingual program that will be held in English and Spanish. For more information, please call (312)533-5751.*

Saturday, 9/27; 11am–5pm

Every Child Matters Powwow, Caldwell Woods Wellness Center, Chicago

Join us to celebrate Native American culture while recognizing the theme ‘Every Child Matters.’ Enjoy traditional Powwow, Native food, and listen to stories of culture from the area. Attendees are encouraged to wear orange and bring lawn chairs. For group registration or information. *For more information, please visit the website.*

Saturday, 9/27; 12pm–9pm

Party for the Preserves, Camp Bullfrog, Willow Springs

Celebrate National Public Lands Day with paddling adventures, games, fishing, stargazing and night hikes. *10-person canoes provided by Wilderness Inquiry. For more information about the schedule for activities, please visit the website.*

Sunday, 9/28; 10am–2pm

Party for the Preserves: Canoeing, Powderhorn Lake, Burnham

Celebrate National Public Lands Day with paddling adventures! Enjoy the outdoors and paddle at Powderhorn Lake. *For more information, please call (224)763-4317.*

Wednesday, 10/1; 4pm–6pm

Archery, Dan Ryan Woods-Central, Chicago

Participants can learn how to use a bow and arrow from certified staff. *Ages 10 and up. Junior archery will be available for those under 10. This event will be held at Grove 5. For more information, please call (224)763-4317.*

Friday, 10/3; 5pm–7pm

Halloween Hoot and Howl, Keystone Park, River Forest

Join our partners, for slightly spooky family activities, live music, pumpkin painting and more! *The event is presented with the River Forest Park District and River Forest Public Library. For more information, please visit the website.*

Saturday, 10/4; 9am–4:30pm

Art, Nature, and Culture Series: Hispanic Heritage Celebration, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs

Explore how art can intertwine with nature and culture by enjoying and learning about various art forms with options for all skill levels. Participants can celebrate this special month by making unique skulls, flowers and banners in preparation for *Day of the Dead* traditionally known as *Día de los Muertos*. *Registration required. Supplies and materials will be provided. Please call (708)839-6897.*

Saturday, 10/4; 9am–5pm

Southbound Migration, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington

Explore an interactive program about the Central and South American destinations of our migratory birds. *This is a bilingual program that will be held in English and Spanish. For more information, please call (847)381-6592.*

Saturday, 10/4; 10:30am–12pm

Art and Nature, Dan Ryan Woods Visitor Center, Chicago

Participants can create healing art inspired by nature. *The program is presented with Light of Loving Kindness.*

Saturday, 10/4; 11am–5pm

72nd Annual Powwow, Schiller Woods-East, Chicago

Celebrate Native American culture and enjoy traditional Powwow, food and more. *The program is presented with American Indian Center of Chicago. For more information, please visit the website.*

Saturday, 10/4; 11am–2pm

Pumpkinpalooza, Caldwell Wellness Center, Chicago

Participants can enjoy pumpkin painting, bowling, leaf rubbing, fall-themed obstacle course, and more. *The program is presented with Jerome Witte from My Town Realty Group. Registration required. For more information, please visit the website.*

Saturday, 10/4; 11am–3pm

Awe of Nature, Midlothian Meadows, Midlothian

Join us and connect people to nature through environmental engagement and community partners. *The program is presented by The Nature Conservancy. For more information, please visit the website.*

Saturday, 10/4; 1pm

Oak Ecology Hike, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont

Explore the area by hiking under ancient oaks. Participants can learn about their natural history and why they are keystone species. *Registration required. Ages 18 and up. Please call (630)257-2045.*

Saturday, 10/4; 4pm

Sounds Natural Creative Retreat, Camp Shabbona Woods, South Holland

Enjoy art activities, food and music with the option of camping overnight. *Registration required. There is a limited number of spaces available. The program is presented by Sounds Natural. Please visit the website.*

Sunday, 10/5; 9am–5pm

Southbound Migration, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington

Explore an interactive program about the Central and South American destinations of our migratory birds. *This is a bilingual program that will be held in English and Spanish. For more information, please call (847)381-6592.*

Sunday, 10/5; 1:30pm

Autumn Nature Walks, Trailside Museum of Natural History, River Forest

Enjoy the autumn season on a guided walk with a naturalist and view the color intensifies on our trails. *Registration required. The program is a family program. Please call (708)366-6530.*

Saturday, 10/11; 10am–12pm

Fall Photography, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook

Enjoy a guided walk to view and photograph fall colors. *Registration required by 10/9. Ages 13 and up. The program is for all skill levels. Please call (847)824-8360.*

Saturday, 10/11; 7pm–8:30pm

Introduction to Afro-Brazilian Music, Camp Shabbona Woods, South Holland

Participants can learn basic rhythms on percussive instruments as well as songs in Portuguese while in a call-and-respond setting. *Registration required. All instruments will be provided for Capoeira music, samba and maculelê during this workshop. The program is presented by Beto de Freitas. Please call (708)868-0606.*

Saturday, 10/11; 11:30am

Day Hiking Leadership Training, Bemis Woods-North, Oak Brook

Participants will be given the tools to take groups into the preserves for the day. *Registration required. The program is for teachers and youth educators. Please visit the website.*

Saturday, 10/11 through Sunday, 10/12; 4pm–11am

Family Campout, Camp Shabbona Woods, South Holland

The program is an introduction to camping for families and it will include meals, camping gear and outdoor fun. *Registration required. The cost is \$75 per family of 6 or less. Please visit the website.*

Sunday, 10/12; 10am–11:30am

Seed Collecting, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington

Join us in our prairies to help in the restoration process by collecting native seeds. *Registration required. Ages 8 and up. Please call (847)381-6592.*

Sunday, 10/12; 10:30am & 1:30 pm

Fall Changes, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook

Enjoy a casual walk in the woods and view the spectacular fall colors. *For more information, please call (847)824-8360.*

Sunday, 10/12; 1pm–2:30pm

Seed Collecting, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington

Join us in our prairies to help in the restoration process by collecting native seeds. *Registration required. Age 8 and up. Please call (847)381-6592.*

Sunday, 10/12; 1:30pm

Autumn Nature Walks, Trailside Museum of Natural History, River Forest

Enjoy the autumn season on a guided walk with a naturalist and see the color intensifies on our trails. *Registration required. The program is a family program. Please call (708)366-6530.*

Wednesday, 10/15; 6:30pm

Owl Prowl, Eggers Grove, Chicago

Join us for a guided walk and search for owls. *Registration required. Please visit the website.*

Sunday, 10/12; 1pm–2:30pm

Mental Health First Aid Training, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington

Participants can learn about mental health and the skills to assist other individuals. *Registration required. Age 18 and up. The program is presented with the Kenneth Young Center. Please call (847)381-6592.*

Saturday, 10/18; 10am–2pm

The Great Sand Ridge Tiny Pumpkin Hunt, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland

Discover hidden pumpkins on a fun scavenger hunt and take home your own pumpkin. *Supplies are limited. Participants are encouraged to wear costumes. For more information, please call (708)868-0606.*

Saturday, 10/18; 11am–2pm

Hispanic Heritage Paddle. Powderhorn Lake, Burnham

Enjoy paddling, storytelling, and connecting nature and culture. *The program is presented with Friends of the Chicago River. For more information, please call (224)763-4317.*

Saturday, 10/18; 1pm

Seed Collecting at Wolf Road Prairie, Wolf Road Prairie Nature Preserve, Westchester

Join us for a prairie seed collecting workday. *Registration required. Ages 12 and up. Ages 12-17 must be accompanied by an adult. Please call (708)366-6530.*

Sunday, 10/19; 10am–3pm

Fall Festival, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook

Celebrate the autumn season with a special fun day! Participants can view and enjoy beekeeping demonstrations, animal encounters, pumpkin painting, honey sales, activities and more. *For more information, please call (847)824-8360.*

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve as amended in the errata 25-0309. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0330

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

SECRETARY TO THE BOARD, Lynne M. Turner, presented in printed form a record of the Journal of Proceedings of the regular meeting held on July 1, 2025 .

A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to approve 25-0330. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0308

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED BID RECOMMENDATION

Department: Department of Planning and Development

Request: Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to enter into a construction contract with Great Lakes Landscape Company, primary place of business Bartlett, Illinois, for construction of a new trail connecting Beaubien Woods Boat Launch to Altgeld Gardens in Chicago, Illinois.

Reason: Contract #74000016702 issued under Solicitation #25-80-012896 for Project #25-80-02, Beaubien Woods - Altgeld Gardens Trail Connection. The work includes, but is not limited to, construction of a new aggregate-surface trail with a box culvert. Work also includes building a temporary hauling road with natural prairie land restoration. The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) will reimburse up to \$315,000.00 of the trail cost as mitigation for impacts from a future 130th Red Line Extension station pursuant to an Intergovernmental Agreement with the CTA (Board Item No. 23-0520).

Bid Opening Date: 8/12/2025

Bid Results:

1. Great Lakes Landscape Company	\$1,074,397.00
2. Meru Corporation	\$1,239,177.00
3. Semper Fi Landscaping, Inc.	\$1,330,229.95
4. MYS, Inc.	\$1,533,909.86
5. Pan-Oceanic Engineering Co., Inc.	\$1,813,869.69

Estimated Fiscal Impact: \$1,074,397.00

Contract Period: Four hundred forty-seven (447) calendar days from the issuance of the Notice to Proceed.

Account Name/Number: Land Improvements 51009.560019, 51010.560019, 51033.560019, 51034.560019 and 51036.560019; and future Construction and Development accounts

District: 4

Concurrence(s): The Chief Financial Officer and Chief Attorney have approved this item.

The vendor has met the Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Ordinance via direct participation.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 25-0308. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0313

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE (LITIGATION)

Finance Subcommittee Meeting on Litigation - 9/9/2025

The Finance Subcommittee on Litigation met on the above listed date and recommends the following for approval:

Proposed Settlements Approved Fiscal Year 2025 to Present:	\$3,500,000.00
Proposed Settlements to Be Approved:	\$0.00

Legal Fees Approved Fiscal Year 2025 to Present:	\$511,003.54
Legal Fees for 9/9/2025 to Be Approved:	\$97,295.28

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 25-0313. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0314

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE (WORKERS' COMPENSATION)

Finance Subcommittee Meeting on Workers' Compensation - 9/9/2025

The Finance Subcommittee on Workers' Compensation met on the above listed date and recommends the following for approval:

Workers' Compensation Claims approved Fiscal Year 2025 to present: \$254,671.29
Workers' Compensation Claims to Be Approved: \$25,000.00

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 25-0314. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0093

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

REPORT

Department: Department of Finance and Administration

Request: Receive and File

Report Title: Corporate Fund Analysis of Revenue and Expenditures

Report Period: 1/1/2025 - 7/31/2025

Summary: Detailed Fund Analysis of Revenue and Expenditures for July 2025.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to receive and file 25-0093. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

25-0263

Presented by: (Inactive) EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

REPORT

Department: Department of Law Enforcement

Request: Refer to Law Enforcement Committee

Report Title: Model Policing

Report Period: 1/1/2025 - 6/30/2025

Summary: Report on the status of achieving the goal of a Model Forest Preserves Police Department.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moore, seconded by Commissioner Aguilar, to receive and file 25-0263. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to adjourn. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, S. Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

Excused Absence: Gainer, Morita and K. Morrison (3)

Respectfully submitted,



Chairman

Secretary
Journal# 25-0384

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