

# **Annual Comprehensive Financial Report**

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**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**



**Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois  
(A Component Unit of Cook County, Illinois)**

69 West Washington Street, Suite 2060  
Chicago, Illinois 60602

**PREPARED BY:**

Damon Howell, *Chief Financial Officer*  
James Cunnea, *Comptroller*

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Financial Report  
of the Forest Preserve District of  
Cook County, Illinois  
(A Component Unit of Cook County, Illinois)**

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2024

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James Cunnea, Comptroller

# Forest Preserve District of Cook County

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## **INTRODUCTORY SECTION**



**TONI PRECKWINKLE**  
**President**

**Board of  
Commissioners**

Frank J. Aguilar  
Alma E. Anaya  
Scott R. Britton  
John P. Daley  
Bridget Degnen  
Bridget Gainer  
Bill Lowry  
Dr. Kisha E. McCaskill  
Donna Miller  
Stanley Moore  
Josina Morita  
Kevin B. Morrison  
Sean M. Morrison  
Michael Scott, Jr.  
Tara S. Stamps  
Maggie Trevor  
Jessica Vásquez

July 16, 2025

President Toni Preckwinkle and Honorable  
Members of the Forest Preserves of Cook County  
District Board of Commissioners and Citizens of Cook County

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We are pleased to present the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois (the District), for the fiscal year which ended December 31, 2024. The Annual Comprehensive Financial Report has been prepared by the District in accordance with the principles and standards for financial reporting set forth by the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and audited by a firm of independent auditors retained by the District.

Responsibility for both the accuracy of the data and the completeness and fairness of the presentation, including all disclosures, rests with the management of the District. We believe that the data, as presented, is accurate in all material respects, presents fairly the financial position and results of operations of the District as measured by the financial activity of its various funds and provides the reader with the relevant information needed to understand the District's financial activities.

Baker Tilly US, LLP, Certified Public Accountants, have issued an unmodified ("clean") opinion on the District's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2024. The independent auditors' report is located at the front of the financial section of this report.

Management's discussion and analysis (MD&A) immediately follows the independent auditors' report and provides a narrative introduction, overview, and analysis of the basic financial statements. MD&A complements this letter of transmittal and should be read in conjunction with it.

**Profile of The Forest Preserve District of Cook County**

The Forest Preserve District of Cook County was formed in 1914. Created by an act of the Illinois State Legislature, the District was the first countywide unit of government dedicated to land conservation in Illinois and one of the first in urban America.

The founders of the District were true visionaries. They predicted the explosive population growth and anticipated the wave of urban development that would sprawl far beyond the city limits of Chicago into the open prairie, forests, wetlands and farm fields. They dreamed of a region that preserved its natural character and sense of place, where city and suburb flowed together along vast expanses of open land following the natural mosaic of rivers, streams, prairies, marsh and woodland that traverse Cook County.

From its inception, the mission of the District has been to acquire and maintain lands in their natural state with the purpose of protecting and preserving the flora, fauna and scenic beauties for the education, pleasure and recreation of the public.

Today, the District encompasses more than 70,000 acres, which is approximately 11 percent of Cook County's footprint; most of the acres are open land. Each year, millions of people use these lands and facilities to enjoy or study nature, bicycle, hike, fish, cross-country ski, picnic, golf, canoe, or simply relax in a large preserve that leaves urban life behind. Facilities located in the preserves include golf courses and driving ranges, swimming pools, boat rentals, equestrian stables and nature centers.

In addition to general governmental services, the District has two component units that are included in the reporting entity, due to the significance of their operational and/or financial relationships with the District: the Brookfield Zoo and the Chicago Botanic Garden. The District has long-term operating agreements with these two world-class institutions located on Forest Preserve District land. Additional information on these component units can be found in the notes to the financial statements.

The District is a separate body and political subdivision of the State of Illinois. The District has independent taxing powers though its boundaries are the same as those of Cook County. The District is governed by a President elected by Cook County voters and a Board of Commissioners elected by Cook County voters from seventeen (17) districts within the County. The President and Commissioners are elected for four-year terms. The President and Commissioners also serve on the Cook County Board in the same capacities.

## **Local Economy**

Cook County is the largest of Illinois' 102 counties and is home to more than 40 percent of the state population.<sup>1</sup> In 2024, there were approximately 5.1 million residents, and represents the third largest metropolitan area and second largest county in the country.

Cook County, including the city of Chicago, acts as the economic engine for the Midwest region. Residents are afforded abundant employment opportunities within this deep and diverse regional economy. The county also benefits from an extensive infrastructure network, including a vast rail system, which supports continued growth. The employment base is represented by all major sectors with concentrations in the wholesale trade, professional and business services and financial sectors. Socioeconomic indicators are mixed with above-average per capita income and educational levels but also elevated individual poverty and unemployment rates.

## **Long-term financial planning and major initiatives**

Governments and taxing bodies throughout Illinois and the nation continue to grapple with revenue shortfalls resulting from the economic downturn. Providing services desired by constituents without increasing their tax burden has proven to be a tremendous challenge. For 2024, the District presented the Board and taxpayers of Cook County a balanced budget.

The District continues its focused efforts to better manage operations and implement efficiencies while enhancing the services it provides to the public. The 2024 Budget also reflects savings from taking advantage of economies of scale through numerous Intergovernmental Agreements that allow for collaboration with other Cook County agencies to provide administrative services more effectively than if the District provided these services itself.

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<sup>1</sup> United States Department of Census



## Relevant financial policies

The President of the Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners submits to the Board a proposed budget for its fiscal year commencing on January 1. While there is no statutory limit on the size of the budget that may be adopted, as a non-home rule unit of government, state law establishes limits on the District's property tax rate. The District maintains fiscal controls to ensure compliance with the annual budget which is approved by the Board and known as the Forest Preserve District Appropriation Ordinance. Activities of the Corporate Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Debt Service Fund, and other funds are included in the Annual Appropriation Ordinance. The Administration is authorized by statute to transfer budgeted amounts between various detail objects within any fund. The level of control where expenditures may not exceed appropriations is the fund level of activity.

Illinois law requires real property taxes to be collected in the year following the levy year. Therefore, under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for fund reporting, the 2024 property tax levies of the District are not recognized as revenue, as they are not available to fund operations in 2024.

### Unassigned Fund Balance Level

The District endeavors to have a sufficient unassigned fund balance for the Corporate Fund to mitigate the risk stemming from 1) revenue fluctuations, 2) unexpected emergency expenditures, and 3) temporary periods of negative cash flow. To this end, a minimum fund balance shall be budgeted annually that is the total of the following percentages:<sup>2</sup>

1. Revenue Fluctuations: 5.5 percent of Corporate Fund Gross Revenues
2. Unexpected Expenditures: 1 percent of Corporate Fund Expenditures
3. Insufficient Operating Cash: 8 percent of Corporate Fund Expenditures

In any given year, the President may request that the Board waive this policy as operations demand. However, it is the intention of the President and the Board that this policy is adhered to in normal years. If, in any given year, the fund balance declines below the level specified by this policy, budgeted increases in the Fund Balance should be made over a maximum three-year period to bring the fund balance in accordance with the policy.

Management of the District is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure designed to ensure that the assets of the District are protected from loss, theft or misuse, and to ensure that adequate accounting data is compiled to allow for the preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The internal control structure is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that these objectives are met. The concept of reasonable assurance recognizes that the cost of a control should not exceed the benefits likely to be derived from it, and that the valuation of costs and benefits requires estimates and the use of experienced judgments by management.

As a recipient of Federal and State financial assistance, the District is also responsible for ensuring that an adequate internal control structure is in place to ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations related to those programs. This internal control structure is subject to periodic evaluation by management and independent auditors.

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<sup>2</sup> These percentages assume an allowance for uncollectible receivables based on a moving 5-year average of uncollected receivables and a minimum employee turnover of 5 percent. Use of the Working Cash fund is also assumed.

## Awards and Acknowledgements

This is the 23rd year that the District has prepared the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report using the financial reporting requirements as described by GASB Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements - and Management's Discussion and Analysis - for State and Local Governments* (GASB 34). This GASB Statement requires that management provide a narrative introduction, overview and analysis to accompany the basic financial statements in the form of Management's Discussion & Analysis (MD&A).

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the Forest Preserve District of Cook County for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023. To be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, a government must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized comprehensive annual financial report. This report must satisfy both accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and applicable legal requirements.

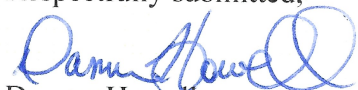
A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year only. We believe that our 2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report continues to meet the Certificate of Achievement Program's requirements and we will submit it to the GFOA to determine its eligibility for another certificate.

The preparation and completion of this Annual Comprehensive Financial Report represents the culmination of numerous efforts by many Forest Preserve District employees, and the cooperation and assistance of the accounting firm engaged to audit the District's operations.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to the members of our staff, and the staff of Baker Tilly US, LLP, for making this report possible.

This Annual Comprehensive Financial Report reflects our ongoing commitment to the citizens of Cook County, the Board of Commissioners and all interested readers of this report to provide information in conformity with the highest standards of financial reporting.

Respectfully submitted,



Damon Howell

Chief Financial Officer



Government Finance Officers Association

**Certificate of  
Achievement  
for Excellence  
in Financial  
Reporting**

Presented to

**Forest Preserve District of Cook County  
Illinois**

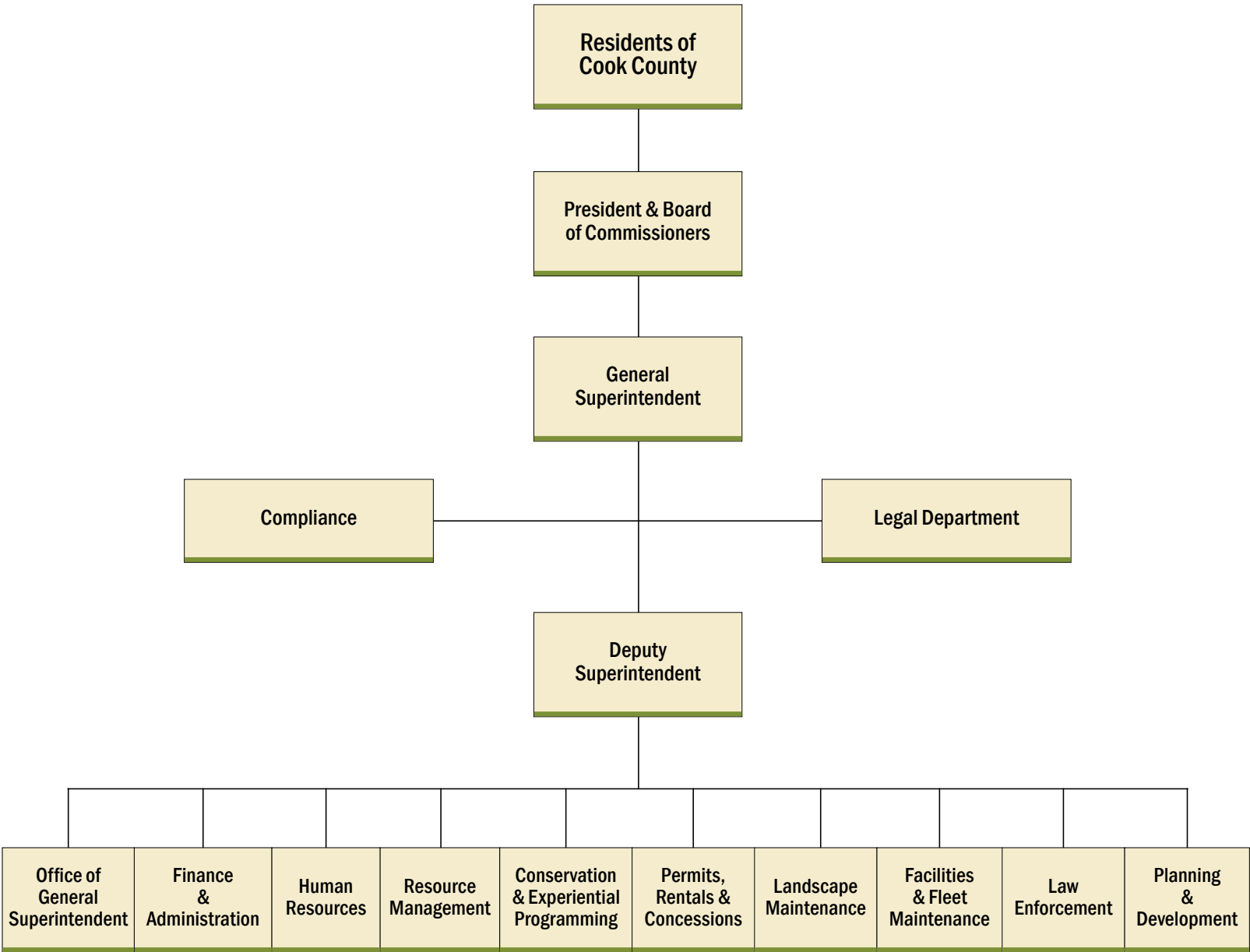
For its Annual Comprehensive  
Financial Report  
For the Fiscal Year Ended

December 31, 2023

*Christopher P. Morill*

Executive Director/CEO

# The Forest Preserve District of Cook County Organizational Chart



# **FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

## **LIST OF PRINCIPAL OFFICIALS**

**FISCAL YEAR 2024**

**AND**

## **BOARD OF FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS**

**HONORABLE TONI PRECKWINKLE  
PRESIDENT**

**HONORABLE ALMA E. ANAYA  
CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

**HONORABLE BRIDGET DEGNEN  
CHAIRWOMAN, AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**FRANK J. AGUILAR  
ALMA E. ANAYA  
SCOTT R. BRITTON  
JOHN P. DALEY  
BRIDGET DEGNEN  
BRIDGET GAINER  
BILL LOWRY  
DR. KISHA E. McCASKILL  
DONNA MILLER**

**STANLEY MOORE  
JOSINA MORITA  
KEVIN B. MORRISON  
SEAN M. MORRISON  
MICHAEL SCOTT, JR.  
TARA S. STAMPS  
MAGGIE TREVOR  
JESSICA VASQUEZ**

## **KEY MANAGEMENT**

**DAMON HOWELL  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

**JAMES CUNNEA  
COMPTROLLER**

## **FINANCIAL SECTION**

## **Independent Auditors' Report**

To the Honorable President and Members of the Board of Commissioners of  
Forest Preserve District of Cook County

### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

#### ***Opinions***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the discretely presented component units, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County (the District), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of other auditors, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the discretely presented component units, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the District as of December 31, 2024 and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We did not audit the financial statements of Chicago Horticultural Society and the Chicago Zoological Society, the discretely presented component units. Additionally, we did not audit the financial statements of the Pension and the Postemployment Group Health Benefit Fund, which represent 69.9 percent, 70.3 percent, and 79.9 percent, respectively, of the assets/deferred outflows of resources, fund balance/net position, and the revenues/additions of the aggregate remaining fund information. Those statements were audited by other auditors, whose report has been furnished to us, and our opinions, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for the Chicago Horticultural Society, the Chicago Zoological Society, and the Pension and the Postemployment Group Health Benefit Fund are based solely on the report of the other auditors.

#### ***Basis for Opinions***

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions. The financial statements of the Pension Fund and the Postemployment Group Health Benefit Fund were not audited in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.

#### ***Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; and for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Baker Tilly Advisory Group, LP and Baker Tilly US, LLP, trading as Baker Tilly, are members of the global network of Baker Tilly International Ltd., the members of which are separate and independent legal entities. Baker Tilly US, LLP is a licensed CPA firm that provides assurance services to its clients. Baker Tilly Advisory Group, LP and its subsidiary entities provide tax and consulting services to their clients and are not licensed CPA firms.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

### ***Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

### ***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the required supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.



### ***Supplementary Information***

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. The supplementary information as listed in the table of contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the supplementary information is fairly stated in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

### ***Other Information***

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual comprehensive financial report. The other information comprises the introductory section and the statistical section but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

### ***Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 16, 2025 on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*Baker Tilly US, LLP*

Chicago, Illinois  
July 16, 2025

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

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Management's Discussion and Analysis  
December 31, 2024  
(Unaudited)

The discussion and analysis of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County's (the "District") financial performance provides an overall review of the District's financial activities for the year ended December 31, 2024. The management of the District encourages readers to consider the information presented herein in conjunction with the transmittal letter found in the introductory section and the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the District's financial performance. Certain comparative information between the current year and the prior is required to be presented in the Management's Discussion and Analysis (the "MD&A").

### Financial Highlights

- The assets/deferred outflows of resources of the District exceeded its liabilities/deferred inflows of resources at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$306.8 million (net position). Of this amount, \$44.5 million is restricted for construction & development, capital improvements, grants and debt service. Additionally, the \$16.0 million Working Capital Fund was classified as permanently restricted in accordance with GASB 54. The classification results in unrestricted net position of (\$72.7) million.
- In total, government wide net position increased by \$68.6 million. Most of the changes in assets/deferred outflows and liabilities/deferred inflows are due to the decrease in deferred inflows related to pensions.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the District's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$166.2 million, an increase of \$12.5 million in comparison with the prior year. Approximately \$55.3 million is available for spending at the government's discretion (unassigned fund balance). However, \$12.7 million has been designated under the District's minimum fund balance policy and cannot be spent.
- General revenues accounted for \$155.6 million in revenue or 90% of all governmental revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services and fees and grants accounted for \$16.5 million or 10% of total governmental revenues of \$172.1 million.
- The District had \$103.5 million in expenses related to government activities. \$16.5 million of these expenses were offset by program specific charges and grants.
- At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance for the Corporate Fund was \$64.3 million, or 80% of total Corporate Fund expenditures.
- The District's total long-term liabilities (excluding total postemployment benefit liability and net pension liability) decreased by \$12.2 million during the current year.

### Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis are intended to serve as an introduction to the District's basic financial statements. The basic financial statements are comprised of three components:

- Government-wide financial statements,
- Fund financial statements, and
- Notes to basic financial statements.

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

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Management's Discussion and Analysis  
December 31, 2024  
(Unaudited)

This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements.

### *Government-wide financial statements*

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the District's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business, and are reported using the accrual basis of accounting and economic resources measurement focus.

The statement of net position presents information on all of the District's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, with the difference between these reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the District is improving or deteriorating.

The statement of activities presents information showing how the government's net position changed during the fiscal year being reported. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods.

The government-wide financial statements consist of one type of activity - governmental. Governmental activities present the functions of the District that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues. The District's governmental activities include functions like general government.

The District is administered by a General Superintendent and Department Heads from each of eleven departments. The other departments comprising the District are Finance and Administration; Human Resources; Resource Management; Conservation and Experiential Programming; Permits, Rentals and Concessions; Landscape Maintenance; Facilities and Fleet Maintenance; Legal; Law Enforcement; and Planning and Development.

The Office of the General Superintendent contains the executive office including the General Superintendent, development, external affairs, and communications. This department also coordinates and administers the volunteer resources program.

Finance and Administration is responsible for all financial functions and administrative functions including general management accounting, billing and collection, information technology, Treasury, internal and external auditing, preparation of the annual budget and purchasing.

Human Resources administers Cook County's Human Resource Ordinance and handles all personnel issues including applications for benefits, processing of resignations and terminations and requests for family medical leave. It works with Cook County's Human Resources department in recruiting qualified individuals for District positions.

Resource Management manages the District's trails coordination, fisheries and wildlife management, resource ecology, and land management.

Conservation and Experiential Programming operates six Nature Centers, three Aquatic Centers, runs the Youth Education Outreach Team, and provides programmatic opportunities for citizens to take advantage of natural resources and recreation opportunities in the Forest Preserves.

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

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Management's Discussion and Analysis  
December 31, 2024  
(Unaudited)

Permits, Rentals, and Concessions issues permits for public use of District properties such as picnics, cabin rentals, camping, dog friendly areas, equestrian activities, model air planes, soccer and baseball. It issues special use permits for tents, caterers, rides, amplified sound and commercial photography. It also licenses concessions and monitors the private management of the District's golf courses and driving ranges.

Landscape Maintenance is responsible for the care and maintenance of picnic areas, scavenger services, mowing and trails.

Facilities and Fleet Maintenance provides a variety of routine maintenance, repairs, renovations, and services to help ensure properly maintained facilities, fleet, equipment, and infrastructures, while utilizing the latest energy efficient technologies, improving productivity & responsiveness.

Legal provides legal services to the District, either through District legal staff or supervision of outside counsel. It provides legal advice; drafts ordinances; handles land acquisition legal matters; interprets legal statutes affecting the District; and manages lawsuits. It handles employee matters which involve administrative bodies such as the EEOC, the Labor Board and Civil Service Commission. It also responds to requests for information under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, administers workers compensation claims and oversees the District's land acquisition program.

Law Enforcement patrols all District properties; enforces all state, county and District laws and ordinances to serve and protect patrons, property and natural lands of the District; and issues tickets and fines for violators.

Planning and Development plans, designs and implements capital improvements and restoration programs at District sites. It is comprised of the following sections: landscape architecture, engineering and construction, building architecture, real estate and licensing, and geographic information systems.

In addition to general governmental services, the District has two component units that are included in the reporting entity, due to the significance of their operational and/or financial relationships with the District: the Brookfield Zoo and the Chicago Botanic Garden. The District has long-term operating agreements with these two world-class institutions located on Forest Preserve District land. Additional information on these component units can be found in the notes to the financial statements.

### *Fund financial statements*

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The District uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the District can be divided into three categories: governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds.

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

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Management's Discussion and Analysis  
December 31, 2024  
(Unaudited)

### Governmental funds

Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements and are reported using the modified accrual basis of accounting and current financial resources measurement focus. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the District's general government operations and the basic services it provides. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources; as well as, on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a District's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

The District maintains three major individual governmental funds. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances for the Corporate Fund, Bond and Interest Fund, and Construction and Development Fund, all of which are considered to be major funds. Data from the remaining governmental funds are combined into a single, aggregated presentation. Individual fund data for each of these non-major governmental funds is provided in the form of combining schedules elsewhere in this report. The District adopts an annual budget for each of the major funds listed above. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided for each major fund to demonstrate compliance with this budget.

### Proprietary funds

Proprietary funds provide the same type of information as the government-wide financial statements, only in more detail. The District maintains one type of proprietary fund - internal service. Internal service funds are an accounting device used to accumulate and allocate costs internally among the District's various functions.

The District uses the internal service fund to account for the financing of self-insurance-related expenditures, including all workers' compensation claims, tort judgments/settlements, and associated legal fees. Charges for services come from the Corporate Fund through contributions into the Self-Insurance Fund. Because these services predominantly benefit governmental functions, they have been included within governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. The self-insurance operations are presented in the proprietary fund financial statements.

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

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### Fiduciary funds

Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the District. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statement because the resources of those funds are not available to support the District's own programs. The accounting used for fiduciary funds is much like that for the government-wide financial statements. The District reports activities of the Forest Preserve District Employees Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County (Pension Fund) as a fiduciary fund.

### *Notes to basic financial statements*

The notes to the financial statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

### *Other information*

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information concerning the District's contributions and changes in net pension liability of the Forest Preserve District Employees' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County, as well as, budget to actual comparisons of the funds. Supplementary schedules include combining schedules of all non-major funds, individual fund schedules for all funds with an approved budget, and the internal service fund.

# Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Management's Discussion and Analysis  
December 31, 2024  
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## Government-Wide Financial Analysis

<b>Table 1</b> <b>Condensed Statements of Net Position</b> <b>(in millions of dollars)</b>			
	<u>Governmental Activities</u>		
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>Change</u>
<b>Assets</b>			
Current and other assets	\$ 355.4	\$ 337.3	\$ 18.1
Capital assets	<u>402.3</u>	<u>381.7</u>	<u>20.6</u>
Total assets	<u>757.7</u>	<u>719.0</u>	<u>38.7</u>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>			
Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions	9.0	10.8	(1.8)
Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB	<u>4.9</u>	<u>7.6</u>	<u>(2.7)</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>13.9</u>	<u>18.4</u>	<u>(4.5)</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Long-term liabilities	285.2	301.0	(15.8)
Other liabilities	<u>31.3</u>	<u>36.7</u>	<u>(5.4)</u>
Total liabilities	<u>316.5</u>	<u>337.7</u>	<u>(21.2)</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>			
Property taxes levied for future periods	120.6	121.4	(0.8)
Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions	0.6	14.3	(13.7)
Deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB	16.7	12.3	4.4
Deferred inflows of resources related to leases	<u>11.1</u>	<u>13.5</u>	<u>(2.4)</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>148.4</u>	<u>161.5</u>	<u>(13.1)</u>
<b>Net position</b>			
Net investment in capital assets	319.0	289.7	29.3
Restricted	60.5	49.7	10.8
Unrestricted	<u>(72.7)</u>	<u>(101.2)</u>	<u>28.5</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 306.8</u>	<u>\$ 238.2</u>	<u>\$ 68.6</u>

### Normal Impacts

There are six basic (normal) transactions that will affect the comparability of the Statement of Net Position summary presentation.

Net results of activities – which will impact (increase/decrease) current assets and unrestricted net position.

Borrowing for capital – which will increase current assets and long-term debt.

Spending borrowed proceeds on new capital – which will: (a) reduce current assets and increase capital assets; and, (b) increase capital assets and long-term debt, which will not change the net investment in capital assets.

Spending of non-borrowed current assets on new capital – which will: (a) reduce current assets and increase capital assets; and, (b) will reduce unrestricted net position and increase net investment in capital assets.

Principal payment on debt – which will: (a) reduce current assets and reduce long-term debt; and, (b) reduce unrestricted net position and increase net investment in capital assets.

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

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Reduction of capital assets through depreciation – which will reduce capital assets and net investment in capital assets.

### *Current Year Impacts*

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. In the case of the District, total net position increased by \$68.6 million from \$238.2 million to \$306.8 million. This favorable fluctuation suggests significant change in the District's overall financial position. The District's total assets and deferred outflows of resources equal \$771.6 million. The District's total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources equal \$464.9 million.

By far the largest portion of the District's net position reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings, and equipment), less any related debt used to acquire those assets that are still outstanding. The District uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the District's investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

A portion of the net position of the governmental activities, \$44.5 million, is restricted for construction & development, capital improvement, grants and debt service. Additionally, \$16.0 million of net position in the working capital fund was classified as permanently restricted in accordance with GASB 54. The classification results in an unrestricted combined net position for governmental activities of (\$72.7) million.

The District's cash and short-term investments from governmental activities increased by \$16.3 million. Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, increased by \$20.6 million due to additions exceeding depreciation expense. Deferred outflows of resources decreased by \$4.5 million. There was a net decrease in long-term liabilities in the governmental activities of \$15.8 million. This is due to the decrease in the total OPEB liability resulting from changes in actuarial assumptions and the scheduled payments of debt principal. Current and other liabilities decreased by \$5.4 million while deferred inflows of resources decreased \$13.1 million, for a net decrease in liabilities and deferred inflows of resources of \$34.3 million for 2024.

Total Claims Payable and Provision for Settlement of Tort combined for a \$7.5 million liability to the Self-Insurance Fund, which decreased by \$1.0 million compared to FY 23.



## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Management's Discussion and Analysis  
December 31, 2024  
(Unaudited)

<b>Table 2</b> <b>Condensed Statements of Activities</b> <b>(in millions of dollars)</b>			
	<u>Governmental Activities</u>		
	2024	2023	Change
<b>Revenues</b>			
<i>Program revenues</i>			
Charges for services	\$ 10.9	\$ 9.2	\$ 1.7
Capital grants and contributions	5.6	12.2	(6.6)
<i>General revenues</i>			
Property taxes	119.0	118.8	0.2
Other taxes	12.2	21.2	(9.0)
Intergovernmental	16.7	5.6	11.1
Other general revenues	7.7	5.3	2.4
Total revenues	172.1	172.3	(0.2)
<b>Expenses</b>			
General government	27.2	4.4	22.8
Resource management	8.6	5.8	2.8
Permits, rentals and concessions	29.1	(0.3)	29.4
Public safety	13.3	0.6	12.7
Planning and development	14.4	6.1	8.3
Conservation and experiential programming	7.5	(3.3)	10.8
Interest and fiscal charges	3.4	3.8	(0.4)
Total expenses	103.5	17.1	86.4
Change in net position	68.6	155.2	(86.6)
Net position, beginning of year	238.2	83.0	155.2
Net position, end of year	\$ 306.8	\$ 238.2	\$ 68.6

### *Normal Impacts*

There are eight basic (normal) impacts that will affect the comparability of the revenues and expenses on the Statement of Activities summary presentation.

#### Revenues

Economic condition – which can reflect a declining, stable or growing economic environment, and has substantial impact on state replacement tax revenue; as well as, public spending habits for building permits, elective user fees, and volumes of consumption.

Increase/decrease in 2024 approved rates – while certain tax rates are set by statute, the District has significant authority to impose and periodically increase/decrease rates (real estate license fees, dog tag fees, etc.).

Changing patterns in intergovernmental and grant revenue (both recurring and non-recurring) – certain recurring revenues (state shared revenues, etc.) may experience significant changes periodically while non-recurring grants are less predictable and often distorting in their impact on year to year comparisons.

Market impacts on investment income – the District's investments may be affected by market conditions causing investment income to increase/decrease.

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

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Management's Discussion and Analysis  
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### Expenses

Introduction of new programs – within the functional expense categories (general government, public safety, public works, and community development), individual programs may be added or deleted to meet changing community needs.

Change in authorized personnel – changes in service demand may cause the District to increase/decrease authorized staffing. Staffing costs (salary and related benefits) represent the largest operating cost of the District.

Salary increases (annual adjustments and merit) – the ability to attract and retain human and intellectual resources requires the District to strive to approach a competitive salary range position in the marketplace.

Inflation – while overall inflation appears to be reasonably modest, the District is a major consumer of certain commodities such as supplies, fuel, and parts. Some functions may experience unusual commodity specific increases.

### *Current Year Impacts*

Governmental Activities experienced an increase in revenue versus prior year due to increased property taxes, capital grants and contributions. Expenses increased over the prior year due to pension expenses stabilizing in 2024 as compared to significant negative expenses in 2023. Current year revenues exceeded expenses by \$68.6 million thus increasing net position to \$306.8 million.

### **Governmental Activities**

#### *Revenues*

Program revenue decreased in 2024 by \$4.9 million as a result of reduced capital grant activity. Total general revenue increased by \$4.7 million from last year, primarily due to higher ARPA revenue and investment income which exceeded the Preserve's conservative revenue projections.

#### *Expenses*

Expenses increased by \$86.4 million for the year due to budgeted initiatives to expand ecological restoration, public safety, public engagement, and programming across the District and the impact of negative pension expense in the prior year not repeating in the current year.

### **Financial Analysis of the District's Funds**

#### *Corporate Fund*

The Corporate Fund is the primary operating fund of the District. At the end of the current fiscal year, the fund balance of the Corporate Fund was \$87.8 million, compared to \$84.4 million in the previous fiscal year. Of that, \$64.3 million was unassigned, compared with \$61.0 in 2023. Revenue exceeded departmental expenditures by \$20.2 million. Property Tax collections were \$1.9 million, or 3% more than 2023. This was due to an increase in the property tax levy and improved timing of collections as compared to 2023. Also, Personal Property Replacement Tax collections decreased by \$8.9 million. Transfers out to the Capital Improvement Fund, Real Estate Fund and Self Insurance Fund reduced the excess by \$16.9 million, resulting in an overall Corporate Fund fund balance increase of \$3.4 million.

#### *Bond and Interest Fund*

The purpose of the Bond and Interest Fund is to accumulate resources for and to pay debt service for the District. This fund ended the year with a \$7.1 million fund balance, which represented a decrease of \$0.7 million over the prior fiscal year.

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

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Management's Discussion and Analysis  
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### *Construction and Development Fund*

The Construction and Development Fund is used to account for all capital projects funded by property taxes. Many large capital projects since FY 2005 have been funded out of the Capital Improvement and the Grant funds. This fund has been used primarily to fund small, short-term projects such as the immediate repair or replacement of a shelter roof and more recently land conservation projects. It has also been used to fund matches on grants received by third parties such as the federal government. This fund had an ending fund balance of \$30.5 million at the end of FY 2024. Since property taxes are levied annually, Construction and Development funds are tracked and accounted for annually based on tax year. Appropriations to this fund are held for 5 years. Therefore, the \$30.5 million is a combined balance for the previous 5 years' Construction and Development tax levies.

### *Self-Insurance Fund*

This is an internal service fund established to account for the District's self-insurance related activities to meet future estimated claims and judgments, worker's compensation claims, tort judgments and settlements and associated legal fees. Fund reserves are transferred to this fund to meet its obligations. In FY2024, \$7.5 million was transferred to the fund to settle legal claims.

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Management's Discussion and Analysis  
December 31, 2024  
(Unaudited)

### General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The Corporate Fund realized revenues of \$100.7 million in 2024 versus a tax and non-tax revenue budget of \$90.0 million. This is due to collection of property taxes, fees, and investment income exceeding conservative revenue projections.

Actual expenditures were \$80.5 million, which were \$6.8 million less than budgeted expenditures. Most of the variance is due to the District actively controlling expenditures for the year. This reduction in expenditures is due in part to hiring challenges and other non-personal budget reductions.

### Capital Assets and Debt Administration

#### *Capital assets*

The Forest Preserve District of Cook County's investment in capital assets for its governmental activities as of December 31, 2024 total \$402.3 million net of accumulated depreciation. This investment in capital assets includes land, buildings, trails, parking lots, shelters, bridges, equipment, comfort stations and vehicles. There was an increase in the District's net capital asset investment of \$20.6 million.

By the end of 2024, the District had compiled a total investment of \$583.0 million (\$402.3 million net of accumulated depreciation) in a broad range of capital assets. Total depreciation expense for the year was \$12.2 million. More detailed information about capital assets can be found in Note III.C of the basic financial statements.

<b>Table 3</b>			
<b>Capital Assets (net of depreciation)</b>			
<b>(in millions of dollars)</b>			
	<u>Governmental Activities</u>		
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>Change</u>
Land	\$ 242.1	\$ 236.2	\$ 5.9
Construction in progress	31.2	13.5	17.7
Land improvements	131.5	130.5	1.0
Buildings	141.5	138.5	3.0
Equipment and vehicles	36.7	31.4	5.3
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>(180.7)</u>	<u>(168.4)</u>	<u>(12.3)</u>
Total	<u>\$ 402.3</u>	<u>\$ 381.7</u>	<u>\$ 20.6</u>

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

### Management's Discussion and Analysis

December 31, 2024

(Unaudited)

#### Debt Administration

Overall, the District's governmental activities report a total bonded debt of \$75.3 million. The District began the fiscal year with a balance of \$87.3 million in bonded debt and reduced debt by \$12.0 million as a result of debt service payments and a refunding of outstanding debt during the year. More detailed information about debt administration can be found in Note III.E of the basic financial statements.

The District has an AA- rating with Standard and Poor's, A2 rating with Moody's Investors Service and an A+ with Fitch. The rating agencies both note that the Forest Preserves operates in a diverse and stable economy but expressed concern over its growing pension liability and being a Special District, limitations on its ability to raise revenue.

<b>Table 4</b>			
<b>Long-Term Debt</b>			
<b>(in millions of dollars)</b>			
	<u>Governmental Activities</u>		
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>Change</u>
General obligation bonds	\$ 75.3	\$ 87.3	\$ (12.0)
Other	<u>209.9</u>	<u>213.6</u>	<u>(3.7)</u>
Total	<u>\$ 285.2</u>	<u>\$ 300.9</u>	<u>\$ (15.7)</u>

#### Factors Bearing on the District's Future

Financial operations for the District have been consistently positive with annual surpluses since 2006. The key factors for the District's future are:

- **Pension Reform:** The District's unfunded liability is expected to significantly improve over time as the successful passage of the 2023 referendum will help support the implementation of a sustainable funding plan.
- **Property Taxes:** Property taxes are the primary revenue source at 75% of Corporate Fund revenues. Increases in the property tax are limited to the lesser of 5% or CPI. Financial challenges facing the District's overlapping entities such as the City of Chicago, Chicago Public Schools, and Cook County may limit the District's ability to increase its tax rate.

#### Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide the District's citizens, taxpayers, and creditors with a general overview of the District's finances and to demonstrate the District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report, need additional financial information, or would like a copy of the financial statements for the Chicago Zoological Society, Chicago Botanical Society, or the Forest Preserve Employees' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County, contact the Finance Department:

Damon Howell, CFO; James Cunnea, Comptroller  
Forest Preserve District of Cook County  
69 W. Washington St., Suite 2060  
Chicago, Illinois 60602

## **BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

# Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Statement of Net Position  
December 31, 2024

	Primary Government	Component Units		
	Governmental Activities	Chicago Horticultural Society	Chicago Zoological Society	Total Reporting Entity
<b>Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>				
<b>Assets</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 216,356,295	\$ 15,906,000	\$ 1,147,000	\$ 233,409,295
Investments	-	191,421,000	112,939,000	304,360,000
Receivables (net):				
Property taxes	120,868,267	-	-	120,868,267
Intergovernmental	1,737,159	-	-	1,737,159
Grants	11,017,956	-	-	11,017,956
Leases	129,406	-	-	129,406
Other	2,844,890	25,683,000	14,999,000	43,526,890
Restricted investments	2,474,259	-	-	2,474,259
Capital assets:				
Capital assets not being depreciated	273,286,129	4,985,000	29,718,000	307,989,129
Capital assets being depreciated	309,696,678	283,639,000	294,009,000	887,344,678
Less accumulated depreciation	(180,687,617)	(162,412,000)	(187,572,000)	(530,671,617)
Total assets	<u>757,723,422</u>	<u>359,222,000</u>	<u>265,240,000</u>	<u>1,382,185,422</u>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>				
Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions	9,002,131	-	-	9,002,131
Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB	<u>4,923,326</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,923,326</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>13,925,457</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,925,457</u>
<b>Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Net Position</b>				
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Accounts payable	9,092,255	6,405,000	10,138,000	25,635,255
Accrued payroll	3,067,561	-	3,569,000	6,636,561
Claims payable, current portion	7,484,107	-	-	7,484,107
Other liabilities	1,826,987	2,201,000	-	4,027,987
Unearned revenues	9,808,785	6,673,000	28,114,000	44,595,785
Noncurrent liabilities:				
Due within one year	6,233,703	-	-	6,233,703
Due in more than one year	<u>278,960,567</u>	<u>49,679,000</u>	<u>28,816,000</u>	<u>357,455,567</u>
Total liabilities	<u>316,473,965</u>	<u>64,958,000</u>	<u>70,637,000</u>	<u>452,068,965</u>

See notes to financial statements

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Statement of Net Position  
December 31, 2024

	Primary Government	Component Units		
	Governmental Activities	Chicago Horticultural Society	Chicago Zoological Society	Total Reporting Entity
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>				
Property taxes levied for future periods	\$ 120,614,385	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 120,614,385
Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions	6,461	-	-	6,461
Deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB	16,696,734	-	-	16,696,734
Deferred inflows of resources related to leases	<u>11,096,152</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,096,152</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>148,413,732</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>148,413,732</u>
<b>Net Position</b>				
Net investment in capital assets	318,968,660	91,932,000	97,913,000	508,813,660
Restricted for:				
Grants	4,840,088	-	-	4,840,088
Debt service	6,992,937	-	-	6,992,937
Construction and development	30,493,348	-	-	30,493,348
Working cash, permanent	15,981,245	-	-	15,981,245
Component units	-	123,572,000	44,428,000	168,000,000
Capital improvements	2,209,475	-	-	2,209,475
Unrestricted	<u>(72,724,571)</u>	<u>78,760,000</u>	<u>52,262,000</u>	<u>58,297,429</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 306,761,182</u>	<u>\$ 294,264,000</u>	<u>\$ 194,603,000</u>	<u>\$ 795,628,182</u>

See notes to financial statements



# Forest Preserve District of Cook County

## Statement of Activities

Year Ended December 31, 2024

Functions/Programs	Program Revenues				Net (Expenses) Revenues and Changes in Net Position			
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Primary Government	Component Units		Total Reporting Entity
					Governmental Activities	Chicago Horticultural Society	Chicago Zoological Society	
<b>Primary Government</b>								
Governmental activities:								
General government	\$ 27,158,968	\$ 7,833,416	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (19,325,552)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (19,325,552)
Resource management	8,622,611	-	-	-	(8,622,611)	-	-	(8,622,611)
Permits, rentals, concessions, and general maintenance	29,131,782	2,770,274	-	-	(26,361,508)	-	-	(26,361,508)
Public safety	13,327,797	-	-	-	(13,327,797)	-	-	(13,327,797)
Real estate acquisition	-	-	-	60,000	60,000	-	-	60,000
Planning and development	14,437,875	254,737	-	5,561,319	(8,621,819)	-	-	(8,621,819)
Conservation and experiential programming	7,468,638	-	-	-	(7,468,638)	-	-	(7,468,638)
Interest and fiscal charges	3,438,587	-	-	-	(3,438,587)	-	-	(3,438,587)
Total governmental activities	<u>103,586,258</u>	<u>10,858,427</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,621,319</u>	<u>(87,106,512)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(87,106,512)</u>
Total primary government	<u>\$ 103,586,258</u>	<u>\$ 10,858,427</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 5,621,319</u>	<u>(87,106,512)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(87,106,512)</u>
<b>Component Units</b>								
Chicago Horticultural Society	\$ 73,155,000	\$ 26,575,000	\$ 17,501,000	\$ 8,851,000	-	(20,228,000)	-	(20,228,000)
Chicago Zoological Society	<u>76,218,000</u>	<u>32,333,000</u>	<u>33,869,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(10,016,000)</u>	<u>(10,016,000)</u>
Total component units	<u>\$ 149,373,000</u>	<u>\$ 58,908,000</u>	<u>\$ 51,370,000</u>	<u>\$ 8,851,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(20,228,000)</u>	<u>(10,016,000)</u>	<u>(30,244,000)</u>
<b>General Revenues</b>								
Taxes:								
Property taxes					119,015,279	11,535,000	20,048,000	150,598,279
Intergovernmental, unrestricted								
Personal property replacement taxes					12,226,188	278,000	-	12,504,188
American Rescue Plan grants					16,710,194	-	-	16,710,194
Investment income					5,907,717	20,572,000	9,127,000	35,606,717
Miscellaneous					<u>1,801,223</u>	<u>1,872,000</u>	<u>1,530,000</u>	<u>5,203,223</u>
Total general revenues					<u>155,660,601</u>	<u>34,257,000</u>	<u>30,705,000</u>	<u>220,622,601</u>
Change in net position					68,554,089	14,029,000	20,689,000	103,272,089
<b>Net Position, Beginning</b>					<u>238,207,093</u>	<u>280,235,000</u>	<u>173,914,000</u>	<u>692,356,093</u>
<b>Net Position, Ending</b>					<u>\$ 306,761,182</u>	<u>\$ 294,264,000</u>	<u>\$ 194,603,000</u>	<u>\$ 795,628,182</u>

See notes to financial statements

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

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Balance Sheet -  
Governmental Funds  
December 31, 2024

	<u>Corporate Fund</u>	<u>Bond and Interest Fund</u>	<u>Construction and Development Fund</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>
<b>Assets</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$190,626,336	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,989,990
Receivables:				
Property taxes	95,264,859	6,448,865	19,154,543	-
Intergovernmental	1,737,159	-	-	-
Grants	-	-	-	11,017,956
Leases	129,406	-	-	-
Other	1,628,606	-	-	1,216,084
Interfund receivable	9,376,522	7,199,884	41,365,821	40,388,693
Restricted investments	-	-	-	2,474,259
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,474,259</u>
Total assets	<u>\$298,762,888</u>	<u>\$ 13,648,749</u>	<u>\$ 60,520,364</u>	<u>\$ 71,086,982</u>

See notes to financial statements

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**Total**

\$ 206,616,326

120,868,267

1,737,159

11,017,956

129,406

2,844,690

98,330,920

2,474,259

\$ 444,018,983

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Balance Sheet -  
Governmental Funds  
December 31, 2024

	Corporate Fund	Bond and Interest Fund	Construction and Development Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds
<b>Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances</b>				
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Accounts payable	\$ 2,043,160	\$ -	\$ 3,277,957	\$ 3,424,055
Accrued payroll	3,067,561	-	-	-
Interfund payable	98,348,234	-	7,462,574	3,434,277
Other liabilities	951,450	81,180	198,354	93,792
Due to other governments	349,064	-	-	-
Unearned revenues	-	-	-	9,808,785
Total liabilities	<u>104,759,469</u>	<u>81,180</u>	<u>10,938,885</u>	<u>16,760,909</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>				
Property taxes levied for future purposes	95,104,569	6,421,685	19,088,131	-
Deferred inflows related to leases	11,096,152	-	-	-
Unavailable revenues for grants	-	-	-	13,379,986
Unavailable revenues for other	-	-	-	205,000
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>106,200,721</u>	<u>6,421,685</u>	<u>19,088,131</u>	<u>13,584,986</u>
<b>Fund Balances</b>				
Nonspendable for permanent funds	-	-	-	15,981,245
Restricted for bond and interest	-	7,145,884	-	-
Restricted for construction and development	-	-	30,493,348	-
Restricted for capital improvements	-	-	-	2,209,475
Committed for real estate acquisition	7,300,000	-	-	21,316,521
Committed for capital improvement	5,000,000	-	-	-
Committed for self-insurance	7,500,000	-	-	-
Committed for dog parks	-	-	-	365,846
Assigned to future appropriated expenditures	3,657,210	-	-	-
Assigned for capital project funds	-	-	-	9,387,668
Assigned for resident watchmen facilities	-	-	-	540,916
Unassigned (deficit)	<u>64,345,488</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(9,060,584)</u>
Total fund balances	<u>87,802,698</u>	<u>7,145,884</u>	<u>30,493,348</u>	<u>40,741,087</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balances	<u>\$298,762,888</u>	<u>\$ 13,648,749</u>	<u>\$ 60,520,364</u>	<u>\$ 71,086,982</u>

See notes to financial statements

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**Total**

\$ 8,745,172  
3,067,561  
109,245,085  
1,324,776  
349,064  
9,808,785

132,540,443

120,614,385  
11,096,152  
13,379,986  
205,000

145,295,523

15,981,245  
7,145,884  
30,493,348  
2,209,475  
28,616,521  
5,000,000  
7,500,000  
365,846

3,657,210  
9,387,668  
540,916

55,284,904

166,183,017

\$ 444,018,983

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet of Governmental Funds  
to the Statement of Net Position  
December 31, 2024

**Total Fund Balances, Governmental Funds** \$ 166,183,017

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position are different because:

Capital assets used in governmental funds are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds. 402,295,190

Some receivables that are not currently available are reported as unavailable revenues in the fund financial statements but are recognized as revenue when earned in the government-wide statements. 13,584,986

Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions do not relate to current financial resources and are not reported in the governmental funds. 9,002,131

Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions do not relate to current financial resources and are not reported in the governmental funds. (6,461)

Internal service funds are reported in the Statement of Net Position as governmental activities. 12,822,944

Deferred inflows of resources related to OPEBs do not relate to current financial resources and are not reported in the governmental funds. (16,696,734)

Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEBs do not relate to current financial resources and are not reported in the governmental funds. 4,923,326

Some liabilities, including long-term debt, are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.

Bonds payable (75,290,000)

Unamortized bond premium (8,036,530)

Accrued interest (152,947)

Compensated absences (3,197,840)

Net pension liability (159,766,644)

Total postemployment benefit liability (38,903,256)

**Net Position of Governmental Activities** \$ 306,761,182

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances -

Governmental Funds

Year Ended December 31, 2024

	<u>Corporate Fund</u>	<u>Bond and Interest Fund</u>	<u>Construction and Development Fund</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>
<b>Revenues</b>				
Property taxes	\$ 75,619,880	\$ 11,873,688	\$ 31,521,711	\$ -
Personal property replacement taxes	8,663,438	3,562,750	-	-
Fees	6,747,563	-	-	271,522
Fines	66,657	-	-	-
Grants	34,045	-	-	12,819,696
Concessions	255,092	-	-	-
Winter sports activities	6,615	-	-	-
Golf course revenue	2,277,289	-	-	450,000
Equestrian license	20,862	-	-	-
Campgrounds	853,114	-	-	-
Damage restitution	150,231	-	-	-
Special events	36,370	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	1,582,790	-	-	-
Investment income	<u>4,393,492</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,016,674</u>
Total revenues	<u>100,707,438</u>	<u>15,436,438</u>	<u>31,521,711</u>	<u>14,557,892</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Current:				
General office	4,644,266	-	-	1,800
Finance and administration	3,796,626	-	-	-
Resource management	8,127,112	-	-	-
General maintenance	24,188,303	-	801,094	334,444
Permits, rentals and concessions	1,504,870	-	-	-
Public safety	12,701,376	-	-	36,000
Legal department	1,688,822	-	-	56,206
Planning and development	2,396,689	-	-	-
District wide services	13,671,587	-	-	-
Conservation and experiential programming	7,450,092	-	-	41,630
Capital outlay	297,133	-	18,335,898	25,983,673
Debt service:				
Debt service, principal retired	-	12,050,000	-	-
Debt service, interest	<u>-</u>	<u>4,094,173</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total expenditures	<u>80,466,876</u>	<u>16,144,173</u>	<u>19,136,992</u>	<u>26,453,753</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	<u>20,240,562</u>	<u>(707,735)</u>	<u>12,384,719</u>	<u>(11,895,861)</u>

See notes to financial statements

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**Total**

\$ 119,015,279  
12,226,188  
7,019,085  
66,657  
12,853,741  
255,092  
6,615  
2,727,289  
20,862  
853,114  
150,231  
36,370  
1,582,790  
5,410,166

162,223,479

4,646,066  
3,796,626  
8,127,112  
25,323,841  
1,504,870  
12,737,376  
1,745,028  
2,396,689  
13,671,587

7,491,722  
44,616,704

12,050,000  
4,094,173

142,201,794

20,021,685



## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances -  
Governmental Funds  
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	<u>Corporate Fund</u>	<u>Bond and Interest Fund</u>	<u>Construction and Development Fund</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>				
Transfers in	1,955,381	-	-	11,325,000
Transfers out	<u>(18,825,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,955,381)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(16,869,619)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,955,381)</u>	<u>11,325,000</u>
Net change in fund balances	3,370,943	(707,735)	10,429,338	(570,861)
<b>Fund Balances, Beginning</b>	<u>84,431,755</u>	<u>7,853,619</u>	<u>20,064,010</u>	<u>41,311,948</u>
<b>Fund Balances, Ending</b>	<u><u>\$ 87,802,698</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 7,145,884</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 30,493,348</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 40,741,087</u></u>

See notes to financial statements

(20,780,381)

\$ 100 100 017

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## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures,  
and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds  
to the Statement of Activities  
Year Ended December 31, 2024

<b>Net Change in Fund Balances, Total Governmental Funds</b>	<b>\$ 12,521,685</b>
--	----------------------

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Net Position the cost of these assets is capitalized and they are depreciated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense in the Statement of Activities.

Capital outlay is reported as an expenditure in the fund financial statements but is capitalized in the government-wide financial statements	32,803,273
Depreciation is reported in the government-wide financial statements	(12,250,978)

Receivables not currently available are reported as revenue when collected or currently available in the fund financial statements but are recognized as revenue when earned in the government-wide financial statements.	9,419,317
---	-----------

Debt issued provides current financial resources to governmental funds, but issuing debt increases long-term liabilities in the Statement of Net Position. Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the Statement of Net Position.	
Principal repaid	12,050,000

Governmental funds report debt premiums and discounts as other financing sources or uses. However, in the Statement of Net Position, these are reported as additions to or deductions from long-term debt. These are allocated over the period the debt is outstanding in the Statement of Activities and are reported as interest expense.	
Amortization of bond premium	618,195

Some expenses in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in the governmental funds.	
Compensated absences	(509,544)
Total postemployment benefit liability	6,646,118
Accrued interest on debt	37,391
Net pension liability	(3,052,733)
Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions	(1,767,663)
Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions	14,305,067
Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEBs	(2,669,549)
Deferred inflows of resources related to OPEBs	(4,453,819)

Internal service funds are used by management to charge self insurance costs to individual funds. The change in net position of the internal service fund reported with governmental activities	4,857,329
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<b>Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities</b>	<b><u>\$ 68,554,089</u></b>
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## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

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Statement of Net Position -  
Proprietary Fund  
December 31, 2024

**Governmental  
Activities -  
Internal  
Service Fund**

**Assets**

Current assets:

Cash and cash equivalents

\$ 9,739,969

Interfund receivable

10,914,165

Total current assets

20,654,134

Total assets

20,654,134

**Liabilities**

Current liabilities:

Accounts payable

347,083

Claims payable, current portion

7,484,107

Total current liabilities

7,831,190

Total liabilities

7,831,190

**Net Position**

Unrestricted

12,822,944

Total net position

\$ 12,822,944

See notes to financial statements

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position -  
Proprietary Fund  
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	<b>Governmental Activities - Internal Service Fund</b>
<b>Operating Revenues</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	
Claims, settlements and other payments	2,382,133
Other charges	<u>758,089</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>3,140,222</u>
Operating income (loss)	<u>(3,140,222)</u>
<b>Nonoperating Revenues</b>	
Investment income	<u>497,551</u>
Total nonoperating revenues	<u>497,551</u>
Income (loss) before transfers	<u>(2,642,671)</u>
<b>Transfers</b>	
Transfers in	<u>7,500,000</u>
Total transfers	<u>7,500,000</u>
Change in net position	4,857,329
<b>Net Position, Beginning</b>	<u>7,965,615</u>
<b>Net Position, Ending</b>	<u><u>\$ 12,822,944</u></u>

See notes to financial statements

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

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Statement of Cash Flows -  
Proprietary Fund  
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	<b><u>Governmental Activities - Internal Service Fund</u></b>
<b>Cash Flows From Operating Activities</b>	
Paid to suppliers for goods and services	<u>\$ (3,938,080)</u>
Net cash flows from operating activities	<u>(3,938,080)</u>
<b>Cash Flows From Investing Activities</b>	
Investment income	<u>497,551</u>
Net cash flows from investing activities	<u>497,551</u>
<b>Cash Flows From Noncapital Financing Activities</b>	
Operating transfers from other funds	7,500,000
Due to/from other funds	<u>(3,561,921)</u>
Net cash flows from noncapital financing activities	<u>3,938,079</u>
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	497,550
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning</b>	<u>9,242,419</u>
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents, Ending</b>	<u><u>\$ 9,739,969</u></u>

See notes to financial statements

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

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Statement of Cash Flows -

Proprietary Fund

Year Ended December 31, 2024

**Governmental  
Activities -  
Internal  
Service Fund**

**Reconciliation of Operating Loss to Net Cash Flows From Operating Activities**

Operating loss	\$ (3,140,222)
Changes in assets and liabilities:	
Accounts payable	220,383
Claims payable and provision for settlement of tort	<u>(1,018,241)</u>
Net cash flows from operating activities	<u><u>\$ (3,938,080)</u></u>

**Noncash Capital and Related Financing Activities**

None

*See notes to financial statements*

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Statement of Fiduciary Net Position -  
Fiduciary Funds  
December 31, 2024

	<b><u>Pension and OPEB Trusts</u></b>
<b>Assets</b>	
Investments:	
U.S. and international equities	\$ 101,745,905
U.S. Government and government agency obligations	5,716,200
Corporate bonds	207,975
Collective international equity fund	22,848,150
Commingled fixed income fund	50,430,931
Hedge fund	5,720,462
Real estate funds	17,700,165
Short-term investments	4,274,974
Receivables:	
Employer contributions less allowance of \$600,798	3,429,345
Employee contributions	13,675
Accrued investment income	297,518
Receivable for securities sold	84,518
Other	524,056
Collateral held for securities on loan	<u>256,425</u>
Total assets	<u>213,250,299</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Accounts payable	92,552
Healthcare and other benefits payable	424,693
Due to County Employees' and Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County	13,267
Payable for securities purchased	92,111
Securities lending collateral	<u>256,425</u>
Total liabilities	<u>879,048</u>
<b>Net Position</b>	
Restricted for pension benefits	<u>212,371,251</u>
Total net position	<u><u>\$ 212,371,251</u></u>

See notes to financial statements



## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position -  
Fiduciary Funds  
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	<u>Pension and OPEB Trusts</u>
<b>Additions</b>	
<b>Contributions</b>	
Employer	\$ 12,247,931
Employee	<u>4,189,192</u>
Total contributions	<u>16,437,123</u>
<b>Investment Income</b>	
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	15,893,368
Dividends	1,434,668
Interest	<u>318,114</u>
Total investment income	17,646,150
Less investment expenses	<u>(394,396)</u>
Net investment income	<u>17,251,754</u>
Net securities lending income	4,117
Miscellaneous	<u>1,912,497</u>
Total additions	<u>35,605,491</u>
<b>Deductions</b>	
Benefits	
Annuity	21,078,868
Disability	379,788
Healthcare	<u>2,641,764</u>
Total benefits	<u>24,100,420</u>
Employee transfers to County Employees' and Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County	853,144
Miscellaneous benefit expenses	112,394
Administrative expenses	<u>161,361</u>
Total deductions	<u>25,227,319</u>
Change in fiduciary net position	10,378,172
<b>Net Position, Beginning</b>	<u>201,993,079</u>
<b>Net Position, Ending</b>	<u><u>\$ 212,371,251</u></u>

See notes to financial statements

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

## INDEX TO NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE I - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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The Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois ("the District"), a component unit of Cook County, Illinois, was established in July 1915. The District is a separate governmental entity with boundaries coterminous with Cook County, Illinois. The District operates under a Board of Commissioners form of government and provides the following services as authorized by its charter: law enforcement, recreation, resources management, planning and development, and general administrative services.

The accounting policies of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois, conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applicable to governmental units or, in the case of the discretely presented component units, as applicable to not-for-profits. The accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles is the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

#### **A. REPORTING ENTITY**

This report includes all of the funds of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois. The reporting entity for the District consists of the primary government and its component units. Component units are legally separate organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable or other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that their exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading. The primary government is financially accountable if (1) it appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing body and it is able to impose its will on that organization, (2) it appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing body and there is a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on, the primary government, (3) the organization is fiscally dependent on and there is a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on, the primary government. Certain legally separate, tax exempt organizations should also be reported as a component unit if all of the following criteria are met: (1) the economic resources received or held by the separate organization are entirely or almost entirely for the direct benefit of the primary government, its component units, or its constituents; (2) the primary government or its component units, is entitled to, or has the ability to access, a majority of the economic resources received or held by the separate organization; and (3) the economic resources received or held by an individual organization that the primary government, or its component units, is entitled to, or has the ability to otherwise access, are significant to the primary government.

Component units are reported using one of three methods: discrete presentation, blended, or fiduciary. Generally, component units should be discretely presented in a separate column in the financial statements. A component unit should be reported as part of the primary government using the blending method if it meets any one of the following criteria: (1) the primary government and the component unit have substantively the same governing body and a financial benefit or burden relationship exists, (2) the primary government and the component unit have substantively the same governing body and management of the primary government has operational responsibility for the component unit, (3) the component unit serves or benefits, exclusively or almost exclusively, the primary government rather than its citizens, or (4) the total debt of the component unit will be paid entirely or almost entirely from resources of the primary government.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE I - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)

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#### **A. REPORTING ENTITY (cont.)**

##### ***Fiduciary Component Unit***

The Forest Preserve District Employees' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County is an Illinois local government; as such, being a separate legal entity with its own management and budget authority and is administered in accordance with Chapter 108-1/2, Article 10, of the Illinois Pension Code. This fund exists solely to provide pension benefits for the District's employees. The financial statements of the Forest Preserve District Employees' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County as of and for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024 are included as fiduciary funds in the District's financial statements as trust funds. The separately issued financial statements of the Forest Preserve District Employees' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County may be obtained from the District at 69 West Washington Street, Suite 2060, Chicago, Illinois 60602.

##### ***Discretely Presented Component Units***

###### *Chicago Horticultural Society*

The government-wide financial statements include the Chicago Horticultural Society ("Horticultural Society") as a discretely presented component unit. The Horticultural Society is a legally separate organization that operates the Chicago Botanical Garden. The Horticultural Society maintains its own board; however, their annual property tax levy requests require the District's approval. The District owns the site of the Chicago Botanical Garden. The Horticultural Society is subject to an agreement with the District to operate and maintain the Chicago Botanical Garden, which expires in 2055. The agreement provides for an automatic renewal for 40 years upon agreement of both parties. See Note III G. As a component unit, the Horticultural Society's financial statements have been presented as a discrete column in the financial statements. The information presented is for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024. The separately issued financial statements of the Horticultural Society may be obtained from the District at 69 West Washington Street, Suite 2060, Chicago, Illinois 60602.

###### *Chicago Zoological Society*

The government-wide financial statements include the Chicago Zoological Society ("Zoological Society") as a discretely presented component unit. The Zoological Society is a legally separate organization that operates the Brookfield Zoo. The Zoological Society maintains its own board; however, their annual property tax levy requests require the District's approval. The District owns the site of the Brookfield Zoo. The Zoological Society is subject to an agreement with the District to operate and maintain Brookfield Zoo, which expires in 2026. See Note III H. As a component unit, the Zoological Society's financial statements have been presented as a discrete column in the financial statements. The information presented is for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2024. The separately issued financial statements of the Zoological Society may be obtained from the District at 69 West Washington Street, Suite 2060, Chicago, Illinois 60602.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE I - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)

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#### ***B. GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS***

##### ***Government-Wide Financial Statements***

The statement of net position and statement of activities display information about the reporting government as a whole. They include all funds of the reporting entity except for fiduciary funds. The statements distinguish between governmental and business-type activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange revenues. Likewise, the primary government is reported separately from certain legally separate component units for which the primary government is financially accountable.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. District-wide services reported in the fund financial statements are allocated to the functional expense categories that are reported in the government-wide financial statements. Program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment, and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not included among program revenues are reported as general revenues. Internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenues rather than as program revenues.

##### ***Fund Financial Statements***

Financial statements of the reporting entity are organized into funds, each of which is considered to be a separate accounting entity. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts, which constitute its assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, net position/fund equity, revenues, and expenditure/expenses.

Funds are organized as major funds or nonmajor funds within the governmental and proprietary statements. An emphasis is placed on major funds within the governmental and proprietary categories. A fund is considered major if it is the primary operating fund of the District or meets the following criteria:

- a. Total assets/deferred outflows of resources, liabilities/deferred inflows of resources, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of that individual governmental fund are at least 10% of the corresponding total for all funds of that category or type, and
- b. The same element of the individual governmental fund that met the 10% test is at least 5% of the corresponding total for all governmental funds combined.
- c. In addition, any other governmental fund that the District believes is particularly important to financial statement users may be reported as a major fund.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds and proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds and major individual enterprise funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE I - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)

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#### ***B. GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (cont.)***

##### ***Fund Financial Statements (cont.)***

The District reports the following major governmental funds:

Corporate Fund - accounts for the District's primary operating activities. It is used to account for and report all financial resources except those accounted for and reported in another fund.

Bond and Interest Fund - used to account for the accumulation of resources for the payment of principal, interest, and related costs of long-term debt.

Construction and Development Fund - used to account for property taxes that are legally restricted to fund the acquisition and construction of major capital facilities.

The District reports the following nonmajor governmental funds:

Special Revenue Funds - used to account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditures for specified purposes (other than debt service or capital projects).

Grant Fund  
Dog Parks Fund  
Resident Watchmen Fund  
Motor Fuel Tax Fund  
ARPA 2022 Project Fund

Capital Projects Funds - used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets.

Golf Courses Capital Improvement Fund  
Real Estate Acquisition Fund  
2012 Capital Improvement Bonds Fund  
2015 Capital Improvement Bonds Fund  
2019 Capital Improvement Bonds Fund  
Capital Improvement Fund

Permanent Fund - used to account for and report resources that are restricted to the extent that only earnings, and not principal, may be used for purposes that support the reporting government's programs, that is, for the benefit of the government or its citizenry.

Working Cash Fund

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE I - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)

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#### ***B. GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (cont.)***

##### ***Fund Financial Statements (cont.)***

In addition, the District reports the following fund types:

Internal service fund is used to account for and report the financing of goods or services provided by one department or agency to other departments or agencies of the District, or to other governmental units, on a cost-reimbursement basis.

##### Self-Insurance Fund

Pension (and other employee benefits) trust funds are used to account for and report resources that are required to be held in trust for the members and beneficiaries of defined benefit pension plans, defined contribution plans, other postemployment benefit plans, or other employee benefit plans.

##### Pension Fund Postemployment Group Health Benefit Fund

#### ***Government-Wide Financial Statements***

The government-wide statement of net position and statement of activities are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recorded when the liability is incurred or economic asset used. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, and liabilities resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Taxes receivable for the following year are recorded as receivables and unearned revenue. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider are met. Unbilled receivables are recorded as revenues when services are provided.

As a general rule, the effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when they are both measurable and available. Available means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the District considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Property taxes levied for a future period are reported as deferred inflows of resources. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for unmatured interest on long-term debt, claims, judgments, compensated absences, and pension expenditures, which are recorded as a fund liability when expected to be paid with expendable available financial resources.

Property taxes are recorded in the year levied as receivables and deferred inflows. They are recognized as revenues in the succeeding year when services financed by the levy are being provided.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE I - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)

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#### ***C. MEASUREMENT FOCUS, BASIS OF ACCOUNTING, AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION***

##### ***Fund Financial Statements***

Intergovernmental aids and grants are recognized as revenues in the period the District is entitled the resources and the amounts are available. Amounts owed to the District which are not available are recorded as receivables and unavailable revenues. Amounts received before eligibility requirements (excluding time) are met are recorded as liabilities. Amounts received in advance of meeting time requirements are recorded as deferred inflows.

Revenues susceptible to accrual include property taxes, miscellaneous taxes, public charges for services and interest. Other general revenues such as fines and forfeitures, inspection fees, recreation fees, and miscellaneous revenues are recognized when received in cash or when measurable and available under the criteria described above.

Proprietary and fiduciary fund financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, as described previously in this note.

The proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the Self Insurance Fund are internal charges for services to governmental funds. Operating expenses for proprietary funds include the claims and settlement payments and administrative expenses. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

##### ***All Financial Statements***

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures/expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.



# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE I - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)

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#### ***D. ASSETS, DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES, LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND NET POSITION OR EQUITY***

##### ***1. Deposits and Investments***

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the District considers all highly liquid investments with an initial maturity of three months or less when acquired to be cash equivalents.

Illinois Statutes authorize the District to make deposits/investments in insured commercial banks, savings and loan institutions, obligations of the U.S. Treasury and U.S. Agencies, insured credit union shares, money market mutual funds with portfolios of securities issued or guaranteed by the United States or agreement to repurchase these same obligations, repurchase agreements, short-term commercial paper rated within the three highest classifications by at least two standard rating services, and the Illinois Funds Investment Pool.

The District maintains a cash and investment pool that is available for use by all funds except its Pension Fund. This pool holds deposits, certificates of deposit, and other investments with a maturity of less than one year. The portion of each fund's share of this pool is displayed as cash and cash equivalents. Investments are stated at fair value. Accrued interest on investments is separately stated. The Illinois Statutes authorize the District to discretionarily allocate interest income to the various funds, except for the pro rata share belonging to the Bond and Interest Fund.

The District has adopted an investment policy. That policy follows the Illinois Statutes (Public Funds Investment Act of the State of Illinois) for allowable investments.

#### **Interest Rate Risk**

The District's investment policy seeks to ensure preservation of capital in the District's overall portfolio. Return on investment is of secondary importance to safety of principal and liquidity. The District's policy limits the District to investments with a maturity of no more than 3 years from the date of purchase, unless matched to a specific cash flow. Reserve funds and other funds with longer-term investment horizons may be invested in securities exceeding 5 years if the maturities of such investments are made to coincide as nearly as possible with the expected use of funds. The intent to invest in securities with longer maturities are required to be disclosed to the Board of Commissioners in writing. In addition to the maturity restrictions, the policy requires the District's investment portfolio to be sufficiently liquid to meet all cash flow requirements as they come due.

#### **Credit Risk**

State Statutes limit the investments in commercial paper to the top three ratings of two nationally recognized statistical rating organizations (NRSRO's). The District's investment policy authorizes investments in any type of security allowed for in Illinois statutes regarding the investment of public funds.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE I - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)

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#### ***D. ASSETS, DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES, LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND NET POSITION OR EQUITY (cont.)***

##### ***1. Deposits and Investments (cont.)***

#### **Concentration of Credit Risk**

The District's investment policy requires diversification of the investment portfolio to minimize risk of loss resulting from over-concentration in a particular type of security, risk factor, issuer, or maturity. The District's policy further states that no financial institution shall hold more than 25% of the District's total portfolio at the current time of investment placement. In addition, no more than 33% of total investments may be invested in commercial paper at any time. The District operates its investments as an internal investment pool where each fund reports its pro rata share of the investments made by the District.

#### **Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits**

The District's investment policy limits the exposure to deposit custodial credit risk by requiring all deposits in excess of FDIC insurable limits to be secured with collateralization pledged by the applicable financial institution to the extent of 110% of the value of the deposit.

#### **Custodial Credit Risk - Investments**

The District's investment policy requires all securities to be held by a third party custodian designated by the Comptroller's Office and evidenced by safekeeping receipts.

Investments are stated at fair value, which is the amount at which an investment could be exchanged in a current transaction between willing parties. Fair values are based on quoted market prices. No investments are reported at amortized cost. Adjustments necessary to record investments at fair value are recorded in the operating statement as increases or decreases in investment income. Investment income on commingled investments of municipal accounting funds is allocated based on average balances. The difference between the bank statement balance and carrying value is due to outstanding checks and/or deposits in transit.

See Note III. A. for further information.

##### ***2. Receivables***

Property taxes for levy year 2024 attaches as an enforceable lien on January 1, 2024, on property values assessed as of the same date. Taxes are levied by December following the lien date (by passage of a Tax Levy Ordinance). The 2024 tax levy, which attached as an enforceable lien on the property as of January 1, 2024, has been recorded as a receivable as of December 31, 2024, as the tax was levied by the District on November 19, 2024 and therefore, is measurable at December 31, 2024.

Tax bills for levy year 2024 are prepared by Cook County and issued on or about February 1, 2024 and July 1, 2024, and are payable in two installments, on or about March 1, 2024 and August 1, 2024 or within 30 days of the tax bills being issued.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE I - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)

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#### ***D. ASSETS, DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES, LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND NET POSITION OR EQUITY (cont.)***

##### ***2. Receivables (cont.)***

The county collects such taxes and remits them periodically. The 2024 property tax levy is recognized as a receivable and deferred inflows in fiscal 2024, net the allowance for uncollectible. As the taxes become available to finance current expenditures, they are recognized as revenues. At December 31, 2024, the property taxes receivable and deferred inflows consisted of the estimated amount collectible from the 2024 levy.

During the course of operations, transactions occur between individual funds that may result in amounts owed between funds. Short-term interfund loans are reported as "due to and from other funds." Long-term interfund loans (noncurrent portion) are reported as "advances from and to other funds." Interfund receivables and payables between funds within governmental activities are eliminated in the statement of net position.

##### ***3. Inventories and Prepaid Items***

Governmental fund inventory items are charged to expenditure accounts when purchased. Year-end inventory was not significant.

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both government-wide and fund financial statements.

##### ***4. Restricted Assets***

Mandatory segregations of assets are presented as restricted assets. Such segregations are required by bond agreements and other external parties. Current liabilities payable from these restricted assets are so classified. The excess of restricted assets over current liabilities payable from restricted assets will be used first for retirement of related long-term debt. The remainder, if generated from earnings, is shown as restricted net position.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE I - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)

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#### ***D. ASSETS, DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES, LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND NET POSITION OR EQUITY (cont.)***

##### **5. Capital Assets**

###### ***Government-Wide Statements***

Capital assets, which include property, plant and equipment, are reported in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial cost of more than \$20,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of 1 year. All capital assets are valued at historical cost, or estimated historical cost if actual amounts are unavailable. Donated capital assets are recorded at acquisition value at the date of donation.

Depreciation of all exhaustible capital assets is recorded as an allocated expense in the statement of activities, with accumulated depreciation reflected in the statement of net position. Depreciation is provided over the assets' estimated useful lives using the straight-line method. The range of estimated useful lives by type of asset is as follows:

Buildings	15 - 40 Years
Land Improvements	15 - 40 Years
Equipment	5 - 20 Years
Vehicles	6 - 20 Years

###### ***Fund Financial Statements***

In the fund financial statements, capital assets used in governmental fund operations are accounted for as capital outlay expenditures of the governmental fund upon acquisition. Capital assets used in proprietary fund operations are accounted for the same way as in the government-wide statements.

##### **6. Deferred Outflows of Resources**

A deferred outflow of resources represents a consumption of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until that future time.

A deferred charge on refunding arises from advance refunding of debt. The difference between the cost of the securities placed in trust for future payment of refunded debt and the net carrying value of that debt is deferred and amortized as a component of interest expense over the shorter of the term of the refunding issue or the original term of the refunded debt. The unamortized amount is reported as a deferred outflow of resources in the government-wide and proprietary fund statements.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE I - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)

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#### ***D. ASSETS, DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES, LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND NET POSITION OR EQUITY (cont.)***

##### ***7. Compensated Absences***

Under terms of employment, employees are granted sick leave and vacations in varying amounts. Compensated absences for accumulated unpaid vacation is paid to employees at retirement or termination. An employee is paid 100% of accumulated vacation, overtime, and severance pay. Compensated absences are accrued as they are earned in the government-wide financial statements. Expenditures and liabilities for compensated absences are recorded in the fund financial statements when due and payable. District employees are granted compensated absences (vacation and sick leave) as follows:

1) Employees can generally accumulate and carry forward a portion or all of unused vacation earned in one year to the following year. In the event of death, retirement, or termination, unused vacation is usually paid to the employee or the employee's beneficiary. The payment provides for partial unused vacation credits earned in the current year.

2) All full-time, non-seasonal employees have the discretion to accumulate a maximum of 1,400 hours (175 days) of sick leave. All rights for compensation for sick leave terminate when an employee severs employment with the District.

##### ***8. Long-Term Obligations***

All long-term obligations to be repaid from governmental resources are reported as liabilities in the government-wide statements. The long-term obligations consist primarily of bonds payable, bond premium costs, accrued compensated absences, net pension liabilities and total OPEB liabilities.

Long-term obligations for governmental funds are not reported as liabilities in the fund financial statements. The face value of debts (plus any premiums) are reported as other financing sources and payments of principal and interest are reported as expenditures. The accounting in proprietary funds is the same as it is in the government-wide statements.

For the government-wide statements and proprietary fund statements, bond premiums and discounts are amortized over the life of the issue using the effective interest method. Gains or losses on prior refunding's are amortized over the remaining life of the old debt, or the life of the new debt, whichever is shorter. The balance at year end for premiums/discounts is shown as an increase or decrease in the liability section of the statement of net position. The balance at year end for gains/losses is shown as a deferred outflow/inflow in the statement of net position.

##### ***9. Deferred Inflows of Resources***

A deferred inflow of resources represents an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period and therefore will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that future time.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE I - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)

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#### ***D. ASSETS, DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES, LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND NET POSITION OR EQUITY (cont.)***

##### ***10. Equity Classifications***

###### ***Government-Wide Statements***

Equity is classified as net position and displayed in three components:

- a. Net Investment in Capital Assets - Consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances (excluding unspent debt proceeds) of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
- b. Restricted Net Position - Consists of net position with constraints placed on their use either by 1) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or, 2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- c. Unrestricted Net Position - All other net positions that do not meet the definitions of "restricted" or "net investment in capital assets."

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the District's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

###### ***Fund Statements***

Governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance and displayed as follows:

- a. Nonspendable - Includes fund balance amounts that cannot be spent either because they are not in spendable form or because legal or contractual requirements require them to be maintained intact.
- b. Restricted - Consists of fund balances with constraints placed on their use either by 1) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or 2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- c. Committed - Includes fund balance amounts that are constrained for specific purposes that are internally imposed by the government through formal action of the highest level of decision making authority. Fund balance amounts are committed through a formal action (resolution) of the District. This formal action must occur prior to the end of the reporting period, but the amount of the commitment, which will be subject to the constraints, may be determined in the subsequent period. Any changes to the constraints imposed require the same formal action of the District that originally created the commitment.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE I - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)

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#### ***D. ASSETS, DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES, LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND NET POSITION OR EQUITY (cont.)***

##### **10. Equity Classifications (cont.)**

- d. Assigned - Includes spendable fund balance amounts that are intended to be used for specific purposes that do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. The Board of Commissioners may take official action to assign amounts. Assignments may take place after the end of the reporting period.
- e. Unassigned - Includes residual positive fund balance within the general fund which has not been classified within the other above mentioned categories. Unassigned fund balance may also include negative balances for any governmental fund if expenditures exceed amounts restricted, committed, or assigned for those purposes.

Proprietary fund equity is classified the same as in the government-wide statements.

The District considers restricted amounts to be spent first when both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available unless there are legal documents / contracts that prohibit doing this, such as in grant agreements requiring dollar for dollar spending. Additionally, the District would first use committed, then assigned and lastly unassigned amounts of unrestricted fund balance when expenditures are made.

The District's Corporate Fund minimum fund balance policy requires the annual budget to provide for a minimum unassigned fund balance equal to the total of 5.5% of budgeted Corporate Fund gross revenues and 9% of budgeted Corporate Fund expenditures.

See Note III. F. for further information.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE II - STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

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#### ***A. BUDGETARY INFORMATION***

Budgetary information is derived from the annual operating budget and is presented using the same basis of accounting for each fund as described in Note I. C.

A budget has been adopted for the Corporate Fund, Bond & Interest Fund, Construction and Development Fund, Resident Watchmen Fund, Real Estate Acquisition Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, and Self Insurance Fund. A budget has not been formally adopted for the Grant Fund, Motor Fuel Tax Fund, 2012 Capital Improvement Bonds Fund, 2015 Capital Improvement Bonds Fund, 2019 Capital Improvement Bonds Fund, Dog Parks Fund, Golf Course Capital Improvement Fund, ARPA 2022 Project Fund, and Working Cash Fund.

Prior to December 31, the District Chief Financial Officer submits to the District Board a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing January 1. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them. Public hearings are conducted to obtain taxpayer comments. Prior to March 31, the budget is legally enacted through passage of an ordinance. Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for all budgeted funds.

The budgeted amounts presented are as presented in the original budget and no amendments were adopted during the year. The District is authorized to change budgeted amounts within any fund; however, revision must be approved by the Board of Commissioners. No revisions can be made increasing the budget unless funding is available for the purpose of the revision. The legal level of budgetary control (i.e., the level at which expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations) is the fund level. The appropriated budget is prepared by fund, function, and department. The District Chief Financial Officer is authorized to transfer budget amounts between departments within any fund; however, the District Board must approve revisions that alter the total expenditures of any fund.

#### ***B. EXCESS EXPENDITURES OVER BUDGET***

Budgeted expenditures in the ARPA 2022 Project Fund were \$6,145,145. Total expenditures were \$10,495,837. This results in excess expenditures of \$4,350,692.

The District controls expenditures at the department level. Some individual departments experienced expenditures which exceeded appropriations. The detail of those items can be found in the District's year-end budget to actual report.



# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### **NOTE II - STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY (cont.)**

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#### ***C. DEFICIT BALANCES***

Generally accepted accounting principles require disclosure of individual funds that have deficit balances at year end.

The Motor Fuel Tax Fund had a deficit fund balance of \$520,686 as of December 31, 2024. District management expects to fund this deficit through intergovernmental proceeds.

The Grant Fund had a deficit balance of \$4,433,877 as of December 31, 2024. District management expects to fund this deficit through future grant revenues.

The ARPA 2022 Project Fund had a deficit balance of \$4,106,021 as of December 31, 2024. District management expects to fund this deficit through future grant revenues.

#### ***D. LIMITATIONS ON THE DISTRICT'S TAX LEVY***

Tax rate ceilings are established by Illinois state law under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Act (PTELA) and are subject to change only by the approval of the voters of the District. The tax rate ceilings are applied at the fund level.

The PTELA limitation is applied in the aggregate to the total levy (excluding certain levies for the repayment of debt). PTELA limits the increase in total taxes billed to the lessor of 5% or the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the preceding year. The amount can be exceeded to the extent there is "new growth" in the District's tax base. The new growth consists of new construction, annexations and tax increment finance district property becoming eligible for taxation. The CPI rates applicable to the December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023 tax levies were 3.4% and 5.0% respectively.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS

#### A. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

The District maintains a cash and investment pool that is available for use by all funds. Each fund type's portion of this pool is displayed on the statement of net position and balance sheet as cash and investments. The deposits and investments of the pension trust funds are held separately from those of other funds.

The District's deposits and investments at year end were comprised of the following:

	<b>Government- wide</b>	<b>Fiduciary</b>	<b>Total</b>
Deposits	\$ 129,753,509	\$ -	\$ 129,753,509
Petty cash	3,561	-	3,561
Illinois Funds	86,599,225	-	86,599,225
Investments	2,474,259	208,644,762	211,119,021
Total cash and investments	<u>\$ 218,830,554</u>	<u>\$ 208,644,762</u>	<u>\$ 427,475,316</u>

#### *Per Statement of Net Position:*

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 216,356,295
Restricted investments	2,474,259

#### *Per Statement of Fiduciary Net Position - Fiduciary Funds:*

U.S. and international equities	101,745,905
U.S. Government and government agency obligations	5,716,200
Corporate bonds	207,975
Collective international equity fund	22,848,150
Commingled fixed income fund	50,430,931
Hedge fund	5,720,462
Real estate funds	17,700,165
Short-term investments	4,274,974

Total cash and investments	<u>\$ 427,475,316</u>
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Deposits in each local and area bank are insured by the FDIC in the amount of \$250,000 for time and savings accounts (including NOW accounts) and \$250,000 for demand deposit accounts (interest-bearing and noninterest-bearing). In addition, if deposits are held in an institution outside of the state in which the government is located, insured amounts are further limited to a total of \$250,000 for the combined amount of all deposit accounts.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

#### A. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (cont.)

The District categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets; Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs. Investments are measured using the market valuation approach.

The valuation methods for recurring fair value measurements are as follows:

Type of Investment	December 31, 2024			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
<i>Primary Government:</i>				
Money market mutual funds	\$ 2,474,259	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,474,259
	<u>\$ 2,474,259</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 2,474,259</u>
<i>Fiduciary Funds:</i>				
U.S. and international equities	\$ 101,745,905	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 101,745,905
U.S. Government and government agency obligations	3,955,258	1,760,942	-	5,716,200
Corporate bonds	-	207,975	-	207,975
Total investments by fair value level	<u>\$ 105,701,163</u>	<u>\$ 1,968,917</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>107,670,080</u>
Investments measured at net asset value				<u>100,974,682</u>
Total investments at fair value				<u>\$ 208,644,762</u>

#### Level 1 Measurements

U.S. Government obligations and U.S. and international equities are traded in active markets on national and international securities exchanges and are valued at closing prices on the measurement date.

#### Level 2 Measurements

Corporate bonds are generally valued by benchmarking model-derived prices quoted market prices and trade data for identical or comparable securities. To the extent that quoted prices are not available, fair value is determined based on a valuation model that include inputs such as interest rate yield curves and credit spreads. Securities traded in markets that are not considered active are valued based on quoted market prices, broker to dealer quotations, or alternative pricing sources with reasonable levels of price transparency. Securities that trade infrequently and therefore have little or no price transparency are valued based on quoted using the investment manager's best estimates.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

#### A. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (cont.)

The valuation methods for investments measured at net asset value (NAV) are presented on the following table:

	Fair Value 12/31/2024	Unfunded Commitments	Redemption Frequency (If Eligible)	Redemption Notice Period
Investments measured at net asset value				
Collective international equity fund (1)				
Lazard/Wilmington Emerging Markets Sudan Free Portfolio	\$ 7,769,709	\$ -	Daily	N/A
State Street Global Advisory MCSI ACWI EX	15,078,441	-	Daily	N/A
Commingled fixed income fund (2)				
EB DV Non-SL Aggregate Bond Index Fund	50,430,931	-	Daily	N/A
Hedge fund (3)				
Burnham Harbor Fund Ltd.	5,720,462	-	Monthly	95 days
Real estate funds (4)				
JMPCB Strategic Property Fund	6,113,740	-	Quarterly	45 days
PRISA Separate Account	9,124,412	-	Quarterly	90 days
Clarion Lion Industrial Trust	2,462,013	-	Quarterly	90 days
Short-term investments (5)				
BNY Mellon EB Temporary Investment Fund	4,274,974	-	Daily	N/A
Total investments measured at net asset value	<u>\$100,974,682</u>			

- (1) Collective international equity fund – The fund's investment objective is to achieve long-term capital appreciation by investing primarily in equity and equity-related securities of issuers that are located, or do significant business, in emerging market countries. The fair value of the investment in the fund has been determined using the NAV per share of the investment.
- (2) Commingled fixed income fund – The fund's investment objective is to track the performance of the Barclays U.S. Aggregate Index. The fair value of the investment in the fund has been determined using the NAV per share of the investment.
- (3) Hedge fund – The investment objective is to invest in non-traditional portfolio managers, diversified portfolios of hedge funds having a low correlation with major investment markets, and diversified groups of alternative investment funds that invest or trade in a wide variety of financial instruments and strategies. The fair value of the investment in the fund has been determined using the NAV per share of the investment.
- (4) Real estate funds – This investment includes a commingled pension trust fund and an insurance company separate account that are both designed as funding vehicles for tax-qualified pension plans. Their investments are comprised primarily of real estate investments either directly owned or through partnership interests and mortgage and other loans on income producing real estate. The fair values of the investments in this type have been determined using the NAV per share (or its equivalent) of the investments. Due to the nature of the investments and available cash in hand, significant redemptions in this type of investment may at times be subject to additional restrictions.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### **A. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (cont.)**

- (5) Short-term investments — This investment's objective is to invest in short-term investments of high quality and low risk to protect capital while achieving investment returns. The fair value of the investment in the fund has been determined using the NAV per share of the investment.

#### **Primary Government**

##### ***Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits***

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a financial institution failure, the District's deposits may not be returned to the District. As of December 31, 2024, all of the District's deposits were collateralized in accordance with their investment policy.

##### ***Custodial Credit Risk - Investments***

For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. As of December 31, 2024, no investments were exposed to custodial credit risk.

Illinois Funds is an investment pool managed by the State of Illinois, Office of the Treasurer, which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. Illinois Funds is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but does operate in a manner consistent with Rule 2a7 of the Investment Company Act of 1940. Investments in Illinois Funds are valued at Illinois Fund's share price, the price for which the investments could be sold.

##### ***Credit Risk***

Credit risk is the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations.

The District's formal investment policy is to apply the prudent-person rule. Investments are made as a prudent person would be expected to act, with discretion and intelligence, to seek reasonable income, preserve capital, and in general, avoid speculative investments. The District's certificates of deposit and money market funds are not rated. The following table presents a summarization of the District's credit quality ratings of investments at December 31, 2024:

Type of Investment	Fitch	Moody's
Money Market Mutual Funds	AAAmf	Not Rated
Illinois Funds	AAAmf	Not Rated

##### ***Concentration of Credit Risk***

Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of a government's investment in a single issuer. The District operates its investments as individual portfolios within each fund. As of December 31, 2024, the District did not have concentrations of credit risk.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

#### A. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (cont.)

##### **Interest Rate Risk**

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the value of an investment.

As of December 31, 2024, the District's investments were as follows:

Investment Type	Fair Value	Maturity (in Years)	
		Less than 1	1-5
Money Market Mutual Funds	\$ 2,474,259	\$ 2,474,259	\$ -
Totals	\$ 2,474,259	\$ 2,474,259	\$ -

#### **Fiduciary Funds**

##### **Custodial Credit Risk – Investments**

For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the Plan will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party.

The Plan had no investments that were uninsured and unregistered, with securities held by the counterparty, or by its trust department or agent, but not held in the Plan's name, as of December 31, 2024.

##### **Credit Risk**

Credit risk is the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. The Plan's investment policy has set the average credit quality for each manager's total fixed income portfolio (corporate and U.S. Government holdings) of not less than A- by two of three credit agencies (Moody's Investors Service, Standard and Poor's and/or Fitch). The following table presents a summarization of the plan's credit quality ratings of investments at December 31, 2024, as valued by Moody's Investors Service:

Type of Investment	Ratings
	Moody's
U.S. Government and government agency obligations	Aaa
Corporate bonds	A to Aaa
Commingled fixed income fund	Not Rated
Short-term investments	Not Rated

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

#### A. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (cont.)

#### Fiduciary Funds (cont.)

##### Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the value of an investment. Investments held for longer periods are subject to increased risk of adverse interest rate changes. The Plan's investment policy for the duration of each manager's total fixed income portfolio is within plus or minus 30% of the duration for the fixed income performance benchmark (Barclays Capital Agreement Fixed Income which was 6.17 years at December 31, 2024). At December 31, 2024, the Plan's non-equity investments consisted of the following:

Investment Type	Fair Value	Maturity (in Years)			
		Less Than 1	1 - 5	6 - 10	More Than 10
U.S. Government and agency obligations	\$ 5,716,201	\$ -	\$ 3,955,259	\$ 942,568	\$ 818,374
Corporate bonds	207,975	118,749	89,226	-	-
Commingled fixed	50,430,931	-	-	50,430,931	-
Short-term investments	4,274,974	4,274,974	-	-	-
Totals	<u>\$ 60,630,081</u>	<u>\$ 4,393,723</u>	<u>\$ 4,044,485</u>	<u>\$ 51,373,499</u>	<u>\$ 818,374</u>

##### Foreign Currency Risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that changes in the exchange rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment or deposit. The Plan's exposure to foreign currency risk at December 31, 2024 is as follows:

Investments	Fair Value (U.S. Dollars)
Equities:	
Australian dollar	\$ 361,997
British pound sterling	3,599,042
Canadian dollar	1,665,091
Danish krone	1,264,965
European euro	7,491,707
Hong Kong dollar	689,166
Israeli shekel	1,008,693
Japanese yen	3,993,522
Swedish krona	290,463
Swiss franc	1,121,675
U.S. dollar	<u>80,259,584</u>
Total equities	<u>\$ 101,745,905</u>

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### A. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (cont.)

##### Fiduciary Funds (cont.)

##### *Securities Lending*

State statutes and the Plan's investment policy permit the Plan to lend securities to brokers-dealers and other entities with a simultaneous agreement to return collateral for the same securities in the future. The Plan's custodian, acting as the lending agent, lends securities for collateral in the form of cash, U.S. Government obligations and irrevocable letters of credit equal to 102% of the fair value of domestic securities plus accrued interest and 105% of the fair value of foreign securities plus accrued interest.

The Plan does not have the right to sell or pledge securities received as collateral unless the borrower defaults. The average term of securities loaned was 75 days for 2024; however, any loan may be terminated on demand by either the Plan or the borrower. Cash collateral is invested in a separately managed portfolio, which had an average weighted maturity at December 31, 2024, of 2 days.

As of December 31, 2024, the fair value (carrying amount) of loaned securities was \$4,220,874. As of December 31, 2024, the fair value (carrying amount) of cash collateral received by the Plan was \$256,425. The cash collateral is included as an asset and a corresponding liability on the combining statements of pension plan fiduciary net position and postemployment healthcare plan net position. As of December 31, 2024, the fair value (carrying amount) of noncash collateral received by the Fund was \$4,065,096.

Although the Plan's securities lending activities are collateralized as described above, they involve both market and credit risk. In this context, market risk refers to the possibility that the borrower of securities will be unable to collateralize the loan upon a sudden material change in the fair value of the loaned securities. Credit risk refers to the possibility that counterparties involved in the securities lending program may fail to perform in accordance with the terms of their contracts.

Indemnification deals with a situation in which a client's securities are not returned due to the insolvency of a borrower. The contract with the lending agent requires indemnification to the Plan if borrowers fail to return the securities or fail to pay the Plan for income distributions by the issuers of securities while the securities are on loan.

A summary of securities loaned at fair value as of December 31, 2024 follows:

##### Securities loaned - backed by cash collateral:

Equity	\$ 256,425
Total securities loaned - backed by cash collateral	256,425

##### Securities loaned - backed by non-cash collateral:

Equity and U.S. Treasury notes	3,964,449
Total securities loaned - backed by non-cash collateral	3,964,449
Total	\$ 4,220,874



# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

#### B. RECEIVABLES

All receivables on the balance sheet are expected to be collected within one year.

The District has entered into various lease agreements related to ten-year real estate leases. For each agreement, a one-time fee is paid at the commencement of the agreement covering the full ten-year lease. The lease receivable amount reported as of December 31, 2024, reflects past due payments on lease renewals. For the year ended December 31, 2024, the District recognized \$3,160,704 of lease revenue during the year. No related interest revenue was recognized.

Governmental funds report *unavailable or unearned revenue* in connection with receivables for revenues that are not considered to be available to liquidate liabilities of the current period. Property taxes levied for the subsequent year are not earned and cannot be used to liquidate liabilities of the current period. Governmental funds also defer revenue recognition in connection with resources that have been received, but not yet earned. At the end of the current fiscal year, the various components of *unavailable revenue* and *unearned revenue* reported in the governmental funds were as follows:

	<u>Unearned</u>	<u>Unavailable</u>
Property taxes levied for future periods	\$ 120,614,385	\$ -
Grants	9,808,785	13,379,986
Other receivable	<u>-</u>	<u>205,000</u>
Total Unearned/Unavailable Revenue for Governmental Funds	\$ <u>130,423,170</u>	\$ <u>13,584,986</u>
Unearned revenue included in liabilities	\$ 9,808,785	
Unearned revenue included in deferred inflows	120,614,385	
Unavailable revenue included in deferred inflows	<u>13,584,986</u>	
Total Unearned and Unavailable Revenue for Governmental Funds	\$ <u>144,008,156</u>	

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

#### C. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended December 31, 2024, was as follows:

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions of the District as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Deletions	Ending Balance
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 236,156,944	\$ 5,938,500	\$ -	\$ 242,095,444
Construction in progress	13,535,418	21,666,160	4,010,893	31,190,685
Total capital assets not being depreciated	<u>249,692,362</u>	<u>27,604,660</u>	<u>4,010,893</u>	<u>273,286,129</u>
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Land improvements	130,502,138	946,643	-	131,448,781
Buildings	138,463,328	3,064,250	-	141,527,578
Equipment	8,663,327	657,066	-	9,320,393
Vehicles	22,858,379	4,541,547	-	27,399,926
Total capital assets being depreciated	<u>300,487,172</u>	<u>9,209,506</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>309,696,678</u>
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Land improvements	61,892,558	5,617,376	-	67,509,934
Buildings	79,851,032	5,669,856	-	85,520,888
Equipment	8,107,285	173,932	-	8,281,217
Vehicles	18,585,764	789,814	-	19,375,578
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>168,436,639</u>	<u>12,250,978</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>180,687,617</u>
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	<u>132,050,533</u>	<u>(3,041,472)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>129,009,061</u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 381,742,895</u>	<u>\$ 24,563,188</u>	<u>\$ 4,010,893</u>	<u>\$ 402,295,190</u>
General government		\$ 8,734,459		
Resource management		601,034		
Permits, concessions, volunteer resources and general maintenance		2,410,683		
Public safety		486,745		
Planning and development		<u>18,057</u>		
Total depreciation - governmental activities		<u>\$ 12,250,978</u>		

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

#### ***D. INTERFUND RECEIVABLES/PAYABLES AND TRANSFERS***

##### ***Interfund Receivables/Payables***

The following is a schedule of interfund receivables and payables including any overdrafts on pooled cash and investment accounts:

<u>Receivable Fund</u>	<u>Payable Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Corporate	Nonmajor Governmental	\$ 1,913,948
Corporate	Construction and Development	7,462,574
Bond and Interest	Corporate	7,199,884
Construction and Development	Corporate	41,365,821
Nonmajor Governmental	Corporate	38,868,364
Nonmajor Governmental	Nonmajor Governmental	1,520,329
Internal Service - Self Insurance	Corporate	10,914,165
Total - Fund Financial Statements		109,245,085
Less: Fund eliminations		(109,245,085)
Total Internal Balances - Government-Wide Statement of Position		\$ -

All amounts are due within one year.

The principal purpose of these interfunds is to loan resources between funds to support operations. All remaining balances resulted from the time lag between the dates that (1) interfund goods and services are provided or reimbursable expenditures occur, (2) transactions are recorded in the accounting system, and (3) payments between funds are made.

For the statement of net position, interfund balances which are owed within the governmental activities are netted and eliminated.

##### ***Transfers***

The following is a schedule of interfund transfers as of December 31, 2024:

<u>Fund Transferred To</u>	<u>Fund Transferred From</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Corporate	Construction and Development	\$ 1,955,381
Nonmajor Governmental	Corporate	11,325,000
Internal Service - Self Insurance	Corporate	7,500,000
Total - Fund Financial Statements		20,780,381
Less: Fund eliminations		(20,780,381)
Total - Government-Wide Statement of Activities		\$ -

Generally, transfers are used to (1) move revenues from the fund that collects them to the fund that the budget requires to expend them, (2) move receipts restricted to debt service from the funds collecting the receipts to the debt service fund, and (3) use unrestricted revenues collected in the general fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations. For the statement of activities, interfund transfers within the governmental funds are netted and eliminated.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

#### ***E. LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS***

Long-term obligations activity for the year ended December 31, 2024, was as follows:

	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Additions</b>	<b>Reductions</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>Due Within One Year</b>
General Obligation Debt from direct borrowings and direct placements	\$ 87,340,000	\$ -	\$ 12,050,000	\$ 75,290,000	\$ 4,315,000
Unamortized bond premium	8,654,725	-	618,195	8,036,530	-
Compensated absences	2,688,295	3,123,347	2,613,802	3,197,840	1,918,703
Total OPEB liability	45,549,374	-	6,646,118	38,903,256	-
Net pension liability	156,713,911	3,052,733	-	159,766,644	-
Total long-term liabilities	<u>\$ 300,946,305</u>	<u>\$ 6,176,080</u>	<u>\$ 21,928,115</u>	<u>\$ 285,194,270</u>	<u>\$ 6,233,703</u>

The obligations for postemployment benefits, net pension liability, and compensated absences will be repaid from the Corporate Fund.

#### ***General Obligation Debt***

All general obligation notes and bonds payable are backed by the full faith and credit of the District. Notes and bonds in the governmental funds will be retired by future property tax levies or tax increments accumulated by the debt service fund.

	<b>Interest Rates</b>	<b>Original Indebtedness</b>	<b>Carrying Amount</b>
Series 2019 General Obligation Limited Tax Bonds - Due in annual installments of \$435,000 to \$640,000 through December 15, 2036*	2.90%	\$ 8,060,000	\$ 4,465,000
Series 2022A General Obligation Limited Tax Refunding Bonds - Due in annual installments of \$1,510,000 to \$4,250,000 through December 15, 2037*	5.00%	39,640,000	37,370,000
Series 2022B General Obligation Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds (PPRT Alt Revs) - Due in annual installments of \$1,830,000 to \$3,805,000 through December 15, 2037*	5.00%	<u>36,500,000</u>	<u>33,455,000</u>
Total Governmental Activities - General Obligation Bonds		<u>\$ 84,200,000</u>	<u>\$ 75,290,000</u>

\* - Direct placement

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### *E. LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS* (cont.)

Debt service requirements to maturity are as follows:

Year Ending December 31,	Direct Borrowings and Direct Placements		
	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	\$ 4,315,000	\$ 3,670,735	\$ 7,985,735
2026	4,525,000	3,461,600	7,986,600
2027	4,735,000	3,242,175	7,977,175
2028	4,975,000	3,012,460	7,987,460
2029	5,215,000	2,770,955	7,985,955
2030-2034	30,135,000	9,796,905	39,931,905
2035-2037	21,390,000	2,123,910	23,513,910
Total	<u>\$ 75,290,000</u>	<u>\$ 28,078,740</u>	<u>\$ 103,368,740</u>

The District is subject to the Illinois Municipal Code, which limits the amount of certain indebtedness to 0.345% of the most recent available equalized assessed valuation of the District. As of December 31, 2023, the statutory debt limit for the District was \$687,101,488, providing a debt margin of \$616,126,488.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### *F. NET POSITION*

Net position reported on the government wide statement of net position at December 31, 2024, includes the following:

Land	\$	242,095,444
Construction in progress		31,190,685
Other capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation		129,009,061
Less: Outstanding debt related to capital assets		(75,290,000)
Less: Unamortized premium related to capital assets		<u>(8,036,530)</u>
Total Net Investment in Capital Assets		<u>318,968,660</u>
Restricted:		
Capital improvements		2,209,475
Construction and development		30,493,348
Debt service		6,992,937
Grants		4,840,088
Permanent fund		<u>15,981,245</u>
Total Restricted		<u>60,517,093</u>
Unrestricted		<u>(72,724,571)</u>
Total Governmental Activities Net Position	\$	<u><u>306,761,182</u></u>

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### ***G. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY***

##### ***Nature of Organization***

The Chicago Horticultural Society (the "Society") operates the Chicago Botanic Garden on land owned by the Forest Preserve District of Cook County (the "District") under an agreement expiring in 2055. Such agreement provides for an automatic renewal for 40 years unless either party provides notice of nonrenewal.

The board of directors of the Society has adopted the following mission statement: We cultivate the power of plants to sustain and enrich life.

##### ***Summary of Significant Accounting Policies***

***Basis of Consolidation*** – The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Society and Chicagoland Grows, Inc. of which the Society is the sole member (collectively referred to as the Society). There are no significant intercompany transactions between these entities.

***Basis of Presentation*** – The consolidated financial statements of the Society have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAPUSA).

***Classification of Net Assets*** – Net Assets of the Society are classified based on the presence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions:

Net assets without donor restrictions: Net assets that are not subject to donor-imposed or the donor-imposed restriction have expired or been fulfilled. Net position in this category may be expended for any purpose in performing the primary objectives of the Society.

Net assets with donor restrictions: Net assets subject to stipulations imposed by donors and grantors. Some donor restrictions are temporary in nature; those restrictions will be met by actions of the Society or by the passage of time. Other donor restrictions are perpetual in nature, where the donor has stipulated the funds be maintained in perpetuity.

Earnings, gains, and losses on donor-restricted Net assets are classified as Net assets without donor restrictions unless specifically restricted by the donor or by applicable state law.

Net assets designated by the board are net assets without donor restrictions and include the change in fair value of interest rate swaps, certain beneficial interest in third-party trusts, and the board-designated endowment fund. These designations are based on board actions, which can be altered or revoked at a future time by the board.

***Contributions and Grant Revenue*** - Contributions are recorded as increases in net assets with donor restrictions or increase in net assets without donor restrictions, depending on the existence or nature of any donor restrictions. Contributions received with donor imposed restrictions limiting the use of the donated assets are reported as revenue with donor restrictions. When a donor restriction expires, that is, when a time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the consolidated statements of activities as net assets released from restriction.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### ***G. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (cont.)***

##### ***Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)***

Contributions of donated securities are sold upon receipt unless there are donor restrictions restricting the sale of such securities.

Government grant revenue consists of cost-reimbursable federal and state contracts and grants, which are conditioned upon certain performance requirements and/or the incurrence of allowable qualifying expenses. Amounts received are recognized as revenue when the Society has incurred expenditures in compliance with specific contract or grant provisions. Amounts that have been awarded but not yet recognized as revenue are treated as conditional contributions and are not reflected in the accompanying consolidated financial statements. As of December 31, 2024, the Society is eligible to receive and recognize \$11,838,000 of these conditional contributions upon the occurrence of future qualifying expenses.

Tax revenue appropriated and collected by the District partially supports the services provided by the Society under its agreement with the District to operate the Chicago Botanic Garden. Amounts received from the District under the agreement for 2024 represent the amounts appropriated by the District for 2023 property taxes and personal property replacement taxes, which are due for payment from taxpayers in 2024 for ultimate distribution to the Society. Tax revenues also include the Society's share of any amounts remitted to the District by the Cook County Collector (the County) for prior year property tax payments, net of the Society's share of any property tax refunds returned to the taxpayers by the County. Support from the District for any given year is recognized at the net amount reported as collected by the District to operate the Chicago Botanic Garden. A receivable is recorded at year end for any amounts reported as collected by the District but not yet remitted to the Society.

*Revenue Recognition for Contracts with Customers* — The Society's revenue streams under contracts with customers are comprised of events revenue; program-generated revenues; membership dues and facility room rentals.

For each revenue stream identified above, revenue recognition is subject to the completion of performance obligations. For each contract with a customer, the Society determined whether the performance obligations in the contracts are distinct or should be bundled. Factors to be considered include the pattern of transfer, whether visitors or participants (customers) can benefit from the resources, and whether the resources are readily available. The Society also performs an analysis to determine if membership dues, sponsorship agreements or special event tickets constitute separate performance obligations. The Society's revenue is recognized when a given performance obligation is satisfied, either over a period of time or at a given point in time.

The Society recognizes the revenue over a period of time if the customer receives and consumes the benefits that the Society provided, or if the Society's performance does not create an asset with an alternative use and has an enforceable right to payment for the performance. The revenue is recognized at a given point in time when the control of the goods or service is transferred to the customer and when the customer can direct its use and obtain substantial benefit from the goods.

The transaction price is calculated as the amount of consideration to which the Society expects to be entitled (such as merchant price, event agreements, price of membership and course fees set in advance). Payment is typically expected at the point of sale. In some situations (such as course fees for education programs, sponsorship, or security of room rental), the Society bills customers and collects cash prior to the satisfaction of the performance obligation, which results in the Society recognizing contract liabilities upon receipt of payment.



# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### **G. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (cont.)**

##### ***Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)***

The following explains the performance obligations related to each revenue stream and how they are recognized.

**Membership dues** – The Society earns dues from its members for memberships. Membership dues are earned over the course of one or two years, representing the period over which the Society satisfies the performance obligation.

**Visitor programs and operations** – The Society generates revenue from transaction-based fees, restaurant sales, merchandise sales, and providing services to customers. Transaction-based fees, which include parking, ticket sales, and plant sales, are recognized at the time the transaction is executed as that is the point in time when the Society satisfies the performance obligation. Restaurant, merchandise, and plant sales are recognized at the point in time when the sale occurs and the visitor takes possession of the item purchased.

**General admissions** – Included in visitor programs and operations revenue on the consolidated statement of activities, the Society sells general admissions tickets to visitors. Tickets can be purchased in person and online up to two months in advance. Ticket sales are recognized on the admissions date.

**Facility rental revenues** – Included in visitor programs and operations revenue on the consolidated statement of activities, facility rental revenues consist of room rentals for special events on a specified date. The Society does not have an obligation to issue a refund in the event that facility room rental is canceled by the customer. The Society recognizes revenue at the point in time when services are rendered to the customer.

**Other income** – The Society generates revenue from other activities including sponsorships, education programs, tours, transportation, and equipment rentals. The Society recognizes revenue at the point in time the services are rendered to its visitors.

***Pledges Receivable*** – Contributions, including unconditional promises, are recognized as revenue when the donor's commitment is received. Unconditional promises to give and grants expected to be received over more than one year are recorded at the present value of their estimated future cash flows. Amortization of the discount is recorded as additional contribution revenue. Conditional promises are recorded when donor stipulations are substantially met.

***Cash Deposits*** – The Society maintains cash balances held in a bank that exceed the federal depository insurance limit. The Society's cash is only insured up to the federal depository insurance limit.

***Accounts Receivable*** – Accounts receivable consist of government grants and other receivables that are carried at original invoice and voucher amount. Management monitors the collection of these receivables on a monthly basis and amounts are written off when deemed uncollectible.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### **G. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (cont.)**

##### ***Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)***

**Investments** – Investments are measured at a fair value in the accompanying consolidated statements of financial position. Investment income or loss (including realized gains and losses on investments, changes in unrealized holding gains and losses, interest and dividends) on investments is included in investment income and return in the consolidated statements of activities. Gains and losses on securities transactions are accounted for on the specific-identification method. Certain investments require advance notice to sell the Society's share of its investment. The Society's investments are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, credit and overall market volatility. Due to these risk factors, it is reasonably possible that changes in the value of investments will occur in the near term and will materially affect the amounts reported in the consolidated financial statements.

In 1996, the Society established a spending policy based on the total return concept, and approved an investment payout of five (5) percent of the average fair value of the long-term investment pool for allocation to operations as directed by the Board of Directors. To the extent the investment income exceeds investment payout; it is reported as a nonoperating activity in the consolidated statements of activities and changes in net assets.

**Property and Equipment** – All real property of the Society, whether purchased with District tax funds or private funds, is owned by the District. Personal property is owned by the Society. Property and equipment, whether owned by the District or the Society, is capitalized on the Society's books and depreciation is recorded using the straight-line method, based on estimated useful lives of the related assets or the term of the agreement. The useful lives of building and improvements, land improvements and equipment are 20 to 40 years, 20 years and 3 to 10 years, respectively.

**Museum Assets** – Purchased museum assets and rare books are capitalized at the time of purchase and not depreciated. Contributed museum assets are not valued and thus are not reflected in the consolidated financial statements.

**Interest Rate Swaps** – The Society's interest rate swaps are recognized as a liability in the consolidated statements of financial position and measured at fair value. Any change in fair value is recognized immediately in earnings. In order to present the interest expense at the fixed amount paid, the periodic settlement payments are recorded as interest expense and are included as operating expenses in the consolidated statements of activities. The change in the fair value of these financial instruments, net of the periodic settlement payments, has been recorded in non-operating activities in the consolidated statements of activities.

**Income Taxes** – The Society is exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as amended from time to time) as well as similar provisions of state and local revenue laws.

Chicagoland Grows, Inc. is tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Chicagoland Grows, Inc. is one of the most innovative plant introduction programs in the horticulture industry. The program's main goal is to develop and promote the use of new plant cultivars that are well-adapted to the growing conditions of the Upper Midwest.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### **G. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (cont.)**

##### ***Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)***

The Society's application of GAAPUSA regarding uncertain tax positions had no effect on its financial position as management believes the Society has no material unrecognized income tax liabilities, including any potential risk of loss of its exempt status. The Society would account for any potential interest or penalties related to possible future liabilities for unrecognized income tax liabilities as income tax expense.

*Functional Allocation of Expenses* – Costs of providing the program and support services have been reported on a functional basis in the statement of activities and changes in net assets. Costs are charged to program services and supporting services on an actual basis when available. In addition, indirect costs have been allocated between the various programs and support services on several bases and estimates as determined by management.

Depreciation - By head count per building occupied by all departments and/or building or equipment within each function

Information technology services - By head count per shared utilization by all departments and/or building within each function (included in professional services; plants, research, and other supplies; and other operating expenses)

Debt service expenses - By head count based on use of leased equipment, proceeds from bond issuance, and directly assigned

Occupancy - By head count based on building occupied by all departments and/or building within each function

Although the methods of allocation used are considered appropriate, other methods could be used that would produce different amounts.

*Use of Estimates* – The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAPUSA requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities as of the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### ***G. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (cont.)***

##### ***Pledges Receivable***

Contributions are recorded at present value of their estimated future cash flows. The Society discounted contributions due in more than one year using rates between 0.12% and 4.79%. Unconditional promises to give are expected to be received in the following periods:

Within one year	\$ 4,312,000
One to five years	14,435,000
More than five years	2,000,000
Less:	
Discount to present value	(1,568,000)
Allowance for uncollectible promises to give	(8,000)
	<u>\$ 19,171,000</u>

##### ***Beneficial Interests in Third-Party Trusts***

Beneficial interests in third-party trusts primarily consist of charitable remainder trusts. These interests are adjusted to fair value using an interest rate of 4.20% to 8.20% for the discount rate. Beneficial interest in third-party trusts consist of the following at December 31:

Gross beneficial interests	\$ 929,000
Less fair value discount	<u>(380,000)</u>
	<u>\$ 549,000</u>

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### ***G. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (cont.)***

##### ***Investments***

The details of the Society's investments at December 31, 2024 are as follows:

Corporate bonds and fixed income funds	\$ 5,548,000
Multiasset mutual fund	1,504,000
Common stock and equity funds	1,137,000
Money market funds	6,810,000
Private equity funds	157,000
Real estate funds	120,000
Comprehensive limited partners	<u>176,145,000</u>
	<u><u>\$191,421,000</u></u>

Total investment return consists of the following for the year ended December 31, 2024:

Interest and dividends	\$ 542,000
Realized gain on sale of investments	1,367,000
Change in unrealized gain on investments	19,147,000
Investment management fees	<u>(538,000)</u>
	<u><u>\$ 20,518,000</u></u>

Investment income included in operations totaled \$6,545,000 for 2024.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### **G. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (cont.)**

##### ***Fair Value Measurements***

GAAPUSA defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants as of the measurement date. GAAPUSA describes three approaches to measuring the fair value of assets and liabilities: the market approach, the income approach and the cost approach. Each approach includes multiple valuation techniques. GAAPUSA does not prescribe which valuation technique should be used when measuring fair value, but does establish a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs used in applying the various techniques. Inputs broadly refer to the assumptions that market participants use to make pricing decisions, including assumptions about risk. Level 1 inputs are given the highest priority in the hierarchy while Level 3 inputs are given the lowest priority.

Financial assets and liabilities carried at fair value are classified in one of the following three categories based upon the inputs to the valuation technique:

- *Level 1* - Observable inputs that reflect unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets as of the reporting date. Active markets are those in which transactions for the asset or liability occur in sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis. Investments included in Level 1 include listed equities.
- *Level 2* - Observable market-based inputs or unobservable inputs that are corroborated by market data. Investments which are generally included in this category include less liquid and certain over-the-counter derivatives. Investments that are included in this category also include investments in commingled funds and investment partnerships such as hedge funds and open-ended real estate funds.
- *Level 3* - Unobservable inputs that are not corroborated by market data. These inputs reflect management's best estimate of fair value using net asset value per share of the funds. Investments that are included in this category generally include investments in investment partnerships such as private equity and real estate funds.

In certain cases, the inputs used to measure fair value may fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy. In such cases, an investment's level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurements. The Society's assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgments and considers factors specific to the investment. The following section describes the valuations techniques used by the Society to measure different financial instruments at fair value and includes the level within the fair value hierarchy in which the financial instrument is categorized.

Investments measured at fair value using net asset value per share (NAV) (or its equivalent) as a practical expedient are not classified in the fair value hierarchy below. The estimated fair values for the fixed income, hedge, private equity, large-cap equity and real estate funds were based on net asset value per share of the fund for the year ended December 31, 2024.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

#### G. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (cont.)

##### Fair Value Measurements (cont.)

The following table presents the Society's fair value hierarchy for those assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2024:

Assets Measured at Fair Value on a Recurring Basis at December 31, 2024					
Description	Total Fair Value	Identical Assets (Level 1)	Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Net Asset Value
Assets:					
Equity mutual funds:					
U.S. Large cap	\$ 643,000	\$ 643,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
U.S. Mid cap	4,311,000	4,311,000	-	-	-
U.S. Small cap	175,000	175,000	-	-	-
International growth	87,000	87,000	-	-	-
Multi-asset mutual fund	1,504,000	-	1,504,000	-	-
Fixed income mutual funds -					
U.S. Core Bond	5,518,000	5,518,000	-	-	-
Money market fund	2,761,000	2,761,000	-	-	-
Interest rate swaps	1,067,000	-	1,067,000	-	-
Multi-strategy limited partnerships	176,145,000	-	-	-	176,145,000
Fixed income commingled fund	157,000	-	-	-	157,000
Real estate funds	120,000				120,000
Beneficial interests in third party trusts	549,000	-	-	549,000	-
Totals	\$ 191,533,000	\$ 13,495,000	\$ 2,571,000	\$ 549,000	\$ 176,422,000
Liabilities					
Interest rate swaps	\$ 1,067,000	\$ -	\$ 1,067,000	\$ -	\$ -

At December 31, 2024, the Society had \$92,549,000 and \$83,596,000 invested in the TIFF Keystone Fund and TIFF Centerstone Fund, respectively. These individual investments represent a significant portion of the Society's investment balance, comprising approximately 48% and 44% of the total portfolio at December 31, 2024.

##### Level 1

Investments in securities traded on a national securities exchange, or reported on the NASDAQ national market, are stated at the last reported sale price on the day of valuation.

##### Level 2

Interest rate swaps are not traded on an exchange and are recorded at fair value based on a variety of observable inputs, including contractual terms, interest rate curves, yield curves, credit curves, measure of volatility, and correlations of such inputs. Valuation adjustments may be made in the determination of fair value, which was obtained by an independent third-party advisor. These adjustments include amounts to reflect counterparty credit quality and liquidity risk. A schedule of potential counterparty risk was also provided by an independent third-party advisor. This schedule assumed the maximum exposure assuming the counterparty had no claims-paying ability and had not posted collateral with a third party.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### **G. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (cont.)**

##### ***Fair Value Measurements*** (cont.)

###### Level 3

The Society's beneficial interests in third-party trusts are stated at estimated fair value based on the Society's percentage of the trust applied to the total fair value of the trust, which is based primarily on quoted market prices. Changes in fair value of the underlying trust assets, as determined by the trustees that hold and manage these assets, are recognized in the consolidated statements of activities in the periods in which they occur.

The Society's policy is to recognize transfers in and transfers out of Level 1, 2, and 3 fair value classifications as of the beginning of the year of change in circumstances that caused the transfer.

The following table presents a reconciliation of the beginning and ending balances recorded for instruments classified as Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy as of December 31, 2024:

Assets:	
Beginning balance	\$ 497,000
Termination of trust and receipt of proceeds	-
Total gain/losses (realized and change in unrealized) included in change in assets	<u>52,000</u>
Ending balance	<u><u>\$ 549,000</u></u>
The amount of total gain/losses for the year included in change in net assets attributable to the change in unrealized gain/losses relating to assets still held at December 31, 2024	
	<u><u>\$ 52,000</u></u>



# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

#### G. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (cont.)

##### Fair Value Measurements (cont.)

At December 31, 2024, the fair value, unfunded commitments, redemption rules, and investment strategies of investments valued at NAV or its equivalent are as follows:

	Fair Values as of December 31, 2024	Unfunded Commitments	Redemption Frequency (If Currently Eligible)	Redemption Notice Period
Fixed income commingled fund <sup>(a)</sup>	\$ 157,000	\$ -	Quarterly	See below
Hedge funds:				
Hedged equity hedge funds <sup>(b)</sup>	120,000	-	Quarterly	See below
Multistrategy limited partnerships:				
TIFF Keystone fund <sup>(c)</sup>	92,549,000	-	Quarterly	180 days
TIFF Centerstone fund <sup>(d)</sup>	83,596,000		Quarterly	75 days
	<u>\$ 176,422,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>		

(a) This category includes several private equity funds that invest in a wide range of equity and equity-related securities of management buyout transactions and special equity transactions. A characteristic of the investments in this category is that distributions are received through the liquidation of the underlying assets of the fund. These investments may not be redeemed without the prior written consent of the general partner. If these investments were held, it is estimated that the underlying assets of the fund would be liquidated over five to eight years. However, the individual investments that will be sold have not yet been determined. Because it is not probable that any individual investment in this category will be sold, the fair value of each individual investment has been estimated using the net asset value of the Society's ownership interest in partners' capital.

(b) This category includes several real estate funds that invest primarily in U.S. commercial real estate. The fair values of the investments in this category have been estimated using the net asset value of the Society's ownership interest in partners' capital. Distributions from each fund will be received as the underlying investments of the funds are liquidated. These investments may not be redeemed without the prior written consent of the general partner. It is estimated that the underlying assets of the fund will be liquidated over the next three to eight years. However, the individual investments that will be sold have not yet been determined. Because it is not probable that any individual investment will be sold, the fair value of each individual investment has been estimated using the net asset value of the Society's ownership interest in partners' capital. Once it has been determined which investments will be sold and whether those investments will be sold individually or in a group, the investments will be sold in an auction process. The investee fund's management must approve of the buyer before the sale of the investment can be completed.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### **G. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (cont.)**

##### ***Fair Value Measurements*** (cont.)

(c) The TIFF Keystone fund is designed to provide single source, diversified, multiasset class investment exposure. It is constructed with a goal to generate returns of at least 5% plus inflation over the long term by investing globally in equities (including private equity funds, venture capital funds, private realty funds, natural realty funds), fixed income, and hedge funds. Equities (both public and private) are used to generate returns, while fixed income is used to provide liquidity and manage volatility. Hedge funds are used to generate returns but have a lower equity market sensitivity than stocks. The fund offers quarterly liquidity with provisions related to the illiquid assets.

(d) The TIFF Centerstone fund is designed to provide single source, diversified, multiasset class investment exposure. It is constructed with a goal to generate returns of at least 5% plus inflation over the long term by investing globally in equities, fixed income, and hedge funds. Equities are used to generate returns, while fixed income is used to provide liquidity and manage volatility. Hedge funds are used to generate returns by have a lower equity market sensitivity than stocks. The fund offers quarterly liquidity.

##### ***Property and Equipment***

Property and equipment are reflected at cost and consist of the following:

Buildings and improvements	\$ 159,672,000
Land improvements	98,513,000
Equipment	25,454,000
Museum Assets	4,360,000
Construction in progress	<u>625,000</u>
Total capital assets	288,624,000
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(162,412,000)</u>
Total capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	<u>\$ 126,212,000</u>

Depreciation and amortization expense was \$9,361,000 for 2024.

Construction in progress as of December 31, 2024, consists of expenditures associated primarily with the construction of the shade garden and various other projects.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

#### **G. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (cont.)**

##### **Contract Liabilities**

Contract liabilities consist of the following as of December 31, 2024:

Membership dues	\$ 5,630,000
Visitor programs and operations	871,000
Facility rentals	<u>172,000</u>
Total	<u>\$ 6,673,000</u>

The following table provides information on the changes in the balance of contract liabilities for the years ended December 31, 2024:

Opening balance	\$ 6,867,000
Cash received	20,247,000
Less revenue recognized from satisfaction of performance obligations in the current period	<u>(20,441,000)</u>
Ending balance	<u>\$ 6,673,000</u>

##### **Line of Credit**

The Society had two \$5 million lines of credit (\$5 million committed and \$5 million uncommitted) available in 2022. Outstanding amounts bear interest at a prime-based rate or a SOFOR-based rate. There were no borrowings outstanding on the lines of credit as of December 31, 2024. The Society has agreed to maintain a funded indebtedness (cash, unrestricted investments, and unrestricted pledges to indebtedness) financial ratio of at least .85 to 1.0 at December 31, 2024. The lines of credit mature on December 31, 2024.

##### **Bonds Payable**

Bonds payable at December 31, 2024, consist of the following amounts due to the Illinois Finance Authority, which issued Adjustable Demand Revenue Bonds on the Society's behalf:

Series 2008, payable 2043	\$ 30,000,000
Series 1999, payable 2029	20,000,000
Unamortized Debt Issuance Costs	<u>(321,000)</u>
	<u>\$ 49,679,000</u>

The Society has obtained a letter of credit from a bank for each bond issue, which provides credit enhancement for the bonds. The letters of credit for the Series 1999 bonds and Series 2008 bonds were extended to expire on December 28, 2026.

The bonds' proceeds were used by the Society to finance the costs of construction, to equip new operating facilities and gardens, and to pay certain issuance costs. The bonds' interest rate is adjustable weekly based on a national index of tax-exempt variable rate bonds. The weekly rates for 2024 averaged 3.49%.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### **G. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (cont.)**

##### ***Bonds Payable*** (cont.)

Total interest expense for all debt, including the interest payments made under the swap agreements and amortization of bond issuance costs, for 2024 was \$1,363,000. The bonds are due in lump-sum payments in the year 2029 and 2043, as indicated in the table above. In the event that the remarketing agent is unable to remarket the bonds, the bonds become pledged bonds to the bank under the letter of credit. If the letter of credit cannot be renewed and an alternative letter of credit cannot be obtained, so long as certain conditions are satisfied under the reimbursement agreement in effect between the Society and the bank, the bonds shall be repaid according to an amortization schedule consisting of eight quarterly installments of principal, with the first of such installments commencing on the due date, which is 13 months after the date on which the bonds were purchased by the bank pursuant to the letter of credit. The Society has agreed to maintain a funded indebtedness (cash, unrestricted investments, and unrestricted pledges to indebtedness) financial ratio of at least 0.85 to 1.0 on the combined bond issues as of December 31, 2024.

##### ***Interest Rate Swaps***

The Society entered into two interest rate swap agreements, which are considered derivative financial instruments. The Society does not utilize interest rate swaps or other similar financial instruments for trading or other speculative purposes. The counterparty for these swap agreements is The Northern Trust Company, a major financial institution with which the Society also has other financial relationships.

The principal objective of these swap agreements is to minimize the risks associated with financing activities by reducing the impact of changes in interest rates on floating rate debt. These swap agreements are a contract to exchange fixed interest payments for the floating rate interest received over the life of the swap agreements without the exchange of the underlying notional amounts. Effective July 1, 2010, the Society entered into an agreement to limit the interest rate exposure to 3.64% on a notional amount of \$12,000,000 that expires on June 1, 2025. Effective December 7, 2018, the Society entered into an agreement to limit the interest rate exposure to 2.176% on the notional amount of \$38,000,000 that expires on July 28, 2028. The counterparty for this new agreement is BMO Harris Bank, a major financial institution with which the Society also has other financial relationships. The Society is exposed to credit loss in the event of nonperformance by the Bank to the interest rate swap agreements. However, the Society does not anticipate nonperformance by either of the counterparty banks.

The following table presents the amounts and the locations of the amounts relating to the Society's interest rate swaps in the Society's consolidated financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024:

##### Statement of Net Position:

Interest rate swap asset	<u>\$ 1,067,000</u>
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##### Statement of Activities:

Change in fair value of interest rate swaps	\$ 55,000
Periodic settlement payments recorded as interest expense and included in operating expenses	<u>(571,000)</u>

Total gain on interest rate swaps	<u>\$ (516,000)</u>
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# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

#### G. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (cont.)

##### Leases

Lease are classified as operating or finance leases at the lease commencement date. Lease expense for operating leases and short-term leases is recognized on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Right-of-use assets represent the Society's right to use an underlying asset for the lease term and lease liabilities represent the Society's obligation to make lease payments arising from the lease. Right-of-use assets and lease liabilities are recognized at the lease commencement date based on the estimated present value of lease payments over the lease term. The Society uses its incremental borrowing rate at lease commencement to calculate the present value of the lease payments over the lease term.

The Society is obligated under an operating lease primarily for a building and related facilities, expiring at December 31, 2027 with an option to renew for an additional 10 years after expiration. Cash paid under this lease amounts to \$12,000 as of December 31, 2024. The Society leases the copiers under long-term lease arrangements classified as finance leases. Under the terms of the lease agreements, payments of \$3,000 are due monthly through August 15, 2026.

The right of use assets and related lease liabilities for the operating and finance leases have been calculated using the incremental borrowing rate of 4.5% and 6.0%, respectively. Right-of-use assets and lease liabilities by lease type, and the associated statements of financial position classifications are as follows for the year ended December 31, 2024:

	Statements of Financial Position Classification	2024
Right-of-use assets:		
Operating lease	Prepaid expenses and other assets	\$ 122,000
Finance leases	Property and equipment, net	52,000
Total right-of-use assets		<u>\$ 174,000</u>
Lease liabilities		
Operating lease	Accounts payable and other accrued current liabilities	\$ 126,000
Finance leases	Accounts payable and other accrued current liabilities	57,000
Total lease liabilities		<u>\$ 183,000</u>

Future minimum rent on noncancelable leases as of December 31, 2024 for each of the next five years, and in the aggregate, is as follows:

Years Ending December 31	Operating Lease	Finance Leases	Payments
2025	\$ 12,000	\$ 36,000	\$ 48,000
2026	12,000	24,000	36,000
2027	12,000	-	12,000
2028	13,000	-	13,000
2029	13,000		
Thereafter	106,000	-	106,000
Total future minimum payments	168,000	60,000	228,000
Less amount representing interest	(42,000)	(3,000)	(45,000)
Present value of net minimum lease payments	<u>\$ 126,000</u>	<u>\$ 57,000</u>	<u>\$ 183,000</u>

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### ***G. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (cont.)***

##### ***Net Assets***

Net assets with donor restrictions consist of the following as of December 31, 2024:

Garden construction and improvement project	\$ 3,228,000
Educational, research, and garden programs	16,628,000
Subject to the passage of time	397,000
Subject to the Society's spending policy and appropriation	28,416,000
Not subject to appropriation or expenditure	<u>74,903,000</u>
Total	<u>\$ 123,572,000</u>

Net assets of \$10,477,000 was released from donor restrictions by incurring expenses satisfying the restricted purpose or by the passage of time in 2024.

Net assets not subject to appropriation of expenditure consist of endowment funds, pledges restricted for investment in endowment, and beneficial interests in third-party trusts as of December 31, 2024. The income earned on the investment of net position restricted in perpetuity is generally available for use in garden maintenance and supporting the Society's research programs.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

---

#### ***G. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (cont.)***

##### ***Donor-Restricted and Board-Designated Endowments***

The Society's endowment includes both donor-restricted endowment funds and funds designated by the board of trustees to function as endowments. Net position associated with endowment funds, including funds designated by the board of trustees to function as endowments, are classified and reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions.

##### **Interpretation of Relevant Law**

The Society is subject to the State Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (SPMIFA) and, thus, classifies amounts in its donor-restricted endowment funds as net position with donor restrictions because those net position are time restricted until the board of trustees appropriates such amounts for expenditures. Most of those net position also are subject to purpose restrictions that must be met before reclassifying those net position to net position without donor restrictions. The Society had interpreted SPMIFA as not requiring the maintenance of purchasing power of the original gift amount contributed to an endowment fund, unless a donor stipulates the contrary. As a result of this interpretation, when reviewing its donor-restricted endowment funds, the Society considers a fund to be underwater if the fair value of the fund is less than the sum of (a) the original value of initial and subsequent gift amounts donated to the fund and (b) any accumulations to the fund that are required to be maintained in perpetuity in accordance with the direction of the applicable donor gift instrument. The Society has interpreted SPMIFA to permit spending from underwater funds in accordance with the prudent measures required under the law. Additionally, in accordance with SPMIFA, the Society considers the following factors in making a determination to appropriate or accumulate donor-restricted endowment funds.

- (1) The duration and preservation of the fund
- (2) The purpose of the Society and the donor-restricted endowment fund
- (3) General economic conditions
- (4) The possible effect of inflation and deflation
- (5) The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments
- (6) Other resources of the Society
- (7) The investment policies of the Society

##### **Underwater Endowment Funds**

From time to time, the fair value of assets associated with individual donor-restricted endowment funds may fall below the level that the donor or SPMIFA requires the Society to retain as a fund of perpetual duration. There were no deficiencies of this nature as of December 31, 2024.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### ***G. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (cont.)***

##### ***Donor-Restricted and Board-Designated Endowments (cont.)***

#### **Return Objectives and Risk Parameters**

The Society has adopted investment and spending policies for endowment assets that attempt to provide a predictable stream of funding to programs supported by its endowment while seeking to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets. Endowment assets include those assets of donor-restricted funds that the Society must hold in perpetuity or for a donor-specified period(s) as well as board-designated funds. Under this policy, as approved by the board of trustees, the endowment assets are invested in a manner that is intended to achieve a return of 5% net of inflation and investment expenses. The secondary investment objective is to earn a total return, net of expenses, at least equal to the portfolio's composite benchmark as defined in its investment policy statement. Actual returns in any given year may vary from this amount.

#### **Strategies Employed for Achieving Objectives**

To satisfy its long-term rate-of-return objectives, the Society relies on a total return strategy in which investment returns are achieved through both capital appreciation (realized and unrealized) and current yield (interest and dividends). The Society targets a diversified asset allocation that places a greater emphasis on equity-based investments to achieve its long-term return objectives within prudent risk constraints.

#### **Spending Policy and How the Investment Objectives Relate to Spending Policy**

The Society has a policy of appropriating for distribution each year up to 5% of the rolling 12 quarter average fair value of the long-term investment pool for allocation to operations as directed by the Board of Directors. In establishing this policy, the Society considered the long-term expected rate of return on its endowment. The Society's return objective is to preserve and enhance the real purchasing power of its investment portfolio over time. The Society has a policy that permits spending from underwater endowment funds depending on the degree to which the fund is underwater, unless otherwise precluded by donor intent or relevant laws and regulations.



# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

#### G. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (cont.)

##### *Liquidity and Availability of Resources*

The following reflects the Society's financial assets as of the balance sheet date, reduced by amounts not available for general use because of contractual or donor-imposed restrictions within one year of the balance sheet date.

Financial Assets	
Cash	\$ 15,906,000
Accounts receivable	3,902,000
Pledges receivable	19,171,000
Investments	<u>191,421,000</u>
Financial assets - at year-end	<u>\$ 230,400,000</u>
Less those unavailable for general expenditures within one year, due to:	
Contractual or donor-imposed restrictions:	
Restricted by donor with implied time restrictions - pledge collectible in one to five years	(4,492,000)
Restricted by donor with purpose restrictions	(15,761,000)
Restricted by donors with time or purpose restrictions:	
Endowment funds	(83,997,000)
Capital projects or contractual obligations	(277,000)
Board designations:	
Board designated endowment funds	<u>(91,932,000)</u>
Financial assets available to meet cash needs for general expenditures within one year	<u>\$ 33,941,000</u>

In addition to financial assets available to meet general expenditures over the next 12 months, the Society operates with a balanced budget and anticipates collecting sufficient revenue to cover general expenditures not covered by donor-restricted resources. Refer to the statement of cash flows which identifies the sources and uses of the Society's cash and shows positive cash generated by operations for fiscal year 2024.

The Society's board of directors has designated a portion of its unrestricted resources for endowment. Those amounts are identified as board-designated in the table above. These funds are invested for long term appreciation and current income but remain available and may be spent at the discretion of the Board.

The Society also has two lines of credit totaling \$10 million that are available to meet short-term needs. The Society also realizes there could be unanticipated liquidity needs.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### ***G. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (cont.)***

##### ***Employee Benefit Plan***

The Society sponsors an Internal Revenue Code Section 403(b) defined contribution money purchase retirement plan. Participation in the plan is voluntary for all eligible employees who have completed one year of service. The employee and the Society make contributions to the plan trustee. The Society's expense for this plan for 2024 was \$640,000.

In 2015, the Society established an Internal Revenue Code Section 457(b) Retirement Plan, the purpose of which is to encourage selected key managerial employees to maintain their employment with the Society by providing retirement benefits for them, and pre-retirement benefits for their survivors. The Society makes contributions to the Plan, and participants may voluntarily defer compensation within prescribed limits. Participants are fully vested at all times in both their voluntary deferrals and employer contributions. The Society's expense for this plan was \$220,000 for year ended December 31, 2024.

##### ***Related-Party Transactions***

The Society purchases goods and services from several businesses that are associated with the Board of Directors in its normal course of business. Total expenditures to these related companies amounted to \$2,232,000 for 2024. These goods and services were provided at rates consistent with the market rates for not-for-profit organizations. The Society also received \$7,326,000 in contributions from members of the Board of Directors in 2024.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### ***H. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY***

##### ***Nature of Organization***

The mission of The Chicago Zoological Society (the "Society") is to inspire conservation leadership by connecting people with wildlife and nature. The Society (an Illinois not-for-profit corporation) maintains and operates the Brookfield Zoo (the "Zoo") under a contract with the Forest Preserve District of Cook County (the "District") extending through April 2026. The contract provides for an automatic renewal for an additional 20 years unless revoked in writing 12 months prior to the end of the contract by either the Society or the District. Under the contract, the land occupied by the Zoo is provided by the District at no charge. In addition, the District funds a significant portion of the Society's operations under the contract through taxes levied by the District and distributed to the Society. Additional funding for the development and operation of the Zoo by the Society is obtained through private donations, memberships, and various admission and exhibit fees.

##### ***Summary of Significant Accounting Policies***

***Basis of Presentation*** – The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting. The Society maintains its books and records in accordance with the principles of fund accounting. Resources for various purposes are classified for accounting and reporting purposes into funds established according to their nature and purpose and on the existence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, net position of the Society is reported as follows:

- Funds without donor restrictions - Those resources over which the board of trustees has discretionary control. These include any designated amounts the board has set aside for a particular purpose. These funds are broken out by board designation into the following funds:
  - Undesignated fund - Represents the portion of expendable funds available for support of the Society's operations.
  - Board-designated fund - Represents funds that have been designated for specific purposes, including capital improvements and renovation expenditures, by the Society's board. These designations can be changed or removed at any time by action of the board.
- Funds with donor restrictions - Those resources subject to donor-imposed restrictions that will be satisfied either by actions of the Society or the passage of time or that stipulate that the principal of these endowments can be permanently invested by the Society.

***Revenue Recognition*** – The following revenue streams are applicable under ASU No. 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606), for the period ended March 31, 2024:

- Visitor-related revenue
- Membership dues
- Other income

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### ***H. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (cont.)***

*Performance Obligations* – The following explains the performance obligations related to each revenue stream under the new standard and how those are recognized.

*Visitor-related Revenue* – The Society generates revenue from transaction-based fees which include general admission, parking, special attractions, animal feedings, motor safari, and transportation rentals. These fees are recognized at the time the transaction is executed, as that is the point in time the Society satisfies the performance obligation.

The Society generates revenue from commissions on merchandise, restaurant services, and catering at the Zoo, which was outsourced to SSA Group, LLC. The Society entered into an agreement to receive a monthly commission applicable to the gross receipts for items sold during the month based on an agreed-upon commission/category matrix. SSA Group, LLC in turn has exclusive operations of all food service and retail merchandise facilities only for the purpose of selling food and retail items. The commission revenue received by the Society from SSA Group, LLC is recognized in the month the items are sold or services are provided. The agreement with SSA Group, LLC expires on February 4, 2032. Commission revenue is included with visitor related revenues on the statement of activities.

*Membership Dues* – The society earns membership dues from its members. Membership dues are earned over the course of one or two years, representing the period over which the Society satisfies the performance obligation. Cash payments received in advance of the Society satisfying its performance obligations recorded as deferred revenue on the statement of net position. Total deferred revenue from membership dues as of March 31, 2024 was \$9,613,000.

*Other Income* – The Society generates revenue from other activities, including sponsorships, educational programs, marketing events, radiology services, advertising, and rental. The Society recognizes revenue at the point in time the services are rendered to its customers, except for certain sponsorships that are recognized over the sponsorship period. Cash payments received in advance of the Society satisfying its performance obligations are recorded as deferred revenue on the statement of net position. Total deferred revenue from customers with contracts as of March 31, 2024 was \$953,000.

*Contributions, Grants and Other Support* – Tax revenue collected by the District partially supports the services provided by the Society under its contract with the District to operate the Zoo. The District appropriates the amount on a calendar year basis based on a calendar budget submitted to and approved by the District. The District remits the Society's share of the District's net tax collections to the Society periodically throughout the calendar year to support the budgeted expenses. The amounts recognized as revenue by the Society for fiscal year 2024 represent the Society's share of the actual cash collected by the District for the calendar year 2023, plus a prorated three-month portion of the 2024 calendar year approved appropriation. A receivable or a liability is recorded at fiscal year end for any revenue recorded by the Society by not yet remitted by the District or any amounts reported as collected by the Society but not yet spent in accordance with the calendar year budgeted costs. Any remittances related to prior year tax recoupments, net of refunds, or other amounts not part of the annual approved appropriation are recognized as revenue as cash is received from the District. As of March 31, 2024, the Society has \$3,624,000 of advanced tax collections that have not yet met the conditions of the incurrence of qualifying expenses.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### ***H. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (cont.)***

##### ***Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)***

Cash contributions are recognized in the period received. Pledges, including grants, are recognized in the period pledged. Conditional promises to give (those with a measurable performance or other barrier and a right of return) are not recognized until the conditions on which they depend have been met. Contributions of cash and other assets, including unconditional promises to give in the future, are reported at fair value. Donor promises to give in the future are recorded at the present value of estimated future cash flows. An allowance for uncollectible pledges receivable is provided based on management's judgment considering factors such as prior collection history, type of contribution, and nature of fundraising activity. As of March 31, 2024, an allowance of \$338,000 was recorded on the pledges and grants receivable balance.

A portion of the Society's revenue is derived from cost-reimbursable federal and state contracts and grants, including grants from the Shuttered Venue Operators Grant program and the Employee Retention Credit program. These contracts and grants are conditioned upon certain performance requirements and/or the incurrence of allowable qualifying expenses. Amounts received are recognized as revenue when the Society has incurred expenditures in compliance with specific contract or grant provisions. As of March 31, 2024, an allowance of \$2,365,000 was recorded on grants receivable of this nature.

Amounts received prior to incurring qualifying expenditures are reported as refundable advances in the statement of net position. The Society has \$2,246,000 of refundable advances as of March 31, 2024. Conditional contributions that have been awarded but not yet recognized as revenue total \$7,119,000 as of March 31, 2024.

***Donated Goods and Services*** - The Society's zoo volunteers have made significant contributions of their time to develop, manage, and operate the Zoo and the Society's programs. The value of this time is not reflected in the financial statements, as these services do not require specialized skills. The value of time donated for services that do require specialized skills, which the Society would have had to otherwise purchase, has been included in both revenue and expense or park improvements.

***Cash*** - The Society maintains its cash in bank deposit accounts that at times may exceed federally insured limits. The Society has not experienced any losses in such accounts. The Society believes it is not exposed to any significant credit risk on cash and cash equivalents.

***Investments*** - Investments are reported at fair value. Investment income, including net realized and unrealized gains (losses), is reflected in the statement of activities as an increase (decrease) in net assets. Interest and dividend income is recorded on the accrual basis. The Society invests cash in excess of daily requirements in short-term investments. Realized gains and losses are determined based on specific identification of securities sold.

The Society's investments are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, credit, and overall market volatility. Due to these risk factors, it is reasonably possible that changes in the value of investments will occur in the near future and will materially affect the amounts reported in the financial statements.

The Society classifies cash receipts from the sale of donated securities, which upon receipt had no donor imposed limitations for sale and were converted nearly immediately into cash as operating cash flows.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### ***H. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (cont.)***

##### ***Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)***

***Park Improvements and Equipment*** - Park improvements and equipment are recorded at cost. The straight-line method is used for computing depreciation. Assets are depreciated over their estimated useful lives, as shown below:

	<u>Years</u>
Park Improvements	10 – 40
Equipment	5

The Society capitalizes individual equipment and park expenditures over \$15,000. The land site of the Zoo is owned by the District and, accordingly, is not recorded in the Society's financial statements. All park improvements acquired by the Society are legally owned by the District. All exhibit buildings and similar facilities, including those purchased with the District funds, including equipment, are recorded as park improvements on the books of the Society and are depreciated over their estimated useful lives. This depreciation expense for park improvements is not funded by the District tax collections.

***Tax Status*** - The Society is a not-for-profit corporation and is exempt from tax under the provisions of Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3), except for taxes on unrelated business income.

***Use of Estimates*** - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities as of the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

***Animal Collection*** - Animal collections, which were acquired through breeding loans, purchases, and contributions, are not recognized as assets on the statement of financial position. Costs to acquire collection items are recorded as decreases in net position without donor restrictions in the year in which the animals are acquired. Proceeds from deaccessions are reflected as increases in the appropriate net asset class.

The Society's animal collections consist of specimens with numerous attributes including taxonomic group, age, sex, relationship and value to other animals, endangered status, and breeding potential. The Society retains a record of every animal in a permanent file. An inventory of the collection is prepared annually. Professionally trained keeper staff and population managers provide daily care for the collection and determine population needs.

***Interest Rate Swaps*** - The Society has entered into one interest rate swap agreement to manage its exposure on its variable rate Revenue Bonds Series 2008. The Society's interest rate swap is recognized as a liability in the accompanying statement of financial position at fair value. Changes in the fair value of the interest rate swap are recognized in the statement of activities.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### ***H. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (cont.)***

##### ***Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)***

*Functional Allocation of Expenses* - Costs of providing the program and support services have been reported on a functional basis in the statement of functional expenses. Costs have been allocated between the various programs and support services on several bases and estimates. Although the methods of allocation used are considered appropriate, other methods could be used that would produce different amounts.

The financial statements report certain categories of expense that are attributable to one or more program or supporting functions of the Society. Those expenses and the allocation methods used for each are described in the list below:

- CEO and CFO salaries and benefits – Estimates of time and effort
- Certain IT salaries and benefits – Percentage of historical work orders
- Electric, water, and gas – Square footage and estimate of building time usage
- General insurance – Based on coverage type
- Phone – Percentage of historical call duration
- Benefits – Salary as a percentage of the whole
- Depreciation – Building or equipment function

##### ***Liquidity***

The table below reflects the Society's financial assets as of March 31, 2024, reduced by amounts not available for general use within one year of the statement of financial position date because of contractual restrictions, donor-imposed restrictions, or internal board designations. Amounts not available due to internal board designations include amounts set aside for long-term investing in the quasi endowment fund that could be drawn upon in the event of an unanticipated liquidity need, if the governing board approves that action. However, amounts already appropriate from either the donor restricted endowment or the quasi endowment in accordance with the Society's spending policy for general expenditures within one year of the statement of financial position date have not been subtracted as unavailable. Amounts not available due to internal board designations also include amounts set aside for conservation granting award programs.

The Society is partially supported by restricted contributions. Because a donors restriction requires resources to be used in a particular manner or in a future period, the Society must maintain sufficient resources to meet those responsibilities to donors. Thus, certain financial assets may not be available for general expenditure within one year.

The Society considers investment income without donor restrictions, appropriated earnings from donor-restricted and board-designated (quasi) endowments, contributions without donor restrictions, and contributions with donor restrictions for use in current programs, which are ongoing, major, and central to its annual operations, to be available to meet cash needs for general expenditures.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

#### H. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (cont.)

##### *Liquidity* (cont.)

Cash	\$	1,147,000
Investments		112,939,000
Pledges and grants receivable, net		10,709,000
Other receivables, net		1,913,000
Other		169,000
Total financial assets at year-end		126,877,000
Less those unavailable for general expenditures within one year, due to:		
Receivables:		
Contributions receivable - For restricted gifts, net		10,465,000
Investments:		
Quasi endowment (less current year appropriation)*		5,848,000
Board designated for capital improvements and other (less current year appropriation)*		42,054,000
Rested by donor or time		13,399,000
Term endowment funds		793,000
Endowment investments held in perpetuity		10,305,000
Unappropriated earnings on endowment (less current year appropriation)*		8,597,000
Investments restricted for debt covenants*		12,000,000
Other receivables - net		251,000
Other		169,000
Total financial assets not available to be used within one year		103,881,000
Total financial assets available to meet cash needs for general expenditures within one year	\$	22,996,000

\*A portion of these amounts are maintained to comply with certain financial covenants.

The Society manages its cash available to meet general expenditures following three guiding principles: Operating within a prudent range of financial soundness and stability, maintaining adequate liquid assets to fund near term operating needs and maintaining sufficient reserves to provide reasonable assurance that long term obligations that support mission fulfillment will continue to be met, and ensuring the sustainability of the Society. As part of the Society's liquidity management, it has a policy to structure its financial assets to be available as its general expenditures, liabilities, and other obligations come due. The Society regularly monitors liquidity required to meet its operating needs and other contractual commitments, while also striving to maximize the investment of its available funds. In the event of an unanticipated liquidity need, the Society also could draw upon its \$10,000,000 line of credit.



# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### *H. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (cont.)*

##### *Unconditional Pledges and Grants Receivable*

Unconditional pledges and grants receivable as of March 31, 2024, are due to be received as follows:

Within one year	\$	3,124,000
One to five years		9,190,000
Less:		
Discount to present value		(1,267,000)
Reserve		<u>(338,000)</u>
	\$	<u>10,709,000</u>

The discount rate used in determining the net present value of unconditional pledges and grants receivable ranged from 1.62% to 4.40% as of March 31, 2024.

##### *Fair Value Measurements*

The Society categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the assets and liabilities. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities; Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs. Investments that are measured at fair value using the net asset value per share (or its equivalent) as a practical expedient are not classified in the fair value hierarchy.

In instances whereby inputs used to measure fair value fall into different levels in the fair value hierarchy, fair value measurements in their entirety are categorized based on the lowest level input that is significant to the valuation. The Society's assessment of the significance of particular inputs to these fair value measurements requires judgment and considers factors specific to each asset.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

#### H. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (cont.)

#### Fair Value Measurements (cont.)

The Society has the following recurring fair value measurements as of March 31, 2024:

Investment Type	Assets and Liabilities Measured at Fair Value on a Recurring Basis				Balance at March 31, 2024
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)		
Assets - Investments:					
Mutual Funds:					
Equity - Emerging markets	\$ 2,761,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,761,000
Equity - International	6,224,000	-	-	-	6,224,000
Equity - U.S. Large cap	13,417,000	-	-	-	13,417,000
Equity - U.S. Small cap	2,773,000	-	-	-	2,773,000
Fixed - High yield bonds	1,331,000	-	-	-	1,331,000
Fixed - U.S. Intermediate bonds	18,033,000	-	-	-	18,033,000
Fixed - U.S. Short-term bonds	8,581,000	-	-	-	8,581,000
U.S. real estate	4,033,000	-	-	-	4,033,000
Interest rate sw ap	-	172,000	-	-	172,000
Total assets	\$ 57,153,000	\$ 172,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 57,325,000

Not included in the table above is \$5,786,000 of cash and cash equivalents in brokerage accounts as of March 31, 2024.

**Level 1 Inputs** – Estimated fair values for the Society's publicly traded mutual funds were based on quoted market prices.

**Level 2 Inputs** – The interest rate swap was not traded on an exchange. The fair value was based on a variety of observable inputs, including contract terms, interest rate curves, yield curves, measures of volatility, and correlations of such input. The Society's interest rate swaps are classified as Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy.

**Level 2 Inputs** – There were no Level 3 investments as of March 31, 2024.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### ***H. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (cont.)***

##### ***Park Improvements and Equipment***

Park improvements and equipment are summarized as follows:

Park improvements	\$	283,515,000
Equipment		10,494,000
Construction in progress		29,718,000
Total Cost		323,727,000
Accumulated Depreciation		(187,572,000)
Net Property and Equipment	\$	136,155,000

Depreciation expense for 2024 was \$8,607,000.

##### ***Line of Credit***

During the year ended March 31, 2024, the Society had an available \$10,000,000 line of credit demand note that is effective through October 20, 2024. The Society has the option to select a prime-based interest rate with a floor of 2% or the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) plus 1.5%, with a floor of 1.5%. Any borrowings are secured against the assets of the Society. There were no borrowings outstanding on this line of credit at any time during 2024. The Society intends to extend or renew the line of credit.

##### ***Revenue Bonds***

Revenue bonds outstanding as of March 31, 2024 are as follows:

Village of Brookfield, Illinois - Series 2008	\$	28,920,000
Less debt issuance costs - net of accumulated amortization		(104,000)
Total	\$	28,816,000

In June, 2008, the Village of Brookfield issued \$39,850,000 of Revenue Bonds, Chicago Zoological Society Series 2008 (the "Series 2008 Bonds"). These bonds are subject to a loan agreement between the Society and the Village of Brookfield, Illinois, which assigned its interest to The Bank of New York Trust Company, as trustee. Series 2008 Bonds mature on June 1, 2038, bear interest at a variable rate based on weekly re-marketing, and have adjustable methods of demand features, purchase features, redemption provisions, rate determination dates, rate change dates, and interest payment dates.

Expenses incurred in connection with the Series 2008 Bond offerings of \$297,000 were deferred and are being amortized on a straight-line basis over the period the bonds are to be outstanding. The debt issuance costs are reported net of the revenue bond payable on the statement of financial position. The Series 2008 Bonds are secured by a letter of credit that is effective through October 31, 2025. In the event the agent is unable to remarket the bonds, the bonds become a demand note under an irrevocable letter of credit issued by the Northern Trust Company. Should the irrevocable letter of credit not be renewed, an alternative credit facility must be obtained, or the bonds require repayment in 12 equal quarterly installments.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

#### **H. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (cont.)**

##### **Revenue Bonds (cont.)**

On July 10, 2015, the Society entered into a ten-year interest rate swap agreement for \$10,000,000 of the 2008 Series Bonds with The Northern Trust Company to exchange a variable rate interest payment equal to the SIFMA for a fixed interest payment of 1.966%. The SIFMA variable interest rate approximates the weekly remarketing variable rate. The swap exposes the Society to basis risk should the relationship between the weekly remarketing rate and SIFMA rate change significantly. The fair value asset for the obligation under this instrument was \$220,000 as of March 31, 2024. This swap agreement will mature on July 10, 2025.

The remaining \$18,920,000 of Series 2008 bonds had an effective variable interest rate of 3.49% for the year ended March 31, 2024.

In December 1995, the Society issued tax-exempt bonds through IEFA. Series 1995B Serial Bonds mature on December 15, 2025, bear interest at a variable rate based on weekly remarketing, and have adjustable methods of demand features, purchase features, redemption provisions, rate determination dates, rate change dates, and interest payment dates. The bonds are subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount to be redeemed plus accrued interest to the redemption date on December 15 of the following years and in the following principal amounts:

Expenses incurred in connection with the Series 1995B Bond offerings of \$202,000 were deferred and are being amortized on a straight-line basis over the period the bonds are to be outstanding. The debt issuance costs are reported net of the revenue bond payable on the statement of financial position and were written off in 2023 as a result of the debt paydown.

The letters of credit for the Series 2008 Bonds and Series 1995B Bonds are subject to certain financial covenants, the most restrictive of which is a restriction concerning unrestricted cash and investments plus Leadership Campaign pledge receivables as a percentage of total debt.

Total interest expense is \$836,000 for the year ended March 31, 2024.

The following table presents the amounts and the locations of the amounts relating to the Society's interest rate swap in the Society's financial statements as of and for the year ended March 31, 2024:

Statement of financial position information -	
Interest rate swaps	\$ <u>172,000</u>
Statement of activities information*:	
Change in the fair value of interest rate swap agreements	\$ (48,000)
Interest expense	<u>144,000</u>
Total income on interest rate swaps	\$ <u>96,000</u>

\* Both interest expense and the change in the fair value of the interest rate swaps are classified in the statement of activities and recorded in the Center for Science of Animal Care and Welfare expense line.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### ***H. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (cont.)***

##### ***Net Assets***

The Society's governing board has designated, from net assets without donor restrictions, net assets for the following purposes as of March 31, 2024:

Board-designated net assets:

Programs and capital improvements	\$ 27,019,000
Quasi endowment	6,061,000
Other	10,450,000
Investment in property, plant, and equipment - Net of related debt	<u>97,913,000</u>
Total board-designated net assets	<u>\$ 141,443,000</u>

Net position with donor restrictions are restricted for the following purposes or periods as of March 31, 2024:

Subject to expenditures for a specified purpose:

Center for Science of Animal Care and Welfare	\$ 790,000
Center for Conservation Leadership	508,000
Capital improvements	22,748,000
Other	<u>88,000</u>
Total	24,134,000

Subject to the passage of time - Promises to give that are not restricted by donors, but that are unavailable for expenditure until due

-

Subject to the Society's spending policy, appropriation, and satisfaction of purpose restriction, if applicable, the income of which is available to support:

General operating expenditures	1,066,000
Center for Science of Animal Care and Welfare	11,479,000
Center for Conservation Leadership	6,853,000
Capital improvements	152,000
Other	<u>744,000</u>
Total	<u>20,294,000</u>
Total net position with donor restrictions	<u>\$ 44,428,000</u>

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### ***H. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (cont.)***

##### ***Net Assets Released from Restrictions***

Net assets were released from donor restrictions during the year ended March 31, 2024 by passage of time or incurring expenses satisfying the following restricted purposes:

Animal health, welfare, care, and programs	\$	1,498,000
Education and community engagement		761,000
Capital improvements		41,000
Time restricted		50,000
Other		159,000
Total	\$	<u>2,509,000</u>

##### ***Donor-restricted and Board-designated Endowments***

The Society's endowment includes both donor-restricted endowment funds and funds designated by the board of trustees to function as endowments. Net position associated with endowment funds, including funds designated by the board of trustees to function as endowments, are classified and reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions.

##### ***Interpretation of Relevant Law***

The Society is subject to the State Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (SPMIFA) and, thus, classifies amounts in its donor-restricted endowment funds as net position with donor restrictions because those net position are time restricted until the board of trustees appropriates such amounts for expenditures. Most of those net position also are subject to purpose restrictions that must be met before reclassifying those net position to net position without donor restrictions. The board of trustees of the Society has interpreted SPMIFA as not requiring the maintenance of purchasing power of the original gift amount contributed to an endowment fund, unless a donor stipulates the contrary.

As a result of this interpretation, when reviewing its donor-restricted endowment funds, the Society considers a fund to be underwater if the fair value of the fund is less than the sum of (a) the original value of initial and subsequent gift amounts donated to the fund and (b) any accumulations to the fund that are required to be maintained in perpetuity in accordance with the direction of the applicable donor gift instrument. The Society has interpreted SPMIFA to permit spending from underwater funds in accordance with the prudent measures required under the law. Additionally, in accordance with SPMIFA, the Society considers the following factors in making a determination to appropriate or accumulate donor-restricted endowment funds:

- The duration and preservation of the fund
- The purpose of the Society and the donor-restricted endowment fund
- General economic conditions
- The possible effect of inflation and deflation
- The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments
- Other resources of the Society
- The investment policies of the Society

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

#### H. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (cont.)

##### Donor-restricted and Board-designated Endowments (cont.)

Endowment Net Asset Composition by Type of Fund as of March 31, 2024			
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Board-designated endowment funds	\$ 6,061,000	\$ -	\$ 6,061,000
Donor-restricted endowment funds:			
Original donor-restricted gift amount and amounts required to be maintained in perpetuity by the donor	-	10,311,000	10,311,000
Original gift of term endowment	-	793,000	793,000
Accumulated investment gains	-	9,190,000	9,190,000
Total donor-restricted endowment funds	-	20,294,000	20,294,000
Total	\$ 6,061,000	\$ 20,294,000	\$ 26,355,000

Changes in Endowment Net Assets for the Year ended March 31, 2024			
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Endowment net position - Beginning	\$ 5,379,000	\$ 17,896,000	\$ 23,275,000
Investment return, net	884,000	2,901,000	3,785,000
Contributions	12,000	122,000	134,000
Appropriation of endowment assets for expenditure	(214,000)	(625,000)	(839,000)
Endowment net assets - end of year	\$ 6,061,000	\$ 20,294,000	\$ 26,355,000

**Funds with Deficiencies** - From time to time, the fair value of assets associated with individual donor-restricted endowment funds may fall below the level that the donor or SPMIFA requires the Society to retain as a fund of perpetual duration. As of March 31, 2024, there were no funds with deficiencies.

**Return Objectives and Risk Parameters** - The Society has adopted investment and spending policies for endowment assets that attempt to provide a predictable stream of funding to programs supported by its endowment while seeking to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets. Endowment assets include those assets of donor-restricted funds that the Society must hold in perpetuity or for a donor-specified period(s) as well as board-designated funds. Under this policy, as approved by the Board of Trustees, the endowment assets are invested in a manner that is intended to produce results that exceed the price and yield results of the respective benchmarks for the different asset classes provided for in the Society's investment policy. These asset classes include domestic and international equities, high-grade corporate and government bonds and cash equivalents, but specifically excludes any direct investment in real estate and commodities (i.e., gold). Any investments in hedge funds or derivatives require separate approval by the Board of Trustees. The Society expects its endowment funds, over time, to provide an average rate of return of approximately 7% annually, net of management fees. Actual returns in any given year may vary from this amount.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### **H. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (cont.)**

##### ***Donor-restricted and Board-designated Endowments*** (cont.)

*Strategies Employed for Achieving Objectives* - To satisfy its long-term rate-of-return objectives, the Society relies on a total return strategy in which investment returns are achieved through both capital appreciation (realized and unrealized) and current yield (interest and dividends). The Society targets a diversified asset allocation that places a greater emphasis on equity-based investments to achieve its long-term return objectives within prudent risk constraints.

*Spending Policy and How the Investment Objectives Relate to Spending Policy* - The Society has a policy of appropriating for distribution each year up to 5% of its endowment fund's average fair value over the prior 12 quarters through the calendar year end two years preceding the fiscal year in which the distribution is planned. In establishing this policy, the Society considered the long-term expected return on its endowment. Accordingly, over the long term, the Society expects the current spending policy to allow its endowment to grow at an average of 2% annually. The Society has a policy that permits spending from underwater endowment funds, depending on the degree to which the fund is underwater, unless otherwise precluded by donor intent or relevant laws and regulations. For the year ended March 31, 2024, the Society had no appropriations from the donor restricted funds due to investment market performance.

##### ***Retiree Medical Benefits***

The Society has a postretirement medical and dental plan available to all non-union employees hired prior to January 1, 2016 at age 62 with 10 or more years of service. As of April 2, 2012, all active union participants are eligible at age 62 with 15 or more years of service and are covered under a union health plan for a three-year period commencing at age 62 and ending at age 65.

U.S GAAP requires the Society to recognize the funded status of its postretirement benefit plan as a liability in the statement of financial position with an offsetting amount in the statement of activities and to recognize changes in that funded status in the year in which changes occur through the change in net position. Additionally, U.S GAAP requires the Society to measure the funded status of the plan.



# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

#### **H. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (cont.)**

##### **Retiree Medical Benefits (cont.)**

The following tables provide information about the Society's postretirement medical and dental benefit plan as of March 31, 2024.

Change in benefit obligation:

Benefit obligation at beginning of year	\$ 1,209,000
Service cost	42,000
Interest cost	54,000
Actuarial loss	(171,000)
Benefits paid	<u>(138,000)</u>
Benefit obligation at end of year	<u>996,000</u>
Fair value of plan assets at end of year	<u>-</u>
Funded status at end of year	\$ <u><u>(996,000)</u></u>

Amounts recognized in the statement of financial position:

Accrued postretirement benefits	\$ <u><u>(996,000)</u></u>
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Amounts recognized in net assets:

(not yet recognized in net periodic benefit cost):

Actuarial losses - net	\$ (1,760,000)
Prior year service credit	<u>(273,000)</u>
Total	\$ <u><u>(2,033,000)</u></u>

Change in amounts not yet recognized in postretirement benefits:

Arising	\$ (171,000)
Recognized	159,000
Prior year service cost (recognized)	<u>107,000</u>
Total	\$ <u><u>95,000</u></u>

Weighted-average assumptions used to determine benefit obligations at March 31, 2024 are as follows:

Weighted average assumption as of end of year (benefit obligation) - Discount rate	4.95%
Weighted average assumption as of beginning of year (net benefit cost) - Discount rate	4.50%

Assumed healthcare cost trend rates at March 31, 2024:

Health care cost trend rate assumed for next year	7.00%
Rate that cost trend rate gradually declines to	4.50%
Year that rate reaches the assumed ultimate rate	2037

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

#### **H. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (cont.)**

##### **Retiree Medical Benefits (cont.)**

Assumed health care cost trend rates have a significant effect on the amounts reported for the healthcare plan. A one percentage point change in assumed health care cost trend rates would have the following effects:

	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
Effect on total of service and interest cost for 2024	\$ 9,000	\$ (8,000)
Effect on year-end 2024 postretirement benefit obligation	61,000	(55,000)

The following benefit payments, which reflect expected future service, as appropriate, are expected to be paid for each of the fiscal years as of March 31, 2024:

<u>Years Ending</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2025	\$ 176,000
2026	157,000
2027	124,000
2028	85,000
2029	94,000
2030 - 2034	343,000

##### **Employee Benefit Plan**

The Society sponsors a defined contribution plan available to all employees who are 21 years of age and have completed one hour of service. Participants may contribute a portion of their compensation, which is then partially matched by the Society. Only employees who have completed one year of service and met certain minimum hours worked requirements are eligible for the company match. The Society's expense for the year ended March 31, 2024 was approximately \$664,000.

##### **Sick Leave Benefits**

The Society has a sick leave policy whereby eligible employees may accumulate sick leave days. Upon resignation, retirement, or death, employees are paid 50% of their accumulated sick leave days up to 120 days. Retirees age 62 are paid 100% of their accumulated sick leave days up to 120 days. Beginning on January 1, 2001, new employees continue to accumulate sick leave days according to the current schedule, but are not eligible for payment of their accumulated and unused sick leave days upon resignation or retirement. This change did not affect employees hired prior to January 1, 2001. Additionally, effective in 2010, employees hired prior to January 1, 2001 who have current balances of greater than 120 days each December 31 are required to cash out their amount over 120 days, up to 10 days, 5 of which may permanently reduce their future resignation, retirement, or death payout. The actuarially determined present value of the Society's liability for accumulated sick leave was \$969,000 as of March 31, 2024, included in accrued actuarial benefit obligations on the statement of financial position. The assumed increase in salary rates was 3.0% per annum, compounded annually using a 2024 discount rate of 4.88%, for the 2024 actuarial valuation.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### ***H. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (cont.)***

##### ***Charitable Gift Annuity***

Certain assets and liabilities recorded within the statement of financial position relate to charitable gift annuities. The assets related to these agreements are recorded at their fair value and the liability is recorded at its present value based on the life expectancy of the individual donor and the Internal Revenue Service's approved discount rate applicable at the time of the agreement, which ranged from 4.5% to 8.3%.

The total assets and total liabilities related to this program as of March 31, 2024 were \$321,000 and \$144,000, respectively. Charitable gift annuity assets and liabilities are included in investments and other liabilities in the statement of net position.

##### ***Beneficial Interest in Trust***

In 1996, the Society was notified that it is the designated beneficiary of the interest income on a \$1,000,000 endowment established and maintained by the Chicago Community Trust. The Chicago Community Trust maintains variance power over this endowment and, accordingly, the Society has not included the endowment in the accompanying financial statements.

##### ***Contingencies***

The Society has asset retirement obligations arising from regulatory requirements to remove asbestos from its facilities when remodeling or disposing of those facilities containing asbestos. Management cannot readily estimate the cost of removing asbestos and, in the opinion of management, the ultimate resolution of all such matters will not have a material effect on the financial position or activities of the Society.

##### ***Related-Party Transactions***

Certain utility, banking, legal, and investment services are provided by companies with which members of the Board of Trustees are affiliated. These services are approved by the Board of Trustees and are provided at rates consistent with the market rates for not-for-profit organizations. Additionally, the board of trustees contributed \$3,002,000 to the Society during the 2024 fiscal year.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE III - DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS (cont.)

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#### ***H. COMPONENT UNIT – CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (cont.)***

##### ***COVID-19 Related Federal Programs***

*Employee Retention Credit* – The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act of 2022 introduced the Employee Retention Credit as pandemic relief for eligible organizations. The ERC is a refundable credit against certain employment taxes and qualifies as a government grant. Under generally accepted accounting principles, government grants are recognized as revenue in the period in which an organization substantially overcomes all measurable barriers to be entitled to the funding. Management has determined that the measurable barriers that must be overcome for entitlement to the ERC funding are qualifying for the credits based on having operations suspended to comply with a government order related to COVID-19, meeting the threshold for gross receipts decline in 2021 compared to 2019, and incurring eligible payroll expenses. The Society recorded \$4,945,000 in the years ended March 31, 2023 and 2022, after determining these conditions have been met and the amount was a receivable balance as of March 31, 2023. During July 2023, the Society received \$2,580,000 of their ERC claim. The Society placed a reserve on the remaining of approximately \$2,365,000 as of March 31, 2024.

The Society's ERC claim is subject to review by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) within the applicable statute of limitations. If a portion or all of the ERC is determined to be ineligible upon IRS review, the Society would be required to return the ineligible portion on demand and could potentially be subject to penalties and interest on unpaid employment taxes.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE IV - OTHER INFORMATION

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#### **A. EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

##### ***Plan Description***

Any employee of the District employed under the provisions of the District personnel ordinance is covered by the Forest Preserve District Employees' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County (the Plan), which is a single-employer defined benefit pension plan with a defined contribution minimum. Although this is a single-employer plan, the defined benefits, as well as the employer and employee contribution levels, are mandated in the Illinois Compiled Statutes (Chapter 40, Pensions, Article 5/1 0) and may be amended only by the Illinois legislature. Effective with the signing of Public Act 96-0889 into law on April 14, 2010, participants that first became contributors on or after January 1, 2011 are Tier 2 participants. All other participants that were contributing prior to January 1, 2011 are Tier 1 participants. The District accounts for the Plan as a pension trust fund.

The Plan provides retirement as well as death and disability benefits. Tier 1 employees age 50 or older and Tier 2 employees age 62 or older are entitled to receive a minimum formula annuity of 2.4% for each year of credited service if they have at least 10 years of service. The maximum benefit is 80% of the final average monthly salary. For Tier 1 employees under age 60 and Tier 2 employees under age 67, the monthly retirement benefit is reduced by 1/2% for each month the participant is below that age. The reduction is waived for Tier 1 participants having 30 or more years of credited service. Participants should refer to the applicable state statutes for more complete information.

##### ***Plan Membership***

At December 31, 2024, the measurement date, membership in the plan was as follows:

Retirees and beneficiaries	556
Inactive, non-retired members	1,641
Active members	<u>600</u>
Total	<u><u>2,797</u></u>

##### ***Contributions***

Covered employees are required to contribute 8.5% of their salary to the Plan, subject to salary limitations for Tier 2 participants in Article 5/1-160. If an employee leaves covered employment without qualifying for an annuity, accumulated contributions are refunded with interest (3% or 4% depending on when the employee became a participant). Pursuant to Public Act 102-1131, the District's required annual contribution is determined on an actuarial basis and is the sum of (1) the projected normal cost for pensions for the fiscal year, plus (2) a projected unfunded actuarial accrued liability amortization payment for pensions for the fiscal year, plus (3) projected expenses for the fiscal year, plus (4) interest to adjust for payment pattern during the fiscal year, minus (5) projected employee contributions for the fiscal year. The minimum required employer contribution is based on the entry-age normal cost method, a 5-year smoothed actuarial value of assets, and a 30-year layered amortization of unfunded actuarial accrued liability with payments increasing 2% per year. The source of funds for the District's contributions has been designated by State Statute as the District's annual property tax levy. The District's payroll for employees covered by the Plan for the year ended December 31, 2024 was \$46,440,290.

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE IV - OTHER INFORMATION (cont.)

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#### **A. EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM (cont.)**

##### ***Net Pension Liability***

The net pension liability measured as of December 31, 2024, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by actuarial valuation performed as of December 31, 2024.

##### ***Summary of Significant Accounting Policies***

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability/(asset), deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Plan and additions to/deductions from the Plan fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the Plan. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

##### ***Actuarial Assumptions***

The net pension liability was determined by actuarial valuation performed as of December 31, 2024 using the following actuarial methods and assumptions:

Remaining amortization period	30 years
Asset valuation method	Five Year Smoothed Average Market
Actuarial assumptions:	
Inflation	2.50% per year, compounded annually
Salary increases	3.00% to 5.00%, based on service
Investment rate of return	7.00% per year, compounded annually
Retirement age	Rates of retirement for each age from 50 to 80 based on recent experience of the Plan where all employees are assumed to retire by age 80
Mortality	Pub-2010 amount-weighted tables projected from 2010 using generational improvement with Scale MP-2021
Postretirement annuity increase	Tier 1 participants - 3.0% compounded annually Tier 2 participants - the lesser of 3.0% or one half of the increase in the Consumer Price Index

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE IV - OTHER INFORMATION (cont.)

#### A. EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM (cont.)

##### ***Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return***

The long-term expected rate of return on the Fund's investments was determined based on the results of an experience review. The results of the experience review were presented to the Board at the Board's March 2022 meeting and adopted at a subsequent meeting. The rate of return assumption was based on the target asset allocation of the fund. In the experience review, best estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (net of inflation) for the portfolio were developed, based on the expected returns of each major asset class and their weights in the portfolio. An econometric model that forecasts a variety of economic environments and then calculates asset class returns based on functional relationships between the economic variables and the asset classes was then used. Expected investment expenses were subtracted and expected inflation was added to arrive at the long term expected nominal return. A value for the expected long term expected return was selected for the portfolio such that there was a better than 50% likelihood of the emerging returns exceeding the expected return.

The Plan's investment policy in accordance with the Illinois Compiled Statutes establishes the following target allocation across asset classes:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Domestic equities	32.00%	5.40%
International equities	20.00%	5.50%
Fixed income	28.00%	2.55%
Private equity	6.00%	6.55%
Real estate	10.00%	4.30%
Hedge funds	3.00%	3.55%
Cash	1.00%	0.65%
Total investments	100%	

##### ***Discount Rate***

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability for the Plan was 7.00%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will continue to follow the current funding policy. Based on this assumption, the Plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be sufficient to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits to determine the total pension liability.

##### ***Discount Rate Sensitivity***

The following is an analysis of the net pension liability's sensitivity to changes in the discount rate at December 31, 2024. The following table presents the pension liability of the employer using the blended discount rate as well as the employer's net pension liability calculated using a discount rate 1-percent-lower and 1-percent-higher than the current discount rate:

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
Net pension liability	\$ 205,106,256	\$ 159,766,644	\$ 122,120,045

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE IV - OTHER INFORMATION (cont.)

#### A. EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM (cont.)

##### *Changes in Net Pension Liability*

The District's changes in net pension liability for the calendar year ended December 31, 2024 was as follows:

	Total Pension Liability (a)	Increase (Decrease) Plan Fiduciary Net Position (b)	Net Pension Liability/(Asset) (a) - (b)
Balances at December 31, 2023	\$ 358,706,990	\$ 201,993,079	\$ 156,713,911
Service cost	4,570,217	-	4,570,217
Interest on total pension liability	24,661,699	-	24,661,699
Differences between expected and actual experience of the total pension liability	6,510,789	-	(6,510,789)
Change of assumptions	-	-	-
Benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions	(22,311,800)	(22,311,800)	-
Contributions – employer	-	11,518,664	(11,518,664)
Contributions – employee	-	4,189,192	(4,189,192)
Net investment income	-	17,255,871	(22,311,800)
Administrative expenses	-	(161,361)	161,361
Other (net transfer)	-	(112,394)	112,394
Balances at December 31, 2024	<u>\$ 372,137,895</u>	<u>\$ 212,371,251</u>	<u>\$ 159,766,644</u>

##### *Pension Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions*

For the year ended December 31, 2024, the District recognized pension expense of \$2,033,994. The District reported deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to the pension from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Difference between expected and actual experience	\$ 3,517,948	\$ 6,461
Changes in assumptions	-	-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	<u>5,484,183</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 9,002,131</u>	<u>\$ 6,461</u>



# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE IV - OTHER INFORMATION (cont.)

#### A. EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM (cont.)

##### ***Pension Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions*** (cont.)

The amounts reported as deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions \$8,995,670 will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ending December 31,	Amount
2025	\$ 6,306,099
2026	6,132,828
2027	(2,772,658)
2028	(670,599)
Total	<u>\$ 8,995,670</u>

#### B. OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The Plan administers a Postemployment Group Healthcare Benefit Plan (PGHBP), a single employer defined benefit postemployment healthcare plan. The PGHBP is administered in accordance with Chapter 40, Article 5/10 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes, which assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the Plan's Board of Trustees. The PGHBP provides a healthcare benefit to annuitants of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois (the employer) who elect to participate in the PGHBP.

The PGHBP is funded on a "pay-as-you-go" basis. For the valuation of the obligation as of December 31, 2024 the employee and spouse annuitants pay between 56% of the annual costs. The remaining costs are funded by an allocation from the Plan.

The separately issued financial statements of the Retiree Health Plan, included in the Forest Preserve District Employees' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County, may be obtained from the District at 69 West Washington Street, Suite 2060, Chicago, Illinois 60602. The Plan considers the premium supplement an additional retirement benefit, with no contribution rate or asset allocation associated with it. The cost for postemployment healthcare benefits is approximately equal to the premium subsidy. Actual cost may differ based on claims experience. Healthcare premium subsidies are recognized when due and payable.

***Employees covered by benefit terms.*** At December 31, 2024, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

Inactive plan members or beneficiaries currently receiving benefit payments	372
Active plan members	<u>600</u>
Total	<u>972</u>

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE IV - OTHER INFORMATION (cont.)

#### **B. OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS** (cont.)

**Total OPEB liability.** The District reported a liability for its total OPEB liability measured as of December 31, 2024 and determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2024.

**Actuarial assumptions and other inputs.** The net postemployment healthcare liability was determined by actuarial valuations performed as of December 31, 2024 using the following actuarial methods and assumptions:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary increases	3.00% to 5.00%, based on age
Healthcare participation rate	Currently participating - 35%; Currently waiving - 0%
Healthcare cost trend rates	Initial – 7.00%; Ultimate – 4.50%

The discount rate was based on S&P Municipal Bond 20-Year High Grade Rate Index. Bond Rate as of December 31, 2024.

Mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 amount-weighted tables projected from 2010 using generational improvement with Scale MP-2021.

The actuarial assumptions used in the December 31, 2024 valuations were based on the results of the actuarial experience study conducted by Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting over the period 2017 through 2020.

**Discount rate.** The blended discount rate used to measure the total postemployment healthcare liability at December 31, 2024 was 4.08%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that the employer's contributions will continue to follow the current funding policy. Based on this assumption, the Plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be insufficient to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Municipal bond rates of 4.08% and the long-term investment rate of return of 0% were used in the development of the blended discount rates. The municipal bond rates are based on the S&P Municipal Bond 20 Year High Grade Rate Index.

#### **Changes in the total OPEB liability**

	<u>2024</u>
Balances at Beginning of Year	\$ 45,549,374
Service cost	1,847,666
Interest	1,534,232
Difference between expected and actual experience	(4,734,993)
Changes in assumptions or other inputs	(4,590,756)
Benefit payments	<u>(729,267)</u>
Balances at End of Year	<u>\$ 38,903,256</u>

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE IV - OTHER INFORMATION (cont.)

#### **B. OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (cont.)**

**Sensitivity of the total OPEB liability to changes in the discount rate.** The following is an analysis of the net postemployment healthcare liability's sensitivity to changes in the discount rate at December 31, 2024. The following table presents the net postemployment healthcare liability of the employer using the blended discount rate as well as the employer's net postemployment healthcare liability calculated using a discount rate 1-percent-lower and 1-percent-higher than the current discount rate:

	1% Decrease (3.08%)	Discount Rate (4.08%)	1% Increase (5.08%)
Total OPEB liability	\$ 45,247,131	\$ 38,903,256	\$ 33,813,433

**Sensitivity of the total OPEB liability to changes in the healthcare cost trend rates.** The following table presents the net postemployment healthcare liability of the employer using the health care cost trend rate as well as the employer's net postemployment healthcare liability calculated using a health care cost trend rate 1-percent-lower and 1-percent-higher than the current health care cost trend rate:

	1% Decrease	Healthcare Cost Trend Rates	1% Increase
Total OPEB liability	\$ 33,241,221	\$ 38,903,256	\$ 46,220,436

**OPEB expense and deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB.** For the year ended December 31, 2024, the District recognized OPEB expense of \$1,206,517. At December 31, 2024, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 623,253	\$ 6,645,470
Changes of assumptions	4,300,073	10,051,264
Total	\$ 4,923,326	\$ 16,696,734

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

### NOTE IV - OTHER INFORMATION (cont.)

#### ***B. OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS*** (cont.)

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Year Ended December 31:	Total
2025	\$ (1,791,679)
2026	(2,847,660)
2027	(3,024,313)
2028	(1,804,317)
2029	(1,042,289)
Thereafter	<u>(1,263,141)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (11,773,399)</u>

#### ***C. RISK MANAGEMENT***

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, or destruction of assets; errors and omissions; workers compensation; and health care of its employees. The District is self funded for all risks of loss except employee health coverage, which is provided by Cook County. Self insurance activity is accounted for and financed by the District in an internal service fund - the Self Insurance Fund.

##### ***Self Insurance***

A liability for a claim is established if information indicates that it is probable that a liability has been incurred at the date of the financial statements and the amount of the loss is reasonably estimable. Liabilities include an amount for claims that have been incurred but not reported. The District does not allocate overhead costs or other non-incremental costs to the claims liability.

##### ***Claims Liability***

During 2024, the District was party to several lawsuits. At December 31, 2024, the provision for claims was \$7,484,107, all of which is expected to be paid within one year. This liability is the District's best estimate based on available information. Changes in the reported liability are as follows:

	Prior Year	Current Year
Unpaid claims - Beginning of Year	\$ 2,966,070	\$ 8,502,348
Current year claims and changes in estimates	8,291,939	2,382,133
Claim payments	<u>(2,755,661)</u>	<u>(3,400,374)</u>
Unpaid claims - End of Year	<u>\$ 8,502,348</u>	<u>\$ 7,484,107</u>

# FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

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### NOTE IV - OTHER INFORMATION (cont.)

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#### ***D. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES***

The District has active construction projects as of December 31, 2024. Work that has been completed on these projects but not yet paid for (including contract retainages) is reflected as accounts payable and expenditures. The significant outstanding project commitments at December 31, 2024 total \$35,257,343 and will be paid with available fund balances.

The District and Cook County, Illinois (the County) provide each other related party services under intergovernmental and informal agreements.

#### *District Services provided to the County*

The District provides complimentary land use to County departments for a variety of purposes including, but not limited to, occupancy and storage for two Cook County Highway District locations; two buildings for Sheriffs operations, including a K9 Center office, kennels, and training center; and seven Communications towers and support buildings. The District also provides materials, heavy duty cleaning, hauling and maintenance along with equipment and vehicle storage to support the Sheriffs Boot Camp Facility, Burr Oak Cemetery, the Department of Corrections, Maywood Court House, and Highway parks.

#### *County Services to the District*

The County provides services to the District Inspector General and Secretary to the Board. District fines and violations are heard by the County Administrative Hearing Office and collected by the County Department of Revenue. The proceeds are remitted to the District after an administrative fee is collected. Both the County and the District use the same health care provider and copier lease vendor. The District sends its share of the premium and lease to the County which forwards the premium and lease payment to the health care provider and lessor. The County provides computer support to the District in the form of payroll processing and human resources assistance. The County also provides medical and fingerprinting processing services to the District for new hires and current employees. The County provides emergency telecommunications services' assistance, through its police department, to the District for which the County is reimbursed. Under an intergovernmental agreement with the County, the District also pays the County fees for services provided by the independent Inspector General's Office, State's Attorney's Office, contract compliance administration, swap, printing services, and occupancy in Downtown Chicago.

#### ***E. FUTURE POTENTIAL EFFECT OF NEW ACCOUNTING STANDARDS ON CURRENT PERIOD FINANCIAL STATEMENTS***

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has approved the following:

- Statement No. 102, *Certain Risk Disclosures*
- Statement No. 103, *Financial Reporting Model Improvements*
- Statement No. 104, *Disclosure of Certain Capital Assets*

## **REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Detailed Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes  
in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - Corporate Fund  
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	<u>Original and Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance With Final Budget</u>
<b>Revenues</b>			
Property taxes	\$ 72,323,021	\$ 75,619,880	\$ 3,296,859
Personal property replacement taxes	9,000,000	8,663,438	(336,562)
Grants	-	34,045	34,045
Fees	3,922,754	6,747,563	2,824,809
Fines	226,600	66,657	(159,943)
Concessions	411,700	255,092	(156,608)
Winter sports activities	10,000	6,615	(3,385)
Golf course revenue	1,200,650	2,277,289	1,076,639
Equestrian license	45,000	20,862	(24,138)
Campgrounds	740,000	853,114	113,114
Damage restitution	-	150,231	150,231
Special events	-	36,370	36,370
Miscellaneous	1,247,000	1,582,790	335,790
Investment income	<u>830,000</u>	<u>4,393,492</u>	<u>3,563,492</u>
Total revenues	<u>89,956,725</u>	<u>100,707,438</u>	<u>10,750,713</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Current:			
General office	5,691,887	4,644,266	1,047,621
Finance and administration	4,549,324	3,796,626	752,698
Resource management	8,583,924	8,127,112	456,812
General maintenance	26,488,812	24,188,303	2,300,509
Permits, concessions, and volunteer resources	2,377,012	1,504,870	872,142
Public safety	13,918,058	12,701,376	1,216,682
Legal department	2,057,874	1,688,822	369,052
Planning and development	2,844,404	2,396,689	447,715
Conservation and experiential programming	8,146,036	7,450,092	695,944
District wide services	12,505,894	13,671,587	(1,165,693)
Capital outlay	<u>93,500</u>	<u>297,133</u>	<u>(203,633)</u>
Total expenditures	<u>87,256,725</u>	<u>80,466,876</u>	<u>6,789,849</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	<u>2,700,000</u>	<u>20,240,562</u>	<u>17,540,562</u>
<b>Other Financing Uses</b>			
Transfers in	-	1,955,381	1,955,381
Transfers out	<u>(18,825,000)</u>	<u>(18,825,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total other financing uses	<u>(18,825,000)</u>	<u>(16,869,619)</u>	<u>1,955,381</u>
Net change in fund balance	<u>\$ (16,125,000)</u>	<u>3,370,943</u>	<u>\$ 19,495,943</u>
<b>Fund Balance, Beginning</b>		<u>84,431,755</u>	
<b>Fund Balance, Ending</b>		<u>\$ 87,802,698</u>	

See notes to required supplementary information

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Forest Preserve District Employee's Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County

Schedule of Changes in the District's Net Pension Liability and Related Ratios

Last Ten Fiscal Years

	2015	2016	2017
<b>Total Pension Liability</b>			
Service cost	\$ 9,656,955	\$ 11,224,976	\$ 10,698,297
Interest	19,471,424	19,482,189	20,384,471
Differences between expected and actual experience	(270,033)	(6,776,942)	(1,344,952)
Changes of assumptions	28,495,220	(26,186,535)	(21,473,767)
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	<u>(15,920,776)</u>	<u>(16,462,185)</u>	<u>(16,670,896)</u>
<b>Net change in total pension liability</b>	41,432,790	(18,718,497)	(8,406,847)
<b>Total pension liability - beginning</b>	<u>416,145,173</u>	<u>457,577,963</u>	<u>438,859,466</u>
<b>Total pension liability - ending (a)</b>	<u>\$ 457,577,963</u>	<u>\$ 438,859,466</u>	<u>\$ 430,452,619</u>
<b>Plan fiduciary net position</b>			
Employer contributions	\$ 1,763,345	\$ 1,971,946	\$ 2,239,632
Employee contributions	2,771,533	3,184,051	3,300,222
Net investment income	2,549,975	10,477,792	30,500,015
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	(15,920,776)	(16,462,185)	(16,670,896)
Administration	(143,953)	(157,577)	(160,418)
Other	<u>(6,928)</u>	<u>(133,999)</u>	<u>(40,007)</u>
<b>Net change in plan fiduciary net position</b>	(8,986,804)	(1,119,972)	19,168,548
<b>Plan fiduciary net position - beginning</b>	<u>201,309,174</u>	<u>192,322,370</u>	<u>191,202,398</u>
<b>Plan fiduciary net position - ending (b)</b>	<u>\$ 192,322,370</u>	<u>\$ 191,202,398</u>	<u>\$ 210,370,946</u>
<b>District's net pension liability - ending (a) - (b)</b>	<u>\$ 265,255,593</u>	<u>\$ 247,657,068</u>	<u>\$ 220,081,673</u>
<b>Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability</b>	42.03%	43.57%	48.87%
<b>Covered payroll</b>	\$ 32,007,657	\$ 34,509,011	\$ 35,078,173
<b>District's net pension liability as a percentage of covered payroll</b>	828.73%	717.66%	627.40%

### Notes to Schedule:

*Changes of assumptions.* In 2022, the blended discount rate used changed from 3.17% to 7.00%



2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
\$ 9,426,212	\$ 7,981,035	\$ 11,099,720	\$ 12,842,866	\$ 11,946,916	\$ 4,239,346	\$ 4,570,217
19,182,488	20,343,569	18,774,499	17,698,797	18,101,656	24,188,829	24,661,699
608,525	(420,786)	(2,400,863)	6,666,390	(4,167,217)	(252,285)	6,510,789
(26,452,372)	71,398,627	41,724,080	5,065,445	(222,844,463)	-	-
(17,817,279)	(18,323,398)	(19,140,336)	(19,408,037)	(20,597,816)	(21,209,777)	(22,311,800)
(15,052,426)	80,979,047	50,057,100	22,865,461	(217,560,924)	6,966,113	13,430,905
<u>430,452,619</u>	<u>415,400,193</u>	<u>496,379,240</u>	<u>546,436,340</u>	<u>569,301,801</u>	<u>351,740,877</u>	<u>358,706,990</u>
<u>\$ 415,400,193</u>	<u>\$ 496,379,240</u>	<u>\$ 546,436,340</u>	<u>\$ 569,301,801</u>	<u>\$ 351,740,877</u>	<u>\$ 358,706,990</u>	<u>\$ 372,137,895</u>
\$ 3,481,281	\$ 3,345,462	\$ 3,291,529	\$ 3,128,484	\$ 2,448,819	\$ 2,582,567	\$ 11,518,664
3,127,980	3,020,322	3,192,954	3,124,691	3,061,721	3,289,023	4,189,192
(8,422,851)	33,653,650	21,851,955	27,021,748	(25,963,059)	23,554,290	17,255,871
(17,817,279)	(18,323,398)	(19,140,336)	(19,408,037)	(20,597,816)	(21,209,777)	(22,311,800)
(159,489)	(154,352)	(158,367)	(157,851)	(147,887)	(146,327)	(161,361)
(182,512)	(252,406)	714,659	42,007	(8,553)	(60,712)	(112,394)
(19,972,870)	21,289,278	9,752,394	13,751,042	(41,206,775)	8,009,064	10,378,172
<u>210,370,946</u>	<u>190,398,076</u>	<u>211,687,354</u>	<u>221,439,748</u>	<u>235,190,790</u>	<u>193,984,015</u>	<u>201,993,079</u>
<u>\$ 190,398,076</u>	<u>\$ 211,687,354</u>	<u>\$ 221,439,748</u>	<u>\$ 235,190,790</u>	<u>\$ 193,984,015</u>	<u>\$ 201,993,079</u>	<u>\$ 212,371,251</u>
<u>\$ 225,002,117</u>	<u>\$ 284,691,886</u>	<u>\$ 324,996,592</u>	<u>\$ 334,111,011</u>	<u>\$ 157,756,862</u>	<u>\$ 156,713,911</u>	<u>\$ 159,766,644</u>
45.83%	42.65%	40.52%	41.31%	55.15%	56.31%	57.07%
\$ 34,071,319	\$ 35,056,459	\$ 35,159,979	\$ 35,059,352	\$ 35,856,944	\$ 39,618,295	\$ 46,440,290
660.39%	812.10%	924.34%	952.99%	439.96%	395.56%	344.03%

See notes to required supplementary information

**Forest Preserve District of Cook County**

Forest Preserve District Employee's Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County

Schedule of Employer Contributions

Last Ten Fiscal Years

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Actuarially determined contribution	\$ 10,921,946	\$ 10,166,661	\$ 10,230,872	\$ 10,678,782	\$ 10,195,691
Contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contribution	1,763,345	1,971,946	2,242,489	3,481,281	3,345,462
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ 9,158,601</u>	<u>\$ 8,194,715</u>	<u>\$ 7,988,383</u>	<u>\$ 7,197,501</u>	<u>\$ 6,850,229</u>
Covered payroll	\$ 32,007,657	\$ 34,509,011	\$ 35,078,173	\$ 34,071,319	\$ 35,056,459
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	5.51%	5.71%	6.39%	10.22%	9.54%
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
Actuarially determined contribution	\$ 13,027,669	\$ 13,554,738	\$ 13,888,809	\$ 11,031,046	\$ 12,429,788
Contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contribution	3,291,529	3,128,484	2,448,819	2,582,567	11,518,664
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ 9,736,140</u>	<u>\$ 10,426,254</u>	<u>\$ 11,439,990</u>	<u>\$ 8,448,479</u>	<u>\$ 911,124</u>
Covered payroll	\$ 35,159,979	\$ 35,059,352	\$ 35,856,944	\$ 39,618,295	\$ 46,440,290
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	9.36%	8.92%	6.83%	6.52%	24.80%

**Notes to Schedule:**

Actuarially determined contribution rates are calculated as of December 31, one year prior to the fiscal year in which contributions are reported.

Valuation date: December 31, 2024

Methods and assumptions used to determine contribution rates:

Actuarial cost method	Entry-age normal
Amortization method	Level dollar, open
Remaining amortization period	30 years
Asset valuation method	Five year smoothed average market
Inflation	2.50% per year, compounded annually
Salary increases	3.00% to 5.00%, based on age
Investment rate of return	7.00% per year, compounded annually
Retirement age	retire by age 80 (Tier 1 participants) and 75 (Tier 2 participants)
	Pub-2010 amount weighted tables projected from 2010 using
	generational improvement with Scale MP-2021
Mortality	Tier 1 participants - 3.00% compounded annually
Postretirement annuity increases	Tier 2 participants - the lesser of 3.00% or one half of the
	increase in the Consumer Price Index

See notes to required supplementary information

**Forest Preserve District of Cook County**

Post Employment Group Health Benefit Fund  
Schedule of Changes in the Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios  
Last Seven Fiscal Years

	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Total OPEB liability</b>				
Service cost	\$ 2,197,459	\$ 1,331,088	\$ 1,903,291	\$ 2,222,582
Interest	1,613,714	1,516,095	1,245,850	1,081,722
Benefit changes	(7,184,763)	(2,350,490)	(1,816,766)	4,049,971
Difference between expected and actual experience	(2,029,921)	(320,932)	(66,097)	(5,759,153)
Changes of assumptions	(7,310,288)	8,656,072	4,866,962	(1,461,263)
Benefit payments	(606,110)	(953,678)	(660,611)	(802,133)
<b>Net change in total OPEB liability</b>	(13,319,909)	7,878,155	5,472,629	(668,274)
<b>Total OPEB liability - beginning</b>	49,170,148	35,850,239	43,728,394	49,201,023
<b>Total OPEB liability - ending</b>	<u>\$ 35,850,239</u>	<u>\$ 43,728,394</u>	<u>\$ 49,201,023</u>	<u>\$ 48,532,749</u>
<b>Plan fiduciary net position</b>				
Employer contributions	\$ 606,110	\$ 953,678	\$ 660,611	\$ 802,133
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	(606,110)	(953,678)	(660,611)	(802,133)
<b>Net change in plan fiduciary net position</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Plan fiduciary net position - beginning</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Plan fiduciary net position - ending (b)</b>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
<b>Forest Preserve's net OPEB liability - ending (a) - (b)</b>	<u>\$ 35,850,239</u>	<u>\$ 43,728,394</u>	<u>\$ 49,201,023</u>	<u>\$ 48,532,749</u>
<b>Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability</b>	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
<b>Covered payroll</b>	\$ 34,071,319	\$ 35,058,531	\$ 35,164,564	\$ 35,059,352
<b>District's total OPEB liability as a percentage of covered payroll</b>	105.22%	124.73%	139.92%	138.43%

**Notes to Schedule:**

Actuarially determined contribution rates are calculated as of December 31, one year prior to the fiscal year in which contributions are reported.

The Plan implemented GASB Statement No. 75 in fiscal year 2018. Information prior to fiscal year 2018 is not available.

The information presented above includes the total OPEB liability for the District.

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2022	2023	2024
\$ 2,137,886	\$ 1,443,934	\$ 1,874,666
1,021,624	1,527,702	1,534,232
-	-	-
1,134,114	(311,068)	(4,734,993)
(10,066,120)	3,160,168	(4,590,756)
<u>(1,679,197)</u>	<u>(1,352,418)</u>	<u>(729,267)</u>
(7,451,693)	4,468,318	(6,646,118)
<u>48,532,749</u>	<u>41,081,056</u>	<u>45,549,374</u>
<u><u>\$ 41,081,056</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 45,549,374</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 38,903,256</u></u>
\$ 1,679,197	\$ 1,352,418	\$ 729,267
<u>(1,679,197)</u>	<u>(1,352,418)</u>	<u>(729,267)</u>
-	-	-
-	-	-
<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
<u><u>\$ 41,081,056</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 45,549,374</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 38,903,256</u></u>
0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
\$ 35,865,941	\$ 39,630,045	\$ 46,495,728
114.54%	114.94%	83.67%

See notes to required supplementary information

## **Forest Preserve District of Cook County**

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Notes to Required Supplementary Information  
Year Ended December 31, 2024

### **Budgetary Information**

Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles for all governmental funds. Budget amounts are as originally adopted by the Board of Commissioners. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year end.

The following funds have legally adopted budgets:

- Corporate Fund
- Real Estate Acquisition Fund
- Bond and Interest Fund
- Construction and Development Fund
- Capital Improvement Fund
- Resident Watchmen Fund
- ARPA 2022 Project Fund
- MFT Fund
- Self-Insurance Fund

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Combining Balance Sheet -  
Nonmajor Governmental Funds  
December 31, 2024

	Special Revenue		
	Grant Fund	Dog Parks Fund	Resident Watchmen Fund
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 8,745	\$ -	\$ -
Receivables:			
Grants	7,723,419	-	-
Other	-	-	-
Interfund receivable	4,456,935	365,846	550,703
Restricted investments	-	-	-
Total assets	<u>\$ 12,189,099</u>	<u>\$ 365,846</u>	<u>\$ 550,703</u>
<b>Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances</b>			
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Accounts payable	\$ 1,150,201	\$ -	\$ 9,612
Interfund payable	-	-	-
Other liabilities	-	-	175
Unearned revenues	<u>9,808,785</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total liabilities	<u>10,958,986</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,787</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>			
Unavailable revenues for grants	5,663,990	-	-
Unavailable revenues for other	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>5,663,990</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Fund Balances (Deficits)</b>			
Nonspendable for permanent funds	-	-	-
Restricted for capital improvements	-	-	-
Committed for real estate acquisition	-	-	-
Committed for dog parks	-	365,846	-
Assigned for capital project funds	-	-	-
Assigned for resident watchmen facilities	-	-	540,916
Unassigned (deficit)	<u>(4,433,877)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total fund balances (deficits)	<u>(4,433,877)</u>	<u>365,846</u>	<u>540,916</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balances	<u>\$ 12,189,099</u>	<u>\$ 365,846</u>	<u>\$ 550,703</u>

Special Revenue		Capital Projects			
MFT Fund	ARPA 2022 Project Fund	Golf Courses Capital Improvement Fund	Real Estate Acquisition Fund	2012 Capital Improvement Bonds Fund	2015 Capital Improvement Bonds Fund
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
-	3,294,537	-	-	-	-
821,457	189,627	-	205,000	-	-
-	2,549,210	738,154	21,419,490	375,384	86,520
-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>\$ 821,457</u>	<u>\$ 6,033,374</u>	<u>\$ 738,154</u>	<u>\$ 21,624,490</u>	<u>\$ 375,384</u>	<u>\$ 86,520</u>
\$ 154,883	\$ 903,070	\$ 738,154	\$ 9,352	\$ -	\$ -
1,187,260	1,520,329	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	93,617	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>1,342,143</u>	<u>2,423,399</u>	<u>738,154</u>	<u>102,969</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
-	7,715,996	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	205,000	-	-
-	7,715,996	-	205,000	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
(520,686)	(4,106,021)	-	-	-	-
(520,686)	(4,106,021)	-	21,316,521	375,384	86,520
<u>\$ 821,457</u>	<u>\$ 6,033,374</u>	<u>\$ 738,154</u>	<u>\$ 21,624,490</u>	<u>\$ 375,384</u>	<u>\$ 86,520</u>



## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Combining Balance Sheet -  
Nonmajor Governmental Funds  
December 31, 2024

	<u>Capital Projects</u>		<u>Permanent</u>
	<u>2019 Capital Improvement Fund</u>	<u>Capital Improvement Fund</u>	<u>Working Cash Fund</u>
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,981,245
Receivables:			
Grants	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-
Interfund receivable	-	9,846,451	-
Restricted investments	<u>2,474,259</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 2,474,259</u>	<u>\$ 9,846,451</u>	<u>\$ 15,981,245</u>
<b>Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances</b>			
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Accounts payable	\$ -	\$ 458,783	\$ -
Interfund payable	726,688	-	-
Other liabilities	-	-	-
Unearned revenues	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total liabilities	<u>726,688</u>	<u>458,783</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>			
Unavailable revenues for grants	-	-	-
Unavailable revenues for other	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Fund Balances (Deficits)</b>			
Nonspendable for permanent funds	-	-	15,981,245
Restricted for capital improvements	1,747,571	-	-
Committed for real estate acquisition	-	-	-
Committed for dog parks	-	-	-
Assigned for capital project funds	-	9,387,668	-
Assigned for resident watchmen facilities	-	-	-
Unassigned (deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total fund balances (deficits)	<u>1,747,571</u>	<u>9,387,668</u>	<u>15,981,245</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balances	<u>\$ 2,474,259</u>	<u>\$ 9,846,451</u>	<u>\$ 15,981,245</u>

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**Total  
Nonmajor  
Governmental  
Funds**

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\$ 15,989,990

11,017,956

1,216,084

40,388,693

2,474,259

\$ 71,086,982

\$ 3,424,055

3,434,277

93,792

9,808,785

16,760,909

13,379,986

205,000

13,584,986

15,981,245

2,209,475

21,316,521

365,846

9,387,668

540,916

(9,060,584)

40,741,087

\$ 71,086,982

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes  
in Fund Balances -  
Nonmajor Governmental Funds  
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Special Revenue		
	Grant Fund	Dog Parks Fund	Resident Watchmen Fund
<b>Revenues</b>			
Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 211,522
Grants	1,708,777	-	-
Golf course revenue	-	-	-
Investment income	12,492	-	-
Total revenues	1,721,269	-	211,522
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Current:			
General office	1,800	-	-
General maintenance	-	-	158,358
Public safety	-	-	-
Legal department	-	-	-
Conservation and experiential programming	-	-	-
Capital outlay	6,174,988	-	-
Total expenditures	6,176,788	-	158,358
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(4,455,519)	-	53,164
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>			
Transfers in	-	-	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	-	-	-
Net change in fund balances	(4,455,519)	-	53,164
<b>Fund Balances (Deficit), Beginning</b>	21,642	365,846	487,752
<b>Fund Balances (Deficit), Ending</b>	\$ (4,433,877)	\$ 365,846	\$ 540,916

Special Revenue		Capital Projects			
MFT Fund	ARPA 2022 Project Fund	Golf Courses Capital Improvement Fund	Real Estate Acquisition Fund	2012 Capital Improvement Bonds Fund	2015 Capital Improvement Bonds Fund
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 60,000	\$ -	\$ -
2,810,871	6,965,877	-	1,286,319	-	-
-	-	450,000	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>2,810,871</u>	<u>6,965,877</u>	<u>450,000</u>	<u>1,346,319</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	36,000	-	-	-	-
-	5,848	-	50,358	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>1,716,527</u>	<u>10,453,989</u>	<u>500,197</u>	<u>2,794,190</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>1,716,527</u>	<u>10,495,837</u>	<u>500,197</u>	<u>2,844,548</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>1,094,344</u>	<u>(3,529,960)</u>	<u>(50,197)</u>	<u>(1,498,229)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
-	-	-	7,300,000	-	-
-	-	-	7,300,000	-	-
1,094,344	(3,529,960)	(50,197)	5,801,771	-	-
<u>(1,615,030)</u>	<u>(576,061)</u>	<u>50,197</u>	<u>15,514,750</u>	<u>375,384</u>	<u>86,520</u>
<u>\$ (520,686)</u>	<u>\$ (4,106,021)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 21,316,521</u>	<u>\$ 375,384</u>	<u>\$ 86,520</u>

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes  
in Fund Balances -  
Nonmajor Governmental Funds  
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	<u>Capital Projects</u>		<u>Permanent</u>
	<u>2019 Capital Improvement Fund</u>	<u>Capital Improvement Fund</u>	<u>Working Cash Fund</u>
<b>Revenues</b>			
Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	-	47,852	-
Golf course revenue	-	-	-
Investment income	<u>187,807</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>816,375</u>
Total revenues	<u>187,807</u>	<u>47,852</u>	<u>816,375</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Current:			
General office	-	-	-
General maintenance	37,456	138,630	-
Public safety	-	-	-
Legal department	-	-	-
Conservation and experiential programming	-	41,630	-
Capital outlay	<u>581,310</u>	<u>3,762,472</u>	<u>-</u>
Total expenditures	<u>618,766</u>	<u>3,942,732</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	<u>(430,959)</u>	<u>(3,894,880)</u>	<u>816,375</u>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>			
Transfers in	<u>-</u>	<u>4,025,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>-</u>	<u>4,025,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund balances	(430,959)	130,120	816,375
<b>Fund Balances (Deficit), Beginning</b>	<u>2,178,530</u>	<u>9,257,548</u>	<u>15,164,870</u>
<b>Fund Balances (Deficit), Ending</b>	<u>\$ 1,747,571</u>	<u>\$ 9,387,668</u>	<u>\$ 15,981,245</u>

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**Total  
Nonmajor  
Governmental  
Funds**

\$ 271,522  
12,819,696  
450,000  
1,016,674  
14,557,892

1,800  
334,444  
36,000  
56,206  
41,630  
25,983,673  
26,453,753  
(11,895,861)

11,325,000  
11,325,000  
(570,861)  
41,311,948  
\$ 40,741,087

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes  
in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - Bond and Interest Fund  
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	<u>Original and Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance With Final Budget</u>
<b>Revenues</b>			
Property taxes	\$ 12,581,423	\$ 11,873,688	\$ (707,735)
Personal property replacement taxes	<u>3,562,750</u>	<u>3,562,750</u>	<u>-</u>
Total revenues	<u>16,144,173</u>	<u>15,436,438</u>	<u>(707,735)</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Debt service, principal retired	16,144,173	12,050,000	4,094,173
Debt service, interest	<u>-</u>	<u>4,094,173</u>	<u>(4,094,173)</u>
Total expenditures	<u>16,144,173</u>	<u>16,144,173</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund balance	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>(707,735)</u>	<u>\$ (707,735)</u>
<b>Fund Balance, Beginning</b>		<u>7,853,619</u>	
<b>Fund Balance, Ending</b>		<u>\$ 7,145,884</u>	

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

### Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes

in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - Construction and Development Fund

Year Ended December 31, 2024

	<u>Original and Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance With Final Budget</u>
<b>Revenues</b>			
Property taxes	<u>\$ 19,400,000</u>	<u>\$ 31,521,711</u>	<u>\$ 12,121,711</u>
Total revenues	<u>19,400,000</u>	<u>31,521,711</u>	<u>12,121,711</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Current:			
General maintenance	-	801,094	(801,094)
Capital outlay	<u>19,400,000</u>	<u>18,335,898</u>	<u>1,064,102</u>
Total expenditures	<u>19,400,000</u>	<u>19,136,992</u>	<u>263,008</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>-</u>	<u>12,384,719</u>	<u>12,384,719</u>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>			
Transfers out	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,955,381)</u>	<u>(1,955,381)</u>
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,955,381)</u>	<u>(1,955,381)</u>
Net change in fund balance	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>10,429,338</u>	<u>\$ 10,429,338</u>
<b>Fund Balance, Beginning</b>		<u>20,064,010</u>	
<b>Fund Balance, Ending</b>		<u>\$ 30,493,348</u>	



## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

### Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes

in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - Resident Watchmen Fund

Year Ended December 31, 2024

	<u>Original and Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance With Final Budget</u>
<b>Revenues</b>			
Fees	<u>\$      223,000</u>	<u>\$      211,522</u>	<u>\$      (11,478)</u>
Total revenues	<u>          223,000</u>	<u>          211,522</u>	<u>          (11,478)</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Current:			
General maintenance	<u>          230,000</u>	<u>          158,358</u>	<u>          71,642</u>
Total expenditures	<u>          230,000</u>	<u>          158,358</u>	<u>          71,642</u>
Net change in fund balance	<u><u>\$      (7,000)</u></u>	<u>          53,164</u>	<u><u>\$      60,164</u></u>
<b>Fund Balance, Beginning</b>		<u>          487,752</u>	
<b>Fund Balance, Ending</b>		<u><u>\$      540,916</u></u>	

**Forest Preserve District of Cook County**

Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes  
in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - MFT Fund  
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	<u>Original and Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance With Final Budget</u>
<b>Revenues</b>			
Grants	\$ -	\$ 2,810,871	\$ 2,810,871
Total revenues	<u>-</u>	<u>2,810,871</u>	<u>2,810,871</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Capital outlay	<u>4,750,000</u>	<u>1,716,527</u>	<u>3,033,473</u>
Total expenditures	<u>4,750,000</u>	<u>1,716,527</u>	<u>3,033,473</u>
Net change in fund balance	<u>\$ (4,750,000)</u>	1,094,344	<u>\$ 5,844,344</u>
<b>Fund Balance (Deficit), Beginning</b>		<u>(1,615,030)</u>	
<b>Fund Balance (Deficit), Ending</b>		<u>\$ (520,686)</u>	

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes  
in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - ARPA 2022 Project Fund  
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	<u>Original and Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance With Final Budget</u>
<b>Revenues</b>			
Grants	\$ -	\$ 6,965,877	\$ 6,965,877
Total revenues	-	6,965,877	6,965,877
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Current:			
Legal department	-	5,848	(5,848)
District wide services	6,145,145	-	6,145,145
Public safety	-	36,000	(36,000)
Capital outlay	-	10,453,989	(10,453,989)
Total expenditures	6,145,145	10,495,837	(4,350,692)
Net change in fund balance	<u>\$ (6,145,145)</u>	(3,529,960)	<u>\$ 2,615,185</u>
<b>Fund Balance (Deficit), Beginning</b>		<u>(576,061)</u>	
<b>Fund Balance (Deficit), Ending</b>		<u>\$ (4,106,021)</u>	

**Forest Preserve District of Cook County**

## Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes

in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - Real Estate Acquisition Fund

Year Ended December 31, 2024

	<b><u>Original and Final Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Actual</u></b>	<b><u>Variance With Final Budget</u></b>
<b>Revenues</b>			
Grants	\$ -	\$ 1,286,319	\$ 1,286,319
Fees	<u>-</u>	<u>60,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>
Total revenues	<u>-</u>	<u>1,346,319</u>	<u>1,346,319</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Current:			
Legal department	600,000	50,358	549,642
Capital outlay	<u>9,700,000</u>	<u>2,794,190</u>	<u>6,905,810</u>
Total expenditures	<u>10,300,000</u>	<u>2,844,548</u>	<u>7,455,452</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>(10,300,000)</u>	<u>(1,498,229)</u>	<u>8,801,771</u>
<b>Other Financing Sources</b>			
Transfers in	<u>10,300,000</u>	<u>7,300,000</u>	<u>(3,000,000)</u>
Total other financing sources	<u>10,300,000</u>	<u>7,300,000</u>	<u>(3,000,000)</u>
Net change in fund balance	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>5,801,771</u>	<u>\$ 5,801,771</u>
<b>Fund Balance, Beginning</b>		<u>15,514,750</u>	
<b>Fund Balance, Ending</b>		<u>\$ 21,316,521</u>	

**Forest Preserve District of Cook County**

Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes  
in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - Capital Improvement Fund  
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	<u>Original and Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance With Final Budget</u>
<b>Revenues</b>			
Grants	\$ -	\$ 47,852	\$ 47,852
Total revenues	-	47,852	47,852
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Current:			
Conservation and experiential programming	-	41,630	(41,630)
General maintenance	-	138,630	(138,630)
Capital outlay	4,025,000	3,762,472	262,528
Total expenditures	4,025,000	3,942,732	82,268
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(4,025,000)	(3,894,880)	130,120
<b>Other Financing Sources</b>			
Transfers in	4,025,000	4,025,000	-
Total other financing sources	4,025,000	4,025,000	-
Net change in fund balance	\$ -	130,120	\$ 130,120
<b>Fund Balance, Beginning</b>		9,257,548	
<b>Fund Balance, Ending</b>		<u>\$ 9,387,668</u>	

**Forest Preserve District of Cook County**

Combining Balance Sheet - Construction and Development Fund

December 31, 2024

	<b>2020 Construction and Development Fund</b>	<b>2021 Construction and Development Fund</b>	<b>2022 Construction and Development Fund</b>
Assets			
Property tax receivable	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Interfund receivable	-	504,608	26,383,248
Total assets	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 504,608</u>	<u>\$ 26,383,248</u>
Liabilities			
Accounts payable	\$ -	\$ 608	\$ 367,618
Other liabilities	-	-	-
Interfund payable	-	-	-
Total liabilities	<u>-</u>	<u>608</u>	<u>367,618</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources			
Property taxes levied for future periods	-	-	-
Fund Balances (Deficit)			
Restricted for construction and development	-	504,000	26,015,630
Total fund balance (deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>504,000</u>	<u>26,015,630</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balances	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 504,608</u>	<u>\$ 26,383,248</u>

2023 Construction and Development Fund	2024 Construction and Development Fund	2025 Construction and Development Fund	Eliminations	Total
\$ 19,154,543	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,154,543
14,477,965	-	-	-	41,365,821
<u>\$ 33,632,508</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 60,520,364</u>
\$ 1,035,093	\$ 1,827,817	\$ 46,821	\$ -	\$ 3,277,957
198,354	-	-	-	198,354
-	7,462,574	-	-	7,462,574
<u>1,233,447</u>	<u>9,290,391</u>	<u>46,821</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,938,885</u>
19,088,131	-	-	-	19,088,131
<u>13,310,930</u>	<u>(9,290,391)</u>	<u>(46,821)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,493,348</u>
<u>13,310,930</u>	<u>(9,290,391)</u>	<u>(46,821)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,493,348</u>
<u>\$ 33,632,508</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 60,520,364</u>

**Forest Preserve District of Cook County**

Combining Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance -

Construction and Development Fund

December 31, 2024

	<b>2020 Construction and Development Fund</b>	<b>2021 Construction and Development Fund</b>	<b>2022 Construction and Development Fund</b>
<b>Revenues</b>			
Property taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Expenditures</b>			
General maintenance	-	-	-
Capital outlay	261,406	(21,641)	1,188,071
Total expenditures	261,406	(21,641)	1,188,071
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(261,406)	21,641	(1,188,071)
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>			
Transfers in	-	531,011	-
Transfers out	(2,486,392)	-	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	(2,486,392)	531,011	-
Net change in fund balances	(2,747,798)	552,652	(1,188,071)
<b>Fund Balances (Deficit), Beginning</b>	2,747,798	(48,652)	27,203,701
<b>Fund Balances (Deficit), Ending</b>	\$ -	\$ 504,000	\$ 26,015,630



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2023 Construction and Development Fund	2024 Construction and Development Fund	2025 Construction and Development Fund	Eliminations	Total
<u>\$ 31,521,711</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 31,521,711</u>
801,094	-	-	-	801,094
<u>7,671,749</u>	<u>9,189,492</u>	<u>46,821</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,335,898</u>
<u>8,472,843</u>	<u>9,189,492</u>	<u>46,821</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,136,992</u>
23,048,868	(9,189,492)	(46,821)	-	12,384,719
-	-	-	(531,011)	-
<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>531,011</u>	<u>(1,955,381)</u>
<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,955,381)</u>
23,048,868	(9,189,492)	(46,821)	-	10,429,338
<u>(9,737,938)</u>	<u>(100,899)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,064,010</u>
<u>\$ 13,310,930</u>	<u>\$ (9,290,391)</u>	<u>\$ (46,821)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 30,493,348</u>

**Forest Preserve District of Cook County**

Schedule of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position - Budget and Actual

Self Insurance Fund

Year Ended December 31, 2024

	<b><u>Original and Final Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Actual</u></b>	<b><u>Variance With Final Budget</u></b>
<b>Operating Revenues</b>			
Total operating revenues	\$ <u>          -</u>	\$ <u>          -</u>	\$ <u>          -</u>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
Claims, settlements and other payments	7,300,000	2,382,133	4,917,867
Other charges	<u>1,230,000</u>	<u>758,089</u>	<u>471,911</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>8,530,000</u>	<u>3,140,222</u>	<u>5,389,778</u>
Operating loss	<u>(8,530,000)</u>	<u>(3,140,222)</u>	<u>5,389,778</u>
<b>Nonoperating Revenues</b>			
Investment income	<u>30,000</u>	<u>497,551</u>	<u>467,551</u>
Total nonoperating revenues	<u>30,000</u>	<u>497,551</u>	<u>467,551</u>
Net loss before transfers	<u>(8,500,000)</u>	<u>(2,642,671)</u>	<u>5,857,329</u>
<b>Transfers</b>			
Transfers in	<u>7,500,000</u>	<u>7,500,000</u>	<u>          -</u>
Total transfers	<u>7,500,000</u>	<u>7,500,000</u>	<u>          -</u>
Change in net position	\$ <u><u>(1,000,000)</u></u>	4,857,329	\$ <u><u>5,857,329</u></u>
<b>Net Position, Beginning</b>		<u>7,965,615</u>	
<b>Net Position, Ending</b>		\$ <u><u>12,822,944</u></u>	

**Forest Preserve District of Cook County**

Combining Statement of Fiduciary Net Position - Pension and OPEB Trust Funds  
December 31, 2024

	<u>Pension Fund</u>	<u>Postemployment Group Health Benefit Fund</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Assets</b>			
Investments:			
U.S. and international equities	\$ 101,745,905	\$ -	\$ 101,745,905
U.S. Government and government agency obligations	5,716,200	-	5,716,200
Corporate bonds	207,975	-	207,975
Collective international equity fund	22,848,150	-	22,848,150
Commingled fixed income fund	50,430,931	-	50,430,931
Hedge fund	5,720,462	-	5,720,462
Real estate	17,700,165	-	17,700,165
Short-term investments	4,274,974	-	4,274,974
Receivables:			
Employer contributions	3,429,345	-	3,429,345
Employee contributions	13,675	-	13,675
Accrued investment income	297,518	-	297,518
Receivable for securities sold	84,518	-	84,518
Other	99,363	424,693	524,056
Collateral held for securities on loan	256,425	-	256,425
	<u>212,825,606</u>	<u>424,693</u>	<u>213,250,299</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Accounts payable	92,552	-	92,552
Healthcare insurance payable	-	424,693	424,693
Due to County Employees' and Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County	13,267	-	13,267
Payable for securities purchased	92,111	-	92,111
Securities lending collateral	256,425	-	256,425
	<u>454,355</u>	<u>424,693</u>	<u>879,048</u>
<b>Net Position</b>			
Restricted for pension benefits	<u>\$ 212,371,251</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 212,371,251</u>

**Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois**

Combining Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position - Pension and OPEB Trust Funds

Year Ended December 31, 2024

	<b>Pension Fund</b>	<b>Postemployment Group Health Benefit Fund</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Additions</b>			
Contributions:			
Employer	\$ 11,518,664	\$ 729,267	\$ 12,247,931
Employee	4,189,192	-	4,189,192
Total contributions	15,707,856	729,267	16,437,123
Investment Income:			
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	15,893,368	-	15,893,368
Dividends	1,434,668	-	1,434,668
Interest	318,114	-	318,114
Total investment income	17,646,150	-	17,646,150
Less investment expenses	(394,396)	-	(394,396)
Net investment income	17,251,754	-	17,251,754
Securities lending:			
Income	5,143	-	5,143
Expenses	(1,026)	-	(1,026)
Net securities lending income	4,117	-	4,117
Other			
Medicare Part D subsidy	-	1,750,496	1,750,496
Prescription plan rebates	-	162,001	162,001
Total other additions	-	1,912,497	1,912,497
Total additions	32,963,727	2,641,764	35,605,491
<b>Deductions</b>			
Benefits			
Annuity	21,078,868	-	21,078,868
Disability	379,788	-	379,788
Healthcare	-	2,641,764	2,641,764
Total benefits	21,458,656	2,641,764	24,100,420
Refunds	853,144	-	853,144
Employee transfers to County Employees' and Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County	112,394	-	112,394
Administrative expenses	161,361	-	161,361
Total deductions	22,585,555	2,641,764	25,227,319
Change in net position	10,378,172	-	10,378,172
<b>Net Position, Beginning</b>	201,993,079	-	201,993,079
<b>Net Position, Ending</b>	<u>\$ 212,371,251</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 212,371,251</u>

## **STATISTICAL SECTION**

## Statistical Section

This part of the District's annual comprehensive financial report presents detailed information as a context for understanding what the information in the financial statements, note disclosures, and required supplementary information says about the District's overall financial health.

<b><u>Contents</u></b>	<b><u>Page</u></b>
<b>Financial Trends</b> These schedules contain trend information to help the reader understand how the District's financial performance and well-being have changed over time.	140 - 144
<b>Revenue Capacity</b> These schedules contain information to help the reader assess the District's most significant local revenue source, the property tax.	145 - 148
<b>Debt Capacity</b> These schedules present information to help the reader assess the affordability of the Government's current levels of outstanding debt and the District's ability to issue additional debt in the future.	149 - 152
<b>Demographic and Economic Information</b> These schedules offer demographic and economic indicators to help the reader understand the environment within the District's financial activities take place.	153 - 155
<b>Operating Information</b> These schedules contain information about the District's service and resources to help the reader understand how the District's financial information relates to the services the District provides and the activities it performs.	156 - 157

**Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois**

**Net Position by Component**

**Last Ten Fiscal Years**  
*(accrual basis of accounting)*

	Fiscal Year									
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
<b>Primary government</b>										
Net investment in capital assets	\$ 318,968,660	\$ 289,710,670	\$ 280,331,012	\$ 258,460,164	\$ 254,467,966	\$ 247,312,533	\$ 246,708,082	\$ 248,008,094	\$ 244,219,062	\$ 252,430,319
Restricted	60,517,093	49,775,582	29,532,767	31,721,457	25,476,310	23,579,437	23,261,857	25,484,585	28,193,584	30,581,209
Unrestricted	(72,724,571)	(101,279,159)	(226,859,127)	(339,622,287)	(315,405,273)	(270,184,214)	(250,002,420)	(245,533,296)	(244,208,576)	(219,026,783)
<b>Total primary government net position</b>	<u>\$ 306,761,182</u>	<u>\$ 238,207,093</u>	<u>\$ 83,004,652</u>	<u>\$ (49,440,666)</u>	<u>\$ (35,460,997)</u>	<u>\$ 707,756</u>	<u>\$ 19,967,519</u>	<u>\$ 27,959,383</u>	<u>\$ 28,204,070</u>	<u>\$ 63,984,745</u>

Source: Annual Financial Reports 2015-2024

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois

## Changes in Net Position

Last Ten Fiscal Years  
(accrual basis of accounting)

	Fiscal Year									
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023 *</u>	<u>2022 *</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
<b>Expenses</b>										
<b>Governmental activities:</b>										
General administration	\$ 27,158,968	\$ 4,373,563	\$ 4,250,638	\$ 23,869,434	\$ 25,633,751	\$ 20,906,506	\$ 14,988,519	\$ 16,265,075	\$ 21,136,588	\$ 14,620,355
Resource management	8,622,611	5,752,050	(2,701,512)	11,360,040	12,434,477	9,623,251	5,085,552	6,647,805	10,376,999	7,138,891
PRC and general maintenance	29,131,782	(324,100)	(2,420,756)	41,736,662	42,164,411	36,594,559	20,823,554	26,052,354	34,150,398	28,550,360
Law enforcement-public safety	13,327,797	638,697	(2,688,554)	21,443,422	25,508,055	20,354,563	9,915,739	12,733,845	22,746,902	16,410,832
Real estate acquisition	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100
Planning and development	14,437,875	6,106,277	8,131,812	8,423,619	7,975,536	12,301,912	8,660,053	8,028,210	13,792,456	23,321,719
Conservation and experiential programming	7,468,638	(3,259,246)	(3,263,151)	10,868,002	12,505,046	9,919,211	4,650,071	6,143,204	9,853,118	7,702,235
Interest and fiscal charges	3,438,587	3,793,068	(3,161,559)	5,142,378	4,952,635	5,230,206	5,552,741	5,983,516	6,359,185	7,557,331
<b>Total primary government expenses</b>	<b><u>103,586,258</u></b>	<b><u>17,080,309</u></b>	<b><u>(1,853,082)</u></b>	<b><u>122,843,557</u></b>	<b><u>131,173,911</u></b>	<b><u>114,930,208</u></b>	<b><u>69,676,229</u></b>	<b><u>81,854,009</u></b>	<b><u>118,415,646</u></b>	<b><u>105,301,823</u></b>
<b>Program revenues</b>										
<b>Governmental activities:</b>										
General administration-General Gov.	7,833,416	6,800,091	7,844,094	6,828,715	4,478,936	6,858,695	7,763,070	5,444,403	5,168,387	1,962,223
Permits, rentals and concessions	2,770,274	2,177,493	1,454,237	1,781,301	1,489,918	1,244,712	1,152,455	1,378,920	1,029,091	-
Resource Management	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,222,176
Law enforcement-public safety	-	-	-	-	-	76,212	168,047	113,365	137,793	319,944
Real estate acquisition	-	-	-	-	-	4,474,842	1,461,894	-	-	-
Planning and Development	254,737	232,713	410,893	329,243	183,146	445,067	332,368	415,826	300,871	498,576
Operating grants and contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	625,086	38,981	2,519,426
Capital grants and contributions	5,621,319	12,246,170	8,591,399	6,315,229	4,771,315	-	-	1,018,284	2,244,430	361,677
<b>Total primary government program revenues</b>	<b><u>16,479,746</u></b>	<b><u>21,456,467</u></b>	<b><u>18,300,623</u></b>	<b><u>15,254,488</u></b>	<b><u>10,923,315</u></b>	<b><u>13,099,528</u></b>	<b><u>10,877,834</u></b>	<b><u>8,995,884</u></b>	<b><u>8,919,553</u></b>	<b><u>9,884,022</u></b>
<b>Total primary government net (expense)</b>	<b><u>(87,106,512)</u></b>	<b><u>4,376,158</u></b>	<b><u>20,153,705</u></b>	<b><u>(107,589,069)</u></b>	<b><u>(120,250,596)</u></b>	<b><u>(101,830,680)</u></b>	<b><u>(58,798,395)</u></b>	<b><u>(72,858,125)</u></b>	<b><u>(109,496,093)</u></b>	<b><u>(95,417,801)</u></b>
<b>General Revenues</b>										
<b>Governmental activities:</b>										
Taxes:										
Property taxes	119,015,279	118,794,507	78,448,438	77,023,760	74,463,740	71,083,982	67,149,541	64,605,068	66,253,289	63,005,244
Personal property replacement taxes	12,226,188	21,175,694	29,014,444	14,583,446	7,044,529	8,792,791	6,625,980	6,904,777	6,811,857	7,472,549
Investment earnings	5,907,717	4,280,656	1,177,181	32,647	508,408	1,755,235	1,302,542	593,120	62,841	82,697
Other general revenues	18,511,417	6,575,426	3,651,550	1,969,547	2,065,166	938,909	504,267	510,473	587,431	411,857
<b>Total governmental activities</b>	<b><u>155,660,601</u></b>	<b><u>150,826,283</u></b>	<b><u>112,291,613</u></b>	<b><u>93,609,400</u></b>	<b><u>84,081,843</u></b>	<b><u>82,570,917</u></b>	<b><u>75,582,330</u></b>	<b><u>72,613,438</u></b>	<b><u>73,715,418</u></b>	<b><u>70,972,347</u></b>
<b>Total primary government</b>	<b><u>\$ 68,554,089</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 155,202,441</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 132,445,318</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (13,979,669)</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (36,168,753)</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (19,259,763)</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 16,783,935</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (244,687)</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (35,780,675)</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (24,445,454)</u></b>

\* In 2022, pension assumptions changed, resulting in the reporting of a \$(80,367,449) pension expense in the Statement of Activities, resulting in negative expenses.

\* In 2023, pension assumptions changed, resulting in the reporting of a \$(94,540,668) pension expense in the Statement of Activities, resulting in negative expenses.

Source: Annual Financial Reports 2015-2024



## Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois

## Fund Balances, Governmental Funds

## Last Ten Fiscal Years

(modified accrual basis of accounting)

	Fiscal Year									
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Corporate Fund</b>										
Committed for real estate acquisition	\$ 7,300,000	\$ 7,300,000	\$ 9,300,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000
Committed for self insurance	7,500,000	7,500,000	7,500,000	8,000,000	12,000,000	3,000,000	-	-	-	-
Committed for capital improvement	5,000,000	4,025,000	5,500,000	6,000,000	3,500,000	500,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	3,910,000	8,000,000
Assigned for future appropriated expenditures	3,657,210	4,600,000	1,000,000	1,100,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unassigned	64,345,488	61,006,755	49,657,791	36,895,799	34,112,555	43,921,775	39,337,416	33,848,311	33,346,574	34,359,189
<b>Total Corporate Fund</b>	<b>\$ 87,802,698</b>	<b>\$ 84,431,755</b>	<b>\$ 72,957,791</b>	<b>\$ 53,995,799</b>	<b>\$ 51,612,555</b>	<b>\$ 47,421,775</b>	<b>\$ 40,337,416</b>	<b>\$ 34,848,311</b>	<b>\$ 37,256,574</b>	<b>\$ 42,559,189</b>
<b>All Other Governmental Funds</b>										
Non-spendable	\$ 15,981,245	\$ 15,164,870	\$ 14,410,393	\$ 14,174,179	\$ 14,168,405	\$ 14,079,446	\$ 13,769,708	\$ 13,518,810	\$ 13,426,119	\$ 13,426,119
Restricted-Bond & Interest	7,145,884	7,853,619	7,243,499	7,024,046	6,776,737	6,551,102	6,392,292	13,182,828	19,485,304	32,225,014
Restricted-Construction & Development	30,493,348	20,064,010	1,630,169	3,578,743	1,282,905	1,663,584	2,325,275	-	-	-
Restricted-Capital Improvement	2,209,475	2,640,434	4,552,446	5,107,997	6,486,338	7,470,590	1,575,896	-	-	-
Restricted for Grants	-	21,642	-	-	-	203,518	-	-	-	-
<b>Committed:</b>										
Real estate acquisition	21,316,521	15,514,750	4,858,998	7,592,807	5,503,383	5,858,459	4,930,041	4,700,817	7,025,868	9,404,325
Dog parks	365,846	365,846	365,846	365,846	365,846	365,846	365,846	372,057	319,690	339,286
<b>Assigned:</b>										
Capital project funds	9,387,668	9,307,745	6,969,323	3,643,581	1,045,048	958,315	2,415,025	3,615,030	4,264,498	2,296,652
Resident watchmen facilities	540,916	487,752	384,945	296,831	161,515	156,244	131,397	27,595	-	-
Unassigned (deficit)	(9,060,584)	(2,191,091)	(2,095,903)	(1,908,393)	(1,824,541)	-	(77,827)	-	-	(74,910)
<b>Total all other Governmental Funds</b>	<b>\$ 78,380,319</b>	<b>\$ 69,229,577</b>	<b>\$ 38,319,716</b>	<b>\$ 39,875,637</b>	<b>\$ 33,965,636</b>	<b>\$ 37,307,104</b>	<b>\$ 31,827,653</b>	<b>\$ 35,417,137</b>	<b>\$ 44,521,479</b>	<b>\$ 57,616,486</b>

Source: Annual Financial Reports 2015-2024

**Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois**  
**Changes in Fund Balances, Governmental Funds**

**Last Ten Fiscal Years**  
*(modified accrual basis of accounting)*

	<b>Fiscal Year</b>									
	<b><u>2024</u></b>	<b><u>2023</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b>	<b><u>2021</u></b>	<b><u>2020</u></b>	<b><u>2019</u></b>	<b><u>2018</u></b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>	<b><u>2015</u></b>
<b>Revenues</b>										
Property taxes	\$ 119,015,279	\$ 118,794,507	\$ 78,448,438	\$ 77,023,760	\$ 74,463,740	\$ 71,083,982	\$ 67,149,541	\$ 64,605,068	\$ 66,253,289	\$ 63,005,244
Intergovernmental taxes	12,226,188	21,175,694	29,014,444	14,583,446	7,044,529	8,792,791	6,637,980	6,904,777	6,811,857	7,472,549
Fees & fines	7,085,742	6,093,424	7,311,681	6,546,616	4,640,481	6,887,896	7,888,246	5,503,859	5,320,351	4,478,644
Grants	12,853,741	16,981,447	9,576,253	7,482,842	2,691,776	3,677,892	2,282,873	1,038,972	2,244,430	2,679,006
Recreation fees	4,049,573	3,260,002	2,568,289	2,811,102	1,728,243	1,736,790	1,527,694	1,877,923	1,315,085	2,550,819
Other income	1,582,790	931,096	1,675,771	1,904,550	1,908,442	938,909	492,154	480,905	657,147	428,447
Investment income	5,410,166	3,660,118	1,177,181	32,647	508,408	1,755,235	1,289,546	493,808	62,841	82,697
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b><u>162,223,479</u></b>	<b><u>170,896,288</u></b>	<b><u>129,772,057</u></b>	<b><u>110,384,963</u></b>	<b><u>92,985,619</u></b>	<b><u>94,873,495</u></b>	<b><u>87,268,034</u></b>	<b><u>80,905,312</u></b>	<b><u>82,665,000</u></b>	<b><u>80,697,406</u></b>
<b>Expenditures</b>										
General administration	8,442,692	8,096,719	7,074,729	6,608,743	6,344,255	6,062,036	6,075,203	5,976,128	5,958,602	4,642,144
Resource management	8,127,112	6,568,278	5,745,075	5,598,946	5,422,478	5,126,710	5,406,356	5,488,141	5,123,065	4,508,964
PRC & general maintenance	26,828,711	25,660,525	22,383,795	22,023,824	20,053,781	20,935,841	21,411,980	22,401,163	21,555,109	20,936,351
Law enforcement	12,737,376	14,115,230	11,054,207	11,538,208	11,899,832	11,641,837	11,145,838	11,022,629	11,091,325	10,450,468
Real estate acquisition & legal	1,745,028	1,890,963	1,713,066	1,546,665	1,539,963	1,893,561	1,897,334	1,612,801	1,507,377	1,420,566
Planning & development	2,396,689	2,309,187	2,085,165	1,860,201	1,809,123	1,761,244	1,949,766	2,292,401	2,204,208	2,079,569
Conservation and experiential programming	7,491,722	6,807,695	5,882,373	5,534,933	5,514,592	5,331,360	5,375,702	5,610,686	5,425,430	5,385,329
District wide charges	13,671,587	5,446,560	5,690,605	3,432,061	3,646,354	6,274,951	5,552,852	5,350,514	4,474,426	5,672,374
Supplies & Materials	-	-	-	106,244	216,464	-	-	-	-	-
Capital outlay	44,616,704	33,972,897	25,956,752	16,509,343	14,067,774	14,201,991	10,706,953	16,555,282	26,437,059	60,327,949
Debt service										
Interest	4,094,173	5,479,409	3,801,455	6,037,550	6,641,691	6,770,154	7,196,429	7,628,472	8,106,021	8,643,212
Principal	12,050,000	10,665,000	7,920,000	10,795,000	10,480,000	9,370,000	8,650,000	8,480,000	9,180,000	22,810,000
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b><u>142,201,794</u></b>	<b><u>121,012,463</u></b>	<b><u>99,307,222</u></b>	<b><u>91,591,718</u></b>	<b><u>87,636,307</u></b>	<b><u>89,369,685</u></b>	<b><u>85,368,413</u></b>	<b><u>92,418,217</u></b>	<b><u>101,062,622</u></b>	<b><u>146,876,926</u></b>
<b>Excess of Revenues over (under) Expenditures</b>	<b><u>20,021,685</u></b>	<b><u>49,883,825</u></b>	<b><u>30,464,835</u></b>	<b><u>18,793,245</u></b>	<b><u>5,349,312</u></b>	<b><u>5,503,810</u></b>	<b><u>1,899,621</u></b>	<b><u>(11,512,905)</u></b>	<b><u>(18,397,622)</u></b>	<b><u>(66,179,520)</u></b>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>										
Bond proceeds	-	-	76,140,000	-	-	-	-	18,945,000	-	-
Payment to escrow agent	-	-	(91,089,878)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bond premium	-	-	9,891,114	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sales of assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	247,500	-
Transfers in	13,280,381	14,800,000	8,000,000	5,563,961	500,000	3,910,000	8,200,000	6,200,000	6,550,000	1,553,170
Transfers out	(20,780,381)	(22,300,000)	(16,000,000)	(17,563,961)	(3,500,000)	(3,910,000)	(8,200,000)	(6,200,000)	(6,550,000)	(1,553,170)
<b>Total other financing sources (uses)</b>	<b><u>(7,500,000)</u></b>	<b><u>(7,500,000)</u></b>	<b><u>(13,058,764)</u></b>	<b><u>(12,000,000)</u></b>	<b><u>(3,000,000)</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>18,945,000</u></b>	<b><u>247,500</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>
<b>Net Change in Fund Balances</b>	<b><u>\$ 12,521,685</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 42,383,825</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 17,406,071</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 6,793,245</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 2,349,312</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 5,503,810</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 1,899,621</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 7,432,095</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (18,150,122)</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (66,179,520)</u></b>
<b>Debt Service as a Percentage of Noncapital Expenditures</b>	<b><u>14.8%</u></b>	<b><u>15.3%</u></b>	<b><u>14.3%</u></b>	<b><u>21.0%</u></b>	<b><u>22.2%</u></b>	<b><u>27.9%</u></b>	<b><u>26.0%</u></b>	<b><u>17.8%</u></b>	<b><u>27.0%</u></b>	<b><u>25.5%</u></b>

Source: Annual Financial Reports 2015-2024

**Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois****General Governmental Revenues By Source****Last Ten Fiscal Years***(modified accrual basis of accounting)*

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Property Taxes</b>	<b>Personal Property Replacement Tax</b>	<b>Total</b>
2024	\$ 119,015,279	\$ 12,226,188	\$ 131,241,467
2023	118,794,507	21,175,694	139,970,201
2022	78,448,438	29,014,444	107,462,882
2021	77,023,760	14,583,446	91,607,206
2020	74,463,740	7,044,529	81,508,269
2019	71,083,982	8,792,791	79,876,773
2018	68,049,364	7,351,997	75,401,361
2017	61,808,895	8,086,998	69,895,893
2016	65,946,761	7,658,005	73,604,766
2015	63,005,244	7,472,549	70,477,793
Change in 2015-2024	88.9%	63.6%	86.2%

Source: Annual Financial Reports 2015-2024

**Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois**  
**Assessed Value and Estimated Actual Value of Taxable Property**

**Last Ten Fiscal Years**  
*(in thousands of dollars)*

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Levy Year</b>	<b>Residential Property</b>	<b>Commercial Property</b>	<b>Industrial Property</b>	<b>Railroad Property</b>	<b>Farm Property</b>	<b>Total Taxable Assessed Value (3)</b>	<b>Total Direct Tax Rate</b>	<b>Estimated Actual Taxable Value (2)</b>	<b>Taxable Assessed Value as a Percentage of Actual Taxable Value</b>
2024	2023	\$ 132,354,729	\$ 54,395,854	\$ 11,845,076	\$ 557,996	6,197	\$ 199,159,852	7.50%	(1)	(1)
2023	2022	121,201,148	52,075,730	10,833,123	523,088	5,212	184,638,301	8.02%	\$ 756,708,329	24.40%
2022	2021	113,425,658	51,278,547	10,294,816	450,463	5,353	175,454,837	5.80%	694,866,428	25.25%
2021	2020	111,677,845	51,067,331	10,651,172	451,348	5,772	173,853,468	5.80%	631,224,102	27.54%
2020	2019	107,572,255	49,492,375	9,419,968	427,636	5,378	166,917,612	5.90%	634,876,256	26.29%
2019	2018	103,361,977	46,365,267	8,434,284	417,228	5,309	158,584,065	6.20%	609,672,155	26.01%
2018	2017	98,768,498	43,214,716	8,447,906	380,699	5,256	150,817,075	6.20%	585,291,776	25.77%
2017	2016	94,238,539	40,840,105	8,029,945	369,620	5,045	143,483,254	6.14%	559,685,159	25.64%
2016	2015	86,012,268	38,707,818	7,627,094	362,982	4,686	132,714,848	6.34%	528,843,258	25.10%
2015	2014	82,948,767	37,136,249	7,795,871	324,507	5,150	128,210,544	6.87%	499,136,554	25.69%

Note: Total Direct Tax Rate per \$100 of assessed value.

(1) 2020 through 2022 Estimated Actual Taxable Value Unavailable.

(2) The Civic Federation: Estimated Full Value of Real Property in Cook County: 2014-2019

(3) Illinois Department of Revenue - Taxing Districts Valuation, Rate and Extension Table

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois

## Direct and Overlapping Property Tax Rates

## Last Ten Fiscal Years

(rate per \$100 of assessed value)

District's Direct Rates							
Fiscal Year	Corporate	Bond Interest	Employee Annuity & Benefit	Construction & Development	Zoological	Botanic Garden	Total Direct Rate
2024	0.036	0.006	0.002	0.016	0.009	0.006	0.075
2023	0.038	0.007	0.002	0.017	0.010	0.006	0.080
2022	0.031	0.008	0.002	0.004	0.008	0.005	0.058
2021	0.030	0.008	0.002	0.004	0.008	0.005	0.058
2020	0.031	0.008	0.002	0.004	0.009	0.005	0.059
2019	0.031	0.008	0.002	0.004	0.009	0.006	0.062
2018	0.031	0.008	0.002	0.004	0.009	0.006	0.062
2017	0.033	0.008	0.002	0.002	0.010	0.006	0.061
2016	0.034	0.007	0.002	0.003	0.010	0.007	0.063
2015	0.037	0.008	0.002	0.002	0.012	0.007	0.069

Overlapping Rates in the City of Chicago								
Fiscal Year	Cook County	Metropolitan Water Reclamation District	City of Chicago	Chicago Park District	Chicago School Finance Authority	Chicago Board of Education	Community College District # 508	Total Overlapping Rate
2024	0.386	0.345	1.612	0.318	-	3.829	0.158	6.648
2023	0.431	0.374	1.628	0.323	-	3.757	0.155	6.668
2022	0.446	0.378	1.556	0.311	-	3.517	0.145	6.353
2021	0.058	0.378	1.580	0.329	-	3.656	0.151	6.152
2020	0.489	0.389	1.603	0.326	-	3.620	0.149	6.576
2019	0.489	0.396	1.565	0.330	-	3.552	0.147	6.479
2018	0.489	0.396	1.565	0.330	-	3.552	0.147	6.479
2017	0.496	0.402	1.652	0.352	-	3.890	0.164	6.956
2016	0.533	0.406	1.630	0.362	-	3.726	0.169	6.826
2015	0.569	0.426	1.549	0.372	-	3.455	0.177	6.548

Source: Cook County Clerk, Tax Extension Division

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois

## Principal Property Taxpayers

## Current Year and Ten Years Ago

Taxpayer	2023 (1)			2013		
	Taxable Assessed Value	Rank	Percentage of Total County Taxable Assessed Value	Taxable Assessed Value	Rank	Percentage of Total County Taxable Assessed Value
PROPERTY TAX - PO Box A - 3879	\$ 252,799,864	1	0.10%			
WANXIANG STERLING LLC	123,751,351	2	0.07%			
110 NORTH WACKER TITLE	122,440,021	3	0.06%			
CBRE SUITE 2530	115,786,101	4	0.06%			
601 W COMPANIES LLC	115,800,607	5	0.06%			
227 MONROE STREET LLC	104,339,678	6	0.06%			
HCSC BLUE CROSS J KAYE	103,651,825	7	0.06%			
RIVER POINT LLC	95,452,834	8	0.05%			
300 LASALLE LLC	91,031,472	9	0.05%			
MERCHANDISE MART OWNER	88,496,355	10	0.05%			
233 S. Wacker LLC CBRE				\$ 139,062,018	1	0.10%
Thompson Property Tax				93,499,987	2	0.07%
Simon Property Group				79,774,761	3	0.06%
HCSC Blue Cross A Pini				75,875,000	4	0.06%
BFPRU I LLC				72,685,195	5	0.06%
Water Tower LLC				71,730,150	6	0.06%
JPMC CO ICG				71,538,231	7	0.06%
227 Monroe Street LLC				68,785,492	8	0.05%
Hines 70 W Madison LP				66,812,500	9	0.05%
Mark Davids				66,491,787	10	0.05%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,213,550,108</b>		<b>0.62%</b>	<b>\$ 806,255,121</b>		<b>0.62%</b>

(1) 2023 Assessed valuations are the most current data available.

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois

## Property Tax Levies and Collections

## Last Ten Fiscal Years

Levy Year	Taxes Levied for the Fiscal Year		Collected within the Fiscal Year of the Levy		Collections in Subsequent Years	Total Collections to Date				
			Amount	Percentage of Levy		Amount	Percentage of Levy			
	(1)									
2023	\$	148,564,317	\$	146,807,016	98.82%	\$	-	\$	146,807,016	98.82%
2022		148,033,229		144,046,969	97.31%		2,809,920		144,046,969	97.31%
2021		101,750,496		75,946,124	74.64%		23,659,509		99,605,633	97.89%
2020		99,752,173		92,362,356	97.82%		2,077,126		94,439,482	94.67%
2019		98,376,002		90,475,576	96.88%		1,177,393		91,652,969	93.17%
2018		95,192,235		93,117,248	97.82%		(303,591)		92,813,657	97.50%
2017		93,655,716		91,288,667	96.88%		(576,413)		90,712,254	96.86%
2016		91,388,420		88,535,413	96.88%		(238,394)		88,297,019	96.62%
2015		89,682,876		86,136,131	96.05%		(190,834)		85,945,297	95.83%
2014		88,093,777		82,811,764	94.00%		(450,027)		82,361,737	93.49%

(1) Tax levied for Fiscal Year 201 - 2023 includes levy for Forest Preserve District and Series 2012: 2015 & 2019 General Obligation Bonds

Sources: Cook County Clerk, Tax Extension Division & Cook County Treasurer Department

**Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois**

**Ratios of Outstanding Debt by Type**

**Last Ten Fiscal Years**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>General Obligation Bonds</b>	<b>Master Loan</b>	<b>Total Primary Government</b>	<b>Percentage of Personal Income (1)</b>	<b>Debt Per Capita (2)</b>
2024	\$ 83,326,530	\$ -	\$ 83,326,530	0.02%	16.38
2023	95,994,725	-	95,994,725	0.03%	18.79
2022	107,277,919	-	107,277,919	0.03%	29.19
2021	128,271,351	-	128,271,351	0.04%	29.19
2020	140,011,723	-	140,011,723	0.04%	29.19
2019	151,925,117	-	151,925,117	0.05%	29.50
2018	154,668,511	-	154,668,511	0.05%	29.19
2017	164,751,905	-	164,751,905	0.05%	31.61
2016	174,665,229	-	174,665,229	0.06%	33.57
2015	185,278,693	-	185,278,693	0.06%	35.46

Note:

- (1) Personal income information is found on Schedule 14.
- (2) Per capita information is found on Schedule 14.
- (3) Information not yet available
- (4) General Obligation Bonds amounts are net of unamortized premium and discount.

Sources:

Annual Financial Reports 2015-2024 and Bureau of Economic Analysis.



# Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois

## Ratios of General Bonded Debt Outstanding

### Last Ten Fiscal Years

General Bonded Debt Outstanding					
Fiscal Year	General Obligation Bonds	Less Restricted for Debt Service	Net General Bonded Debt	Percentage of Actual Taxable Value of Property (1)	Per Capita (2)
2024	\$ 83,326,530	\$ (7,145,884)	\$ 76,180,646	4.00%	(3)
2023	95,994,725	(7,853,619)	88,141,106	4.31%	17.33
2022	107,277,919	(7,243,499)	100,034,420	5.00%	19.58
2021	128,271,351	(7,024,046)	121,247,305	4.00%	23.44
2020	140,011,723	(6,776,737)	133,234,986	5.00%	26.08
2019	151,925,117	(6,551,102)	145,374,015	5.00%	28.23
2018	154,668,511	(6,392,292)	148,276,219	5.00%	28.62
2017	164,751,905	(13,182,828)	151,569,077	6.00%	29.08
2016	174,665,229	(19,485,304)	155,179,925	6.00%	29.82
2015	185,278,693	(32,225,014)	153,053,679	7.00%	29.29

(1) See Schedule 6 for property value data.

(2) Population data can be found in Schedule 14.

(3) Not available

Sources: Annual Financial Reports 2015 - 2024 and Bureau of Economic Analysis

**Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois**  
**Direct and Overlapping Governmental Activities Debt**  
**As of December 31, 2024**

<b><u>Direct Debt</u></b>	<b><u>General Obligation Debt Outstanding</u></b>	<b><u>Overlapping Percentage</u></b>
Forest Preserve District	\$ 83,326,530	0.4%
<b><u>Overlapping Debt<sup>(1)(2)(5)(7)</sup></u></b>		
Governmental Unit		
Cook County Government <sup>(4)</sup>	2,769,786,750	13.2%
City of Chicago <sup>(2)</sup>	5,164,650,191	24.6%
City Colleges <sup>(2)</sup>	290,231,672	1.4%
Chicago Board of Education <sup>(3)</sup>	9,083,805,522	43.3%
Chicago Park District <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	870,300,000	4.2%
Metropolitan Water Reclamation District <sup>5</sup>	2,693,351,774	12.9%
Subtotal, overlapping debt	20,872,125,909	99.6%
<b>Total direct and overlapping debt</b>	<b>\$ 20,955,452,439</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Selected Debt Statistics**

2024 Estimated Population <sup>(8)</sup>	5,182,617
2023 Equalized Assessed Valuation	\$ 199,150,851,455
2022 Estimated Fair Market Value (9)	\$ 756,708,329,353

	<b><u>Per Capita<sup>(6)</sup></u></b>	<b><u>% of Equalized Assessed Valuation</u></b>	<b><u>% of Estimated Fair Market Value</u></b>
Direct Debt	\$ 579.95	1.67%	0.48%
Direct and Overlapping Debt <sup>(5)</sup>	\$ 4,122.28	11.84%	3.44%

**Notes:**

- (1) Excludes short-term cash flow notes.  
(2) Figures provided by the respective Governmental Agency.  
(3) Includes "Alternate Bonds"; which are secured by a dedicated pledge of revenues and the general obligation taxing ability of the issuer.  
(4) Includes loans payable to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.  
(5) Does not include debt issued by other governmental units located within Cook County.  
(6) For illustrative purposes; estimated highest per capital debt is within the boundaries of the City of Chicago.  
(7) Excludes Municipalities and Districts outside of the City of Chicago.  
(8) 2021 population estimate from: <https://worldpopulationreview.com/us-countries/il/cook-county-population>.  
(9) 2023 and 2024 Estimated Fair Market Value is not yet available

# Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois

## Legal Debt Margin Information

### Last Ten Fiscal Years

#### Legal Debt Margin Calculation for Fiscal Year 2024

Assessed value	\$ 199,159,851,455	(1)
Debt limit (.345% assessed value)	\$ 687,101,488	
Debt applicable to limit:		
General obligation bonds of general obligation debt	75,290,000	
Less: Amount set aside for repayment	(4,315,000)	
Total net debt applicable to limit	70,975,000	
Legal debt margin	\$ 616,126,488	

Fiscal Year	Debt Limit	Total Net Debt Applicable to Limit	Legal Debt Margin	Total Net Debt Applicable to Limit as a Percentage of Debt Limit
2024	\$ 687,101,488	\$ 70,975,000	\$ 616,126,488	90%
2023	637,002,144	75,290,000	561,712,144	88%
2022	605,319,187	87,340,000	517,979,187	86%
2021	575,865,760	119,775,000	456,090,760	79%
2020	547,115,023	130,570,000	416,545,023	76%
2019	547,115,023	132,990,000	414,125,023	76%
2018	520,318,918	143,220,000	377,098,918	72%
2017	457,866,234	151,010,000	306,856,234	67%
2016	457,866,234	150,260,000	307,606,234	67%
2015	434,406,194	165,330,000	269,076,194	62%

(1) Assessed valuation for 2023

Sources: Annual Financial Reports 2015 - 2024 and Cook County Clerk's Office, Tax Extension Division

**Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois**  
**Demographic and Economic Statistics - Cook County**

Last Ten Calendar Years

<b>Calendar Year</b>	<b>(2) Population</b>	<b>Personal (2) Income (thousands of dollars)</b>	<b>Per Capita Personal Income (3)</b>	<b>Median Age (3)</b>	<b>School (3) Enrollment</b>	<b>Unemployment Rate (4)</b>
2024	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
2023	5,087,072	\$ 396,470,899	\$ 41,990	38.4	1,192,218	5.4%
2022	5,109,292	372,197,013	72,847	38.1	1,199,780	3.8%
2021	5,173,146	380,521,307	73,557	37.8	1,218,353	8.8%
2020	5,108,284	357,246,062	69,935	37.0	1,258,897	7.0%
2019	5,150,233	336,341,911	58,786	37.2	1,242,986	3.7%
2018	5,180,493	322,254,992	62,205	36.6	1,260,762	4.1%
2017	5,211,263	308,704,226	59,238	36.4	1,272,191	7.1%
2016	5,203,499	294,875,826	56,669	36.1	1,312,556	7.3%
2015	5,224,823	290,008,075	55,506	35.9	1,372,757	10.7%

Note:

(1) 2024 Information not yet available

Sources:

(2) Bureau of Economic Analysis - U.S. Department of Commerce / U.S. Census Bureau

(3) U.S. Census Bureau

(4) U.S. Census Bureau

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois

## Cook County's 10 Largest Employers

<u>Employer</u>	2024 (1)			2015 (2)		
	<u>Employees</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Cook County Employment</u>	<u>Employees</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Cook County Employment</u>
Amazon.com Inc.	33,247	1	1.27%			
Advocate Aurora Health	30,751	2	1.17%	18,308	1	0.69%
Northwestern Memorial Healthcare	29,434	3	1.12%	15,317	3	0.58%
Endeavor Health	22,287	4	0.85%			
University of Chicago	21,134	5	0.85%	16,197	2	0.61%
United Continental Holdings Inc.	18,000	6	0.69%	14,000	5	
Walmart Inc.	17,400	7	0.66%			0.00%
Rush University System for Health	14,714	8	0.56%			
J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.	14,675	9	0.56%	14,158	4	0.53%
Health Care Service Corp.	13,500	10	0.52%	13,006	6	0.49%
Walgreens Boots Alliance Inc.				13,006	6	0.49%
Presence Health				10,500	8	0.40%
Abbott Laboratories				10,000	9	0.38%
Northwestern University				97,108	10	0.37%

Notes:

(1) Source: Crain's Chicago Business as of 12/31/24

(2) Source: Cook County Annual Comprehensive Financial Report 2015

**Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois**  
**Full-time Equivalent District's Government Employees by Function**

Function	Full-time Equivalent Employees									
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
General administration	63	53	52	52	52	50	51	50	52	41
Resource management / CEP	73	111	58	59	111	111	111	110	111	102
PCV and general maintenance	285	215	266	266	214	213	213	208	209	213
Law enforcement	136	134	130	130	130	129	125	115	115	120
Legal / Real estate acquisition	12	11	10	10	10	10	11	11	11	11
Planning and development	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	19	19	19
Total	587	542	534	535	535	531	529	513	517	506

Source: Forest Preserve District's Budget

## Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois

## Operating Indicators by Function/Program

## Last Ten Fiscal Years

<b>Function/Program</b>	<b>Fiscal Year</b>									
	<b><u>2024</u></b>	<b><u>2023</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b>	<b><u>2021</u></b>	<b><u>2020</u></b>	<b><u>2019</u></b>	<b><u>2018</u></b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>	<b><u>2015</u></b>
<b>PCV and general maintenance</b>										
Picnic permits issued with shelter	6,058	6,410	6,204	6,057	1,356	5,763	6,129	6,383	6,504	5,714
Picnic permits issued without shelter	925	912	786	703	91	755	877	1,090	1,082	829
Pool attendance	<u>80,225</u>	<u>57,576</u>	<u>61,415</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>68,271</u>	<u>107,712</u>	<u>90,351</u>	<u>98,232</u>	<u>112,335</u>
Total	<u>87,208</u>	<u>64,898</u>	<u>68,405</u>	<u>6,760</u>	<u>1,447</u>	<u>74,789</u>	<u>114,718</u>	<u>97,824</u>	<u>105,818</u>	<u>118,878</u>
<b>Law enforcement</b>										
Ordinance violations	175	197	281	598	1,116	1,596	2,281	2,994	4,203	6,570
Traffic arrests	84	87	77	298	388	728	1,030	1,723	2,963	1,859
Parking citations	2,857	1,576	1,665	2,271	4,075	4,240	4,117	5,526	6,113	4,542
Criminal arrests	37	38	38	64	103	188	2,281	335	309	480
Incident reports	<u>27,330</u>	<u>29,309</u>	<u>34,142</u>	<u>39,706</u>	<u>52,716</u>	<u>53,565</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>57,169</u>	<u>65,097</u>	<u>70,299</u>
Total	<u>30,483</u>	<u>31,207</u>	<u>36,203</u>	<u>42,937</u>	<u>58,398</u>	<u>60,317</u>	<u>9,709</u>	<u>67,747</u>	<u>78,685</u>	<u>83,750</u>

Sources: Forest Preserve District's Records

# Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois

## Number of Capital Asset Projects by Function/Program

Last Ten Fiscal Years

Function/Program	Fiscal Year									
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>General and administration</b>										
Building and building improvements	-	-	-	-	11	-	12	-	6	4
Land improvement	-	4	2	-	141	-	2	-	4	3
Equipment	8	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	-
Vehicles	-	-	-	1	10	1	-	-	-	3
Infrastructures	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	6	2
Construction in progress	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	43	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>Resource management / CEP</b>										
Building and building improvements	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Land improvement	-	-	-	67	-	80	54	26	2	5
Equipment	1	7	5	-	-	-	-	5	5	1
Vehicles	38	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	4
Infrastructures	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Construction in progress	-	9	9	7	-	-	8	6	21	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>PCV and general maintenance</b>										
Building and building improvements	-	-	1	2	-	2	1	-	2	4
Land improvement	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment	-	32	10	3	-	3	1	24	3	2
Vehicles	8	-	38	15	-	15	-	9	6	14
Infrastructures	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction in progress	1	5	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Law enforcement</b>										
Building and building improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Land Improvement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vehicles	33	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
Infrastructures	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction in progress	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Planning and development</b>										
Building and building improvements	-	-	21	10	10	12	-	14	-	-
Land Improvement	-	-	8	13	1	4	1	1	-	-
Equipment	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Vehicles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infrastructures	-	-	-	2	10	2	16	26	-	-
Construction in progress	20	47	38	22	24	-	32	30	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total capital assets</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>122</b>

Note: Amounts represent number of units.

Sources: District's Fixed Assets Reports