



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

**Minutes of the Environmental and Sustainability Committee**

**Wednesday, February 17, 2021**

**10:15 AM**

**Virtual Meeting**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Present:** Degnen, Deer, Britton, Lowry, Miller, Morrison and Silvestri (7)

**Chair asked the Secretary to the Board to call upon the registered public speakers, in accordance with Cook County Code, Sec. 2-107(dd)**

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

**NO PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

[21-0116](#)

**Presented by:** ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent

**REPORT**

**Department:** Department of Resource Management

**Request:** Refer to Environmental and Sustainability Committee

**Report Title:** Restoration Status of Next Century Conservation Plan/Natural and Cultural Resources Master Plan Identified Priorities

**Report Period:** 2015-2020

**Summary:** This document presents a five (5) year status report on ecological restoration achieved between the years of 2015-2020 in pursuit of the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") Next Century Conservation Plan ("NCCP") goal of restoring 30,000 acres to ecological health by 2040.

The report includes introductory and background information on the Forest Preserves' approach to meeting its land management goals, a set of maps that shows where important work has been accomplished, and descriptions of the preserves prioritized for restoration. These 30,000 acres are comprised of fifteen (15) priority landscapes, seven (7) Illinois nature preserves, and an additional set of thirty-eight (38) priority stewardship sites identified and ranked through the Forest Preserves' Natural and Cultural Resources Master Plan.

In the initial five (5) years since the NCCP's debut in 2014, the Forest Preserves have dramatically expanded the number of acres under restoration from 5,800 to 12,200 acres, which equates to 40% of our priority lands under restoration. At our current pace and with appropriate funding, it is anticipated that our 30,000-acre NCCP goal can be achieved by 2035.

The work that has been achieved to-date is substantial and is critical to re-establishing healthy ecosystems for the benefit of the natural communities, plant and animal species, clean water, and long-term sustainability of our region.

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Deer, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to receive and filed 21-0116. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Degnen, Deer, Britton, Lowry, Miller, Morrison and Silvestri (7)

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Vice Chair DENNIS DEER, seconded by Commissioner BILL LOWRY, that this was adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Ayes:** Degnen, Deer, Britton, Lowry, Miller, Morrison and Silvestri (7)

Respectfully submitted,



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Chair



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Secretary

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