

# Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

#### **Real Estate Committee**

**Tuesday, July 23, 2024** 

9:30 AM

Thatcher Woods Pavilion, 8030 Chicago Avenue, River Forest, Illinois

Issued On: 7/17/2024

### NOTICE AND AGENDA

There will be a meeting of the committee or subcommittee of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners at the date, time and location listed above.

## **PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

Authorization as a public speaker shall only be granted to those individuals who have registered, with the Secretary, to speak 24 hours in advance of the meeting. To register as a public speaker, go to the meeting details page for this meeting at https://fpdcc.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx to find a registration link. Duly authorized public speakers may speak live at Thatcher Woods Pavilion, 8030 Chicago Avenue, River Forest, Illinois at a time specified in the meeting agenda. Due to technological constraints at the venue, there will be no virtual public comment at this meeting. The meeting will also not be streamed live. A video recording of the meeting will be posted on the meeting details page for this meeting at https://fpdcc.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx. Authorized public speakers who are not present during the specified time for public testimony will forfeit their allotted time to speak at the meeting. Public testimony must not exceed three minutes; the Secretary will keep track of the time and advise when the time for public testimony has expired. Persons authorized to provide public testimony shall not use vulgar, abusive, discriminatory, profane, or otherwise inappropriate language when addressing the Board; failure to act appropriately, or failure to adhere to the time requirements may result in expulsion from the meeting and/or disqualify the person from providing future testimony. Written comments will not be read aloud at the meeting, but will be posted on the meeting page and made a part of the meeting record.

24-0289

#### **COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of 6/11/2024

#### 24-0138

Presented by: EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

## **EASEMENT REQUEST**

Request: Requesting authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") to grant a permanent and temporary easement to Illinois Department of Transportation ("IDOT") at intersection of 95th Street and Archer Avenue near Willow Springs for an area not to exceed 7.462 acres for permanent easements and 1.459 acres for temporary easements or 325,045 square feet for permanent easements and 63,552 square feet for temporary easements. Construction would impact two hundred seven (207) living trees and fifty-four (54) dead trees, resulting in tree mitigation fees. In practice, more trees may need to be removed than originally estimated. Any increase in the tree mitigation fee will be in accordance with the Tree Mitigation Plan (see Board Item No. 20-0279), and if such increase is more than 20% of the original estimate, then approval will be sought from the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners.

**Reason:** IDOT has identified this intersection as a high percentage crash location due to the original 1926 design and plans to modify the current "Y" intersection to a "T" intersection with a traffic signal.

A retaining wall on the Northwest side of Archer Avenue and newly shaped earthen slopes will be graded on Forest Preserves land along the southeast side of Archer Avenue and north and south side of 95th Street and the roadways will be reconfigured.

While IDOT has requested permanent easements totaling 0.962 acres, the Forest Preserves staff recommends the granting and recording of up to 7.462 acres of total permanent easements to IDOT in order to include up to 6.5 acres in existing right-of-way areas within the project improvement limits. The Forest Preserves' wishes to confirm IDOT responsibility for those areas at no additional cost to IDOT and forgo fees that might otherwise be due pursuant to Section 2-5-7 (Easements) of the Forest Preserves Code of Ordinances. The waiver of additional easement fees will be in consideration of the benefits of the improvement project to the Forest Preserves, including public safety and aesthetic value of the current design plans. The Forest Preserves' granting of the permanent easements for this project is contingent upon IDOT's acceptance of all permanent easement area pertaining to this intersection, up to 7.462 acres.

The area for the permanent easement is a maximum of 7.462 acres (0.962 acres requested outside the current right-of-way plus up to 6.5 acres within the current right-of-way) and for temporary easements is 1.459 acres. IDOT indicates that two hundred sixty-one (261) trees are expected to be removed for this project.

**Easement Fee:** \$18,900.00 for permanent easements and \$17,200.00 for temporary easements.

Tree Mitigation Fee: \$1,511,403.11

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

District(s): 17

Legislative History: 6/11/24 - FPD Board of Commissioners - refer to the Real Estate Committee

24-0269

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

Commissioners

## PROPOSED ORDINANCE

#### AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE A FOREST PRESERVE NEAR McGINNIS SLOUGH

AN ORDINANCE CREATING A FOREST PRESERVE in part of Section 3, Township 36 North, Range 12, East of the Third Principal Meridian, all in Cook County, Illinois near McGinnis Slough in District 17.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois (the "District"), pursuant to the statutes in such case made and provided, has from time to time acquired by purchase, condemnation, gift, grant, devise, or otherwise, lands necessary and desirable for District purposes containing one or more natural forests or parts thereof, or lands capable of being reforested for the purpose of protecting and preserving the flora, fauna, and scenic beauties within the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois, and to restore, restock, protect, and preserve the natural forests and said lands together with their flora and fauna, as nearly as may be, in their natural state and condition, for the purpose of the education, pleasure, and recreation of the public; and

WHEREAS, the said Board of Commissioners of the District also has acquired in like manner lands for the consolidation of such preserves into unit areas of a size and form convenient and desirable for public use and economical maintenance and improvement, and lands for the purpose of connecting such preserves with forested ways or links in order to increase their accessibility, use, and enjoyment, and lands for improvement by forestation, roads, and pathways, and lands for the purpose of constructing, maintaining, and operating recreational facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the District has in a like manner acquired lands along water courses or elsewhere which, in their judgment, were required to control drainage and water conditions and necessary for the preservation of forested areas acquired or to be acquired as preserves and lands for the purpose of extension of roads and forested ways around and by such preserves and for parking space for automobiles and other facilities not requiring forested areas but incidental to the use and protection thereof; and

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Board of Commissioners of the District as follows:

Section 1. That a unified Forest Preserve be and the same is hereby created within the District which shall contain and connect lands now owned and lands to be acquired in substantial accordance with the plat now on file in the office of the General Superintendent of the District, which by reference is hereby made a part hereof, and for the purposes of said Forest Preserve and for the carrying out of the statutory purposes more particularly set out in the preamble of this ordinance, it is necessary and desirable for the District to own and it shall acquire property hereinafter described in Section 2 of this ordinance, for the purpose of creating a Forest Preserve and for District uses.

Section 2. That the lands referred to in Section 1 of this ordinance are more particularly described as follows:

13901, 13951, & 13961 S La Grange Rd, Orland Park, Cook County, Illinois Parcel 1:

That part of the West 1/2 of Section 3, Township 36 North, Range 12, East of the Third Principal Meridian, bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the North line of said Section, 57.95 feet West of the Northeast corner of said West 1/2 of said Section 3, measured along the said North line of said Section, said point being also the point of intersection of the North line of said Section with the Westerly line of the original right of way of the Chicago and Strawn Railway; running thence West along the North line of said Section 2490.09 feet to the point of intersection of the said North line with the center line of original 96th Avenue; thence South along the center line of said 96th Avenue, 2959.94 feet to a point in said 96th Avenue, 325.44 feet South of the Northwest corner of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section; said 325.44 feet being located on and measured along the West line of said Southwest 1/4; thence East along a line parallel with the North line of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section, 205.56 feet to the point of intersection of said parallel line with the Westerly line of the original right of way of said Chicago and Strawn Railway; thence Northeasterly along a line forming an angle of 124 degrees 49 minutes 50 seconds, with said parallel line, said Northeasterly line being also the Westerly line of the original right of way of the Chicago and Strawn railway 1437.39 feet to a point of curve; thence continuing Northeasterly along the arc of a circle having a radius of 2897.93 feet convex to the Northwest, said arc being also the Westerly line of said original right of way 480.49 feet to a point of tangency; thence continuing Northeasterly along a straight line tangent to said last described point, said tangent line being also the Westerly line of said original right of way 1263.82 feet to a point of curve; thence continuing Northeasterly along the arc of a circle having a radius of 2831.93 feet, convex to the Southeast, said arc being also the Westerly line of said original right of way 650.21 feet to the place of beginning, in Cook County, Illinois.

Except that part of said tract described as follows:

Commencing in the West line of said Section at a point 325.44 feet South of the North line of the

Southwest 1/4 of said Section as measured along said West line; thence North along said West line, being also the center line of 96th Avenue, 325.44 feet to the North line of said Southwest 1/4; thence North along the center line of 96th Avenue, 227.37 feet; thence North 89 degrees 38 minutes 30 seconds East, 576.8 feet to the Westerly line of the original right of way of the Chicago and Strawn Railway; thence Southwesterly along said Westerly right of way line 674.09 feet to the point of intersection of said right of way line with a line drawn 325.44 feet South of and parallel with the North line of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section; thence West along said parallel line 205.56 feet to place of beginning.

And also excepting from said tract that part thereof lying West of the following described line:

Commencing in the West line of said Section at a point 325.44 feet South of the North line of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section as measured along said West line; thence North along said West line, being also the center line of original 96th Avenue, 325.44 Feet to the North line of said Southwest 1/4; thence North along the center line of 96th Avenue, 227.37 feet; thence North 89 degrees 38 minutes 30 seconds East to a point 58.57 feet East of the West line of Section 3 (as measured along said last described line), said point being the point of beginning of the line being herein described; said line running thence Northeasterly a distance of 1832.28 feet to a point which is 127.65 feet East of, measured at right angles to, said West line of said Section, said point being the point of curvature of a curve convex to the East with a radius of 31,302.26 feet; thence continuing Northerly along said curve, a distance of 575 feet to a point in the North line of said Section 3, said point being 144.13 feet East of the Northwest corner of said Section 3, measured along said North line.

And also excepting from said tract that part thereof described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the North line of said Section 3, 57.95 feet West of the Northeast corner said West 1/2 Section 3, as measured along the North line said West 1/2 Section 3; said point being also the Westerly line of the original right of way Chicago and Strawn Railroad; running thence West along the North line said West 1/2 Section 3, 2,461.67 feet to the East line 96th Avenue (U. S. 45); thence South along the East line said 96th Avenue, a distance of 350 feet as measured on the arc of a circle having a radius of 31,252.26 feet; thence Southeasterly from said point 1,593.41 feet to the Westerly line of original Chicago and Strawn Railroad; thence Northeasterly along the arc of a circle having a radius of 2,897.93 feet, 19.40 feet to a point of tangency; thence continuing along a straight line tangent to the last described point 1,263.82 feet to a point of curvature to the North; thence Northeasterly along an arc of a circle having a radius of 2,831.93 feet, 651.50 feet to the place of beginning.

And also excepting from said tract that part of the following described premises lying East of the Easterly line of 96th Avenue (U. S. Route Number 45); beginning at a point on the West line of said Northwest <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> which is 275.66 feet South from the Northwest corner thereof and running thence Southeastwardly along a straight line which, if extended, intersects the South line of said Northwest 1/4 at a point 76.29 feet West from the South East corner thereof, (and which straight line at a distance of 180.58 feet), intersects the Easterly line of 96th Avenue (U. S. Route Number 45), at a point thereon which is 397.98 feet (measured along said Easterly line) Southerly from the North line of said Northwest 1/4 a total distance of 1,739.85 feet to its intersection with the Northwesterly line of the abandoned 66 foot right of way of the

Wabash Railroad (formerly the right of way of the Chicago and Strawn Railroad), which last mentioned intersection is 54.60 feet (measured along said right of way line Southwesterly from a tangent point in said line) thence Southwestwardly along said Northwesterly right of way, being the arc of a circle having a radius of 2,897.93 feet and convex Northwesterly a distance of 210.09 feet to its intersection with a line 210 feet (measured perpendicularly) Southwesterly from and parallel with the above described straight line; thence Northwestwardly along the above described parallel line a distance of 1,553.93 feet to its intersection with said West line of the Northwest 1/4; and thence North along said West line of the Northwest 1/4, a distance of 283.30 feet to the point of beginning.

And also excepting from all of the aforesaid part of said West 1/2 of Section 3, any portion thereof lying Northeasterly of said line described as beginning at a point on the West line of said Northwest 1/4 which is 275.66 feet South from the North West corner thereof and running thence Southeastwardly along a straight line (which if extended intersects the South line of said Northwest 1/4 at a point 76.29 feet from the Southeast corner thereof.

And also excepting therefrom the following 3 Parcels taken in Condemnation Case 2012L50293, an Agreed Order of which was recorded April 28, 2016 as document no. 1611945016,

That part of the West 1/2 of Section 3, Township 36 North, Range 12, East of the Third Principal Meridian, in Cook County, Illinois, described as follows:

Commencing at the Southwest corner of the Northwest Quarter of said Section 3; thence North 01 degrees 34 minutes 39 seconds West (bearings based on Illinois State Plane Coordinate System, East Zone, NAD 1983), 227.40 feet (227.37 feet recorded distance) along the West line of said Northwest ¼ to a point on the North line of Land described in Trustee's Deed recorded November 5, 2004 as document no. 0431049068; thence North 88 degrees 13 minutes 31 seconds East, 119.30 feet along said North line to the East right-of-way line of US Route 45 as per Condemnation Case 85L51078, said point being the point of beginning; thence North 00 degrees-09 minutes 14 seconds East, 389.08 feet along said East right-of-way line; thence South 89 degrees 50 minutes 46 seconds east; 3.33 feet; thence South 00 degrees 16 minutes 26 seconds East, 165.37 feet; thence North 89 degrees 43 minutes 34 seconds East, 10.00 ft; thence South 00 degrees 16 minutes 26 seconds East, 20.00 feet; thence South 89 degrees 43 minutes 34 seconds West, 10.00 feet; thence South 00 degrees 16 minutes 26 seconds East, 97.40 feet; thence South 00 degrees 17 minutes 56 seconds West, 106.14 feet; thence South 88 degrees 13 minutes 31 seconds West, 5.17 feet to the point of beginning.

That part of the West 1/2 of Section 3, Township 36 North, Range 12, East of the Third Principal Meridian, in Cook County, Illinois, described as follows:

Commencing at the Southwest corner of the Northwest 1/4 of said Section 3; thence North 01 degree 34 minutes 39 seconds West (bearings based on Illinois State Plane Coordinate System, East Zone, NAD 183) 227.40 feet (227.37 feet recorded distance) along the West line of said Northwest 1/4 to the North line of Land described in Trustee's Deed recorded November 5, 2004 as document no. 0431049068) thence North 88 degrees 13 minutes 31 seconds East, 119.30 feet along said North line to the East

right-of-way line of US Route 45 as per Condemnation Case 85L51078; thence North 00 degrees 09 minutes 14 seconds East, 536.27 feet along said East right-of-way line to the point of beginning; thence continuing North 00 degrees 09 minutes 14 seconds East, 24.00 feet along said line; thence South 89 degrees 50 minutes 46 seconds East, 10.00 feet; thence South 00 degrees 09 minutes 14 seconds West, 24.00 feet; thence North 89 degrees 50 minutes 46 seconds West, 10.00 feet to the point of beginning.

That part of the West 1/2 of Section 3, Township 36 North, Range 12, East of the Third Principal Meridian, in Cook County, Illinois, described as follows:

Commencing at the Southwest corner of the Northwest 1/4 of said Section 3; thence North 01 degrees 34 minutes 39 seconds West (bearings based on Illinois State Plane Coordinate System, East Zone, NAD 1983) 227.40 feet (227.37 feet recorded distance) along the West line of said Northwest Quarter to the North line of Land described in Trustee's Deed recorded November 5, 2004 as document no. 0431049068; thence North 88 degrees 13 minutes 31 seconds East, 119.30 feet along said North line to the East right-of-way line of US Route 45 as per Condemnation Case 85L51078; thence North 00 degrees 09 minutes 14 seconds East, 1409.51 feet along said East right-of-way line; thence North 03 degrees 15 minutes 57 seconds West, 28.94 feet along said East right-of-way line to the point of beginning; thence continuing North 03 degrees 15 minutes 57 seconds West, 268.17 feet along said line to the Southwesterly line of an existing Commonwealth Edison Right-of-Way, thence South 49 degrees 24 minutes 35 seconds East, 21.98 feet along said Southwesterly line; thence South 00 degrees 19 minutes 08 seconds West; 253.44 feet to the point of beginning.

#### Parcel 2:

That part of the West Half (1/2) of Section 3, Township 36 North, Range 12, East of the Third Principal Meridian, described as follows:

Commencing in the West line of said Section at a point 325.44 feet South of the North line of the Southwest Quarter (1/4) of said Section, as measured along said West line; thence North along said West line, being also the center line of 96th Ave., 325.44 feet to the North line of said Southwest Quarter (1/4); thence North along the center line of 96th Ave., 227.35 feet; thence North 89 degrees, 38 minutes, 30 seconds East, 576.8 feet to the Westerly line of the original right of way of the Chicago and Strawn Railway; thence Southwesterly along said Westerly right of way line 674.09 feet to the point of intersection of said right of way line with a line drawn 325.44 feet South of and parallel with the North line of the Southwest Quarter (1/4) of said Section; thence West along said parallel line, 205.55 feet to the place of beginning, (except that part of said tract lying West of the following described line, beginning at a point in the South line of the above described property, said point being 50.00 feet East of the aforesaid West line of said Section, measured along said South line; thence North along a line running parallel to said West line of said Section, a distance of 72.82 feet to a point; thence Northeasterly 101.47 feet to a point which is 69.00 feet East of measured at right angles to said West line of said Section; thence North along a line running parallel to said West line of said Section, a distance of 200 feet to a point; thence Northwesterly 101.47 feet to a point which is 55.56 feet East of measured at right angles to said West line of said Section; thence Northeasterly 80 feet to a point in the North line of the aforementioned property, said point being 58.57 feet East of said West line of said Section, measured along said North line), in Cook County, Illinois.

And except for that part taken for the widening of 96th Avenue by the State of Illinois described as follows:

That part of the West Half of Section 3, Township 36 North, Range 12, East of the Third Principal Meridian, in Cook County, Illinois; described as follows: Commencing at the Northwest corner of the Southwest Quarter of said Section 3, thence on an assumed bearing of South 00 degrees 00 minutes 29 seconds West along the West line of said Southwest Quarter, 325.44 feet to a point in the South line of the North 10 acres of the West Half of the Southwest Quarter of said Section 3, thence North 89 degrees 50 minutes 31 seconds East along said South line, 50.00 feet to the point of beginning, being also the Easterly right of way line of 96th Avenue; thence North 00 degrees 02 minutes 07 seconds East along said Easterly right of way line, 72.82 feet; thence North 10 degrees 47 minutes 33 seconds East along said Easterly right of way line, 101.47 feet to a point distant Easterly 69.00 feet as measured at right angles to the West line of said Section 3; thence North 00 degrees 00 minutes 26 seconds East along said Easterly right of way line of 96th Avenue, 200 feet; thence North 07 degrees 36 minutes 53 seconds West along said Easterly right of way line 101.47 feet to a point distant Easterly 55.56 feet as measured at right angles to the West line of said Section 3; thence North 02 degrees 10 minutes 06 seconds East along said Easterly right of way line, 80.00 feet (deed) 79.80 feet (measured) to a point in the apparent North property line distant Easterly 58.57 feet as measured at right angles to the West line of said Section 3; thence North 89 degrees 50 minutes 31 seconds East along said apparent North property line 60.63 feet. thence South 01 degrees 44 minutes 27 seconds West, 553.11 feet to a point in the South line of said North 10 acres; thence South 89 degrees 50 minutes 31 seconds West along said South line, 52.47 feet to the point of beginning.

PINs: 27-03-100-005, 27-03-100-032, 27-03-300-004

SAID PARCELS CONTAINING 1,163,645 SQUARE FEET, OR 26.714 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

Section 3. This ordinance is hereby made and ordained to be severable as to each parcel of land or portion thereof or right of interest in any of the same hereby authorized to be acquired, and failure to acquire any of the said parcels of land described in Section 2 hereof or right of interest in any of the same shall not impair or invalidate the authority by this ordinance granted to hold, own, or acquire any other of said parcels or any right or interest therein, it being the intention of said Board of Commissioners of the District to carry out the general plan provided in this ordinance so far as legally and financially practicable, and to negotiate for purchase, condemn, or otherwise acquire from time to time the several parcels of land described in Section 2 hereof and all right or interest therein.

Section 4. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

District 17

**Legislative History:** 6/11/24 - FPD Board of Commissioners - refer to the Real Estate Committee

24-0219

Presented by: EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

PROPOSED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

**Department:** Department of Planning and Development

Other Part(ies): Village of Orland Park, Illinois (the "Village")

**Request:** Authorization to execute agreement

Goods or Services: Conveyance of permanent and temporary easements and tree removal adjacent to the McGinnis Slough Forest preserve for road improvements associated with the proposed widening of a portion of 143rd Street, subject to donation of property to the Forest Preserves and other terms and conditions

Agreement Number(s): N/A

**Agreement Period:** Agreement shall remain in effect until improvements are removed or abandoned.

Fiscal Impact: N/A. Waiver of compensation for the appraised value of the proposed permanent and temporary easements totaling \$18,200.00, and the value of up to one additional acre of permanent easement area if needed, and tree mitigation fees totaling \$392,663.39 is recommended in exchange for the donation of 26.7 acres of land and improvements with an appraised value of \$2,620,000.00 located just east of McGinnis Slough at 13951 LaGrange Road.

Accounts: N/A

District(s): 17

Summary: The Village is seeking conveyance of permanent easements on areas totaling 0.8 acres (34,920 square feet) and up to one (1) additional acre if needed for water quality improvements that have not yet been fully designed, and one temporary easement on 0.15 acres (6,600 square feet) for a 143rd Street roadway improvement project. In 2011, the Forest Preserves conveyed 1.5 acres of permanent easement for the same project to allow for an additional 17 feet of road right-of-way on a portion of 143rd Street west of Southwest Highway in exchange for donation of 13.9 acres of land and other valuable consideration. After more than a decade of planning, design and regulatory reviews, the Village is now seeking additional easements for various improvements relating to the road widening.

Permanent easement areas are needed for access to maintain proposed retaining walls, maintain existing drainage patterns, add new water quality Best Management Practices ("BMPs"), provide maintenance and grading next to a proposed multi-use path, and provide a new driveway to a public school on 143rd Street. The temporary easement is needed for temporary construction staging. Water quality improvements have not yet been fully designed. If, after review of more detailed engineering plans, additional area is needed to meet agreed performance standards, the proposed intergovernmental agreement would allow for conveyance of up to one additional acre of permanent easement area at the discretion of the General Superintendent.

The Village intends to assign the easements to the Illinois Department of Transportation ("IDOT") and is seeking state and federal funding for IDOT to construct and maintain the roadway improvements in the easement areas except for initial maintenance of vegetation by the Village.

The project would require the removal of ninety (90) trees within the easement areas, with an estimated value of \$287,663.39 in addition to \$105,000.00 in tree mitigation fees associated with the prior conveyance of 1.5 acres of permanent easement in 2011. Waiver of tree mitigation fees and compensation for the appraised value of the easements is recommended in exchange for the donation of approximately 26.7 acres of property located just east of McGinnis Slough at 13951 LaGrange Road. The donated parcels feature extensive landscaping and site improvements, including a permeable pavement parking lot, a community gathering space, two overlook platforms and a 2,500-square-foot building.

The Parties agree that the mutual exchange of the easements by the Forest Preserves and donation property by the Village will not occur until both parties receive and approve the official acceptance documentation to be provided by IDOT regarding IDOT's maintenance responsibilities. Final intergovernmental agreement is subject to legal review and approval. See also related Board Item No. 24-0269.

**Legislative History:** 6/11/24 - FPD Board of Commissioners - refer to the Real Estate Committee

Lynne M. Jurur
Secretary

Chair: Anaya Vice-Chair: Moore

Members: Committee of the Whole