

LAND USE REVIEW SUMMARY FORM

Date of Application: August 7, 2025

Name of Applicant: Village of Lyons

Purpose of Proposed Request: The Village is seeking an intergovernmental agreement to construct and maintain a new memorial in honor of peace officers who have served Cook County. The memorial would be funded in cooperation with the Peace Officer Memorial Foundation of Cook County.

General Location of Proposed Impacted District Land: The northwest corner of Cermak Woods near the Cermak Family Aquatic Center in Lyons, Illinois.

Acreage and or square footage of proposal impacted District Land: Approximately 12,000 square feet (0.28 acres) would be developed to form a slanted star-shaped memorial, currently in conceptual design, commissioned by the Foundation. Key elements of the memorial include a wall with the names of fallen officers, a series of flag poles, an entrance sign, hardscape, two ADA parking spaces and native landscaping.


The Potential Impact and Benefits to District Land: There would be minimal impacts due to the location in a mowed lawn area. No trees would be removed, and several new trees would be planted. Although the proposed memorial does not benefit the Forest Preserves or align with its current monuments policy, preliminary approval by the Cook County board pre-dates the current policy. In 2025, former Interim General Superintendent Eileen Figel agreed to honor the prior preliminary approval subject to certain terms and conditions, namely: (1) staff review and approval of location and plans, (2) Village responsibility for construction and maintenance and (3) a five-year time limit for raising funds and constructing the monument with a sunset provision if not met. Approval is recommended subject to these conditions.

Alternatives Considered: Various larger-impact concepts were considered and rejected over the years. An unsigned 2008 letter from former General Superintendent Steven Bylina to the Foundation noted the proposed footprint of roughly 3 acres for the memorial and associated earthwork and plantings and suggested the size be reduced dramatically.

Completion Date of Staff Review: May 4, 2026

Referred to Board of Commissioners XX

Not referred to Board of Commissioners _____



General Superintendent

6-17-26

Date