



**FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Cook County Building, Board Room, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois

BOARD NOTICE AND AGENDA

Tuesday, November 18, 2025, 10:00 AM

Issued On: 11/13/2025

CONSENT CALENDAR

Pursuant to Forest Preserve District of Cook County Code, the Secretary to the Board of Commissioners hereby transmits Consent Calendar Resolutions for your consideration. The Consent Calendar Resolutions shall be published in the Journal of Proceedings as prepared by the Secretary of the Board.

25-0381

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION**RECOGNIZING THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY AND ITS PARTNERS FOR RECEIVING MULTIPLE AWARDS FOR PLANNING & IMPROVEMENTS MADE TO THE DES PLAINES RIVER TRAIL**

WHEREAS, in 2025, the Forest Preserve District of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) and its partners received four significant awards recognizing the Des Plaines River Trail for planning and trail improvement efforts; and

WHEREAS, in February 2025, the Des Plaines River Trail received the Engineering Excellence Award from the American Council of Engineering Companies, Illinois Chapter, recognizing engineering excellence and honoring projects that demonstrate innovation, creative problem-solving, and engineering’s unique ability to improve communities; and

WHEREAS, in April 2025, the Des Plaines River Trail received the Advancing Trails Award from American Trails, in the trail design and planning category, which recognizes a trail project demonstrating innovative planning and design techniques, while incorporating accessibility and making a positive impact to the community; and

WHEREAS, in June 2025, the Des Plaines River Trail received an award from the National Association of Counties in the parks and recreation category, highlighting its efforts to revitalize and reimagine public spaces in ways that benefit residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, also in June 2025, the Des Plaines River Trail project received an award from the National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials in the trails and corridors category, which recognizes excellence in trail, greenway, waterway, corridor or other linear park development; and

WHEREAS, the Des Plaines River Trail is a 56-mile-long, regionally significant linear trail system that extends from Wadsworth, Wisconsin, to River Grove in Cook County, Illinois, winding through numerous municipalities and serving tens of thousands of users annually for recreation and alternative transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves, which manages 28.3 miles of the Des Plaines River Trail, identified persistent flooding along this well-used and popular trail as a cause of deterioration and safety concerns; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserves, in collaboration with local municipalities, including Franklin Park, Rosemont, Schiller Park, River Grove, and Park Ridge, along with transportation agencies, advocacy groups, and the engineering firm Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd., undertook a coordinated effort to improve trail user experience, reduce flooding, enhance safety, realign trail segments, and strengthen community connectivity to the trail; and

WHEREAS, completed trail improvements include new pedestrian crosswalks at major intersections, upgraded trail surfaces, flood mitigation measures, a pedestrian bridge, and a 1,000-foot boardwalk; and

WHEREAS, this complex and ambitious trail improvement project exemplifies the power of partnerships and community engagement to restore and enhance vital outdoor spaces for public use; and

WHEREAS, the improvements to the Des Plaines River Trail represent a significant investment in a regional trail system that promotes alternative transportation and healthy outdoor recreation for Cook County residents and visitors alike;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Toni Preckwinkle, President, and the Board of Commissioners of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County extend their congratulations to the Forest Preserves and its partners for receiving four distinguished awards recognizing their work on the Des Plaines River Trail. This outstanding achievement reflects the continued commitment of the Forest Preserves to enriching the lives of residents and visitors through thoughtful conservation and recreation initiatives.

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 from the County Board Room at 118 N. Clark Street, 5th Floor, Chicago, Illinois or be sent a link to virtually attend the meeting and will be called upon to deliver testimony at a time specified in the meeting agenda. 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. After each virtual speaker has completed their statement, they will be removed from the meeting. Once removed, you will still be able to follow the proceedings for that day at: <https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/watch-live-board-proceedings>, or in a viewing area at 69 W. Washington Street, 22nd Floor, Conference Room C, Chicago, Illinois. 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.

PRESIDENT

[25-0242](#)

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

REPORT

Department: Office of the General Superintendent

Request: Receive and File

Report Title: Conservation and Policy Council Monthly Report

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

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

25-0393

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

PROPOSED ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE A FOREST PRESERVE NEAR SPRING LAKE

AN ORDINANCE CREATING A FOREST PRESERVE in part of Section 16, Township 42 North, Range 9, East of the Third Principal Meridian, all in Cook County, Illinois near Spring Lake in District 15.

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 connecting such 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:

316 Old Sutton Road, Barrington Hills, Illinois 60010

THAT PART OF THE SOUTH 710.00 FEET OF THE EAST 768.00 FEET OF THE SOUTHWEST ¼ OF THE NORTHWEST ¼ OF SECTION 16, TOWNSHIP 42 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, LYING NORTH OF THE NORTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF ROUTE 62 (ALGONQUIN ROAD), IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

PIN: 01-16-102-003-0000

SAID PARCEL CONTAINING 237,402 SQUARE FEET, OR 5.45 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 parcel(s) 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 15

25-0394

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF REAL ESTATE

Department: Legal Department

Other Part(ies): Gulzina Eshbaeva (Owner of Record)

Request: It is respectfully requested that this proposed purchase be approved.

Description of Real Estate: 316 Old Sutton Road, Barrington Hills, Cook County, Illinois

Section: N/A

Parcel(s): PIN: 01-16-102-003-0000

THAT PART OF THE SOUTH 710.00 FEET OF THE EAST 768.00 FEET OF THE SOUTHWEST ¼ OF THE NORTHWEST ¼ OF SECTION 16, TOWNSHIP 42 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, LYING NORTH OF THE NORTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF ROUTE 62 (ALGONQUIN ROAD), IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

SAID PARCEL CONTAINING 237,402 SQUARE FEET, OR 5.45 ACRES, MORE OR LESS

Fiscal Impact: \$600,000.00 purchase price plus closing costs up to \$10,000.00 (up to \$610,000.00 in total).

Accounts: Real Estate and Land Acquisition Fund 51006.560010

District(s): 15

Summary: The Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) has identified a parcel of land for acquisition that would add to the Forest Preserves’ current holdings near Spring Lake (the “Property”). The Property, commonly known as 316 Old Sutton Road, Barrington Hills, Cook County, Illinois, consists of approximately 5.45 ± acres. The Property is near recent acquisitions in the Spring Lake area.

Through negotiations, the Owner of Record (the “Seller”), has agreed to sell the Property to the Forest Preserves for the sum of SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00/100 (\$600,000.00) plus closing costs up to \$10,000.00 (up to \$610,000.00 in total). The purchase price is based upon two (2) M.A.I. appraisals obtained by the Forest Preserves and is subject to the Forest Preserves’ satisfactory completion of its due diligence.

Permission is now sought, upon satisfactory completion of all due diligence and negotiation of any and all required documentation as determined by the Forest Preserves Legal Department, to effectuate payment in the amount of the purchase price plus closing costs as full compensation for the acquisition of the Property.

This land acquisition advances the goals of the Forest Preserves’ Land Acquisition Plan, Next Century Conservation Plan, and Acquisition and Disposition of Land Position Paper.

25-0395

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

PROPOSED ORDINANCE**AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE A FOREST PRESERVE NEAR CERMAK WOODS**

AN ORDINANCE CREATING A FOREST PRESERVE in part of Section 36, Township 39 North, Range 12, East of the Third Principal Meridian, all in Cook County, Illinois near Cermak Woods in District 16.

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 connecting such 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:

3803 Gladstone Avenue, Unincorporated Riverside Township, Illinois

THE NORTH 12.5 FEET OF LOT 28 AND ALL OF LOTS 29 AND 30 IN BLOCK 8 IN RIVERSIDE LAWN, A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 39 NORTH, RANGE 12, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

PIN: 15-36-313-032-0000

SAID PARCEL CONTAINING 14,061 SQUARE FEET, OR 0.32 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 parcel(s) 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 16

25-0396

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF REAL ESTATE

Department(s): Legal Department

Other Part(ies): 1016A, LLC (Owner of Record)

Request: It is respectfully requested that this proposed purchase be approved.

Description of Real Estate: 3803 Gladstone Avenue, Unincorporated Riverside Township, Illinois

Section: N/A

Parcel(s): PIN: 15-36-313-032-0000

THE NORTH 12.5 FEET OF LOT 28 AND ALL OF LOTS 29 AND 30 IN BLOCK 8 IN RIVERSIDE LAWN, A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 39 NORTH, RANGE 12, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

SAID PARCEL CONTAINING 14,061 SQUARE FEET, OR 0.32 ACRES, MORE OR LESS

Fiscal Impact: \$125,000.00 purchase price plus closing costs up to \$10,000.00 (up to \$135,000.00 in total).

Accounts: Real Estate and Land Acquisition Fund 51006.560010

District(s): 16

Summary: The Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") has identified a parcel of land for acquisition that would add to the Forest Preserves' current holdings near Cermak Woods (the "Property"). The Property, commonly known as 3803 Gladstone Ave, Unincorporated Riverside Township, Cook County, Illinois, consists of approximately 0.32 ± acres. The Property is near recent acquisitions in Riverside Lawn.

Through negotiations, the Owner of Record (the "Seller"), has agreed to sell the Property to the Forest Preserves for the sum of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00/100 (\$125,000.00) plus closing costs up to \$10,000.00 (up to \$135,000.00 in total). The purchase price is based upon two (2) M.A.I. appraisals obtained by the Forest Preserves and is subject to the Forest Preserves' satisfactory completion of its due diligence.

Permission is now sought, upon satisfactory completion of all due diligence and negotiation of any and all required documentation as determined by the Forest Preserves Legal Department, to effectuate payment in the amount of the purchase price plus closing costs as full compensation for the acquisition of the Property.

This land acquisition advances the goals of the Forest Preserves' Land Acquisition Plan, Next Century Conservation Plan, and Acquisition and Disposition of Land Position Paper.

25-0378

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

PROPOSED REAPPOINTMENT

Appointee(s): Ryen Nagle, Daisy Feidt, and Brandon Hayes

Position: Council Members

Department/Board/Commission: Conservation and Policy Council

Effective Date: 1/1/2026

Expiration Date: 12/31/2028

Summary: The Nominating Committee for the Conservation and Policy Council is committed to nominating candidates from across Cook County who bring different perspectives to the Council, reflect the diversity of Cook County, and provide a broad range of expertise. This commitment has led to a council which includes members from northeast, northwest, south, and central Cook County.

The Nominating Committee recommends re-appointment of Ryen Nagle, Daisy Feidt, and Brandon Hayes to an additional term on the Conservation and Policy Council. President Preckwinkle concurs with the committee's recommendation and seeks the Board's advice and consent related to the re-appointments.

The Conservation and Policy Council advises the President, Board of Commissioners, and General Superintendent and develops and annually updates a strategic plan to operationalize the Next Century Conservation Plan. The Council also reviews and makes recommendations for the annual budget, conservation policies and practices, and long-term strategic issues.

Dr. Ryen Nagle is Dean of Science, Business & Computer Technology at Moraine Valley Community College. He oversees six academic departments and provides leadership to several grant-funded projects. He has co-chaired a variety of college initiatives, including the Strategic Priority Indicators Team and the Technology Governance Council. His work at Moraine Valley has been recognized by receiving the Innovation of the Year Award and the Vernon O. Crawley Leadership Award. He has additionally received community college leadership awards from the Illinois Council of Community College Administrators, the College of Education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and the League for Innovation in the Community College. He has previously served as a member of the Peer Review Corps of the Higher Learning Commission and as a board advisory committee member for Orland School District 135.

Daisy Feidt is Executive Vice President of Access Living, Chicago's Center for Independent Living. She has worked at Access Living for 24 years and has held a wide variety of management positions during that time. In her tenure at Access Living, Daisy has led the organization through multiple organizational restructures and served as interim President and CEO after the passing of Access Living's founding President and CEO, Marca Bristo. Daisy has extensive management experience in fundraising, evaluation, and program implementation. Daisy is an alumna of Leadership Greater Chicago, a prestigious and competitive program that provides community awareness and networking opportunities for leaders in the Chicago community. Daisy has held a variety of board positions during her career. She is currently on the Executive Committee of Openlands, an organization that protects the natural and open spaces of Northeastern Illinois and the surrounding area. Daisy is also a Director on the Board of the Illinois Network of Centers for Independent Living, the state association of centers for independent living.

Brandon Hayes founded Bold Bison Communications and Consulting in 2019 to provide forward-thinking communications solutions, engaging strategy and facilitation services, and inspiring workshops and trainings for nonprofits, particularly in the conservation, climate, and local food movements. Bold Bison is a national firm-working from Florida to Alaska-with geographical emphases in the Great Lakes, Texas, and the West Coast. Clients include the Chicago Region Food System Fund, Chicago Wilderness Alliance, Giant Sequoia Lands Coalition, Green Spaces Alliance of South Texas, Houston Audubon, Iowa State University, The Land Trust Alliance, Montana Land Reliance, The Morton Arboretum, Nantucket Conservation Foundation, National Forest Foundation, and River Network, among many others including

dozens of land trusts. Bold Bison is a Certified LGBT Business Enterprise. Brandon is Chair of the Board of Directors of the Institute of Conservation Leadership and is Board President of Chicago Artists for Action. He is a long-time volunteer for the International Crane Foundation's Annual Midwest Crane Count.

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

25-0331

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

REPORT

Department: Department of Resource Management

Request: Refer to Environment and Sustainability Committee

Report Title: Chicago Wilderness Alliance Community Wildfire Preparedness Plan

Report Period: August 2013 - June 2024

Summary: The Chicago Wilderness Alliance Community Wildfire Preparedness Plan ("CWPP") was developed to guide wildfire mitigation and facilitate fire adapted communities in Lake, Cook, McHenry, Kane, DuPage and Will counties. The purpose of this CWPP is to: 1) reduce loss due to wildfires, 2) promote effective wildfire response, 3) bring awareness to land management in the wildland-urban interface, 4) promote effective fuels management, and 5) educate the public on wildfire prevention and mitigation.

This plan reflects the collaborative effort and input of numerous community members, emergency responders, local organizations, and stakeholders from each of the six (6) represented counties to develop a comprehensive strategy to better prepare for, respond to, and recover from wildfire risks in our region. Collaborators may use the risk analyses and implementation recommendations from this CWPP as a resource to communicate important guidelines and safety measures that can help protect both people and property during wildfire events. Additionally, a valid CWPP is a requirement for many federal grants related to wildfire mitigation and prescribed burning.

The CWPP is non-binding and advisory in nature. It is valid for a period of up to ten (10) years, ending in 2034.

25-0379

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED GRANT AWARD

Department: Office of the General Superintendent

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

Grantor: National Recreation and Park Association

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

Purpose: Grant award for up to \$15,000.00 from the National Recreation and Park Association through the Heart Your Park Volunteer Days grant program for the creation of a Trash Bash event at Sagawau Environmental Learning Center in Lemont, Illinois.

Grant Amount: \$15,000.00

Grant Period: Date of execution - 6/30/2026

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Accounts: Grant Fund 51010.521314

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

District(s): 17

Summary: The Forest Preserves is the recipient of a National Recreation and Park Association Heart Your Park Volunteer Days grant to support the creation of a Trash Bash event at Sagawau Environmental Learning Center in Lemont, Illinois. The Forest Preserves currently hosts three Trash Bash events at locations throughout Cook County, and this grant will support the addition of a fourth event in 2026. Trash Bash brings together agencies and nonprofit partners to help Cook County residents recycle household items and learn more about the Forest Preserves and partner organizations.

The grant will support programming and a new workshop component with the goal of engaging a broader audience in responsible recycling and best sustainable practices, as well as promote the engagement and recruitment of volunteers to help at all 2026 Trash Bash events. The total project cost is \$15,000.00 with no match requirement from the Forest Preserves.

The grant agreement is a form agreement that includes non-standard provisions for the Forest Preserves, including, without limitation, provisions relating to limitations on liability, choice of law, and venue for disputes being in the State of Virginia. In the interests of full transparency, with respect to liability issues, these non-standard terms severely limits the Forest Preserves ability to hold grantor liable and requires the Forest Preserves to waive its right to sue the grantor for conduct arising out of the grant project or use of grant funds. The Forest Preserves has previously received grant awards from the National Recreation and Park Association.

25-0383

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED GRANT AWARD

Department: Department of Planning and Development

Grantee: Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves")

Grantor: Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity

Request: Authorization to accept grant

Purpose: Authorization is sought for the Forest Preserves to enter into an agreement with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to accept grant funding to support signage and wayfinding improvements to the Palos and Sag Valley Trail System. The Forest Preserves' Palos complex - which includes Swallow Cliff, Red Gate Woods, and other preserves - lies in southwest Cook County and is over 10,000 acres in size.

Grant Amount: \$40,000.00

Grant Period: 9/1/2025 (retroactive) - 8/31/2027

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Accounts: Land Improvement 51009.560019, 51010.560019, 510034.560019; and future Construction & Development accounts

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

District(s): 16

Summary: The Forest Preserves has been awarded funding from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity that would build on Project #22-203570 (\$10,000,000.00) Swallow Cliff and Palos Trail Infrastructure Enhancement Project that is currently underway, by supporting the development and installation of new maps and additional wayfinding signs along this extensive 42-mile trail system. The original Project included sign scope focusing primarily on introductory routes, but this additional funding would allow for more signs at additional locations. Maps will clearly identify the routes, and supplemental pedestrian directional signs will be installed to help direct people along the routes to major attractions and to contribute to people feeling confident and safe.

The proposed project supports the Forest Preserves' goal to re-envision this expansive area as a “campus” with well-marked and easy-to-follow trails linking the many amenities together in a network.

25-0401

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED GRANT AWARD AMENDMENT

Department: Department of Planning and Development

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

Grantor: Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Springfield, Illinois

Request: Authorization to extend grant agreement

Purpose: Authorization to extend original grant agreement for a project to conduct improvements of the Gold Star Memorial within Dan Ryan Woods in Chicago, Illinois in Cook County.

Supplemental Grant Amount: N/A

Grant Period: 12/1/2023 - 11/30/2025

Extension Period: 12/1/2025 - 11/30/2026

Fiscal Impact: N/A (No increase to original match in an amount not to exceed \$44,000.00)

Accounts: Professional Services 51009.520830, 51010.520830, 51033.520830, 51034.520830; Land Improvements 51009.560019, 51010.560019, 51033.560019, 51034.560019; and all future Construction & Development accounts

Date of Previous Board Authorization for Grant: 2/27/2024

Previous Grant Amount: \$100,000.00

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

District(s): 4

Summary: On 2/27/2024, the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners approved the acceptance of grant funding from Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) in the amount of \$100,000.00 to support infrastructure improvements to the existing Gold Star Memorial in Dan Ryan Woods, a 257-acre forest preserve, and one of only a handful of preserves located within the City of Chicago (Board Item No. 24-0122). The proposed improvements will include a new accessible gathering space around the memorial, with seating and permeable pavers, native grasses and plants and lighting and security upgrades. Work is expected to be substantially complete in the original grant period but a no-cost time extension of the grant agreement for twelve (12) months to November 30, 2026, is needed for seeding, corrective work, punchlist work and project closeout.

25-0389

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED CONTRACT

Department(s): Department of Facilities and Fleet

Vendor: Brackenbox, Inc., Markham, Illinois

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

Good(s) or Service(s): Spoils removal services

Contract Value: \$750,000.00

Contract Period: 12/1/2025 - 11/30/2028, plus one (1) two-year extension option to be exercised at the discretion of the General Superintendent.

Estimated Fiscal Impact: FY 2025 \$12,500.00, FY 2026 \$150,000.00, FY 2027 \$150,000.00, FY 2028 \$150,000.00, FY 2029 \$150,000.00 (Optional), FY 2030 \$137,500.00 (Optional)

Accounts: Professional Services 51001.520840; and all future Construction and Development funds

Contract Number(s): #74000017100 issued under Project 25-53-012767

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

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

District(s): Districtwide

Summary: The Forest Preserves would like to contract with Brackenbox, Inc. to provide twenty (20) yard roll-off dumpsters to accept and responsibly dispose of waste materials. The Forest Preserves issued a Request for Proposals and received two (2) responses. An evaluation committee determined that Brackenbox, Inc. was the most qualified and cost-effective option to manage the Forest Preserves spoils removal services.

25-0390

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED CONTRACT

Department(s): Department of Resource Management

Vendor: Vega Tree Service, Inc., Northlake, Illinois

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

Good(s) or Service(s): Expansion of the pre-qualified vendor pool for districtwide tree removal and forestry services

Contract Value: Not to exceed \$500,000.00 per calendar year (or \$1,500,000.00 over the entire term). With the addition of this seventh vendor to the pre-qualified vendor pool, the not-to-exceed amount of the entire pool increases from \$15,000,000.00 to \$16,500,000.00

Contract Period: 11/30/2025 - 6/30/2028

Estimated Fiscal Impact: FY 2025 \$0.00, FY 2026 \$500,000.00, FY 2027 \$500,000.00, FY 2028 \$500,000.00

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

Contract Number(s): #74000017151 issued under RFQ #25-31-106R

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

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

District(s): Districtwide

Summary: On 6/27/2023 and 6/11/2024, the Forest Preserves Board of Commissioners approved items establishing a pre-qualified contractor pool for the removal and pruning of potentially hazardous trees throughout Forest Preserves holdings (Board Item Nos. 23-0333, 23-0334, 23-0335, and 24-0190). A third Request for Qualifications (“RFQ”) #25-31-106R was posted to allow additional vendors to enter the pool, which will subsequently increase work capacity and promote more competitive pricing. The scope of work also includes general forestry consulting services for the specialized care and maintenance of high value trees, including but not limited to: inspections, cabling and bracing, root pruning, soil decompaction, inoculations for insect and disease management, etc. Work will primarily take place in areas of high public interface, including but not limited to trails, groves, roadsides, and private property interfaces. Task orders will be issued to pre-qualified firms on an as-needed basis, with projects awarded based on price, work plan, specialized skills or equipment, and availability.

Six (6) contractors are currently approved for participation in the vendor pool, with an authority limit of \$500,000.00 per vendor, per year or an aggregate amount not to exceed \$15,000,000.00. The addition of a seventh vendor to the pool, subject to the same terms, brings the total authorized amount to a maximum of \$16,500,000.00.

RFQ #25-31-106 was originally issued under Solicitation #25-31-012778 but was rebid due to limited response. Vega Tree Service, Inc. was the sole respondent for both solicitations and was subsequently determined by an evaluation committee to meet the evaluation criteria in response to a qualifications-based selection process (RFQ #25-31-106R).

25-0397

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ITEM AMENDMENT

Department: Legal Department

Request: It is respectfully requested that this proposed amendment be approved in order to reflect revised acquisition deal terms, including (1) decreasing the purchasing price from \$3,500,000 to \$3,250,000, and (2) decreasing number of acres to be acquired from approximately 74.60 to 53.

Item Number: 25-0126

Original Text of Item: PROPOSED PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE

Department(s): Legal Department

Other Part(ies): Hermann M. Caly Family Trust; 780 Group, LLC, an Illinois Limited Liability Company; ~~Geh Day Holding Company, LLC, an Illinois Limited Liability Company~~ (Owners of Record)

Request: It is respectfully requested that this proposed purchase be approved.

Description of Real Estate: Part of 20 Freeman Road & 18 N Freeman Road, South Barrington, Illinois

Section: N/A

Parcel(s): PINs: Part of 01-25-401-004-0000 & 01-25-401-003-0000

~~PARCEL 1~~

~~That part of Lot 1 in Geh Day Farm, being a subdivision of the East half of the Southeast Quarter of Section 25, Township 42 North, Range 9 East of the Third Principal Meridian, described as follows:~~

~~Beginning at the Southwest corner of the East Half of said Southeast Quarter, (also being the Southwest corner of said Lot 1); thence South 89 degrees 02 minutes 59 seconds East along the South line of the East Half of said Southeast Quarter, (and the South line of Lot 1), 440.0 feet; thence North 01 degree 14 minutes 18 seconds East, 220.55 feet to a point on the West line of a 20 foot easement by Document No. 3293858 recorded February 14, 1983 (legal described continues for next 26 courses along the West line of said easement); thence North 03 degrees 38 minutes 35 seconds West, 78.25 feet; thence North 11 degrees 34 minutes 43 seconds West, 100.72 feet; thence North 25 degrees 11 minutes 27 seconds West, 111.95 feet; thence North 09 degrees 56 minutes 09 seconds West, 103.20 feet; thence North 11 degrees 18 minutes 22 seconds West, 42.75 feet; thence North 09 degrees 54 minutes 18 seconds East, 63.62 feet; thence North 22 degrees 10 minutes 51 seconds East, 108.31 feet; thence North 25 degrees 07 minutes 25 seconds East, 108.70 feet; thence North 15 degrees 56 minutes 54 seconds East, 100., 93 feet; thence North 02 degrees 03 minutes 34 seconds West, 97.48 feet; thence North 14 degrees 47 minutes 53 seconds West, 102.01 feet; thence North 26 degrees 06 minutes 01 seconds West, 112.17 feet; thence North 20 degrees 55 minutes 10 seconds West, 109.02 feet; thence North 15 degrees 19 minutes 30 seconds West, 105.31 feet; thence North 10 degrees 29 minutes 08 seconds West, 103.14 feet; thence North 04 degrees 20 minutes 11 seconds West, 101.59 feet; thence North 01 degree 56 minutes 50 seconds East, 100.75 feet; thence North 04 degrees 14 minutes 12 seconds East, 100.81 feet; thence North 09 degrees 54 minutes 18 seconds East, 101.52 feet; thence North 08 degrees 46 minutes 52 seconds East, 101.23 feet; thence North 14 degrees 19 minutes 37 seconds East, 102.71 feet; thence North 09 degrees 54 minutes 18 seconds East, 100.54 feet; thence North 07 degrees 39 minutes 05 seconds East, 100.11 feet; thence North 04 degrees 14 minutes 12 seconds East, 58.90 feet; thence North 05 degrees 45 minutes 03 seconds West, 39.36 feet; thence North 06 degrees 35 minutes 44 seconds West, 138.25 feet to the North line of the East Half of said Southeast Quarter, (also being the North line of Lot 1 aforesaid), North 89 degrees 12 minutes 27 seconds West along said North line, 314.92 feet to the Northwest corner thereof; thence South 01 degrees 29 minutes 41 seconds West along the West line of the East Half of said southeast Quarter, (also being the West line of said Lot 1), 2635.71 feet to the point of beginning, containing 21.1150 acres, in the Village of South Barrington, in Cook County, Illinois.~~

PARCEL 2

Lot 1 and Lot 2 in Geh Day Farm, being a subdivision of the East Half of the Southeast Quarter of Section 25, Township 42 North, Range 9 East of the Third Principal Meridian, according to the plat thereof recorded July 26, 1978 as Document No. 24554445, (excepting therefrom that part of said Lot 1 described as follows: Commencing at the Northeast corner of said Lot 1, being the Northeast corner of East Half of Southeast Quarter of said Section 25; thence South 01 degrees 33 minutes 33 seconds West along the East line thereof, 1123.55 feet; thence North 88 degree 26 minutes 19 seconds West, 33.05 feet to the West line of Freeman Road for the point of beginning; thence continuing North 88 degree 26 minutes 19 seconds West, 94.22 feet; thence South 48 degree 51 minutes 11 seconds West, 98.57 feet; thence North

43 degrees 26 minutes 19 seconds West 225.35 feet; thence North 01 degree 33 minutes 33 seconds East and parallel with the East line of said Lot 1, 577.11 feet; thence South 88 degrees 26 minutes 27 seconds East, 326.0 feet to the West line of Freeman Road; thence South 01 degrees 33 minutes 33 seconds West along said West line, 669.61 feet to the point of beginning; And also excepting that part described as follows: Beginning at the Southwest corner of the East Half of said Southeast Quarter, (also being the Southwest corner of said Lot 1); thence South 89 degrees 02 minutes 59 seconds East along the South line of the East Half of said Southeast Quarter, (and the South line of Lot 1), 440.0 feet; thence North 01 degree 14 minutes 18 seconds East, 220.55 feet to a point on the West line of a 20' easement by document no. 3293858 recorded February 14, 1983 (legal described continues for next 26 courses along the west line of said easement); thence North 03 degrees 38 minutes 35 seconds West, 78.25 feet; thence North 11 degrees 34 minutes 43 seconds West, 100.72 feet; thence North 25 degrees 11 minutes 27 seconds West, 111.95 feet; thence North 09 degrees 56 minutes 09 seconds West, 103.20 feet; thence North 11 degrees 18 minutes 22 seconds West, 42.75 feet; thence North 09 degrees 54 minutes 18 seconds East, 63.62 feet; thence North 22 degrees 10 minutes 51 seconds East, 108.31 feet; thence North 25 degrees 07 minutes 25 seconds East, 108.70 feet; thence North 15 degrees 56 minutes 54 seconds East, 100.93 feet; thence North 02 degrees 03 minutes 34 seconds West, 97.48 feet; thence North 14 degrees 47 minutes 53 seconds West, 102.01 feet; thence North 26 degrees 06 minutes 01 seconds West, 112.17 feet; thence North 20 degrees 55 minutes 10 seconds West, 109.02 feet; thence North 15 degrees 19 minutes 30 seconds West, 105.31 feet; thence North 10 degrees 29 minutes 08 seconds West, 103.14 feet; thence North 04 degrees 20 minutes 11 seconds West, 101.59 feet; thence North 01 degree 56 minutes 50 seconds East, 100.75 feet; thence North 04 degrees 14 minutes 12 seconds East, 100.81 feet; thence North 09 degrees 54 minutes 18 seconds East, 101.52 feet; thence North 08 degrees 46 minutes 52 seconds East, 101.23 feet; thence North 14 degrees 19 minutes 37 seconds East, 102.71 feet; thence North 09 degrees 54 minutes 18 seconds East, 100.54 feet; thence North 07 degrees 39 minutes 05 seconds East, 100.11 feet; thence North 04 degrees 14 minutes 12 seconds East, 58.90 feet; thence North 05 degrees 45 minutes 03 seconds West, 39.36 feet; thence North 06 degrees 35 minutes 44 seconds West, 138.25 feet to the North line of the East Half of said Southeast Quarter, (also being the North line of Lot 1 aforesaid), North 89 degrees 12 minutes 27 seconds West along said North line, 314.92 feet to the Northwest corner thereof; thence South 01 degrees 29 minutes 41 seconds West along the West line of the East Half of said southeast Quarter, (also being the West line of said Lot 1), 2635.71 feet to the point of beginning, in Cook County, Illinois.

SAID PARCEL(S) CONTAINING ~~3,249,876~~ 2,308,680 SQUARE FEET, OR ~~74.60~~ 53.00 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

Fiscal Impact: ~~\$3,500,000.00~~ \$3,250,000.00 purchase price plus closing costs up to \$10,000.00 (up to ~~\$3,510,000.00~~ \$3,260,000.00 in total).

Accounts: Real Estate and Land Acquisition Fund 51006.560010

District(s): 15

Summary: The Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) has identified ~~two (2) parcels~~ a parcel of land for acquisition that would add to the Forest Preserves’ current holdings near Paul Douglas Preserve (the “Property”). The Property, commonly known as 20 Freeman Road & 18 N Freeman Road, South Barrington, Illinois, consists of approximately ~~74.60~~ 53.00 ± acres. The Property will expand Forest Preserves holdings in the vicinity and will serve wildlife such as grassland birds, which need expansive areas to breed. It will also provide ecological services such as stormwater retention and carbon sequestration.

Through negotiations, the Owners of Record (the “Sellers”), have agreed to sell the Property to the Forest Preserves for the sum of THREE MILLION ~~FIVE~~ TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00/100 (~~\$3,500,000.00~~) (\$3,250,000.00) plus closing costs up to \$10,000.00 (up to ~~\$3,510,000.00~~ \$3,260,000.00 in total). The purchase price is based upon two (2) M.A.I. appraisals obtained by the Forest Preserves and is subject to the Forest Preserves’ satisfactory completion of its due diligence.

Permission is now sought, upon satisfactory completion of all due diligence and negotiation of any and all required documentation as determined by the Forest Preserves Legal Department, to effectuate payment in the amount of the purchase price plus closing costs as full compensation for the acquisition of the Property.

This land acquisition advances the goals of the Forest Preserves’ Next Century Conservation Plan and the Acquisition and Disposition of Land Position Paper.

25-0090

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

REPORT

Department: Department of Finance and Administration

Request: Receive and File

Report Title: Procurement and Disbursement Report

Report Period: 9/1/2025 - 9/30/2025

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

25-0399

REPORT

Department: Departments of Legal and Finance

Request: Receive and File

Report Title: Workers' Compensation Report (September 2025)

Report Period: 9/1/2025 - 9/30/2025

Summary: The Forest Preserves of Cook County Departments of Legal and Finance are submitting Workers' Compensation Claim Payments for the month of September 2025. Payments total \$63,281.13 for September 2025.

25-0382

Presented by: ADAM BIANCHI, General Superintendent

PROPOSED CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Department: Department of Conservation and Experiential Programming

Summary: Forest Preserves of Cook County Calendar of Events and Activities 11/18/2025 - 12/15/2025

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

Friday, through Monday, 11/14-1/4/2026; 4:30pm—9pm

Lightscape, Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe

Patrons can enjoy bold, artistic and unforgettable displays that are expertly curated each year at the

Chicago Botanic Garden. Bundle up, grab a cup of hot chocolate and step into an enchanting and showstopping 1.3-mile trail of twinkling lights. *Registration required. The cost may vary based on timeslot, age, and day of the week. For more information, please visit The Chicago Botanic Garden's website.*

Tuesday, 11/18; 9am–3pm**Mental Health First Aid Training, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington**

Patrons can learn about mental health and the training techniques to help those in a mental health crisis. *Registration required. Ages 18 and up. This program is presented with the Kenneth Young Center and is for adults who work with youth. Please call (847)381-6592.*

Thursday, 11/20; 6pm**National Native American Heritage Month History Walk, Sauk Trail Woods-Central, South Chicago Heights**

Enjoy a stroll on a 3.4-mile paved loop and learn the origin of the Sauk Woods name. *For more information, please call (224) 763-4317 or visit the website.*

Thursday, 11/20; 6pm–7:30pm**Thankful for the Dark Sky, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs**

Patrons can show gratitude to Mother Nature during a 2-mile hike. *Registration required. Please call (708)839-6897.*

Fridays, 11/21 through Sundays & some weekdays, 1/4/2026; 3pm–9pm**Holiday Magic, Brookfield Zoo, Brookfield**

The Zoo is lighting up the night this holiday season, celebrating more than 40 years of Holiday Magic with a brand-new light display. Patrons can experience the magic that has made this event a beloved holiday tradition. The spectacular interactive display transforms the Zoo into a dazzling winter wonderland with more than 3.5 million lights. Patrons can stroll through themed areas featuring giant holiday displays, a maze, tunnels, and animal-themed lights. *Registration required. The cost may vary based on timeslot, age, and day of the week. For more information, please visit Brookfield Zoo Chicago's website.*

Friday, 11/21; 7pm–9pm**Pride Night: Queer Trivia, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington**

Enjoy comradery in nature around the campfire and test your knowledge of animal gender fluidity and courtship. *Registration required. Please call (847)381-6592.*

Saturday, 11/22; 10am–2pm**Seed Swap and Plant Exchange, Dan Ryan Woods Pavilion, Chicago**

Plant lovers unite! Enjoy a native plant presentation followed by seed and plant sharing. *Participants must bring a mug because warm beverages will be provided. For more information, please call (224) 763-4317 or visit the website.*

Sunday, 11/23; 1pm

Native American Heritage Month: INHABITANTS Documentary Viewing, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont

The documentary “INHABITANTS” follows five Native American tribes across deserts, coastlines, forests and prairies as they restore their traditional land management practices. *Registration required. Please call (630)257-2045.*

Sunday, 11/23; 1:30pm**Nocturnal Hunters: Owls, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook**

Patrons can learn about the different attributes that make owls unique and fascinating. *For more information, please call (847)824-8360.*

Wednesday, 11/26; 11am–2pm**Teen Exploration Day: Crafternoon, Camp Sullivan, Oak Forest**

Participants can use nature to inspire art using a variety of arts and crafts. *Registration required. Ages 13-19. Please call (312)533-5751.*

Friday, 11/28; 1:30pm**Annual Turkey Trot Hike, Trailside Museum of Natural History, River Forest**

Patrons can walk off that extra helping of turkey and stuffing on this post-holiday hike along scenic trails. *Registration required. Please call (708)366-6530.*

Sunday, 11/30; 1:30pm**Tree Bark Adventure, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook**

How do you identify a tree without its leaves? Patrons can learn by inspecting tree bark. *Ages 8 and up. For more information, please call (847)824-8360.*

Tuesday, 12/2; 9:30am–12pm**Restoration Workday, Evans Field, River Grove**

Participants can help restore natural habitat and hone your plant identification skills. *Registration required. Ages 13 and up. Ages 13-17 must be accompanied by an adult. Supplies and refreshments will be provided. Please call (312)533-5751.*

Thursday, 12/4; 5:30pm**Serenity Hike Under the Full Moon, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs**

Enjoy a 2-mile hike under the glow of the rising Cold Moon within the tranquil expanse of the world's largest Urban Night Sky Place. *Registration required. Ages 13 and up. This program is subject to the trail conditions. Please call (708)839-6897.*

Saturday, 12/6; 8:30am–10:30am**Sacred Wanderings, Thatcher Woods, River Forest**

Participants can connect with nature and surround yourself with energy of the natural world. *The program is presented by Unity Temple of Oak Park. For more information, please visit the website.*

Saturday, 12/6; 1pm**DIY Holiday Birdseed Wreath, Trailside Museum of Natural History, River Forest**

Participants can help feed our feathered friends this holiday season with a cute, simple bird-seed wreath. *Registration required. Ages 10 and up. Supplies and materials will be provided. Please call (708)366-6530.*

Sunday, 11/23; 1pm**Cross-Country Ski Seminar, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont**

Participants can learn the basics of cross-country ski equipment and how to prepare for your first cross-country skiing experience. *Registration required. This program is dependent based on snow depth. Please call (630)257-2045.*

Thursday, 11/20; 4pm–8pm**Winter Bonfire, Camp Dan Beard, Northbrook**

Celebrate the start of the winter season with a giant bonfire under the night sky. Enjoy games, star gazing, s'mores and other snacks. *This program is dependent on weather conditions. For more information about the event and parking, please visit the website.*

Thursday, 11/20; 6pm–7:30pm**Fire Basics, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs**

Spark your outdoor spirit! Participants can learn the basics of fire-building and campfire styles while enjoying s'mores and cocoa. *Registration required. Please call (708)839-6897.*

Saturday, 12/6; 4pm–8pm**Winter Bonfire, Camp Dan Beard, Northbrook**

Celebrate the start of the winter season with a giant bonfire under the night sky. Enjoy games, star gazing, s'mores and other snacks. *This program is dependent on weather conditions. For more information about the event and parking, please visit the website.*

Sunday, 12/7; 1pm–3pm**Seeds of the Future, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland**

Join us for storytelling and a panel discussion followed by a seed swap. *Registration required. This program is presented by the Mbwakawen Harambee Collective. Please call (708)868-0606.*

Tuesday, 12/9; 10am**Life in Winter Hike, Spears Woods, Willow Springs**

Enjoy a guided walk on a 2.5-mile trail. Participants can learn how life in the forest slows down but continues throughout the winter. *For more information, please call (312)533-5751.*

Wednesday, 12/10; 5pm–7pm**Cozy Crafting, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland**

Participants can learn to crochet, knit, cross-stitch and more. *Registration required. Ages 13 and up.*

Participants can bring their own project or start a new project in this program. Supplies and materials will be provided. Please call (708)868-0606.

Thursday, 12/11; 10am**Senior Nature Club, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington**

Discover the natural world with a themed activity. *Registration required. Ages 55 and up. Please call (847)381-6592.*

Thursday, 12/11; 10am & 2 pm**Wellness in the Woods: A Holidays Not-So-Hustle, Caldwell Woods, Chicago**

Embrace the holidays and your well-being! Join us for a guided walk, then warm up with hot tea. *Registration required. Please call (773)758-8899 or visit the website.*

Thursday, 12/11 through Sunday, 12/14; 4pm–8pm**Winter Open Climb, Camp Sullivan, Oak Forest**

Patrons can scale Camp Sullivan's indoor climbing wall. *Registration required. Participants must weigh over 40 pounds and sign a waiver. Participants 17 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Accessible equipment will be available. For more information, please visit the website.*

Saturday, 12/13; 8am**Winter Wellness Ride, Sauk Trail Woods-Central, South Chicago Heights**

Bundle up and experience cool winter rides and the health benefits nature provides. *The bike ride is a 3.4-mile distance with a slow riding pace. Ages 13 and up. For more information, please call (224) 763-4317 or visit the website.*

Saturday, 12/13; 10am–12pm**Volunteer Workdays, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook**

Patrons can help us make River Trail even better during our volunteer workday. *Registration required. Ages 10 and up. Ages 10-17 must be accompanied by an adult. Please call (847)824-8360.*

Saturday, 12/13; 10am–3pm**Crabtree Makerspace, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington**

The holiday season is near, so stop by Crabtree to create gifts for yourself or others. *Registration required. Ages 15 and up. Please call (847)381-6592.*

Saturday, 12/13; 10:30am–1:30pm**S'mores Party, Swallow Cliff Woods-North, Palos Park**

Patrons can make tasty treats around a campfire. You can enjoy crafts, a story trail, animal artifacts, sledding, snowshoeing and more. *The activities are dependent on weather conditions. For more information, please call (312)533-5751.*

Saturday, 12/13; 11am–12pm**Wellness in the Woods: Yoga, Dan Ryan Woods Pavilion, Chicago**

Join us for a 45-minute yoga class. *Participants must dress in active wear and bring a yoga mat. For more information, please call (224) 763-4317 or visit the website.*

Saturday, 12/13; 12pm–2pm**Campfire Cooking, Camp Shabbona Woods, South Holland**

Participants can learn how to set up a safe and clean campground kitchen, start a campfire and prepare breakfast. *Registration required. Please call (708)868-0606.*

Saturday, 12/13; 1pm–3pm**Winter Keepsakes and Cards, Caldwell Woods, Chicago**

Patrons can create personal mementos with local artists. *Registration required. This program is for all ages, but participants aged 18 and under must be accompanied by an adult. This program is presented by Hive Center for the Book Arts. Please call (773)758-8899 or visit the website.*

Sunday, 12/14; 5:30am**Dawn Owl Prowl, Trailside Museum of Natural History, River Forest**

Patrons can listen for owls as part of the annual Christmas Bird Count. *Registration required. Ages 10 and up. This program is led by John Elliot from Chicago Bird Alliance. Please call (708)366-6530.*

Sunday, 12/14; 1pm**How to Do Nothing for Overwinter Pollinators, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington**

Participants can learn some best practices for preserving the overwintering habitats of our native bee species. *For more information, please call (847)381-6592.*

Sunday, 12/14; 1pm**Cross-Country Ski Seminar, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont**

Participants can learn the basics of cross-country ski equipment and how to prepare for your first cross-country skiing experience. *Registration required. This program is dependent based on snow depth. Please call (630)257-2045.*

Sunday, 12/14; 1pm–3pm**Natural Garland Workshop, Twenty-Sixth Street Woods-West, LaGrange Park**

Drop in and create your own natural garland around a campfire. *Supplies will be provided. For more information, please call (312)533-5751.*

Sunday, 12/14; 1:30pm**Tracking, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook**

Participants can look for animal tracks and examine some of the evidence animals leave behind. *For more information, please call (847)824-8360.*

COMMITTEE ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

**REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE
MEETING OF NOVEMBER 18, 2025**

25-0359 PROPOSED ORDINANCE An Ordinance to Create a Forest Preserve Near Beaubien Woods

25-0343 PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF REAL ESTATE Chicago Housing Authority (“CHA”), Chicago, Illinois, S. Greenwood Avenue & E. 133rd Street, Chicago, Cook County, Illinois

**RULES COMMITTEE
MEETING OF NOVEMBER 18, 2025**

25-0416 JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS special meeting held on 10/8/2025

25-0384 JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS regular meeting held on 10/21/2025

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
MEETING OF NOVEMBER 18, 2025**

25-0353 PROPOSED ORDINANCE Ordinance for the Levy of Taxes for the Year 2025

25-0398 RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE (LITIGATION) Finance Subcommittee Meeting on Litigation -11/18/2025

25-0095 REPORT Report Title: Corporate Fund Analysis of Revenue and Expenditures, Report Period: 1/1/2025 - 9/30/2025
