



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

**Virtual Meeting**

**BOARD AGENDA**

**Tuesday, January 26, 2021, 10:00 AM**

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

Due to the current health crisis, there is no in-person participation for the County Board meetings. The President and Commissioners will participate remotely. The public can observe the livestream <https://www.cookcountyl.gov/service/watch-live-board-proceedings>

The public can still testify to the Committee Meetings. Only written comment will be accepted for those wishing to provide Public Testimony. Written comments provided prior to the start of the meeting will be read aloud at the meeting. Three minutes per comment will be allowed, though every effort will be made to read statements in their entirety. If you have additional material for the Board to consider, please email testimony to [cookcounty.board@cookcountyl.gov](mailto:cookcounty.board@cookcountyl.gov) and indicate a desire that your testimony be entered into the record. All written comment which complies with County Board Rules will be posted online.

**PRESIDENT**

[21-0107](#)

**Sponsored by:** TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), LUIS ARROYO JR., SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS, LARRY SUFFREDIN, FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET GAINER and BRANDON JOHNSON, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE****Ordinance for the Levy of Taxes for the Year 2021**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Board of Commissioners of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County:

**Section 1.** That this Ordinance is and the same is hereby termed the “Ordinance for the Levy of Taxes for the Year 2021.”

**Section 2.** That the Committee on Finance of the Board of Commissioners of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois has considered the subject of the Annual Tax Levy for the year 2021 and the several sums necessary to be levied to meet the needs and requirements of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County for said year and has recommended that this ordinance for the levy of taxes be adopted.

**Section 3.** That the Commissioners of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, heretofore having approved and adopted the Annual Appropriation Ordinance for the Forest Preserve District of Cook County for the year commencing January 1, 2021 at its meeting held November 17, 2020, which ordinance was published by authority of said Board as provided by law and which portion of said Appropriation Ordinance pertaining to Fund and Departmental Appropriations (together with marginal columns captioned “ Payable from the Tax Levy” and “Payable from sources other than the Tax Levy” where applicable) is

set forth hereinafter.

**Section 4.** That the sum of One Hundred Million, Ninety Six Thousand, Two Hundred and Eighty Six Dollars and No Cents (\$100,096,286), being the sum of Appropriations heretofore legally made which are to be paid from the collection of the Annual Tax Levy of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois for the Levy Year 2021 A.D. for the corporate purposes, for the construction of improvements and development of the forests and lands, for payment for principal and interest on bonded debt, for payment for contributions to Employees’ Annuity and Benefit Fund, and for the payment of amounts to the Chicago Zoological Society and the Chicago Horticultural Society, all as adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County at its meeting held November 17, 2020 and published by the authority of said Board according to law, is hereby levied on all the taxable property within said Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois for the Levy Year 2021 being composed of the specific amounts for the various purposes herein before named.

**Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois**

**ANNUAL TAX LEVY ORDINANCE  
FOR THE YEAR COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2021**

**SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND SOURCES THEREOF  
ALL FUNDS**

**Section 5.** This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Amount of Appropriation</b>	<b>Payable From The Tax Levy</b>	<b>Payable From Sources Other Than The Tax Levy</b>
Corporate	62,227,109	53,545,686	8,681,423
Self-Insurance	12,040,000	0	12,040,000
Const. & Development	6,790,000	7,000,000	-210,000
Bond & Interest	16,780,219	12,784,219	3,996,000
Employee Annuity & Benefit	3,926,419	3,533,384	393,035
Real Estate Acquisition	5,350,000	0	5,350,000
Capital Improvement	3,500,000	0	3,500,000
Resident Watchmen	223,000	0	223,000
Chicago Zoological	14,389,505	14,284,927	104,578
Chicago Horticultural	8,932,778	8,948,070	-15,292
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$134,159,030</b>	<b>\$100,096,286</b>	<b>\$34,062,744</b>

**Effective date:** This ordinance shall be in effect immediately upon adoption.

[21-0008](#)

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

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**TO MODIFY CERTAIN 2021 FEES**

**WHEREAS**, on November 17, 2020, the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners (the “Forest Preserves”) approved the 2021 Executive Budget Recommendation (Agenda No. 20-0389), which included rates for the Glen Grove Equestrian Center; and

**WHEREAS**, based on a request from Glen Grove Equestrian Sports Inc., which currently manages the equestrian facility, in response to continued increased costs and decreased revenue resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Forest Preserves is now asking that certain fees be increased; and

**WHEREAS**, such proposed modified fees are listed below:

**PROPOSED - FOREST PRESERVES MODIFIED FEES**

**Glen Grove Stables**

EQUESTRIAN LESSON FEES

Private Rate: \$60.00 ~~\$55.00~~/Half Hour

Semi Private Rate: \$55.00 ~~\$50.00~~/Half Hour

Group Rate: \$75.00 ~~\$70.00~~/Hour

EQUESTRIAN BOARDING FEES

Front Barn Stall: \$885.00 ~~\$835.00~~/Month

Large Barn Stall: \$925.00 ~~\$875.00~~/Month

Grooming Packages: \$150.00 ~~\$175.00~~/Month

MONTHLY LESSON PACKAGES FOR EQUESTRIAN BOARDERS

Two Lessons or Training Rides Per Week: \$480.00 ~~\$450.00~~

Three Lessons or Training Rides Per Week: \$720.00 ~~\$660.00~~

Four Lessons or Training Rides Per Week: \$960.00 ~~\$880.00~~

\*Fees listed above represent not to exceed fees that the Forest Preserves’ vendor may charge.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by President Toni Preckwinkle and the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners that the above-referenced modified fees are hereby adopted effective March 1, 2021.

[21-0125](#)

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

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**REQUEST FOR GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT AUTHORITY TO APPROVE AND EXECUTE UTILITY AGREEMENTS**

**WHEREAS**, on 10/20/2020, the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners approved the Forest Preserves entering into a contract with Ameresco, Inc. to provide energy consultant, procurement, bill payment and data management services for the procurement of and budgeting for electricity, natural gas, and renewable energy for Forest Preserves facilities (Agenda No. 20-0363) (the “Contract”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Contract is due to expire on 9/30/2023 and has one (1) two-year renewal option; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to lock in best rates, the Forest Preserves must approve rates and enter into corresponding energy agreements on a timeframe that is shorter than thirty (30) days; and

**WHEREAS**, under the Contract, Ameresco is tasked with soliciting quotes, recommending energy suppliers, and administering agreements with energy providers; and

**WHEREAS**, over the last three (3) years, the Forest Preserves has spent approximately \$800,000.00 annually for electricity and natural gas to operate its facilities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that President Toni Preckwinkle and the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby authorize the Forest Preserves General Superintendent or designee, to approve and execute any agreements for energy providers recommended by Ameresco, Inc., pursuant to the Contract; provided, however, that (1) any such agreements do not exceed a duration of twenty-four (24) months, and (2) the annual aggregate spend on such agreements will not exceed Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$900,000.00) (collectively, the “Energy Contracts”).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that on an annual basis, no later than the first Committee on Finance meeting after March 1st, the General Superintendent shall submit to the Committee a report covering all payments made pursuant to such Energy Contracts during the prior calendar year.

**COMMISSIONERS**

**OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT**

[21-0106](#)

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

**REPORT****Department:** Office of the General Superintendent**Request:** Receive and File**Report Title:** Annual Report from the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) REDI Committee**Report Period:** 2020

**Summary:** In 2018, the Forest Preserves created a Racial Equity Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) Committee to assess hiring, training and other Forest Preserves’ operations, policies and procedures. The catalyst for the creation of this committee was a well-publicized incident in which a Forest Preserves’ patron was harassed by another patron on the basis of race. One of the committee’s goals is to strengthen a work culture that embraces diversity and is inclusive and welcoming to all employees and to all the people of Cook County. In late 2018, a partnership was formed with Dr. Kathleen Yang-Clayton and the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) to advise the REDI committee. On July 28, 2020, the Conservation and Policy Council submitted to the Board of Commissioners the position paper “Moving Towards Racial Equity.” (Agenda No. 20-0285). The work of the internal REDI committee is consistent with and complements the recommendations of the position paper.

This first annual report from the REDI committee reflects the tireless commitment and passion of the entire Forest Preserves to operationalize racial equity, improve Forest Preserves performance, and increase access and inclusion for all the lives touched by the Forest Preserves of Cook County. Since 2018, the REDI committee has completed in-depth training on how to operationalize racial equity within large public organizations, diversified hiring panels, conducted racial equity training for the senior team and for key stewards, and convened a series of racial identity caucuses following the murder of George Floyd.

[21-0103](#)

**Presented by:** ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent**PROPOSED APPOINTMENT****Appointee(s):** Jacqui Ulrich, Director of the Conservation and Experiential Programming Department, Forest Preserves of Cook County

**Position:** Member of the Board

**Department/Board/Commission:** NeighborSpace Board of Directors

**Effective date:** 2/1/2021

**Expiration date:** Two (2) year term expiring 1/31/2023

**Summary:** The Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) requests approval of the appointment of Jacqui Ulrich, Director of the Conservation and Experiential Programing Department (“CEP”) to the Board of Directors of NeighborSpace, an affiliate partner of the Forest Preserves. The previous appointee, Cynthia Moreno, former Director of CEP, retired from the Forest Preserves.

NeighborSpace is a nonprofit urban land trust in Chicago that preserves and sustains gardens on behalf of dedicated community groups. NeighborSpace owns and manages property so that community groups can focus on gardening. NeighborSpace-protected gardens give young and old alike an opportunity to get their hands in the earth and enjoy nature, right in their own neighborhoods.

CEP connects diverse audiences to nature through a wide range of educational and outdoor recreation experiences and is also responsible for community engagement and committed to developing relationships with citizens to energize them and connect them to nature. CEP works with program partners at the local level on programming, building relationships with groups to become long-term advocates, stewards and ambassadors of the Forest Preserves.

The Forest Preserves of Cook County, the City of Chicago, and the Chicago Park District worked together to establish NeighborSpace as a non-profit in 1997. These three (3) governmental agencies continue to provide leadership and financial support to protect community-managed open spaces in Chicago.

The Forest Preserves is also represented on the NeighborSpace Board by Commissioner Dennis Deer.

[21-0101](#)

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

**PROPOSED GRANT AWARD**

**Department:** Department of Planning and Development

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

**Grantor:** The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (“IDNR”)

**Request:** Authorization to accept grant

**Purpose:** Authorization is sought for the Forest Preserves to accept grant and enter into an agreement with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for the renovation of Crabtree Nature Center located in Barrington Hills.

**Grant Amount:** \$750,000.00

**Grant Period:** Two (2) years from date of full contract execution

**Fiscal Impact:** \$250,000.00

**Accounts:** Revenue 51010.411437

**Concurrences:**

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

**District(s):** 15

**Summary:** Renovation of the Crabtree Nature Center is proposed to update exhibits and signage as well as improve accessibility and energy efficiency. Building renovation would include new entrance doors and welcome desk, redesigned and refreshed interpretive exhibits, energy-efficient lighting, windows and HVAC system replacement. Site enhancements would include new signage and access improvements. The IDNR Museum Capital Grant would fund 75% of the estimated cost of improvements.

Total project costs are estimated to be \$1,000,000.00 of which the Forest Preserves is providing \$250,000.00.

[21-0108](#)

**Presented by:** ARNOLD RANDALL, 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 & Economic Opportunity (“DCEO”)

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

**Purpose:** Infrastructure repair to Swallow Cliff limestone stairs

**Grant Amount:** \$125,000.00

**Grant Period:** 10/1/2020 (retroactive) - 9/30/2022

**Fiscal Impact:** N/A (Revenue Generating).

**Accounts:** Grant account 51010.411437

**Concurrences:**

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

**District(s):** 17

**Summary:** This grant award is anticipated to cover all or most of the costs for the repair of damaged limestone stairs, installed by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s. The Swallow Cliff stairs are a beloved and popular outdoor health and fitness landmark and are visited by thousands of people each week. These repairs will ensure that the stairs are in good and safe condition so that people of all ages can enjoy this healthy outdoor recreation amenity.

[21-0114](#)

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

**PROPOSED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT**

**Department:** Office of the General Superintendent

**Other Part(ies):** Cook County Government, Cook County, Illinois

**Request:** Authority for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement

**Goods or Services:** Cook County, via the Cook County Health and Hospitals System, to use property of Forest Preserves as vaccination site(s)

**Agreement Number(s):** N/A

**Agreement Period:** 1/26/2021 - 12/31/2022

**Fiscal Impact:** None

**License Fee:** Waived

**License Application Fee:** Waived

**YELAR Fee:** Waived

**Tree Mitigation Fee:** N/A

**Accounts:** N/A

**District(s):** Districtwide

**Summary:** Vaccines have become available to combat the current COVID-19 pandemic. In order to facilitate administration of available vaccines throughout Cook County, the Cook County Health and Hospitals System (CCH), working in concert with its affiliate the Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH), is in the process of securing multiple vaccination sites. Seeking authorization to allow up to five (5) of those locations to be sites within the Forest Preserves, with specific locations subject to approval of the General Superintendent. These sites will allow for drive-thru vaccine administration and any auxiliary services related to pandemic response efforts. While no fees will be charged by the Forest Preserves for such use, CCH will be responsible for, without limitation, all clinical activities, emergency health services, traffic control, security, removal of waste and compliance with all applicable laws. CCH will also be responsible for restoring any used site(s) to their pre-existing condition. Final agreement is subject to legal review and approval.

[21-0109](#)

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

**PROPOSED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT**

**Department:** Department of Law Enforcement

**Other Part(ies):** Cook County Government, Cook County, Illinois

**Request:** Requesting authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement to receive a grant

**Goods or Services:** Grant not to exceed \$75,000.00 for two (2) K-9 Vehicles to support law enforcement efforts

**Agreement Number(s):** N/A

**Agreement Period:** 1/26/2021 - 8/31/2021

**Fiscal Impact:** Grant revenue up to \$75,000.00

**Accounts:** N/A

**District(s):** Districtwide

**Summary:** Cook County is a recipient of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant ("JAG") Program funding from the United States Department of Justice through the Chicago Police Department. Pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Chicago ("Chicago/Cook MOU") the County has been allocated a portion of the 2018 JAG Grant. The County wishes to subaward a portion of the 2018 JAG Grant to the Forest Preserves for the purchase of two (2) specially equipped K-9 squad vehicles to be used to transport search and rescue canines. The Forest Preserves Board of Commissioners previously approved the following: (1) the Forest Preserves' receipt of a sub-award grant from Cook County for the prior purchase of a K-9 vehicle (Agenda No. 18-0409) and, (2) the Forest Preserves' receipt of a sub-award grant from Cook County for the prior purchase of a canine (Agenda No. 19-0362). The final agreement is subject to legal review and approval.

[21-0115](#)

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

#### **PROPOSED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT AMENDMENT**

**Department:** Department of Finance and Administration

**Other Part(ies):** Cook County Government, Chicago, Illinois

**Request:** Authorization to amend the Intergovernmental Agreement between the County of Cook (the “County”) and the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) for the reimbursement or payment for certain services rendered by various County departments and the Forest Preserves.

**Goods or Services:** The County and the Forest Preserves wish to amend and restate the agreement to allow for additional grass cutting and snow removal services to be provided by the Forest Preserves to Cook County’s Department of Facilities Management and to allow for additional payment from the County to the Forest Preserves for such additional services.

**Agreement Number:** N/A

**Agreement Period:** 1/1/2021 (retroactive) - 12/31/2021

**Fiscal Impact:** FY 2021 \$2,094,643.00 in expenditures and \$1,096,312.00 in revenue, which includes \$166,312.00 for snow removal and grass cutting at Oak Forest Hospital location.

**Accounts:** Various districtwide corporate accounts

**District(s):** Districtwide

**Summary:** The County and the Forest Preserves entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement on 8/21/2012 authorizing the parties to perform various services for the other, in accordance with the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act. The parties agreed to provide various services and to provide reimbursement or payment for said services. The Intergovernmental Agreement was further amended on 4/25/2013, 6/18/2014, 9/8/2015, 11/15/2016, 6/6/2017, 4/25/2018, 9/26/2018, 2/21/2019 and 10/22/2020 to allow for additional cooperation. The Ninth Amended and Restated Intergovernmental Agreement consolidates the prior agreements into one (1) Intergovernmental Agreement, so the parties can refer to one (1) agreement and allows for grass cutting and snow removal services to be provided by the Forest Preserves to Cook County’s Department of Facilities Management at the Oak Forest Hospital location.

[21-0102](#)

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

**PROPOSED MISCELLANEOUS ITEM OF BUSINESS**

**Department:** Department of Conservation and Experiential Programming

**Programming Good(s) or Service(s):** Programming Partnerships

**Fiscal Impact:** \$100,000.00

**Accounts:** Special Events 51001.520635; Supplies and Material 51001.53190; various other grant funds

**Summary:** The Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) requests authorization for the General Superintendent or a designee to have discretionary spending up to \$100,000.00 through the remainder of 2021 to support educational, recreational and community engagement program services with a variety of program partners, including, but not limited to, artists, arts groups, youth development groups, program trainers, curriculum development facilitators, and cultural groups. These program partners would be selected through the Forest Preserves’ Event and Program Partnership application. This Event and Program Partnership application is listed on the Forest Preserves’ website at [fpdcc.com/about/doing-business-partnerships/programming-partnerships/#proposals](http://fpdcc.com/about/doing-business-partnerships/programming-partnerships/#proposals) and will be marketed through various Forest Preserves avenues. Program partners could be selected for one (1) event or a series of events; but would not be engaged for periods of more than one (1) year. Individual contract payment amounts would not exceed \$5,000.00. The program partnerships would be proposed or vetted by the Forest Preserves’ Conservation and Experiential Programming team and selected based on community involvement; ability to provide the service; ability to bring a unique program concept to the Forest Preserves; ability and interest to connect with the Forest Preserves’ mission and vision; ability to serve a community impacted by racial and other inequities; ability to support Forest Preserves’ grant programs; price; and ability to bring a new audience to the Forest Preserves. This program strategy complements the goals of the Next Century Conservation Plan, to connect more people with nature and to make the Forest Preserves more welcoming and accessible. Due to COVID no Programming Partnerships were developed through this process in 2020.

**Concurrences:** The Chief Financial Officer and Chief Attorney have approved this item.

**District(s):** Districtwide

[21-0105](#)

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

#### **PROPOSED CONTRACT**

**Department(s):** Department of Planning and Development

**Vendor:** Hey and Associates, Inc., Volo, Illinois

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

**Good(s) or Service(s):** Professional civil engineering services for unpaved trail repairs and improvements at various locations across the Forest Preserves.

**Contract Value:** \$275,000.00

**Contract period:** 1/26/2021 - 1/25/2024

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** FY 2021 \$175,000.00; FY 2022 \$100,000.00

**Accounts:** Professional Services 51009.520830, 51028.520830, 51051.520830, and 51030.520830; and future Construction and Development accounts

**Contract Number(s):** Contract #7400008708 issued under Request for Proposals #21-80-03

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

The Vendor has met the Minority- and Women-owned Business Enterprise Ordinance Provisions via direct participation.

**District(s):** Districtwide

**Summary:** The Forest Preserves features over 225 miles of unpaved trails, including hiking trails at Forest Preserves nature centers and campgrounds that require repairs and improvements from time to time. The proposed contract for professional civil engineering services includes preliminary engineering, final engineering, permitting, bidding assistance, and construction administration assistance for repairs and improvements of trouble spots at various locations across the Forest Preserves, including but not limited to segments of hiking trails at four (4) nature centers, one (1) campground and several regional trail systems, including Des Plaines, Deer Grove and Thorn Creek trail systems.

Hey and Associates, Inc., was selected by a committee of the Department of Planning and Development staff in response to a request for proposals (RFP No. 21-80-03). Eight (8) firms submitted proposals in response to the request.

[21-0122](#)

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

#### **PROPOSED LICENSE REQUEST**

**Request:** Requesting authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”),

as Licensor to grant a License to Commonwealth Edison Company (“ComEd”), Grantee, to locate, operate and maintain three (3) automated meter radio pedestals next to Comfort Stations H, N and T by Groves 31, 11 and 32 at Busse Woods. There are existing meters inside the comfort stations and by placing these approximately 3-foot tall pedestal boxes outside the station, ComEd will be able to upgrade their facilities from 3G to 4G capability with minimal impact. There are no anticipated tree impacts.

**Term:** Ten (10) years

**License Fee:** \$4,400.00

**License Application Fee:** \$1,500.00

**License Review Fees:** \$3,000.00

**YELAR Fee:** \$6,600.00

Total one-time upfront fee of \$15,500.00 for the term of the License  
(Sec. 5-2A-4 and 5-2B-4)

**Tree Mitigation Fee:** None

**The area of the License is:** 0.0103 Acre

**Concurrence(s):**

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

Grantee has met the insurance requirements under the License Agreement.

The Forest Preserves staff have reviewed this license application and plans and have found them to be acceptable; therefore, it is recommended that the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners approve the issuance of this license.

**District(s):** 15

[21-0123](#)

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

**EASEMENT REQUEST**

**Request:** Requesting authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to grant permanent and temporary easements to Illinois Department of Transportation (“IDOT”) at Rand

Road and the Des Plaines River for 0.040 permanent and 0.044 temporary acres or 1,731 permanent and 1,916 temporary square feet.

**Reason:** IDOT has requested two (2) small permanent easement areas and two (2) small temporary easement areas on the south side of Rand Road between the Des Plaines River and the Des Plaines River Trail in Belleau Woods for relocation of a sidewalk and trail crossing by a few feet as part of a larger bridge and road infrastructure project. The project is proposed to improve aging bridge and road infrastructure, as well as improve pedestrian safety along Rand Road.

**Structures proposed to be built on Forest Preserves land.** IDOT proposes to relocate the sidewalk along the south side of Rand Road, placing it behind the guardrails, which will be moved immediately adjacent to the curb, to keep a barrier between vehicles and pedestrians. Additionally, IDOT is proposing to shift the alignment of the trail crossing at Rand Road a few feet south of its current location on both sides of the street.

The area for the permanent easement is 0.040 acres and the area for the temporary easement is 0.044 acres. The temporary easement is for a period of five (5) years. IDOT indicates that 0 trees are expected to be removed for this project.

**Easement Fee:** \$800.00, including \$500.00 for permanent and \$300.00 for temporary easements

**Tree Mitigation Fee:** N/A

**Concurrence(s):**

The Chief Financial Officer has approved this item. Final easements are subject to legal review and approval.

**District(s):** 17

[21-0013](#)

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

**PROPOSED DISBURSEMENT**

**Department(s):** Department of Facilities and Fleet

**Action:** Authorization to disburse payment

**Payee:** BCR Automotive Group, DBA Roesch Ford, Bensenville Illinois

**Good(s) or Service(s):** Two (2) 2020 Ford F550 Crew Cab 4x4s



**Fiscal Impact:** \$164,014.00

**Accounts:** Vehicles and Equipment 51057.530170 and 51058.530170

**Contract Number(s):** 74000005868

**District(s):** Districtwide

**Summary:** Payment for two (2) 2020 Ford F550 Crew Cab 4x4 trucks, utilizing a contract awarded by the City of Chicago (contract #32916) as approved by the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners on 5/21/2019 (Agenda No. 19-0262).

[21-0104](#)

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

#### **PROPOSED DISBURSEMENT**

**Department(s):** Department of Planning and Development

**Action:** Authorization to disburse a payment

**Payee:** Pan-Oceanic Engineering Co. Inc., Chicago, Illinois

**Good(s) or Service(s):** Sand Ridge Campus Landscape Improvements

**Fiscal Impact:** \$268,179.48

**Accounts:** Bond Account 51027.560060; Grant Account 51010.560060

**Contract Number(s):** Contract #74000008005 issued under Project #20-80-30

**District(s):** 4

**Summary:** Sand Ridge Campus Landscape Improvements include constructing new fishing outcroppings at Green Lake, including one accessible node; new asphalt path connections to the Burnham Greenway Trail; new gravel trail to connect Camp Shabbona to a nature center trail; fence repair and gate installation; and other related work as specified in the plans and specifications. The project is partly funded by a grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

[21-0118](#)

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

**PROPOSED DISBURSEMENT**

**Department(s):** Department of Resource Management

**Action:** Authorization to disburse payment

**Payee:** Pizzo & Associates, Leland, Illinois

**Good(s) or Service(s):** Comprehensive habitat enhancement services

**Fiscal Impact:** \$304,049.25

**Accounts:** Professional Services 51028.520840; Grant & Mitigation Accounts 51010.521444, 51010.520840

**Contract Number(s):** #74000003825 issued under Project #18-31-101S

**District(s):** Districtwide

**Summary:** Payment for expenses related to execution of comprehensive habitat enhancement services provided by Pizzo & Associates, including invasive species and brush removal operations, pursuant to the Habitat Enhancement Services contract approved by the Forest Preserves of Cook County's Board of Commissioners on 7/26/2018 (Agenda Item No. 18-0301).

[21-0119](#)

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

**PROPOSED DISBURSEMENT**

**Department(s):** Department of Resource Management

**Action:** Authorization to disburse payment

**Payee:** Stantec Consulting Services, Lombard, Illinois

**Good(s) or Service(s):** Comprehensive habitat enhancement services

**Fiscal Impact:** \$215,235.50

**Accounts:** Professional Services 51028.520840; Grant & Mitigation Accounts 51010.521444 and 51010.521314

**Contract Number(s):** #74000003824 issued under Project #18-31-101C

**District(s):** Districtwide

**Summary:** Payment for expenses related to execution of comprehensive habitat enhancement services provided by Stantec Consulting Services, including invasive species and brush removal operations, pursuant to the Habitat Enhancement Services contract approved by the Forest Preserves of Cook County's Board of Commissioners on 7/26/2018 (Agenda Item No. 18-0299).

[21-0126](#)

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

**PROPOSED DISBURSEMENT**

**Department(s):** Department of Planning and Development

**Action:** Authorization to disburse payment

**Payee:** Matthew Paving, Inc., Oak Lawn, Illinois

**Good(s) or Service(s):** Districtwide Transportation Improvements

**Fiscal Impact:** \$219,260.03

**Accounts:** Site Amenities 51029.560060, 51051.560060 and 51057.560060

**Contract Number(s):** #74000008008 issued under Project #19-80-67G-20C2

**District(s):** 5, 6, 13

**Summary:** This is a progress payment toward the construction contract with Matthew Paving, Inc. for services rendered for the resurfacing of the Beaubien Woods Boat Launch parking lot, repaving a portion of the Tinley Creek Bike Trail and the parking lot at Erickson Woods in the Skokie Lagoons Preserve.

[21-0116](#)

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

## REPORT

**Department:** Department of Resource Management

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

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

**Report Period:** 2015-2020

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

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

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

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

[21-0006](#)

**Presented by:** MARY MODELSKI, County Auditor

**REPORT**

**Department:** Office of the County Auditor

**Request:** Refer to Audit Committee

**Report Title:** FY'20 4th Quarter Open Recommendation Status Report

**Report Period:** November 2020

**Summary:** Report on the status of open audit recommendations.

[21-0110](#)

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

**REPORT**

**Department:** Department of Finance and Administration

**Request:** Receive and File

**Report Title:** Corporate Fund Analysis of Revenue and Expenditures

**Report Period:** 1/1/2020 - 11/30/2020

**Summary:** Detailed Fund Analysis of Revenue and Expenditures for November 2020.

[21-0112](#)

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

**REPORT**

**Department:** Department of Finance and Administration

**Request:** Receive and File

**Report Title:** Procurement and Disbursements Report

**Report Period:** 11/1/2020 - 11/30/2020

**Summary:** Submitting the Procurement and Disbursements Report for the period of November 2020. The report is to be received and filed in compliance with Section 1-8-2 (BB) of the District's Code of Ordinances.

[21-0111](#)

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

#### **REPORT**

**Department:** Departments of Legal and Finance

**Request:** Receive and File

**Report Title:** Workers' Compensation Report - November 2020

**Report Period:** 11/1/2020 - 11/30/2020

**Summary:** Per Board Resolution 19-0509 (12/17/2019), the Forest Preserves of Cook County Legal and Finance Departments are submitting Workers' Compensation Claim Payments for the month of November 2020.

[21-0113](#)

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

#### **RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE (LITIGATION)**

Finance Subcommittee Meeting on Litigation -12/15/2020

The Finance Subcommittee on Litigation met on the above listed date and recommends the following for approval:

Proposed Settlements Approved Fiscal Year 2021 to Present: \$0.00

Proposed Settlements to Be Approved: \$16,394.52

Legal Fees Approved Fiscal Year 2021 to Present: \$0.00  
Legal Fees for 12/15/2020 to Be Approved: \$63,637.11

[21-0130](#)

#### **JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS**

SECRETARY TO THE BOARD, Matthew B. DeLeon, presented in printed form a record of the Journal of Proceedings of the regular meeting held on 12/15/2020.

[20-0439](#)

#### **JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS**

SECRETARY TO THE BOARD, Matthew B. DeLeon, presented in printed form a record of the Journal of Proceedings of the regular meeting held on 10/20/2020.

[21-0120](#)

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

#### **PROPOSED CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Department:** Department of Conservation and Experiential Programming

**Summary:** Forest Preserves of Cook County Calendar- 1/26/2021 - 2/24/2021

Please check the Forest Preserve of Cook County's website, [www.fpdcc.com/events](http://www.fpdcc.com/events), for updates and changes.

**Tuesday, 1/26; 7pm - 8pm (Zoom)**

#### **Native Plants for a Bird Friendly Yard**

In partnership with the LaGrange Public Library, join us for a Zoom presentation where we will give tips on choosing native plants to beautify your real estate and provide food for birds. This program will be delivered in Polish. Registrants must include a valid email address. A Zoom login will be emailed 1 hour before the program begins. *Call 708-215-3220 for more information.*

#### **Rodzime Rośliny dla Ogrodu Przyjaznego Ptakom**

Przy współpracy z biblioteką publiczną w LaGrange, zapraszamy na program o rodzimych roślinach dla ogrodu przyjaznego ptakom. Prezentacja Zoom w języku polskim. Zaproszenie wysyłamy drogą e-mailową, godzinę przed rozpoczęciem programu. *Bezpłatna rejestracja pod numerem: 708-215-3220.*

**Saturday, 1/30; 1:30 pm (Zoom)****Zoology Club: Hibernate, Migrate or Tolerate, Little Red Schoolhouse, Willow Springs**

Participants 12 years and older will be introduced to the discipline and profession of Zoology virtually, with the topic for this meeting being how wildlife survives freezing temperatures. *Registration required. Contact 708-839-6897.*

**Saturday, 1/30; 1pm (Zoom)****Topographical Map Adventures, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington**

Understanding how to use a topographical map is almost a lost art! Join us on a Zoom program to learn about some of the useful information that can be gleaned from this old-school tool! *Ages 10 and up. Registration required. Call 847-381-6592.*

**Saturdays and Sundays throughout February from 9am - 3pm****Winter Story Trail, Sandridge Nature Center, South Holland**

A story walk is an outdoor reading experience where a children's book is deconstructed, and the pages of the book are placed along a trail. Walk our Redwing Trail anytime during weekends this February and experience a story unfold with every step. This month's story is "The Snowy Day" by Ezra Jack Keats.

**Wednesdays; 10am - 2pm and Fridays; 12pm - 4pm throughout February****Open Nature Play Day, Dan Ryan Woods, Chicago**

Register your little one for an hour-long open nature play time. Enjoy the Dan Ryan Woods Nature Play space while helping your children connect with nature. *Registration required. Call 312-415-2970.*

**Mondays, 2/1 and 2/8; 9am - 4pm****Children's Story Trail and Craft: Groundhog's Day, Trailside Museum, River Forest**

Come celebrate Groundhog's Day as you walk a short trail near the Museum, while reading a posted nature story on groundhogs. Afterwards, pick up a bag with related craft materials and suggestions for more outdoor adventures!

**Tuesday, 2/2; 2pm (Facebook LIVE)****Groundhog Day, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook**

Learn the story behind this peculiar holiday. *All ages.*

**Wednesday, 2/3; 10am (Facebook LIVE)****Groundhog Day, Again..., River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook**

Learn the story behind this peculiar holiday. *All ages.*



**Saturday, 2/6; 1:30pm - 2:30pm (Zoom)****From Sand Ridge to Freedom Road, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland**

Discover how the ancient shoreline Michigan City Road sits was formed and its connection to the Chicago to Detroit route of the Underground Railroad. *Registration Required. Call 708-868-0606 or visit in person at our nature center.*

**Sunday, 2/7; 9:30am - 2:30pm****Winter Survival: Resting Reptiles (Self-Guided), Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington**

Pick up an informational guide to lead your own adventure and discover the challenges and survival strategies of reptiles in winter.

**Sunday, 2/7; 10am - 3pm (Self-guided)****The Search for Gary the Groundhog and His Friends, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland**

Learn the basics of fire building using a mix of primitive and modern techniques. Once perfected, try constructing your own! *No registration required. Pick up your scavenger hunt sheets at the outdoor front desk. Completed scavenger hunts will receive a small prize while supplies last.*

**Wednesday, 2/10; 6:30pm (Zoom)****Bellwood and Beyond: A Presentation on Local Forest Preserves**

In partnership with the Bellwood Public Library, join in on a virtual presentation where we will cover Forest Preserve history and specifically highlight forest preserve amenities to take advantage of in Bellwood and the surrounding communities. *Questions will be answered at the end of the presentation. Registration required in order to obtain the Zoom link. Please visit [bellwoodandbeyond.eventbrite.com](http://bellwoodandbeyond.eventbrite.com).*

**Thursday, 2/11; 1pm (Facebook LIVE)****Valentines Forest Bathing, Little Red Schoolhouse, Willow Springs**

Explore the therapeutic benefits of forest bathing and learn techniques that will help deepen your connection and love for one another.

**Thursday, 2/11 to Sunday 2/14; 9am - 4pm****Children's Animal Valentine Card Craft, Trailside Museum, River Forest**

Create a cute animal Valentine's Day card to give to an animal at Trailside or to your Valentine! Pick up a bag at the Museum with all the materials you need except glue and scissors.

**Friday, 2/13; 6pm - 9pm (Self-guided)****Sand Ridge by Candlelight, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland**

Enjoy Sand Ridge at night during a relaxing candle lit self-guided walk through the woods on our beautiful

trails. *Registration Required. Call 708-868-0606 or visit in person at our nature center. Multiple time slots available.*

**Sunday, 2/14; 11am (Zoom)**

**If Twigs Could Talk, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington**

Become a twig detective! Learn how to use a dichotomous key to identify trees in the winter. *Registration required. Call 847-381-6592. Twig kits need to be picked up from Crabtree in advance. Ages 12 and up.*

**Monday, 2/15; 11am (Facebook LIVE)**

**Box Turtle Lunch, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington**

Have lunch over Facebook Live with our resident Box Turtles while learning how to make your own turtle inspired lunch. *The ingredient list will be made available on Facebook before the program.*

**Wednesday, 2/17; 12pm**

**Facebook Live at Lunchtime: Raptor Training, Trailside Museum, River Forest**

Join us to view a training session as we work with a live raptor.

**Thursday, 2/18; 6pm (Zoom)**

**Crayfish of the Chicago Region**

Did you know Illinois has 23 different species of crayfish? Learn about which crayfish can be found in the waterways around Chicago and the importance crayfish play in water and ecosystem quality. *Register at [crayfishofchicago.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/crayfish-of-chicago).*

**Thursday, 2/18; 2pm (Facebook LIVE)**

**2 Owls and a Naturalist, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook**

Let's talk about owls. *All ages.*

**Friday, 2/19; 6:30pm (Zoom)**

**Winter Watercolors**

Explore nature through artmaking. In this virtual class, an instructor will lead you step-by-step through watercolor painting. *Registration required. Please visit [eventbrite.com/e/art-in-nature-winter-watercolors-tickets](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/art-in-nature-winter-watercolors-tickets).*

**Friday, 2/19; 11am - 1pm**

**Winter Craft Pick-Up Kits, Swallow Cliff Woods, Palos Heights**

Let nature inspire your creativity. Register to pick up a nature inspired craft to be completed at home. *To get a kit, please register at [winterpickupcraft.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/winterpickupcraft).*

**Friday, 2/19; 11am (Facebook LIVE)****Creature Feature: The Barred Owl, Little Red Schoolhouse, Willow Springs**

Join us for a Facebook live event featuring one of our ambassador animals, the Barred Owl. Come learn about how this unique raptor has adapted to live in our region and parts of the US and Canada. *Questions are encouraged. All ages.*

**Sunday, 2/21; 1pm (Zoom)****Nature Knowledge Showdown, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington**

Get ready to rumble in this friendly trivia competition. Our game show will feature local nature knowledge of all levels. Do you need a refresher on how to tell your gadwells from your goldfinches? Are those tracks coyote or dog? *Registration required. Call 847-381-6592.*

**Tuesday, 2/23; 1pm (Facebook LIVE)****DIY Fire Starters**

Learn how to make easy, eco-friendly fire starters at home for your next campfire.

**Wednesday, 2/24; 6:30pm -7:30pm****Virtual: Winter Photography Skills Workshop**

This online workshop over Zoom will cover photography basics, with a focus on composition in the winter. We will cover issues you may experience while out taking pictures when there is snowfall and provide tips and best practices for you to use on your next winter photography adventure. The presentation will include recommendations on some of our most picturesque preserves for you to explore with your camera. *Questions will be answered at the end of the presentation. Registration required in order to obtain the Zoom link. Please visit [winterphotoskills2.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/winterphotoskills2).*

**Wednesday, 2/24; 5pm (Facebook LIVE)****Nature DIY: Winter Reduce and Reuse, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook**

Learn how to make vegetable broth out of food waste in this tutorial demonstrating at-home projects to reduce waste and repurpose winter home goods.

**COMMITTEE ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION**

**REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE MEETING OF 1/26/2021**

**20-0451 PROPOSED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT** Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority (the “Tollway”).

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**RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING OF 1/26/2021**

**20-0464 REPORT** Position Paper: *Nature-Compatible Recreation in the Forest Preserves of Cook County*

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