



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

**Journal Proceedings of the FPD Board of Commissioners**

**Tuesday, April 25, 2023**

**10:00 AM**

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

**ATTENDANCE**

**Present:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (17)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to allow for remote participation in meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (16)

**Absent:** Moore (1)

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Present:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (17)

[23-0310](#)

**Sponsored by:** TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), JOHN P. DALEY, BILL LOWRY, BRIDGET GAINER, STANLEY MOORE, SEAN M. MORRISON, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, SCOTT R. BRITTON, ALMA E. ANAYA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, DONNA MILLER, FRANK J. AGUILAR, JOSINA MORITA, MONICA GORDON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA and MAGGIE TREVOR, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING COMMISSIONER BRANDON JOHNSON**

**WHEREAS,** Commissioner Brandon Johnson will vacate his seat on the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners to become the fifty-seventh mayor of the City of Chicago in the near future after over 4 years of service as a Forest Preserves of Cook County Commissioner; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the mission of the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) "to acquire, restore and manage lands for the purpose of protecting and preserving public open space with its natural wonders, significant prairies, forests, wetlands, rivers, streams, and other landscapes with all of its associated wildlife, in a natural state for the education, pleasure and recreation of the public now and in the future"; and

**WHEREAS**, the Forest Preserves was founded over one hundred years ago, currently spans almost seventy thousand acres across Cook County making it one of the largest urban open space organizations in the nation experiencing millions of visits annually, and contributes immeasurably to the quality of life of residents of Cook County, and scientific research and conservation; and

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Johnson has led as the Vice-Chair of the Committee on Labor, Vice-Chair of the Committee on Capital Development & Ecological Restoration, and Vice-Chair of the Committee on Recreation & Engagement; and

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Johnson has also served on the Committees on Finance, Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations, Real Estate, Law Enforcement, the Botanic Garden, Contract Compliance, Pension, and on the Subcommittee on Litigation where his contributions and insights have aided the Forest Preserves in advancement of its mission and improved the quality of life for Cook County residents and Forest Preserves visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Johnson, a dedicated public servant, made his mark on the Forest Preserves for generations to come in many ways including sponsoring Resolution 21-0532. The resolution placed the Clear Air, Clean Water, and Wildlife Habitat Protection question on all Cook County voters’ ballots in November 2022, a measure that passed with 69% of the vote; and

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Johnson is a fierce champion for equity, who ceaselessly advocates for marginalized and disenfranchised communities. He is not only extremely responsive to constituents’ requests, but also actively seeks to make the Forest Preserves more inclusive of communities that often face obstacles with accessibility; and

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Johnson approaches policy decisions with a holistic and equitable lens resulting in well-reasoned and sound public policy that advocates for communities that have experienced historic racialized disinvestment; and

**WHEREAS**, Commissioner Johnson leads by his example, using practices with his family that protect the land, including bicycling and public transportation, respect for nature and wildlife, energy efficient electricity use, composting, recycling, and water conservation.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that President Toni Preckwinkle and members of the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby extend their sincere and grateful appreciation to Commissioner Brandon Johnson for his exemplary service on the Board and wish him the

best for continued success, happiness, and good health in the years to come; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body, and a suitable copy of the same be tendered to Commissioner Brandon Johnson.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve on the Consent Agenda 23-0310. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gordon, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (16)

**Absent:** Gainer (1)

23-0309

**Sponsored by:** TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), JOHN P. DALEY, BILL LOWRY, BRIDGET GAINER, STANLEY MOORE, SEAN M. MORRISON, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, SCOTT R. BRITTON, BRANDON JOHNSON, ALMA E. ANAYA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, DONNA MILLER, FRANK J. AGUILAR, JOSINA MORITA, MONICA GORDON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA and MAGGIE TREVOR, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**CELEBRATING THE CAREER AND HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF STEPHEN HUGHES**

**WHEREAS**, Stephen has provided over 40 years of public service in local government agencies including as the Managing Deputy Comptroller for the City of Chicago, the Chief Financial Officer for the Chicago Park District, the Deputy Director of Cook County’s Enterprise Resource Planning Department, and most recently the Chief Financial Officer of the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”); and

**WHEREAS**, in his role with the Forest Preserves, Stephen was responsible for managing all financial affairs and administrative functions related to personnel, purchasing, risk management and financial accounting; and

**WHEREAS**, soon after arriving at the Forest Preserves, he discovered a substantial pension and structural budget deficit, and spent the next several years helping to identify and analyze over fifty initiatives and options to reduce costs and raise revenues, ultimately advocating to find a sustainable source of revenue to avoid reducing programs and services; and

**WHEREAS**, Stephen was instrumental in making the case for a tax referendum, which voters approved in 2022, providing critical funds to care for nature, improve outdoor recreation amenities, maintain infrastructure, and stabilize the Forest Preserves’ pension fund; and

**WHEREAS**, his focus on fiscal responsibility, transparency, and accountability helped build the case that

the Forest Preserves could be trusted to spend taxpayer funds efficiently and effectively; and

**WHEREAS**, Stephen has a Master’s Degree in Business Administration from the University of Illinois at Chicago and a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Illinois State University. He serves as a Trustee and Board Secretary for the Cook County and Forest Preserve Annuity and Benefit Funds. He is also a member of the Cook County and Forest Preserve Deferred Compensation Committee and has previously served on the Board of the Chicago Municipal Credit Union; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout his career Stephen has helped ensure taxpayer funds were spent efficiently by effectively managing budgets, outsourcing government operations where appropriate, and overseeing complex operations and functions, including procurement, accounting, information technology and budgeting; and

**WHEREAS**, Stephen is an avid and accomplished runner and has completed four (4) marathons, two (2) half marathons and one (1) half triathlon. In his retirement, he will continue running and looks forward to spending time with his family, including his wife, children and grandchildren; and

**WHEREAS**, in the words of General Superintendent, Arnold Randall, “Steve is not only a highly competent professional; he is a quiet, hardworking, honest and decent man who served the public for forty years. I am deeply grateful for his service and wish him a long and happy retirement.”

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that President Toni Preckwinkle, along with the members of the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners, and on behalf of all citizens of Cook County, do hereby congratulate Stephen Hughes on a long career of public service and thank him for his many contributions to the Forest Preserves of Cook County; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a suitable copy of this resolution be tendered to Stephen Hughes in recognition of his career, contributions to the Forest Preserves of Cook County and his passion for public service.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve on the Consent Agenda 23-0309. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gordon, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (16)

**Absent:** Gainer (1)

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

1. George Blakemore
2. Angela Habr
3. Jodie Wiederkehr
4. Campsie Grothendieck
5. Carol Milan
6. Irene Sewell
7. Michael Flournoy

**PRESIDENT**

[23-0301](#)

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

**PROPOSED APPOINTMENT**

**Appointee(s):** Damon Howell

**Position:** Acting Treasurer

**Department/Board/Commission:** Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”)

**Effective date:** May 1, 2023

**Expiration date:** Upon the appointment of a permanent Treasurer

Per the Forest Preserves Code of Ordinances, Section 1-6-3-A, the Treasurer is considered the Chief Financial Officer of the Forest Preserves.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to suspend the rules for immediate consideration of 23-0301. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 23-0301. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0298](#)

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

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**AUTHORIZED SIGNATORIES**

**WHEREAS**, the FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY (the “Forest Preserves”) has authorized various banks as depositories of its accounts; and

**WHEREAS**, from time to time, the Forest Preserves may also seek to open lines of credit or purchase appeal bonds from various insurers, bond companies or other institutions to cover the costs of judgments against the Forest Preserves in the event the Forest Preserves, upon Board approval, decides to appeal such judgments; and

**WHEREAS**, the various banks that serve as depositories of the Forest Preserves’ accounts require the manual or facsimile signature of duly elected or appointed Officers of the Forest Preserves for the warrants, checks drafts or other orders on these accounts; and

**WHEREAS**, the various insurers, bond companies and other institutions with whom the Forest Preserves may seek to open a line of credit, or from whom the Forest Preserves may seek to purchase an appeal bond, may require the manual or facsimile signatures of duly elected or appointed Officers of the Forest Preserves in order to allow the Forest Preserves to establish lines of credit or purchase appeals bonds; and

**WHEREAS**, from time to time, based on changes in Forest Preserves personnel, it is necessary to advise banks, insurers, bond companies and other institutions of changes to the list of elected or appointed Officers of the Forest Preserves who are authorized to sign on behalf of the Forest Preserves in order to allow the Forest Preserves to issue checks, warrants or other orders with respect to Forest Preserves bank accounts; establish lines of credit; or purchase appeals bonds; and

**WHEREAS**, upon approval, this Resolution shall supersede the prior Resolution, Item No. 14-0438, which was approved by the Forest Preserves Board of Commissioners on September 9, 2014 regarding authorized signatures.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes, effective May 1, 2023, that the manual or facsimile signatures of any three of the following officers shall appear on all lines of credit opened; appeal bonds purchased; or warrants, checks, drafts or other orders drawn on the bank accounts or other accounts of the Forest Preserves:

PRESIDENT, TONI PRECKWINKLE  
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT, ARNOLD RANDALL  
INTERIM CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, DAMON HOWELL  
ACTING TREASURER, DAMON HOWELL

provided, however, that one signature must be that of either the Acting Treasurer or the Interim Chief Financial Officer; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the banks, insurers, bond companies, sureties or other institutions authorized as lenders, depositories, or sureties of the Forest Preserves shall be entitled to honor and to charge the Forest Preserves, for such lines of credit, appeal bonds, warrants, checks, drafts or other orders whenever such documents shall be signed manually or by facsimile by any three of the following officers of the Forest Preserves:

PRESIDENT, TONI PRECKWINKLE  
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT, ARNOLD RANDALL  
INTERIM CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, DAMON HOWELL  
ACTING TREASURER, DAMON HOWELL

provided, however, that one signature is that of the Acting Treasurer or Interim Chief Financial Officer.

**OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT**

[23-0308](#)

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

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION FOR AN INFRASTRUCTURE BENEFICIARY GRANT FROM COOK COUNTY TO THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY, CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN, AND BROOKFIELD ZOO TO BE PAID FROM ARPA REVENUE LOSS ALLOCATION**

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2021, the federal government authorized the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (“ARPA”), which includes \$1.9 trillion in federal stimulus funds to hasten the United States’ recovery from the economic and health effects caused by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, specifically, the federal government has authorized and allocated a federal award of

approximately \$1,000,372,385 of ARPA funding to Cook County (“County”) to assist the County in its recovery from the economic and health effects of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 24, 2021, the County’s American Rescue Plan Act Framework (the “ARPA Framework”) was presented to the Cook County Board of Commissioners; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cook County Board of Commissioners via Resolution 21-3654 accepted the ARPA federal award to assist the County in its recovery from the economic and health effects of COVID-19 in the amount of approximately \$1,000,372,385.00; and

**WHEREAS**, the County to date has allocated up to \$300,000,000 from its ARPA federal award for revenue loss; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to its home rule powers and in accordance with U.S. Department of Treasury ARPA guidance, the County desires to allocate \$25M of its ARPA revenue loss allocation to the Forest Preserve District of Cook County (“FPDCC”), the Chicago Horticultural Society (“Garden”), and the Chicago Zoological Society (“Zoo”) to fund various capital projects in furtherance of Cook County’s Policy Roadmap Goals and the County’s commitment to improved health and wellness, government services, and public infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, Resolution 22-0637 provided that any grants issued regarding ARPA programs in an amount over \$1M shall require the approval of the Cook County Board of Commissioners; and

**WHEREAS**, the County is expected to seek approval to issue the above-referenced grants from the Cook County Board of Commissioners on April 27, 2023 (Cook County Board Item No. 23-2282); and

**WHEREAS**, the County desires to award \$10M to the FPDCC, \$10M to the Zoo, and \$5M to the Garden in the form of a Beneficiary Grant Agreement for capital projects for each entity; and

**WHEREAS**, the nature of the capital projects will vary based on the site, but the capital projects will improve the experience and public health of surrounding community members and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, the FPDCC will institute general maintenance and upgrades to public facilities (including HVAC replacements), and build new comfort stations and rehabilitate up to 40 existing comfort stations throughout the forest preserve system; the Garden will facilitate roof replacement(s) at the Garden; and the Zoo will institute HVAC upgrades, roof repairs, and animal exhibit upgrades at the Zoo; and/or, in the case of each of the FPDCC, Garden and Zoo, such other projects as approved by the County through the County’s Bureau of Finance; and

**WHEREAS**, the Garden and the Zoo are not governmental entities; the property and buildings that host their programming are assets of the FPDCC, and due to the nature of these sites offering green space to the public as well as the community programming offered by these entities (governmental or otherwise), the rehabilitation of these sites falls within the scope of traditional government services and the County’s



home rule powers; and

**WHEREAS**, the capital projects identified will be completed by year end 2026 and the completion of such projects will be monitored by the County through the Bureau of Finance and the FPDCC.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that President, Toni Preckwinkle and the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the FPDCC to accept as a sub-recipient the proposed \$10M grant designated for the FPDCC and to enter the three (3) Beneficiary Agreements described below, subject to approval of the same by the Cook County Board of Commissioners:

1. Enter into a Beneficiary Agreement with the **Zoo and the County** under which the County will grant \$10M to the Zoo to fund HVAC, roof, and animal exhibit upgrades, and/or such other project(s) at the Zoo as approved by the County through the Bureau of Finance and FPDCC. The FPDCC will monitor the use of the grant award by the Zoo and report on the completion of the identified capital projects in accordance with the Beneficiary Agreement.
  
2. Enter into a Beneficiary Agreement with the **Garden and the County** under which the County will grant \$5M to the Garden to facilitate roof replacement(s), and/or such other project(s) at the Garden as approved by the County through the Bureau of Finance and FPDCC. The FPDCC will monitor the use of the grant award by the Garden and report on the completion of the identified capital projects in accordance with the Beneficiary Agreement.
  
3. Enter into a Beneficiary Agreement with **the County** under which the County will grant \$10M to FPDCC to institute general maintenance and upgrades to public facilities (including HVAC replacements), build new comfort stations and rehabilitate up to 40 existing comfort stations, and/or such other project(s) as approved by the County through the Bureau of Finance. The Bureau of Finance will monitor the use of the grant award by the FPDCC and report on the completion of the identified capital projects in accordance with the Beneficiary Agreement.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the capital projects included in the above-referenced Beneficiary Agreements shall be completed by year-end 2026.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to suspend the rules to take out of order 23-0308. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve as amended 23-0308. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0299](#)

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

**PROPOSED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT**

**Department:** Department of Planning and Development

**Other Part(ies):** Public Building Commission of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

**Request:** Authorization to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Public Building Commission (“PBC”)

**Goods or Services:** Planning, design and construction of various building and site improvement projects on public land and facilities owned by the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”).

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

**Agreement Period:** 4/25/2023 - 12/31/2028

**Fiscal Impact:** Not to exceed \$25,000,000.00. Estimated impact: FY2023 \$1,227,188.00, FY2024 \$4,956,938.00, FY2025 \$6,204,938.00, FY2026 \$6,204,938.00, FY2027 \$939,750.00, FY2028: \$799,000.00

**Accounts:** Professional Services 51009.520830, 51010.520830, 51027.520830, 51028.520830, 51030.520830, 51031.520830, 51033.520830; Land Improvements 51009.560019, 51010.560019, 51028.560019, 51030.560019, 51031.560019, 51033.560019; Property Maintenance and Operations 51009.560105, 51010.560105, 51027.560105, 51028.560105, 51030.560105, 51031.560105, 51033.560105; and future Construction and Development and Capital bond accounts

**District(s):** Districtwide

**Summary:** The PBC was created by Illinois state legislation in 1956 for the purpose, among others, of facilitating the development, construction, operation and maintenance of public buildings, improvements, and facilities for use by local public agencies in the furnishing of essential governmental services. Of the PBC’s ten commissioners, one each is appointed by the Chicago Board of Education, the Chicago Park District, Cook County, the Forest Preserves of Cook County, and the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago.

The Forest Preserves is seeking assistance from the PBC to manage and deliver certain capital improvement projects that are being advanced in the 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan due to increased revenue from grants and the passage of the referendum. Additional support from the PBC is needed to deliver these capital improvement projects quickly without adding staff, subject to available funding. A portfolio of four (4) initial projects include: 1. a new comfort station building at the Beaubien Woods Boat Launch; 2. rehabilitation of up to sixty (60) comfort stations or indoor restrooms; 3. lighting upgrades at up to forty-five (45) locations; and 4. three (3) new metal vehicle and boat storage buildings at maintenance and resource management field locations. Additional projects may be added in the future with notice to the PBC up to the \$25 million cap, however, preliminary Forest Preserves cost estimates for the four priority projects with contingency is \$24.2 million. The PBC will coordinate with the Forest Preserves on goals for participation on Forest Preserves projects by minority and women owned businesses. Final agreement is subject to legal review and approval.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to suspend the rules to take out of order 23-0299. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (17)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 23-0299. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Johnson, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (17)

[23-0019](#)

**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:** Commonwealth Edison Company (“ComEd”), Oak Brook, Illinois

**Request:** Authorization to accept grant

**Purpose:** Grant award for the construction of a new very high efficiency heating, ventilating and air conditions system for the Forest Preserves’ General Headquarters located in River Forest, Illinois.

**Grant Amount:** \$300,000.00

**Grant Period:** Date of Execution to one (1) year after completion of construction under proposed contract described in related Board Item No. 23-0018

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

**Accounts:** Property Maintenance & Operations Grant 51010.560105

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

**District(s):** 9

**Summary:** ComEd is seeking to support the use of very high efficiency Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems through its Emerging Technologies grant program. The \$300,000.00 proposed grant to the Forest Preserves will support the Forest Preserves' replacement of existing gas-fired boilers and inefficient mechanical systems at the Forest Preserves' General Headquarters with all-electric heating, ventilating, and cooling system (see related Board Item No. 23-0018). The Forest Preserves will also be addressing building envelope deficiencies to reduce the amount of energy needed. The new system will advance the Forest Preserves' Sustainability and Climate Resiliency Plan by reducing the Forest Preserves impact on the effects of global climate change. ComEd will provide half the grant funds upon execution of the agreement and disburse the second half upon completion of construction. The Forest Preserves will provide ComEd with energy performance data produced by the new system. The new system is designed to the requirements of ComEd's subcontractor, the Institute for Market Transformation (IMT), and will be monitored by IMT per the Memorandum of Understanding approved by the Board November 2, 2021 (Board Item No. 21-0479). Separate purchases of equipment for the installation were approved by the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners on March 14, 2023 (Board Item Nos. 23-0212 and 23-0213).

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 23-0019. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0289](#)

**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 Natural Resources

**Request:** Authorization to accept grant

**Purpose:** Authorization is sought for the Forest Preserves of Cook County to accept and enter into an agreement with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) for Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant funding for the acquisition of three (3) parcels of land located near other recent acquisitions in Glenwood, Illinois

**Grant Amount:** \$946,000.00

**Grant Period:** 4/25/2023 - 3/31/2025

**Fiscal Impact:** Up to \$946,000.00 in match

**Accounts:** Real Estate and Land Acquisition Fund 51006.560010; and Grant Fund 51010.56010

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

**District(s):** 5

**Summary:** The Forest Preserves has been awarded an LWCF grant that will support the acquisition of three (3) parcels comprising approximately 86-acres along the Deer Creek Corridor, in southeast Cook County, Illinois. The acquisition would serve as a buffer to Deer Creek, help to improve water quality and habitat, provide flood control benefits, and provide much needed outdoor recreation opportunities in an area that lacks sufficient access to public outdoor space and nature. The proposed acquisitions advance the Forest Preserves’ 2019 Southeast Cook County Land Acquisition Plan, 2012 Land Acquisition Plan, as well as its 2014 Next Century Conservation Plan.

Once the parcels have been acquired, the Forest Preserves will begin restoration and development of the sites to ensure public access, including adding parking spaces.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve**

**23-0289. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0296](#)

**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 Natural Resources, Springfield, Illinois

**Request:** Authorization to accept grant

**Purpose:** Authorization is sought for the Forest Preserves to accept and enter into an agreement with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) for Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) grant funding for acquisition of a 14.3-acre parcel in Orland Park, Illinois in Cook County.

**Grant Amount:** \$428,800.00

**Grant Period:** 5/1/2023 - 4/30/2025

**Fiscal Impact:** Not to Exceed \$857,600.00 in match

**Accounts:** Real Estate and Land Acquisition Fund 51006.560010; and Grant Fund 51010.560010

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

**District(s):** 17

**Summary:** The Forest Preserves has been awarded an OSLAD grant that will support the acquisition of a 14.3-acre parcel just north of the 960-acre Orland Grassland preserve, in southwest Cook County, Illinois. The acquisition would serve as a buffer to the existing preserve, protect a portion of Marley Creek

and adjacent wetlands and provide opportunities for nature exploration. The proposed acquisition advances the Forest Preserves’ 2012 Land Acquisition Plan and 2014 Next Century Conservation Plan and will protect Orland Grassland - a designated Illinois Land & Water Reserve - from impacts should adjacent sites be developed as the Village of Orland Park continues to grow.

The Forest Preserves obtained a waiver of retroactivity from IDNR and acquired the parcel on December 14, 2022.

The Forest Preserves will begin restoration and development of the site to ensure public access, including adding parking spaces and an ADA-compliant path to an overlook with interpretive signage.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 23-0296. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0283](#)

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

**PROPOSED AGREEMENT**

**Vendor:** Chicago River Canoe & Kayak, Evanston, Illinois

**Request:** Requesting authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to enter into an agreement

**Reason:** To provide canoe and kayak rentals at Skokie Lagoons. The Forest Preserves requested proposals through its online bidding process. The selected vendor, Chicago River Canoe & Kayak, was deemed the most responsive and responsible of two (2) respondents to operate the Skokie Lagoons boating facility, which will offer canoe and kayak rentals along with lessons to the public. Chicago River Canoe & Kayak has operated the Skokie Lagoons boating facility since 2009 and presented the strongest financial package and management plan for the coming term.

Chicago River Canoe & Kayak has agreed to pay the Forest Preserves an annual fee per year of \$21,000 in addition to 5% of gross sales.

**Contract Period:** Thirty-six (36) months. The initial Term of this Agreement shall be for a three (3) year initial contract with two (2) optional two-year extensions to be exercised at the discretion of the General Superintendent

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$63,000.00 + 5% of gross sales (revenue generating)

**Account(s):** N/A (Revenue Generating)

**Contract Number(s):** #74000012169

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

**District(s):** 13

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 23-0283. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0270](#)

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

**PROPOSED CONTRACT**

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

**Vendor:** Metropolitan Industries Inc., Romeoville, Illinois

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

**Good(s) or Service(s):** Supply of hydromatic pumps

**Contract Value:** \$150,000.00

**Contract Period:** 4/25/2023 - 4/24/2026

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** FY 2023 \$29,000.00, FY 2024 \$50,000.00, FY 2025 \$50,000.00, FY 2026 \$21,000.00

**Accounts:** Property Maintenance and Operations 51001.540350, Construction and Development 51033.520830, and future Construction and Development and Capital accounts

**Contract Number(s):** #74000012159



**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:** Metropolitan Industries is the sole Cook County authorized distributor of the Pentair hydromatic pump, proprietary brackets, and proprietary rail system that the Forest Preserves uses in its comfort stations. No other pumps and supplied proprietary brackets will fit the rail and discharge system for the Forest Preserves comfort stations. After researching the cost and process to redesign these stations, the Forest Preserves concluded a sole source contract is the most cost-effective option.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 23-0270. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0302](#)

**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 design and feasibility studies of canoe and kayak launches at various locations.

**Contract Value:** \$449,745.00

**Contract Period:** 4/25/2023 - 4/24/2027

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** FY 2023 \$199,745.00, FY 2024 \$125,000.00, FY 2025 \$125,000.00

**Accounts:** Professional Services 51009.520830, 51028.520830, 51030.520830, 51031.520830, 51033.520830; and future Construction & Development accounts

**Contract Number(s):** #74000012185 issued under Request for Proposals No. 23-80-25, Solicitation #23-80-008950

**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 provisions via direct participation.

**District(s):** Districtwide

**Summary:** The Forest Preserves is seeking professional engineering design services to develop concept plans and cost estimates for accessibility improvements and other improvements to two existing canoe and kayak launches (at Linne Woods on the North Branch of the Chicago River and the Little Calumet River Boat Launch) and eight (8) proposed new launches at various locations. These locations include Willow Road Dam, Blue Star Memorial Woods and Bunker Hill (on the Skokie or North Branch of the Chicago River), Potawatomi Woods, Dam No. 1 Woods - East and Maywood Grove (on the Des Plaines River), Twenty-Sixth Street-West on Salt Creek and River Oaks Golf Course on the Little Calumet River. The proposed contract would also include final engineering services for Maywood Grove in 2023 and additional engineering services to advance others in 2024 and 2025 after completing initial feasibility studies. A map of the Forest Preserves' seventeen existing canoe and kayak launches is available on the Forest Preserves' web site.

The consultant team, led by 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. 23-80-25). Three (3) teams submitted proposals in response to the request.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 23-0302. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0275](#)

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

**PROPOSED CONTRACT AMENDMENT**

**Department(s):** Office of the General Superintendent

**Vendor:** Silk Screen Express, Inc, Tinley Park, Illinois

**Request:** Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to extend and increase contract.

**Good(s) or Service(s):** Districtwide Apparel

**Original Contract Period:** 1/1/2018 - 12/31/2022; Administrative Extension 1/1/2023 - 5/31/2023

**Proposed Contract Period Extension:** 6/1/2023 - 12/31/2023

**Total Current Contract Amount Authority:** \$137,500.00

**Original Approval:** 11/14/2017, \$125,000.00

**Previous Increase(s):** Administrative increase 2/6/2023, \$12,500.00

**This Increase Requested:** \$25,000.00

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** FY 2023, \$25,000.00

**Accounts:** Professional Service 51001.520840, 51001.530267, 51001.521314, 51001.520635, 51001.520350, 51001.530130, 51001.530267, 51001.530271, 51001.530189, and 51001.520835

**Contract Number(s):** #74000004276 issued under Project #17-31-110R

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

Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise goals are not applicable to the contract as the original contract value per year was equal to or less than \$25,000.00.

**District(s):** Districtwide

**Summary:** The current apparel agreement with Silk Screen Express, Inc consists of the manufacture and distribution of a variety of Forest Preserves logoed silkscreened and embroidered apparel for use by staff and will be ending 5/31/2023. We respectfully request an increase of \$25,000.00 and extension through

12/31/2023, to allow staff to prepare an RFP to solicit proposers that can provide these types of products which is projected to be posted on our website this spring or summer and awarded this fall or winter, for a multiyear contract. The benefit of logoed apparel is to have our staff, particularly those in public facing roles, identified easily by wearing Forest Preserves logoed apparel. This contract is managed by the General Office and utilized by all Forest Preserves departments to consolidate and centralize districtwide apparel purchasing.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 23-0275. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0278](#)

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

**PROPOSED CONTRACT AMENDMENT**

**Department(s):** Department of Finance and Administration

**Vendor:** Insight Public Sector, Inc., Tempe, Arizona

**Request:** Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to increase contract

**Good(s) or Service(s):** Computer Hardware Products

**Original Contract Period:** 10/22/2019 - 9/8/2024, with three (3) one-year renewal options

**Proposed Contract Period Extension:** N/A

**Total Current Contract Amount Authority:** \$660,000.00

**Original Approval:** 10/22/2019, \$600,000.00

**Previous Increase(s):** Administrative increase 2/7/2023, \$60,000.00

**This Increase Requested:** \$275,000.00

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** FY 2023 \$140,000.00, FY 2024 \$135,000.00

**Accounts:** Computer Supplies and Services 51001.530635

**Contract Number(s):** #74000006761

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

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

**District(s):** Districtwide

**Summary:** The Forest Preserves is presently utilizing a contract that is piggybacked from a Cook County contract for IT hardware and services (Cook County Board Item Nos. 19-4551 and 19-5255). As a result of increased capital development and staffing made possible by the successful referendum in November 2022, the Forest Preserves’ IT resources/hardware and services must be increased to meet the demands of the expanding work.

The Forest Preserves’ Finance and Administration Department is requesting an amendment to increase the spending amount with the current vendor. In FY 2023 and FY 2024, there are eight (8) anticipated capital projects, including the complete reconstruction of the Forest Preserves Police Command Center. The proposed increase will ensure that the new staff have computer-technology resources required to achieve the Forest Preserves’ mission.

Used desktop and laptop computers will be donated to ‘PCs for People’, a Cook County partner in addressing Digital Divide challenges.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 23-0278. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0291](#)

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

**PROPOSED CONTRACT AMENDMENT**

**Department(s):** Department of Landscape Maintenance

**Vendor:** Service Sanitation, Inc., Homewood, Illinois

**Request:** Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to amend the Placement and Servicing of Portable Toilets in Region 1 (Northwest Region) by exercising our third cleaning option during peak season (May 1st through September 30th) for the Service Sanitation, Inc. contract.

**Good(s) or Service(s):** Placement and Servicing of portable toilets in Region 1 (Northwest Region)

**Original Contract Period:** 11/1/2021 - 10/31/2024; three (3) year contract with two (2) one-year renewal options

**Proposed Contract Period Extension:** N/A

**Total Current Contract Amount Authority:** \$312,420.00

**Original Approval:** 9/21/2021, \$312,420.00

**Previous Increase(s):** N/A

**This Increase Requested:** \$89,000.00

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** FY 2023 \$44,000.00, FY 2024 \$45,000.00

**Accounts:** Professional Services 51001.520840; Operations and Maintenance 51001.540380; Supplies and Materials 51001.530267; Special or Co-op Programs 51001.521448; Grant and Mitigation 51010.521444; Resource Ecology 51001.521449; Special Events 51001.520635; and Property Maintenance and Operations 51051.560105

**Contract Number(s):** #74000009626 issued under Project #21-52-101 (Rebid)

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

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

**District(s):** 1, 9, 14, 15, 16, 17

**Summary:** The peak of patron use at the Forest Preserves is during spring and summer months. During the peak season (May 1st through September 30th), our Portable Toilets are cleaned two (2) times a week in Region 1. In our strategic effort to increase patronage and improve the cleanliness, sanitation, and aesthetics of our groves and public areas, the Forest Preserves would like to exercise its option to increase the amount of weekly cleaning of Portable Toilets from two (2) times per week to three (3) times a week during this season.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 23-0291. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0292](#)

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

**PROPOSED CONTRACT AMENDMENT**

**Department(s):** Department of Landscape Maintenance

**Vendor:** Service Sanitation, Inc., Homewood, Illinois

**Request:** Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to amend the Placement and Servicing of Portable Toilets in Region 2 (North Region) by exercising our third cleaning option during peak season (May 1st through September 30th) for the Service Sanitation, Inc. contract.

**Good(s) or Service(s):** Placement and Servicing of Portable Toilets in Region 2 (North Region)

**Original Contract Period:** 11/1/2021 - 10/31/2024; three (3) year contract with two (2) one-year renewal options

**Proposed Contract Period Extension:** N/A

**Total Current Contract Amount Authority:** \$281,100.00

**Original Approval:** 9/21/2021, \$281,100.00

**Previous Increase(s):** N/A

**This Increase Requested:** \$88,000.00

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** FY 2023 \$43,000.00, FY 2024 \$45,000.00

**Accounts:** Professional Services 51001.520840; Operations and Maintenance 51001.540380; Supplies and Materials 51001.530267; Special or Co-op Programs 51001.521448; Grant and Mitigation 51010.521444; Resource Ecology 51001.521449; Special Events 51001.520635; and Property Maintenance and Operations 51051.560105

**Contract Number(s):** #74000009627 issued under Project #21-52-102 (Rebid)

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

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

**District(s):** 1, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17

**Summary:** The peak of patron use at the Forest Preserves is during spring and summer months. During the peak season (May 1st through September 30th), our Portable Toilets are cleaned two (2) times a week in Region 2. In our strategic effort to increase patronage and improve the cleanliness, sanitation, and aesthetics of our groves and public areas, the Forest Preserves would like to exercise its option to increase the amount of weekly cleaning of Portable Toilets from two (2) times per week to three (3) times per week during this season.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 23-0292. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0293](#)

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

**PROPOSED CONTRACT AMENDMENT**

**Department(s):** Department of Landscape Maintenance



**Vendor:** Service Sanitation, Inc., Homewood, Illinois

**Request:** Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to amend the Placement and Servicing of Portable Toilets in Region 3 (Southwest Region) by exercising our third cleaning option during peak season (May 1st through September 30th) for the Service Sanitation, Inc. contract.

**Good(s) or Service(s):** Placement and Servicing of Portable Toilets in Region 3 (Southwest Region)

**Original Contract Period:** 11/1/2021 - 10/31/2024; three (3) year contract with two (2) one-year renewal options

**Proposed Contract Period Extension:** N/A

**Total Current Contract Amount Authority:** \$300,900.00

**Original Approval:** 9/21/2021, \$300,900.00

**Previous Increase(s):** N/A

**This Increase Requested:** \$130,000.00

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** FY 2023 \$64,000.00, FY 2024 \$66,000.00

**Accounts:** Professional Services 51001.520840; Operations and Maintenance 51001.540380; Supplies and Materials 51001.530267; Special or Co-op Programs 51001.521448; Grant and Mitigation 51010.521444; Resource Ecology 51001.521449; Special Events 51001.520635; and Property Maintenance and Operations 51051.560105

**Contract Number(s):** #74000009628 issued under Project #21-52-103 (Rebid)

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

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

**District(s):** 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 11, 16, 17

**Summary:** The peak of patron use at the Forest Preserves is during spring and summer months. During the peak season (May 1st through September 30th), our Portable Toilets are cleaned two (2) times a week in Region 3. In our strategic effort to increase patronage and improve the cleanliness, sanitation, and aesthetics of our groves and public areas, the Forest Preserves would like to exercise its option to increase the amount of weekly cleaning of Portable Toilets from two (2) times per week to three (3) times per week during this season.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 23-0293. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0294](#)

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

**PROPOSED CONTRACT AMENDMENT**

**Department(s):** Department of Landscape Maintenance

**Vendor:** Service Sanitation, Inc., Homewood, Illinois

**Request:** Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to amend the Placement and Servicing of Portable Toilets in Region 4 (Southeast Region) by exercising our third cleaning option during peak season (May 1st through September 30th) for the Service Sanitation, Inc. contract.

**Good(s) or Service(s):** Placement and servicing of portable toilets in Region 4 (Southeast Region)

**Original Contract Period:** 11/1/2021 - 10/31/2024; three (3) year contract with two (2) one-year renewal options

**Proposed Contract Period Extension:** N/A

**Total Current Contract Amount Authority:** \$222,780.00

**Original Approval:** 9/21/2021, \$222,780.00

**Previous Increase(s):** N/A

**This Increase Requested:** \$92,000.00

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** FY 2023 \$45,000.00, FY 2024 \$47,000.00

**Accounts:** Professional Services 51001.520840; Operations and Maintenance 51001.540380; Supplies and Materials 51001.530267; Special or Co-op Programs 51001.521448; Grant and Mitigation 51010.521444; Resource Ecology 51001.521449; Special Events 51001.520635; and Property Maintenance and Operations 51051.560105

**Contract Number(s):** #74000009629 issued under Project #21-52-104 (Rebid)

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

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

**District(s):** 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 11

**Summary:** The peak of patron use at the Forest Preserves is during spring and summer months. During the peak season, our Portable Toilets are cleaned two (2) times a week. In our strategic effort to increase patronage and improve the cleanliness, sanitation, and aesthetics of our groves and public areas, the Forest Preserves would like to exercise its option to increase the amount of weekly cleaning of Portable Toilets from two (2) times per week to three (3) times a week during this season.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 23-0294. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0295](#)

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

**PROPOSED PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ITEM AMENDMENT**

**Department:** Office of the General Superintendent

**Request:** Changing the location of the May 23, 2023 Board meeting to Sagawau Environmental Learning Center

**Item Number:** 22-0448

**Fiscal Impact:** N/A

**Account(s):** N/A

**Original Text of Item with Edits:**

**2023 BOARD AGENDA MEETING ANNUAL CALENDAR DATES AND LOCATIONS**

**WHEREAS,** in accordance with Title 1, Chapter 5, Section 4-1(a) of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Code of Ordinances, the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners shall hold regular meetings pursuant to an annual calendar adopted by resolution of the Board; and

**WHEREAS,** in accordance with Section 2.03 of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, every public body shall give public notice of the schedule of regular meetings at the beginning of each calendar or fiscal year and shall state the regular dates, times and places of such meetings.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by President Toni Preckwinkle and the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners (the “Board”):

1. That the Board shall hold its regular meetings of the Board on the following dates during 2023, the time for holding the specified meetings is 10:00 a.m., local time:

- Tuesday, January 24
- Tuesday, February 7
- Tuesday, March 14
- Tuesday, April 25
- Tuesday, May 23
- Tuesday, June 27
- Tuesday, July 18
- Tuesday, September 19
- Tuesday, October 17
- Tuesday, November 14
- Tuesday, December 12

2. That Board meetings may be conducted remotely by video and/or teleconferencing in accordance with public health authority guidelines and applicable provisions of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Code of Ordinances, and executive orders related to a proclamation of disaster by the Governor of the State of Illinois. Otherwise, the place of Board meetings is Room 569 of the Cook County Building, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, except for the following three meeting dates stated below in Sections 3, 4 and 5 below.

3. That the Board shall hold a regular meeting of the Board on Tuesday, May 23rd at Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, 12545 West 111th Street, Lemont. ~~the Sand Ridge Nature Center located at 15891 Paxton Avenue, South Holland.~~

4. That the Board shall hold a regular meeting of the Board on Tuesday, July 18th at the Brookfield Zoo, 8400 W 31st Street, Brookfield.

5. That the Board shall hold a regular meeting of the Board on Tuesday, September 19th at the Crabtree Nature Center, 3 Stover Road, Barrington Hills.

That the same dates and locations listed here will be used to schedule the following standing committee meetings, set to begin at 9:30 a.m., local time: Subcommittee on Workers' Compensation; Committee on Rules; Committee on Finance; and Committee on Real Estate.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 23-0295. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0281](#)

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

**REPORT**

**Department:** Department of Law Enforcement

**Request:** Refer to Law Enforcement Committee

**Report Title:** Model Policing

**Report Period:** January 1, 2023, through March 31, 2023

**Summary:** Report on the status to achieve the goal of a Model Forest Preserves Police Department.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to refer 23-0281 to the Law Enforcement Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0288](#)

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

**REPORT**

**Department:** Department of Finance and Administration

**Request:** Refer to Contract Compliance Committee

**Report Title:** Forest Preserves of Cook County Annual Business Diversity Report FY 2022

**Report Period:** 1/1/2022 - 12/31/2022

**Summary:** In July 2012, state legislation authorized the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to establish provisions to address the underuse of minority and women-owned businesses with respect to procurement contracts. An ordinance establishing the program’s parameters and guidelines was passed by the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners in September 2012. This initiative is significantly benefiting the residents of Cook County by increasing the pool of qualified minority and women-owned businesses that have the opportunity to be selected for contracts awarded by the Forest Preserves each year.

To remedy historic inequity and to facilitate greater inclusion, the Forest Preserves established aspirational contract goals for the participation of minority and women-owned businesses as set forth under the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Code of Ordinances.

The Minority and Women-Owned Businesses program accomplishments in FY 2022 include 60% of awarded contracts; and 51% of contract payments were made to minority and women-owned businesses either as prime contractors or sub-contractors.

The Forest Preserves participated in eleven (11) outreach and workshop conferences, many in collaboration with various government entities.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to refer 23-0288 to the Contract Compliance Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0290](#)

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

**REPORT**

**Department:** Department of Finance and Administration

**Request:** Receive and File

**Report Title:** Forest Preserves of Cook County Annual Fee Waiver and Discount Report FY 2022

**Report Period:** 1/1/2022 - 12/31/2022

**Summary:** Under the Forest Preserves of Cook County Code of Ordinances certain discounts are granted to veteran or non-profit organizations with respect to recreational use of Forest Preserves of Cook County property or amenities. Additional discounts may be offered at the discretion of the General Superintendent. The Forest Preserves of Cook County implemented a Fee Waiver Policy (Policy Number: 02.30.00) establishing the process for when discounts or waivers would be granted. The policy requires an annual report to the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners on discounts and waivers for the sake of transparency. The Fee Waiver and Discount Report describes specific discount categories and various passes issued pursuant to Forest Preserves of Cook County Board Approved Resolution, 16-0314, dated July 12, 2016.

In 2022, the Forest Preserves of Cook County issued a total of \$57,505.00 in fee waiver permit discounts to various groups. In addition, a total of three thousand, seven hundred sixty-six (3,766) passes with an estimated value of \$76,993.00 were distributed across various programs, partners and/or events.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to receive and file 23-0290. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0287](#)

**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:** 2/1/2023 - 2/28/2023

**Summary:** Submitting the Procurement and Disbursements Report for the period of February 2023. The report is to be received and filed in compliance with Section 1-8-2 (BB) of the District's Code of Ordinances.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to receive and filed 23-0287. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0306](#)

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

**REPORT**

**Department:** Departments of Legal and Finance

**Request:** Receive and File

**Report Title:** Workers' Compensation Report - February 2023

**Report Period:** 2/1/2023 - 2/28/2023



**Summary:** The Forest Preserves of Cook County Departments of Legal and Finance are submitting Workers' Compensation Claim Payments for the month of February 2023. Payments total \$134,893.45 for February 2023.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to receive and file 23-0306. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0300](#)

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

**PROPOSED CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

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

**Summary:** Forest Preserves of Cook County Calendar: 4/25/2023 - 5/23/2023

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

**Wednesday, 4/26; 5pm - 7pm**

**Family Pond Paddle, Thatcher Glen Pond, River Forest**

Families, enjoy an evening out paddling. *Instruction, equipment, and kayaks provided. Registration required.*

**Friday, 4/28; 7:30pm**

**Nature at Night, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook**

Explore the world of nature after the sun sets. *\$3 per person. Registration required by 4/26.*

**Sunday, 4/29; 10am**

**Waterfowl Watch, Little Red Schoolhouse, Willow Springs**

Walking with brief stops to observe the birds that frequent waterways. *Registration required.*

**Saturday, 4/29; 10am - 12pm**

**Arbor Day Celebration, Papoose Lake, Palos Park**

Celebrate the grandeur of trees and why they are vital to our community with plantings and walks. *Drop-in.*

**Saturday, 4/29; 7pm - 8:30pm**

**Starry Night Walk, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland**

Come for a guided walk and night sky observations as we admire the constellations and learn about

astronomy. *Registration required.*

**Saturday, 4/29; 10am - 2pm**

**Teen Exploration Day - Working with Wildlife, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook**

Learn about the behind-the-scenes care of nature center animals. *Registration required. Ages 13-18.*

**Saturday, 4/29 - Sunday, 4/30**

**Camping Leadership Immersion Course, Camp Sullivan, Oak Forest**

CLIC is an overnight training at Camp Sullivan in Oak Forest designed to give participants the skills and experience to plan and lead camping trips at Camp Sullivan. The overnight training course covers camping safety, day-hiking, tent and stove-set up, teambuilding and leadership skills. Educational offerings and will help familiarize you with the reservation process. By completing the CLIC training, leaders gain access to the CLIC gear library (onsite) and designated group site at Camp Sullivan. *Must be at least 18 years old and be affiliated with an organization to participate. Fee is \$25 per person and includes food and camping gear for the night. Register at [experience.camping@cookcountyl.gov](mailto:experience.camping@cookcountyl.gov). For more info go to visit the Forest Preserves website.*

**Sunday, 4/30; 1pm - 3pm**

**Garlic Mustard Pull, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington**

Help us improve the quality of our woodlands by removing this invasive species. Sturdy shoes, gloves, long sleeves, and long pants recommended. *Children welcome with adult.*

**Saturday, 5/6; 10am - 1pm**

**Forest Tea Party, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland**

Join us for a woodland tea party with unstructured free play, stories, and engage with natural materials. *Light refreshments will be available. Registration required.*

**Saturday, 5/6; 1pm - 3pm**

**Flower Festival, Bunker Hill, Niles**

Celebrate Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month with various arts, storytelling, and crafts. *Drop-in.*

**Saturday, 5/6; 11:30am**

**Day Hiking Leadership Training, Bemis Woods, Westchester**

Calling all teachers, group leaders & youth educators! Our Day Hiking Leadership Training program gets youth and groups of all ages outside by empowering teachers and group leaders with the skills and resources they need to lead safe and fun outdoor experiences. We will focus on: thoughtful trip planning, risk management practices, memorable outdoor activities, outdoor ethics, hiking best practices, appropriate gear and more. Training will include two mandatory portions: an online portion available starting two weeks prior, consisting of classroom work and an in-person portion on Saturday, March 26. In-person portion will include a group day hike, gear inventory and lending processes. Online portion must be complete prior to the in-person portion. *Participants must be at least 18 years or older, be affiliated with institution, and be present on hiking trips when borrowing gear. If interested, please email*

*experience.camping@cookcountyil.gov with name and organization.*

**Sunday, 5/7; 12pm - 3pm**

**Spring Festival, Trailside Museum, River Forest**

Celebrate springtime at Thatcher Woods Forest Preserve! Enjoy interactive programs, kids' tree climb, guided wildflower walks, bird banding, kid's nature crafts and much more!

**Tuesday, 5/9; 5pm - 7pm**

**World Mental Health Month Celebration, Swallow Cliff Woods, Palos Park**

Exercise and time in nature are proven ways to improve your mental health. Climb the stairs, join a guided walk, and explore mental health resources. *In partnership with Advocate Aurora Health.*

**Wednesday, 5/10; 12pm - 2pm**

**Dia de las Madres Walk, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland**

Calling all mothers for a 1-mile walk on our trails followed by coffee and pan dulce (Mexican pastries). *In English and Spanish. Registration required.*

**Saturday, 5/13; 10am - 12pm**

**World Migratory Bird Day Big Sit, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington**

Drop-in to join us for a bird watch from a fixed location to see who is winging in and who is migrating through.

**Saturday, 5/13; 9am - 2pm**

**World Migratory Bird Day, Sagawau Nature Center, Lemont**

Celebrate bird migration by learning how water affects bird life. Learn simple steps you can do to preserve water and protect birds.

**Saturday, 5/13; 9am - 12pm**

**Chicago River Day, Beaubien Woods, Chicago**

Celebrate the 31st anniversary of Chicago River Day. Do your part to clean and restore our waterways and the land around it. *For more info and registration, visit [chicagoriver.org](http://chicagoriver.org).*

**Saturday, 5/13; 12pm - 4pm**

**“Check-Out” Nature, Wolf Road Woods, Willow Springs**

Explore nature by checking out some gear for the afternoon including field guides, binoculars, scavenger hunt and litter pick-up materials available to check out for free! We will be on site to answer questions, give trail recommendations, provide maps and more.

**Sunday, 5/14; 10:30am or 1:30pm**

**Wildflower Walk, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook**

Learn about spring woodland wildflowers on a casual walk. *Registration required.*

**Sunday, 5/14; 10:30am**

**Wildflower Sketching Workshop, Trailside Museum, River Forest**

Join in a short nature walk to sketch blooming wildflowers. *Registration required. For all skill levels. Materials provided. Ages 13 and up.*

**Saturday, 5/20; 9am - 3pm**

**Foster Parent Recruitment Picnic, Thatcher Woods Pavilion, River Forest**

In partnership with Chicagoland Foster Care Collective, prospective foster parents and their friends can learn about becoming a foster parent and enjoy food, raffles, and activities.

**Saturday, 5/20; 1pm**

**Wildflower Walk, Sagawau Nature Center, Lemont**

Spend your weekend enjoying wildflowers. Join us for a wildflower walk. *Registration required.*

**Saturday, 5/20; 11am - 3pm**

**Nature Block Party, Eggers Grove, Chicago**

Learn and try all the fun things you can do outdoors. Explore nature, create art, and discover the wonder of nature.

**Sunday, 5/21; 8am**

**Des Plaines Canoe and Kayak Marathon, Oak Springs**

Join the second oldest continual canoe race in the United States! Race begins at Oak Springs Road in Libertyville and ends at Dam 2. *Registration required. Register at [www.canoemarathon.com](http://www.canoemarathon.com).*

**Sunday, 5/21; 1pm**

**Wildflower Art, Sagawau Nature Center, Lemont**

Learn to artistically capture the beauty and details of plants with drawing and painting techniques. *Registration required. Ages 12 and up.*

**Sunday, 5/21; 1pm**

**Did You Hear That? Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington**

Explore the Giant's Hollow trail in a different way by using sound journaling. *Intended for families.*

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to receive and filed 23-0300. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

**COMMITTEE ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION**

**CONTRACT COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE**

[23-0220](#)

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

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT**

MINORITY- AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners, that TITLE 1- ADMINISTRATIVE, CHAPTER 8- DISTRICT FINANCES, SECTION 5- MINORITY- AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Code of Ordinances is hereby amended as Follows:

1-8-5a: SUBDIVISION I-GENERAL PROVISIONS.

- A. Short Title.
- B. Preface and Findings.
- C. Policy and Purpose.
- D. Definitions.
- E. Race- and Gender-Neutral Measures to Implement the Program.
- F. Program Administration.
- G. Contract Compliance Committee.
- H. Program Goals.
- I. Program Eligibility.
- J. Utilization Plan; Commercially Useful Function.
- K. Methods to Achieve Goals and Compliance.
- L. Request for a Total or Partial Waiver of the Contract Specific Goals; Good Faith Efforts.
- M. Calculating PCE Participation.
- N. Review of Contract Performance.
- O. Prompt Payment of Firms.
- P. Reporting and Review.
- Q. Prohibited Provisions.
- R. Sanctions and Penalties.
- S. Established Business Participation in the Program.

T. Review and Sunset.

1-8-5b: SUBDIVISION II-CONSTRUCTION ORDINANCE.

- A. Short Title. Incorporation of Provisions.
- B. Preface and Findings.
- C. Policy and Purpose.
- D. Applicability.
- E. Definitions.
- F. Program Administration
- G. Race- and Gender-Neutral Measures to Ensure Equal Opportunities for all Contractors and Subcontractors.
- H. Program Eligibility
- I. Annual Aspirational Goals.
- J. Project Specific Goals.
- K. Counting MBE and WBE Participation.
- L. Contract Pre-Award Compliance Procedures.
- M. Contract Administration Procedures.
- N. Sanctions and Penalties.
- O. Established Business Participation in the Program.
- P. Program Review and Sunset.

Full text of ordinance amendment can be found here: <http://bit.ly/3JrO1l3>

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

**A motion was made by Commissioner Miller, seconded by Commissioner Quezada, to approve 23-0220. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

[23-0304](#)

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

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

Finance Subcommittee Meeting on Litigation - 4/25/2023

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

Proposed Settlements Approved Fiscal Year 2023 to Present:	\$0.00
Proposed Settlements to Be Approved:	\$55,000.00

Legal Fees Approved Fiscal Year 2023 to Present:	\$265,701.90
Legal Fees for 4/25/2023 to Be Approved:	\$146,892.60

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 23-0304. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0305](#)

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

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE (WORKERS' COMPENSATION)**

Finance Subcommittee Meeting on Workers' Compensation - 4/25/2023

The Finance Subcommittee on Workers' Compensation met on the above listed date and recommends the following for approval:

Workers' Compensation Claims approved Fiscal Year 2023 to present:	\$124,428.42
Workers' Compensation Claims to Be Approved:	\$105,705.04
Workers' Compensation Lien Recovery approved Fiscal Year 2023 to present:	\$0.00
Workers' Compensation Lien Recovery to be Approved:	\$4,500.00

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve**

**23-0305. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0018](#)

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

**PROPOSED BID RECOMMENDATION**

**Department:** Department of Planning and Development

**Request:** Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to enter into a construction contract with Pacific Construction Services, LLC, primary place of business Chicago, Illinois, for the replacement of existing heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems at the Forest Preserves’ General Headquarters building located in River Forest.

**Reason:** Contract #74000012184 issued under Project #21-80-44 Installation of a very high efficiency heating, ventilating and air conditioning (VHE HVAC) system at the Forest Preserves General Headquarters. The work addresses energy efficiency improvements. The work includes, but is not limited to, removal and replacement of the existing inefficient heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems, and other related work as specified in the plans and specifications. Separate purchases of equipment were approved by the Board of Commissioners on March 14, 2023 (Board Item Nos. 23-0212 and 23-0213) to expedite delivery. More than half the cost of the equipment purchase will be funded by a grant from ComEd’s Emerging Technologies pilot program (see related Board Item No. 23-0019).

The Forest Preserves’ General Headquarters is its second largest building and one of its highest energy users. This work along with a future construction project to address the buildings leaky windows, will directly benefit the Forest Preserves’ ability to meet its sustainability and greenhouse gas reduction goals.

**Bid Opening Date:** 3/28/2023

**Bid Results:**

<u>Firm</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
1. Verde Energy Efficiency Experts	\$2,293,920.00*
2. <b>Pacific Construction Services, LLC</b>	<b>\$2,355,882.00</b>
3. Path Construction Company, Inc.	\$2,478,000.00
4. MG Mechanical Contracting, Inc.	\$2,739,000.00



5. Robe, Inc.	\$2,847,190.00
6. Burling Builders, Inc.	\$3,060,000.00
7. AGAE Contractors, Inc.	\$3,095,000.00
8. Fabex Technologies	\$3,209,327.00

\* Verde Energy Efficiency Experts' bid was rejected as it was incomplete.

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$2,355,882.00 (\$300,000.00 of which will be reimbursed by grant, subject to approval of related Board Item No. 23-0019)

**Contract Period:** Three hundred ninety-five (395) days from notice to proceed.

**Account Name/Number:** Property Maintenance and Operations 51009.560105, 51010.560105, 51028.560105, 51030.560105, 51031.560105, 51032.560105, 51033.560106 and future Construction & Development accounts

**District:** 9

**Concurrence(s):** The Chief Attorney and Chief Financial Officer have approved this item.

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

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve 23-0018. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0234](#)

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

**REPORT**

**Department:** Department of Permits, Rentals and Concessions

**Request:** Refer to Finance Committee

**Report Title:** Forest Preserves of Cook County Annual Concessions Report FY 2022

**Report Period:** 1/1/2022 - 12/31/2022

**Summary:** On 3/15/2022, the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners approved the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) Concessions Ordinance (Board Item No. 22-0126) (the “Ordinance”). Under the Ordinance, the Forest Preserves is authorized to grant certain concession related permits and contracts. To assist with this process, the Forest Preserves implemented a Concessions Policy (Policy Number: 05.00.00) establishing the criteria by which the Forest Preserves will issue permits and contracts for concessions opportunities to increase and improve visitor engagement by providing the public with access to complementary recreational activities, amenities and services while also generating revenue to support the mission of the Forest Preserves.

The Ordinance requires an annual report to the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners on concession related permits and contracts awarded by the Forest Preserves of Cook County for part or all of the prior fiscal year and any concession opportunities currently available or anticipated to be made available by the Forest Preserves of Cook County for the current year. The Concession Report describes the specific concessionaire permits and contracts that were awarded in 2022 along with opportunities anticipated for 2023.

In 2022, the Forest Preserves received \$1,466,969.00 in concession revenue from various permits and contract types.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to receive and file 23-0234. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0246](#)

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

**REPORT**

**Department:** Department of Facilities and Fleet

**Request:** Refer to Finance Committee

**Report Title:** Annual Energy Expense Report

**Report Period:** 1/1/2022 - 12/31/2022

**Summary:** On 1/26/2021, the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners authorized the Forest Preserves of Cook County to enter into agreements recommended by Ameresco, Inc. (Board Item No. 21-0125). Previously, on 10/20/2020, the Board of Commissioners had approved a contract with Ameresco, Inc to provide, in part, procurement of electricity, natural gas, and renewable energy (Board Item No. 20-0363). As required by Board Item No. 21-0125, this report provides a monthly breakdown of related energy payments made during fiscal year 2022.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to receive and file 23-0246. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0286](#)

**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:** 1/1/2023 - 2/28/2023

**Summary:** Detailed Fund Analysis of Revenue and Expenditures for February 2023.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to receive and file 23-0286. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

## RULES COMMITTEE

[23-0318](#)

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS**

SECRETARY TO THE BOARD, Lynne M. Turner, presented in printed form a record of the Journal of Proceedings of the regular meeting held on 03/14/2023.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to approve 23-0318. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0172](#)

**Sponsored by:** BILL LOWRY, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOSINA MORITA, FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, MONICA GORDON, BRANDON JOHNSON, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA and MAGGIE TREVOR, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT**

CODE OF ETHICAL CONDUCT - CALENDARS

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners, that TITLE 1- ADMINISTRATIVE, CHAPTER 13 - CODE OF ETHICAL CONDUCT, SECTION NUMBER 1-13-2 - CODE OF CONDUCT of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Code of Ordinances is hereby amended as Follows:

**Sec. 1-13-2: CODE OF CONDUCT.**

\* \* \*

**L. Political Activity.**

1. No District Official or Employee shall compel, coerce or intimidate any District Official or Employee to make or refrain from making any political contribution. No District Official, Appointee shall directly solicit any political contribution from their Employees, the spouses, domestic partners or civil union partners of, or Relatives living with, their Employees. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent any Official or Employee from voluntarily making a contribution or from receiving a voluntary contribution.
2. No Employee with contract management authority nor Appointee of a District Official whose board or commission appointment provides for compensation and requires confirmation by the

Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners shall serve on the political committee of any elected Official or Candidate for Cook County office.

3. District Employees shall not intentionally perform any prohibited political activity during any compensated time (other than vacation, personal, or compensatory time off). District Employees or Officials shall not intentionally misappropriate any District property or resources by engaging in any prohibited political activity for the benefit of any campaign for elective office or any political organization or political committee.
4. At no time shall any Official or Employee intentionally misappropriate the services of any District Employee and at no time shall any Appointee misappropriate the services of any Board or Commission Employee by requiring that Employee to perform any prohibited political activity:
  - a. As part of that Employee's District duties or, in the case of a board or commission, as part of that Employee's board or commission duties;
  - b. As a condition of District employment or, in the case of a board or commission, as a condition of board or commission employment; or during any time off that is compensated by the District or board or commission (such as vacation, personal, or compensatory time off).
5. A District Employee or Appointee shall not be required at any time to participate in any prohibited political activity in consideration for that Employee being awarded any additional compensation or employee benefit, in the form of a salary adjustment, bonus, compensatory time off, continued employment, or otherwise.
6. A District Employee or Appointee shall not be awarded any additional compensation or employee benefit, in the form of a salary adjustment, bonus, compensatory time off, continued employment, or otherwise, in consideration for the Employee's participation in any prohibited political activity.
7. Except as provided by subsection c, District funds and resources may not be used by any elected District Official to print, mail, transmit, or pay for the printing, mailing, or transmission of any newsletters or brochures bearing the proper name of the elected District Official during the period of time:
  - a. Sixty (60) days prior to a general primary election and ending the day after such general primary election; and
  - b. Sixty (60) days prior to a general election and ending the day after such general election.
  - c. This Section shall not apply to:

- (1) Responses to unsolicited inquiries from constituents and other interested parties; or
  - (2) Informational brochures that are solely related to and accompany any mailing of a property tax bill, notice of property tax assessment, or notice of voter registration or polling place information, or to a brochure mailed to a constituent in response to that constituent's inquiry concerning the needs of that constituent or questions raised by that constituent.
  - (3) Budget Books (Annual Appropriations Ordinances); annual and other official reports; memos, letters, and other communications on District letterhead; and coverage of press releases on official District events noting speakers or ribbon cutting or other official duties of elected Officials.
- d. No public service announcement or advertisement that is on behalf of any District administered program and contains the proper name, image, or voice\_of any elected District Official shall be paid with District funds and broadcast or aired on radio or television or printed in a commercial newspaper or commercial magazine at any time on or after the date that the elected District Official files nominating papers for any elected office, and ending the day after such general election if the elected District Official is a candidate in such primary or general election. This Section shall not apply to any information available or posted by the District or any elected District Official on any District owned website or District owned social media account or broadcast or aired on the "public educational, government access" channels.
- e. The proper name or image of any elected Official may not appear on any promotional materials or items if designed, paid for, produced, and/or distributed with public funds or resources, including, but not limited to:
- (1) Bumper stickers;
  - (2) Commercial billboards;
  - (3) Lapel pins or buttons;
  - (4) Magnets;
  - (5) Sports teams;
  - (6) Items of clothing or apparel;
  - (7) Stickers;
  - (8) Calendars, with the exception of the annual District wall calendar which highlights and

features photographic images of the flora and fauna, historical buildings, and landmarks within the District;

- (9) Vehicles; or
- (10) Equipment.

- f. At no time during official district events, shall any Official disseminate or display political promotional material that includes the Official's name and/or image.
8. Nothing in this Section prohibits activities that are otherwise appropriate for a District Employee or Appointee to engage in on a voluntary basis as permitted by law.
- \* \* \*

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

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to approve 23-0172. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

**REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE**

[23-0272](#)

**Sponsored by:** ALMA E. ANAYA, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

**REPORT**

**Department:** Equity, Cultural Sensitivity, and Inclusion Site Name Task Force

**Request:** Receive and File

**Report Title:** Equity, Cultural Sensitivity, and Inclusion Site Name Task Force Final Report

**Report Period:** September 2021-February 2023

**Summary:** The Final Report for the Equity, Cultural Sensitivity, and Inclusion Site Name Task Force

**A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner S. Morrison, to receive and file 23-0272. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0224](#)

**Sponsored by:** TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), SEAN M. MORRISON and BRIDGET DEGNEN, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE**

**AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF LAND VIA DONATION FROM SAVE THE PRAIRIE SOCIETY AND CREATING A FOREST PRESERVE NEAR WOLF ROAD PRAIRIE NATURE PRESERVE**

**AN ORDINANCE CREATING A FOREST PRESERVE** in part of Section 30, Township 39 North, Range 12, East of the Third Principal Meridian, all in Cook County, Illinois near Wolf Road Prairie Nature Preserve in District 17.

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois, 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 Forest Preserve 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 Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois 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 Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois 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

**WHEREAS**, the lands hereinafter described, all of which are situated within the boundaries of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois, are necessary and desirable for the lawful uses and purposes of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois, as hereinabove set forth, and also are of the character and nature of the lands which the statutes of the State of Illinois authorizes and empowers it to acquire; and

**WHEREAS**, the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois recently reached an agreement with Save the Prairie Society, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation, to acquire a parcel of land located adjacent to Wolf Road Prairie Nature Preserve, consisting of approximately five acres (“Property”) hereinafter described in Section 2 of this Ordinance.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Board of Commissioners of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois as follows:

**Section 1.** That a unified Forest Preserve be and the same is hereby created within the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois (“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 Forest Preserve District uses.

**Section 2.** That the Property referred to in Section 1 of this Ordinance is more particularly described as follows:

10 Hickory Lane, Hinsdale, Illinois 60521

THE SOUTH HALF OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 30, TOWNSHIP 39 NORTH, RANGE 12, EAST OF

THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

PIN: 15-30-400-020-0000

SAID PARCEL(S) CONTAINING 217,800 SQUARE FEET, OR 5 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

**Section 3.** The Board hereby determines that the acquisition of the Property from Save the Prairie Society is in the public interest. The Board hereby authorizes the acquisition of the Property from Save the Prairie Society, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation, for nominal consideration and closing costs not to exceed TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS and 00/100 CENTS (\$10,000.00), for the public purposes of preserving the existing land in an appropriate manner and as required by applicable laws and protecting and preserving the flora, fauna, and scenic beauties, in accordance with the District’s authority. Such acquisition shall be subject only to restrictions, covenants and easements shown of record and shall be “as-is” without warranties of any sort.

**Section 4.** The Board hereby authorizes the President or their designee to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the acquisitions described herein in accordance with customary terms and conditions, subject to this Ordinance.

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

**A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner S. Morrison, to approve 23-0224. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

**LEGISLATION AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

[23-0230](#)

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

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION CREATING THE DECENNIAL COMMITTEE**

**WHEREAS,** on June 10, 2022, the Decennial Committees on Local Government Efficiency Act (50 ILCS 70/1 et seq) (the “Act”) became effective and placed certain requirements on the Forest Preserves

of Cook County Board of Commissioners (the “Board”), including the formation of a Decennial Committee by June 10, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of such committee would be to study the Forest Preserves of Cook County’s governing statutes, ordinances, rules, procedures, powers, jurisdiction, shared services, intergovernmental agreements, and interrelationships with other governmental units and the State; and

**WHEREAS**, no later than eighteen (18) months after the formation of the Decennial Committee, the Committee shall provide a report to the Cook County Board of Commissioners and such report shall include recommendations in respect to increased accountability and efficiency; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the Act, the Decennial Committee is to be chaired by the President of the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners or the President’s designee and shall include the following individuals: (1) the seventeen (17) Forest Preserves of Cook County Commissioners; (2) at least two (2) Cook County residents to be appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Board; (3) any chief executive officer or other officer of the Forest Preserves; and (4) additional persons as appointed by the Chair; and

**WHEREAS**, per Title 1, Chapter 5, Section 1-5-2, Subsection 2-5 of the Forest Preserves of Cook County Code of Ordinances, the Board may create special committees by resolution adopted by a majority of those elected and the appointed members of a special committee shall be designated by resolution.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners hereby creates a Decennial Committee for the purpose of undertaking the tasks enumerated under the Act; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Committee Chair shall be the Chair of the Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee, Commissioner Scott Britton, as the President’s designee for the Decennial Committee; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Decennial Committee members shall include: (1) Forest Preserves of Cook County Commissioners, (2) General Superintendent Arnold Randall, (3) two Cook County residents, Alan Bell and Mark Templeton, who also serve as members of the Conservation and Policy Council, ~~to be appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Board,~~ and (4) any additional persons to be appointed by the Chair; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the first meeting of the Decennial Committee shall be 9:30 AM on Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, 12545 West 111th Street in Lemont; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Decennial Committee shall sunset on December 31, 2024, however, it shall be reestablished on a decennial basis with newly appointed members.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Britton, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to approve**

as amended 23-0230. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

23-0274

**Sponsored by:** KEVIN B. MORRISON, FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, MONICA GORDON, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, SEAN M. MORRISON, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), ANTHONY J. QUEZADA and MAGGIE TREVOR, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT**

**PROPOSED SUBSTITUTION TO FILE 23-0274**

**(FPD Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee Meeting 4/25/2023)**

**Sponsor:** KEVIN B. MORRISON, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Commissioners

**BE IT ORDAINED, by the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners, that Title 1 - Administrative, Chapter 5 - FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RULES OF ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURE, Section 1-5-4- PARLIAMENTARY RULES, Subsection 4-7 - ORDER OF BUSINESS of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Code of Ordinances is hereby amended as follows:**

\* \* \*

4-7. Order of Business.

(a) At each regular meeting of the Board, the order of business (unless otherwise directed by the Board) is as follows:

- 1. Consent Calendar.
- 2. Public Testimony.
- 3. Committee Items Requiring Action.
- 4. New Business.

(b) All questions relating to the priority of business shall be decided by the Chair, without debate, subject to appeal.

(c) Meetings of the Board may commence with a prayer or invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

(d) In addition to commencement activities referenced in Section (c) above, meetings of the Board may commence with a Land Acknowledgement Statement.

(e)-(d)The Board shall break for lunch from Noon to 12:45 p.m. or as soon as is practical

thereafter on days of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners, Committees, and Subcommittees.

**Effective date:** This ordinance shall be in effect immediately

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to suspend the rules to take out of order 23-0274. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Deer, to approve as substituted 23-0274. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

**NEW ITEMS**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Trevor, to suspend the rules to take up New Items. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

[23-0329](#)

**Sponsored by:** SCOTT R. BRITTON, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**REQUESTING A HEARING OF THE CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN COMMITTEE ON OPERATIONS, PROGRAMS, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OF THE CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN**

**WHEREAS,** the Chicago Botanic Garden opened 50 years ago, as a garden for all; and

**WHEREAS,** the Chicago Botanic Garden has since matured into one of the world’s great living museums and conservation science centers; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chicago Botanic Garden’s modern history began in 1962, when the Chicago Horticultural Society agreed to help create and manage a new public garden. With the groundbreaking for the Chicago Botanic Garden in 1965 and its opening in 1972, the Society created a permanent site on which to carry out its mission; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chicago Botanic Garden today consists of 28 gardens and four natural areas that are uniquely situated on 385 acres on and around nine islands and six miles of lake shoreline; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chicago Botanic Garden is the proud home to the Lenhardt Library, containing 150,000 items-including one of the nation's best collections of rare botanical books, and nine laboratories at the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Plant Conservation Science Center where scientists and graduate students alike conduct a wide variety of plant research; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chicago Botanic Garden maintains engaging relationships with more than 60,000 members-one of the largest memberships of any botanic garden in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chicago Botanic Garden today is an example of a successful public-private partnership, as it is owned by the Forest Preserves of Cook County and operated by the Chicago Horticultural Society; and

**WHEREAS**, over the last 10 years, the Garden has seen a 43 percent increase in visitors and now sees more than one million visitors annually; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chicago Botanic Garden offers 52 free admission days for Illinois residents a year which are posted on the Garden website; and

**WHEREAS**, 2022 saw the successful passage of the Forest Preserves of Cook County referendum that will, in part, be used to address the deferred capital needs of the Chicago Botanic Garden including building repairs, stormwater and irrigation systems renovation, and installation of new paths; and

**WHEREAS**, in February 2022 the Chicago Botanic Garden implemented a new pricing structure with admission fee ticket prices ranging from \$9.95 to \$25.95 per person, and parking fees reduced to a flat \$8 fee, year-round. The new ticket now includes at no extra cost the Grand Tram Tour, Butterflies & Blooms, and the Model Railroad Garden; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby request that a hearing be convened during the May Chicago Botanic Garden Committee meeting of the Forest Preserve Board of Commissioners to discuss the operations, programming, and

community engagement of the Chicago Botanic Garden; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the senior staff of the Chicago Botanic Garden will appear before the Committee for this hearing prepared to present and answer questions from the Cook County Board of Commissioners; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Chicago Botanic Garden senior staff presentation shall include the capital improvement plans as a result of the referendum passage, preliminary observations about the revised fee structure and attendance, a review of past and current revenue, and opportunities to engage more residents in experiencing all the Garden has to offer.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Britton, seconded by Commissioner Anaya, to refer 23-0329 to the Botanic Garden Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to adjourn. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Deer, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Morrison, Quezada and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Johnson and Moore (2)

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne M. Turner

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Secretary

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