



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

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

**Tuesday, June 11, 2024**

**10:00 AM**

**Sand Ridge Nature Center, 15891 Paxton Avenue  
South Holland, Illinois**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Present:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita,  
K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2) (excused)

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**There are no Consent items for this meeting.**

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

**Abigail Garofalo, University of Illinois Extension**

**Larry McCellan, Easter Seals**

**Nancy Joseph, Sand Ridge Steward**

**Ryen Nagle, Conservation and Policy Council**

**Jim Honan**

**Jodie Wiederkehr, Chicago Alliance for Animals**

**Greta Kringle, Solorio Academy High School**

**Michele Miedlar**

**Christopher Weber, Ancona School**

**PRESIDENT**

**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT**

**DISTRICT VEHICLE POLICY AMENDMENT**

**BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners, that Title 1 (Administrative), Chapter 14 (District Vehicle Policy), of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Code of Ordinances is hereby amended as Follows:

**1-14-1: ESTABLISHMENT OF A ~~COUNTYWIDE~~ DISTRICTWIDE VEHICLE STEERING COMMITTEE.**

**1-14-2: RESPONSIBILITIES OF ELECTED OFFICIALS, DEPARTMENTS, AND EMPLOYEES AND ASSIGNMENT OF VEHICLE COORDINATOR.**

**1-14-3: AUTHORIZED USE OF DISTRICT VEHICLES.**

**1-14-4: MISCELLANEOUS.**

Full text of this ordinance amendment can be found here: <<https://bit.ly/24-0144>>

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

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to refer 24-0144 to the Finance Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)



**PROPOSED ORDINANCE**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Parcel 1:

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

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

Except that part of said tract described as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

And also excepting from said tract that part of the following described premises lying East of the Easterly line of 96th Avenue (U. S. Route Number 45); beginning at a point on the West line of said Northwest 1/4 which is 275.66 feet South from the Northwest corner thereof and running thence Southeastwardly along a straight line which, if extended, intersects the South line of said Northwest 1/4 at a point 76.29 feet West from the South East corner thereof, (and which straight line at a distance of 180.58 feet), intersects the Easterly line of 96th Avenue (U. S. Route Number 45), at a point thereon which is 397.98 feet (measured along said Easterly line) Southerly from the North line of said Northwest 1/4 a total distance of 1,739.85 feet to its intersection with the Northwesterly line of the abandoned 66 foot right of way of the Wabash Railroad (formerly the right of way of the Chicago and Strawn Railroad), which last mentioned intersection is 54.60 feet (measured along said right of way line Southwesterly from a tangent point in said line) thence Southwestwardly along said Northwesterly right of way, being the arc of a circle having a radius of 2,897.93 feet and convex Northwesterly a distance of 210.09 feet to its intersection with a line 210 feet (measured perpendicularly) Southwesterly from and parallel with the above described straight line; thence Northwestwardly along the above described parallel line a distance of 1,553.93 feet to its intersection with said West line of the Northwest 1/4; and thence North along said West line of the Northwest 1/4, a distance of 283.30 feet to the point of beginning.

And also excepting from all of the aforesaid part of said West 1/2 of Section 3, any portion thereof lying Northeasterly of said line described as beginning at a point on the West line of said Northwest 1/4 which

is 275.66 feet South from the North West corner thereof and running thence Southeastwardly along a straight line (which if extended intersects the South line of said Northwest 1/4 at a point 76.29 feet from the Southeast corner thereof.

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

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

Commencing at the Southwest corner of the Northwest Quarter of said Section 3; thence North 01 degrees 34 minutes 39 seconds West (bearings based on Illinois State Plane Coordinate System, East Zone, NAD 1983), 227.40 feet (227.37 feet recorded distance) along the West line of said Northwest 1/4 to a point on the North line of Land described in Trustee's Deed recorded November 5, 2004 as document no. 0431049068; thence North 88 degrees 13 minutes 31 seconds East, 119.30 feet along said North line to the East right-of-way line of US Route 45 as per Condemnation Case 85L51078, said point being the point of beginning; thence North 00 degrees-09 minutes 14 seconds East, 389.08 feet along said East right-of-way line; thence South 89 degrees 50 minutes 46 seconds east; 3.33 feet; thence South 00 degrees 16 minutes 26 seconds East, 165.37 feet; thence North 89 degrees 43 minutes 34 seconds East; 10.00 ft; thence South 00 degrees 16 minutes 26 seconds East, 20.00 feet; thence South 89 degrees 43 minutes 34 seconds West, 10.00 feet; thence South 00 degrees 16 minutes 26 seconds East, 97.40 feet; thence South 00 degrees 17 minutes 56 seconds West, 106.14 feet; thence South 88 degrees 13 minutes 31 seconds West, 5.17 feet to the point of beginning.

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

Commencing at the Southwest corner of the Northwest 1/4 of said Section 3; thence North 01 degree 34 minutes 39 seconds West (bearings based on Illinois State Plane Coordinate System, East Zone, NAD 183) 227.40 feet (227.37 feet recorded distance) along the West line of said Northwest 1/4 to the North line of Land described in Trustee's Deed recorded November 5, 2004 as document no. 0431049068) thence North 88 degrees 13 minutes 31 seconds East, 119.30 feet along said North line to the East right-of-way line of US Route 45 as per Condemnation Case 85L51078; thence North 00 degrees 09 minutes 14 seconds East, 536.27 feet along said East right-of-way line to the point of beginning; thence continuing North 00 degrees 09 minutes 14 seconds East, 24.00 feet along said line; thence South 89 degrees 50 minutes 46 seconds East, 10.00 feet; thence South 00 degrees 09 minutes 14 seconds West, 24.00 feet; thence North 89 degrees 50 minutes 46 seconds West, 10.00 feet to the point of beginning.

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

Commencing at the Southwest corner of the Northwest 1/4 of said Section 3; thence North 01 degrees 34 minutes 39 seconds West (bearings based on Illinois State Plane Coordinate System, East Zone, NAD

1983) 227.40 feet (227.37 feet recorded distance) along the West line of said Northwest Quarter to the North line of Land described in Trustee's Deed recorded November 5, 2004 as document no. 0431049068; thence North 88 degrees 13 minutes 31 seconds East, 119.30 feet along said North line to the East right-of-way line of US Route 45 as per Condemnation Case 85L51078; thence North 00 degrees 09 minutes 14 seconds East, 1409.51 feet along said East right-of-way line; thence North 03 degrees 15 minutes 57 seconds West, 28.94 feet along said East right-of-way line to the point of beginning; thence continuing North 03 degrees 15 minutes 57 seconds West, 268.17 feet along said line to the Southwesterly line of an existing Commonwealth Edison Right-of-Way, thence South 49 degrees 24 minutes 35 seconds East, 21.98 feet along said Southwesterly line; thence South 00 degrees 19 minutes 08 seconds West; 253.44 feet to the point of beginning.

Parcel 2:

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

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

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

That part of the West Half of Section 3, Township 36 North, Range 12, East of the Third Principal Meridian, in Cook County, Illinois; described as follows: Commencing at the Northwest corner of the Southwest Quarter of said Section 3, thence on an assumed bearing of South 00 degrees 00 minutes 29 seconds West along the West line of said Southwest Quarter, 325.44 feet to a point in the South line of the North 10 acres of the West Half of the Southwest Quarter of said Section 3, thence North 89 degrees 50



minutes 31 seconds East along said South line, 50.00 feet to the point of beginning, being also the Easterly right of way line of 96th Avenue; thence North 00 degrees 02 minutes 07 seconds East along said Easterly right of way line, 72.82 feet; thence North 10 degrees 47 minutes 33 seconds East along said Easterly right of way line, 101.47 feet to a point distant Easterly 69.00 feet as measured at right angles to the West line of said Section 3; thence North 00 degrees 00 minutes 26 seconds East along said Easterly right of way line of 96th Avenue, 200 feet; thence North 07 degrees 36 minutes 53 seconds West along said Easterly right of way line 101.47 feet to a point distant Easterly 55.56 feet as measured at right angles to the West line of said Section 3; thence North 02 degrees 10 minutes 06 seconds East along said Easterly right of way line, 80.00 feet (deed) 79.80 feet (measured) to a point in the apparent North property line distant Easterly 58.57 feet as measured at right angles to the West line of said Section 3; thence North 89 degrees 50 minutes 31 seconds East along said apparent North property line 60.63 feet. thence South 01 degrees 44 minutes 27 seconds West, 553.11 feet to a point in the South line of said North 10 acres; thence South 89 degrees 50 minutes 31 seconds West along said South line, 52.47 feet to the point of beginning.

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

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

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

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

District 17

**A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Lowry, to refer 24-0269 to the Real Estate Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**PROPOSED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT**

**Department:** Department of Planning and Development

**Other Part(ies):** Village of Orland Park, Illinois (the “Village”)

**Request:** Authorization to execute agreement

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

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

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

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

**Accounts:** N/A

**District(s):** 17

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

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

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

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

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

**A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Lowry, to refer 24-0219 to the Real Estate Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore,  
Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT**

**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**APPROVAL OF A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT EXTENDING THE TERM OF A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT NEGOTIATED BETWEEN THE FOREST PRESERVES OF COOK COUNTY AND THE CHICAGO JOURNEYMEN PLUMBERS LOCAL UNION 130, U.A.**

**WHEREAS**, the Illinois Public Labor Relations Act (5 ILCS 315/1 et seq.) has established regulations regarding collective bargaining with a union; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 5, 2022, the Board of Commissioners approved the collective bargaining agreement negotiated between the Forest Preserves of Cook County and the Chicago Journeymen Plumbers Local Union 130, U.A. (Board Item No. 22-0129) with an amendment approved on January 24, 2023 (Board Item No. 22-0497) and such collective bargaining agreement will expire December 31, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, a Memorandum of Agreement has been entered into between the Forest Preserves of Cook County and the Chicago Journeymen Plumbers Local Union 130, U.A. to extend the term of the collective bargaining agreement through December 31, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, salary adjustments and prevailing wage increases will be approved pursuant to state law for the extended term; and

**WHEREAS**, the Memorandum of Agreement further allows Forest Preserves employees who are members of the Chicago Journeymen Plumbers Local Union 130, U.A. to be eligible for paid Parental Leave pursuant to the Cook County Bureau of Human Resources Parental Leave Policy, and addresses sick time accrual, holidays, and vehicle use matters.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the terms of the Memorandum of Agreement as negotiated between the Forest Pr eserves of Cook County and the Chicago Journeymen Plumbers Local Union 130.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Quezada, to refer 24-0246 to the Labor Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

Presented by: EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**APPROVAL OF A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT EXTENDING THE TERM OF A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT NEGOTIATED BETWEEN THE FOREST PRESERVES OF COOK COUNTY AND THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF PAINTERS AND ALLIED TRADES DISTRICT COUNCIL #14**

**WHEREAS**, the Illinois Public Labor Relations Act (5 ILCS 315/1 et seq.) has established regulations regarding collective bargaining with a union; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 5, 2022, the Board of Commissioners approved the collective bargaining agreement negotiated between the Forest Preserves of Cook County and the International Brotherhood of Painters and Allied Trades District Council #14 (Board Item No. 22-0130) with an amendment approved on January 24, 2023 (Board Item No. 22-0497) and such collective bargaining agreement will expire December 31, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, a Memorandum of Agreement has been entered into between the Forest Preserves of Cook County and the International Brotherhood of Painters and Allied Trades District Council #14 to extend the term of the collective bargaining agreement through December 31, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, salary adjustments and prevailing wage increases will be approved pursuant to state law for the extended term; and

**WHEREAS**, the Memorandum of Agreement further allows Forest Preserves employees who are members of the International Brotherhood of Painters and Allied Trades District Council #14 to be eligible for paid Parental Leave pursuant to the Cook County Bureau of Human Resources Parental Leave Policy, and addresses sick time accrual, holidays, and vehicle use matters.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the terms of the Memorandum of Agreement as negotiated between the Forest Preserves of Cook County and the International Brotherhood of Painters and Allied Trades District Council #14.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Quezada, to refer 24-0247 to the Labor Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**APPROVAL OF A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT EXTENDING THE TERM OF A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT NEGOTIATED BETWEEN THE FOREST PRESERVES OF COOK COUNTY AND THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL 134**

**WHEREAS**, the Illinois Public Labor Relations Act (5 ILCS 315/1 et seq.) has established regulations regarding collective bargaining with a union; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 5, 2022, the Board of Commissioners approved the collective bargaining agreement negotiated between the Forest Preserves of Cook County and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 134 (Board Item No. 22-0131) with an amendment approved on January 24, 2023 (Board Item No. 22-0497) and such collective bargaining agreement will expire December 31, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, a Memorandum of Agreement has been entered into between the Forest Preserves of Cook County and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 134 (“IBEW”) to extend the term of the collective bargaining agreement through December 31, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, salary adjustments and prevailing wage increases will be approved pursuant to state law for the extended term; and

**WHEREAS**, the Memorandum of Agreement further allows Forest Preserves employees who are members of IBEW to be eligible for paid Parental Leave pursuant to the Cook County Bureau of Human Resources Parental Leave Policy, and addresses sick time accrual, holidays, and vehicle use matters.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the terms of the Memorandum of Agreement as negotiated between the Forest Preserves of Cook County and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 134.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Quezada, to refer 24-0248 to the Labor Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

Presented by: EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**APPROVAL OF A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT EXTENDING THE TERM OF A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT NEGOTIATED BETWEEN THE FOREST PRESERVES OF COOK COUNTY AND THE SHEET METAL, AIR, RAIL & TRANSPORTATION WORKERS (SMART), LOCAL NO. 73**

**WHEREAS**, the Illinois Public Labor Relations Act (5 ILCS 315/1 et seq.) has established regulations regarding collective bargaining with a union; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 5, 2022, the Board of Commissioners approved the collective bargaining agreement negotiated between the Forest Preserves of Cook County and the Sheet Metal, Air, Rail & Transportation Workers (SMART), Local No. 73 (Board Item No. 22-0128) with an amendment approved on January 24, 2023 (Board Item No. 22-0497) and such collective bargaining agreement will expire December 31, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, a Memorandum of Agreement has been entered into between the Forest Preserves of Cook County and the Sheet Metal, Air, Rail & Transportation Workers (SMART), Local No. 73 to extend the term of the collective bargaining agreement through December 31, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, salary adjustments and prevailing wage increases will be approved pursuant to state law for the extended term; and

**WHEREAS**, the Memorandum of Agreement further allows Forest Preserves employees who are members of the Sheet Metal, Air, Rail & Transportation Workers (SMART), Local No. 73 to be eligible for paid Parental Leave pursuant to the Cook County Bureau of Human Resources Parental Leave Policy, and addresses sick time accrual, holidays, and vehicle use matters.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the terms of the Memorandum of Agreement as negotiated between the Forest Preserves of Cook County and the Sheet Metal, Air, Rail & Transportation Workers (SMART), Local No. 73.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Quezada, to refer 24-0249 to the Labor Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**PROPOSED PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT AMENDMENT**

**Request:** Requesting authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to amend its Partnership Agreement with the University of Illinois (the “University”), Champaign, Illinois and the Chicago Zoological Society (“CZS”), Brookfield, Illinois.

**Reason:** The Forest Preserves wishes to extend and increase its partnership agreement with the University and CZS in order to expand the Illinois Zoological and Wildlife Health Management Residency program. Given the success and productivity of the initial residency, which launched in 2022, the Forest Preserves is seeking to extend the program through 2031, providing the opportunity for a total of three additional residents to participate over the term of the agreement. This amendment would also add a second wildlife resident position into a rotation that selects a new resident every other year (2024, 2026, 2028). Each residency term would overlap for a single year to allow for mentorship between residents and integration with existing research operations.

The residency is the nation’s first and only veterinary residency program focused on free-ranging wildlife health management. The three-year program provides clinical training that enables residents to become competent in free-ranging wildlife health to meet the eligibility requirements for accreditation by the American College of Zoological Medicine, the certifying body for veterinary zoo and wildlife medicine specialists. The resident provides professional veterinary medical services for Forest Preserves field programs and assists with laboratory and field research to maintain wildlife and ecosystem health in Cook County. The program has been honored with several awards and has already made numerous important discoveries related to local wildlife health.

The initial residency program was originally approved by the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners on 2/8/2022, per Board Item No. 22-0108. All residents are directly employed by the University. Candidate selection occurs through a nationwide search coordinated through the Veterinary Internship and Residency Matching Program. The total cost for all four (4) residents over the nine (9) year agreement term is not to exceed \$1,305,000.00, which includes a base salary, fringe benefits, and an annual stipend for supplemental research and travel expenses.

**Contract Period:** Original: 7/15/2022 - 7/14/2025. Initial Board authority authorized an additional one-year renewal option to be exercised at the discretion of the General Superintendent to account for any delays in initial recruitment, but that option is not in the current agreement.

**Proposed Partnership Agreement Extension:** 7/15/2025 - 7/14/2031

**Fiscal Impact:** Not to exceed \$1,305,000.00 (FY 2022 \$68,109.50; FY 2023 \$68,844.05; FY 2024 \$217,500.00; FY 2025 \$108,750.00; FY 2026 \$108,750.00; FY 2027 \$217,500.00; FY 2028 \$108,750.00; FY 2029 \$217,500.00; FY 2030 \$108,750.00; FY 2031 \$80,546.45)



**Account(s):** Professional Services 51030.520840; Grant and Mitigation 51010.521314 and 51010.521444; and all future Professional Services accounts

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

**District(s):** Districtwide

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 24-0192. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita,  
K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**PROPOSED GRANT AWARD**

**Department:** Department of Law Enforcement

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

**Grantor:** Cook County Department of Emergency Management and Regional Security (DEMRS)

**Request:** Authorization to accept grant

**Purpose:** Authorization is for the Forest Preserves to accept a grant of \$353,022.40 and enter into a Subaward Agreement with the Cook County Department of Emergency Management and Regional Security for the purchase of digital, portable radios to enhance communications within the Law Enforcement Department.

**Grant Amount:** \$353,022.40

**Grant Period:** Date of Execution - 8/31/2025

**Fiscal Impact:** N/A. The project will be conducted at no direct cost to the Forest Preserves, which may provide in-kind staff support for the implementation of the project.

**Accounts:** Institutional Supplies 51010.530170

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

**District(s):** Districtwide

**Summary:** The Forest Preserves has been awarded \$353,022.40 in Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant funding from the Cook County Department of Emergency Management and Regional Security to support the purchase of 68 digital, portable radios to equip its police department and ensure that its law enforcement officers can respond to the needs of the public, provide a more timely and thorough response in search and rescue situations, and communicate clearly and effectively in the case of a national threat or disaster.

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

**24-0259. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita,  
K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

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**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

### **EASEMENT REQUEST**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Tree Mitigation Fee:** \$1,511,403.11

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

**District(s):** 17

**A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to refer 24-0138 to the Real Estate Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**PROPOSED CONTRACT**

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

**Vendor:** Various vendors expanding a pre-qualified vendor pool for districtwide tree removal and forestry services, listed below:

<u>Contract No.</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>
74000014014	Homer Tree Service, Inc., Lockport, Illinois
74000014015	Clean Cut Tree Service, Inc., Grayslake, Illinois
74000014152	Fernandez Tree Service, Inc., Chicago, Illinois

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

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

**Contract Value:** Not to exceed a combined total of \$3,000,000.00 per calendar year (or \$15,000,000.00 over the entire term) in conjunction with contract numbers #74000012305, #74000012312, #74000012313 (Board Item Nos. 23-0333, 23-0334, and 23-0335) and all contract numbers listed above.

**Contract Period:** 6/11/2024 - 6/30/2028

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** FY 2024 \$3,000,000.00; FY 2025 \$3,000,000.00; FY 2026 \$3,000,000.00; FY 2027 \$3,000,000.00; FY 2028 \$3,000,000.00 (Fiscal impact includes the fiscal impact for related Board Item Nos. 23-0333, 23-0334, and 23-0335)

**Accounts:** Professional Services 51034.520840; Land Improvements 51033.560020; Grant and Mitigation 51010.521444 and 51010.520840; and all future Professional Services, Land Improvements, and Grant and Mitigation accounts

**Contract Number(s):** #74000014014, #74000014015, and #74000014152 issued under RFQ #24-31-102

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

The vendors have met the Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Ordinance via direct participation.

**District(s):** Districtwide

**Summary:** On 6/27/2023, the Forest Preserves Board of Commissioners approved items establishing a pre-qualified contractor pool for the removal and pruning of potentially hazardous trees throughout Forest Preserves holdings (Board Item Nos. 23-0333, 23-0334, and 23-0335). This second Request for Qualifications (“RFQ”) #24-31-102 was posted to allow additional vendors to enter the pool, which will subsequently increase work capacity and promote more competitive pricing. The scope of work also includes general forestry consulting services for the specialized care and maintenance of high value trees, including but not limited to: inspections, cabling and bracing, root pruning, soil decompaction, inoculations for insect and disease management, etc. Work will primarily take place in areas of high public interface, including but not limited to trails, groves, golf courses, roadsides, and private property interfaces. Task orders will be issued to pre-qualified firms on an as-needed basis, with projects awarded based on price, work plan, specialized skills or equipment, and availability.

The original three (3) previously approved vendors were authorized for an aggregate amount not to exceed \$15,000,000.00. To accommodate these three (3) additional new vendors under the existing \$15,000,000.00 authority limit set for the vendor pool, the funds approved for use by all participating contractors, including the initial three (3) vendors, will be capped internally at \$500,000.00 per vendor, per year.

Homer Tree Service, Inc., Clean Cut Tree Service, Inc., and Fernandez Tree Service, Inc. were determined by an evaluation committee to meet the evaluation criteria in response to a qualifications-based selection process (RFQ #24-31-102). Five (5) firms submitted qualifications in response to this second RFQ.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to approve 24-0190. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**PROPOSED CONTRACT**

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

**Vendor:** Atlas Bobcat, LLC, Elk Grove Village, Illinois

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

**Good(s) or Service(s):** Parts and services for Bobcat brand equipment owned by the Forest Preserves.

**Contract Value:** \$300,000.00

**Contract Period:** Thirty-six (36) months

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** FY 2024 \$100,000.00, FY 2025 \$75,000.00, FY 2026 \$75,000.00, FY 2027 \$50,000.00

**Accounts:** Corporate, Equipment Supplies and Maintenance Service 51033.540275

**Contract Number(s):** #74000014284

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

Sole Source Contract with no MWBE participation goals.

**District(s):** Districtwide

**Summary:** The Department of Facilities and Fleet manages the repair and maintenance needs for approximately eighty (80) different pieces of Bobcat equipment to support our construction and land management efforts. This contract is necessary for the continued maintenance parts and service for both current and aging Bobcat equipment. Additionally, this contract will support planned purchases of additional Bobcat equipment to proactively plan for upcoming workforce increases. The proposed vendor, Atlas Bobcat, LLC, is the only full line Bobcat authorized dealer for the Chicagoland area.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to approve 24-0210. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps, and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)





**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**PROPOSED CONTRACT**

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

**Vendor:** Various vendors establishing a vendor pool for aquatic vegetation control services, listed below:

<u>Contract No.</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>
74000014168	Integrated Lakes Management, Inc., Waukegan, Illinois
74000014176	BS&T, Inc. dba McCloud Aquatics, Elburn, Illinois

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

**Good(s) or Service(s):** Professional services agreements for aquatic vegetation control services at Forest Preserves lakes and waterbodies

**Contract Value:** Not to exceed a combined total of \$100,000.00 annually (or \$500,000.00 over the five (5) year term) across all contract numbers listed above.

**Contract Period:** 6/11/2024 - 4/30/2029

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** FY 2024 \$50,000.00, FY 2025 \$100,000.00, FY 2026 \$100,000.00, FY 2027 \$100,000.00, FY 2028 \$100,000.00, FY 2029 \$50,000.00

**Accounts:** Professional Services 51034.520840; Land Improvements 51033.560020; Fisheries Management 51001.521448; Grant and Mitigation 51010.521444 and 51010.520840; and all future Professional Services, Land Improvements, and Grant and Mitigation accounts

**Contract Number(s):** #74000014168 and #74000014176 issued under RFP #24-31-105

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

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

**District(s):** Districtwide

**Summary:** The Forest Preserves issued a Request for Proposals (RFP #24-31-105) seeking firms to perform aquatic herbicide lake treatments at the Forest Preserves’ forty-two (42) recreational lakes and other waterbodies. These services supplement in-house aquatic vegetation control treatments conducted

by the Forest Preserves annually to meet the aesthetic and recreational needs of the public and limit the proliferation of nuisance and/or invasive vegetation on its waterbodies.

A total of two (2) proposals were received under the RFP, both of which were found to be responsive. Proposals were evaluated based on experience and expertise with similar projects, application methodology, material and labor costs, and capacity to perform all aspects of the work. Work will be issued based on overall cost and ability to promptly respond to treatment needs.

A contract for aquatic vegetation control services was previously approved per Board Item No. 22-0303. This contract was executed and intended to be valid through 2027. However, before any work could be completed under the contract, the vendor was acquired by another company that did not wish to participate and the contract was subsequently terminated.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to approve 24-0243. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**PROPOSED CONTRACT**

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

**Vendor:** Timberland Ranch, Sauk Village, Illinois

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

**Good(s) or Service(s):** Hay farming at the Plum Creek preserves

**Contract Value:** N/A

**Contract Period:** 8/1/2024 - 12/31/2024, with three (3) one-year extension options to be exercised at the discretion of the General Superintendent or their designee

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** Revenue generation of up to \$3,400.00 over the initial term and three (3) one-year optional extensions

**Accounts:** Corporate Land Use Fees 51001.411366 (revenue generating)

**Contract Number(s):** #7400014316 issued under Project #24RM 108

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

**District(s):** 6

**Summary:** The Forest Preserves has solicited a contract for hay farming at the Plum Creek preserves near Sauk Village in southeast Cook County. This property was historically used for agricultural purposes prior to acquisition by the Forest Preserves, and as such, does not exist in an ecologically natural state. The vendor will have use of the property for cutting and collection of hay. This practice allows the Forest Preserves to generate revenue, while at the same time providing habitat for grassland birds and preventing invasive plant species from overtaking fallow land. It is the Forest Preserves’ intention to restore fallow land as capacity and funding allows, and these interim farming practices are a good method to keep lands in a more manageable condition until a restoration project can take place, thereby reducing future restoration costs. The contract term for hay cutting is a period of five (5) months, with three (3) one-year mutual renewal options to be exercised by the General Superintendent or their designee, which allows the Forest Preserves the option to discontinue farming practices at our discretion in order to restore these lands to a natural condition.

Timberland Ranch was the sole bidder for the Plum Creek hay site, for a total potential revenue generation over approximately three and a half years of \$3,400.00.

<b>Site</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Revenue</b>
Plum Creek	32.8	\$3,400.00

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to approve 24-0244. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**PROPOSED CONTRACT AMENDMENT**

**Department(s):** Departments of Legal and Finance

**Vendor:** Marsh & McLennan Agency, LLC (MMA), Chicago, Illinois

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

**Good(s) or Service(s):** Insurance Brokerage Services (Property)

**Original Contract Period:** 7/1/2022 - 6/30/2023, renewal 7/1/2023 - 6/30/2024

**Proposed Contract Period Extension:** 7/1/2024 - 6/30/2025; with a one-year optional renewal to be exercised at the discretion of the General Superintendent

**Total Current Contract Amount Authority:** \$800,000.00

**Original Approval:** 6/14/2022, \$800,000.00

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

**This Increase Requested:** N/A

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** FY 2024 \$150,000.00, FY 2025 \$150,000.00 (for both years using funds remaining from original approval)

**Accounts:** Self Insurance, Other Expense 51011.700005

**Contract Number(s):** #74000014344

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

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

**District(s):** Districtwide

**Summary:** On March 18, 2021, the Cook County Board of Commissioners approved a contract with CS Insurance Strategies for Insurance Brokerage Services for Property and Cyber Liability coverage (the “County Contract”). The contract was awarded pursuant to a publicly advertised Request for Proposals in accordance with the Cook County Procurement Code. Subsequently, Marsh & McLennan Agency, LLC was assigned the contract from CS Insurance Strategies. Further, on March 14, 2024, the County Board authorized the extension of the County Contract until 6/30/2026.

On June 14, 2022, the Forest Preserves Board of Commissioners authorized the Forest Preserves to piggyback off the County Contract on a sole source basis for property insurance at select locations (Board Item No. 22-0283). The Forest Preserves would like to continue to piggyback off the County Contract. The value is an estimated not-to-exceed amount inclusive of annual broker fees and estimated insurance premiums based on current exposure, loss information, and prior premiums. The Forest Preserves is self-insured against all other types of losses, including general liability and workers compensation.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to approve 24-0268. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps, and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**PROPOSED TRANSFER OF FUNDS**

**Department:** Department of Finance and Administration

**Request:** Approval of a transfer of Funds

**Reason:** The reason for this transfer is to meet the Forest Preserves of Cook County Pension obligation as set forth in the Public Act 102-1131 (effective June 1, 2023).

**From Account(s):** 51001.5100.00000.801420.00000.00000 (Corporate)

**To Account(s):** 51004.5100.00000.411502.00000.00000 (Pension)

**Total Amount of Transfer:** \$8,384,419.00

**On what date did it become apparent that the receiving account would require an infusion of funds in order to meet current obligations? What was the balance in the account on that date, and what was the balance 30 days prior to that date?**

Tax collection for the pension fund has not yet increased to meet 2024 obligations. This became apparent after first quarter 2024.

**How was the account used for the source of transferred funds identified? List any other accounts that were also considered (but not used) as the source of the transferred funds.**

It was determined there was sufficient available Corporate Fund Balance.

**Identify any projects, purchases, programs, contracts, or other obligations that will be deferred, delayed, or canceled as a result of the reduction in available spending authority that will result in the account that funds are transferred from.**

No projects, purchases, programs, contracts, or other obligations will be deferred, delayed, or canceled as a result of the transfer of funds.

**If the answer to the above question is “none” then please explain why this account was originally budgeted in a manner that caused an unobligated surplus to develop at this point in the fiscal year.**

The fund developed a surplus of funding due to turnover and revenues exceeding budgeted expectations.



**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to refer 24-0217 to the Finance Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**PROPOSED PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ITEM AMENDMENT**

**Department:** Department of Resource Management

**Request:** Amend subrecipient agreement to allow for the receipt of an additional \$562,833.00 in funding to expand Conservation Corps programming.

**Item Number:** 22-0289

**Fiscal Impact:** N/A

**Account(s):** ARPA Conservation Corps 51032.521444

**District(s):** Districtwide

**Original Text of Item:**

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT SUB-AWARDS**

**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 \$1,000,372,385.00 of ARPA funding to Cook County to assist the County in its recovery from the economic and health effects of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the County may subaward to subrecipients portions of the County’s ARPA funding for purposes approved by the County Board (see County Board Item Nos. 22-0637, 22-0691, 22-1626, and 22-2807); and

**WHEREAS**, the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) has requested subaward funds in the following amounts for the following Forest Preserves programs:

1. **Conservation Corps - Not to Exceed ~~\$3,875,000.00~~ \$4,437,833.00.** The Forest Preserves will continue to engage youth and adults from Cook County in meaningful hands-on job training. Participants receive job training, attend networking events, and earn valuable certifications while improving the ecological health of the Forest Preserves. In subsequent

- years, the program may feature an expanded career pathways focus and new partners.
2. **Riparian Restoration -Not to Exceed \$3,000,000.00.** These funds will allow Forest Preserves to restore 400 acres of floodplain and associated uplands habitats along Tinley and Thorn Creeks allowing for improved natural infiltration of rainwater, reducing flooding, and improving water quality. Funds will support the development of hydrologic restoration plans. A portion of the project area will involve riparian restoration in the Sauk Lake preserve system, which includes the communities of Park Forest, Chicago Heights, South Chicago Heights, and Steger.
  3. **Personnel Costs -Not to Exceed \$2,000,000.00.** These funds are for one-time payments for Forest Preserves employees for pandemic related impacts, similar to one-time payments made by the County for its employees in 2021.
  4. **Implementation of the Southeast Cook County Land Acquisition Plan -Not to Exceed \$7,000,000.00.** These funds will help us acquire an estimated 350 acres in southeast Cook County. This land preservation project is a nature-based solution that will contribute towards the reduction of flooding and build greater resilience in the area to storm events and potential impacts from climate change and will create a vibrant forest preserve system that promotes improved public health, aids in the generation of economic benefits and boosts community and social resilience. The ARPA funds will build on awards from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Land and Water Conservation Fund and Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation that are helping to secure several other parcels in the area.
  5. **Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations.** Cook County will purchase and install up to five (5) EV Charging Stations on Forest Preserves property. Each charging station is valued at approximately \$35,000.00. Once installed, the charging stations will be owned and operated by the Forest Preserves. These charging stations will be used in Forest Preserves operations and will be available as an amenity to Forest Preserves patrons. Any proposed fees for the use of the charging stations will be brought to the Forest Preserves Board of Commissioners for approval in advance. The goal is to help increase access to electric vehicle charging stations throughout Cook County, focusing on where there are currently large gaps in service areas.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby authorize the Forest Preserves, as a grant subrecipient, to enter into one or more Intergovernmental Agreement(s) or Subrecipient Agreement(s) with Cook County for funding for the projects described above, provided such agreements are limited to terms of no more than five (5) years.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Forest Preserves of Cook County shall present to the Board of Commissioners an annual report of expenditures from County ARPA funds received.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to approve 24-0245. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**PROPOSED PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ITEM AMENDMENT**

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

**Request:** Requesting authorization to modify term and fiscal impact for previously approved partnership agreement

**Item Number:** 22-0362

**Original Text of Item:**

**PROPOSED PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

**Request:** Requesting authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to enter into a Partnership Agreement with American Humane, Washington, DC.

**Reason:** The Forest Preserves would like to pursue the American Humane Conservation Certification for its Ambassador Animal program. The Certificate requires a five-year partnership agreement.

**Contract Period:** ~~4/1/2022—11/30/2027~~ Five (5) years from the date of execution of the Partnership Agreement or issuance of the Certificate of Approval by American Humane, whichever is later

**Fiscal Impact:** ~~\$25,000.00 (FY 2023 \$5,000.00, FY 2024 \$5,000.00, FY 2025 \$5,000.00, FY 2026 \$5,000.00, and FY 2027 \$5,000.00)~~ Not to Exceed \$50,000.00 (FY 2024 \$10,000.00, FY 2025 \$10,000.00, FY 2026 \$7,500.00, FY 2027 \$7,500.00, FY 2028 \$7,500.00, and FY 2029 \$7,500.00)

**Account(s):** Professional Services 51001.520830

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

**District(s):** Districtwide

**A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Aguilar, to approve 24-0077. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim 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 2023

**Report Period:** 1/1/2023 - 12/31/2023

**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 concession 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 generated revenue in 2023 along with opportunities anticipated for 2024.

In 2023, the Forest Preserves received \$1,824,192.00, an 11% increase over 2022.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to refer 24-0191 to the Finance Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**REPORT**

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

**Request:** Receive and File

**Report Title:** Ambassador Animal Program

**Report Period:** 2023 Update and 2024 Goals

**Summary:** This report details the accomplishments made to the Ambassador Animal Program since 2022's *Review of the Ambassador Animal Program*. We reached nearly every action item during this timeframe. Some items continue to be ongoing, while others are in progress. 2023 was just the beginning as we continue to create steppingstones to improve and build upon our Ambassador Animal Program. For 2024, the overall goals are the same, but the strategies and actions have been updated for the new year.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to receive and file 24-0260. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**REPORT**

**Department:** Department of Finance and Administration

**Request:** Receive and File

**Report Title:** Procurement and Disbursement Report

**Report Period:** 4/1/2024 - 4/30/2024

**Summary:** Submitting the Procurement and Disbursement Report for the period of April 2024. 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 Degnen, to receive and file 24-0066. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)



**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**REPORT**

**Department:** Departments of Legal and Finance

**Request:** Receive and File

**Report Title:** Workers' Compensation Report - April 2024

**Report Period:** 4/1/2024 - 4/30/2024

**Summary:** The Forest Preserves of Cook County Departments of Legal and Finance are submitting Workers' Compensation Claim Payments for the month of April 2024. Payments total \$82,310.46 for April 2024.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to receive and filed 24-0257. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

Presented by: EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**PROPOSED CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

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

**Summary: Forest Preserves of Cook County Calendar of Events and Activities 6/11/2024 - 7/22/2024**

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

**Tuesday, 6/11; 4pm - 6pm**

**Walk & Talk Hike: LGBTQ2S+ Environmentalists, LaBagh Woods, Chicago**

Celebrate Pride Month with a nature walk highlighting local and national LGBTQ2S+ conservationists. *Registration required. This event will be held at Grove 1. Please call (773)758-8899.*

**Thursday, 6/13 through Friday 6/14; 9:30am - 12pm**

**Gone Fishin’ Day Camp, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington**

Spend a day investigating fish, their habitat, making fish crafts, and learning how to cast.

We will go fishing at a local lake the next day. June 14th is part of the State of Illinois Free Fishing Day and parents without a fishing license can fish with their children. *Registration required. Ages 7-12. The cost is \$20 per child. Parents must sign a release form for the participant. Registration, fee, and forms must be completed in-person at the nature center. Supplies and assistance will be provided. For more information, please call (847)381-6598.*

**Thursday, 6/13; 10:30am**

**Teen Exploration Day: River Kayaking 101, Schuth’s Grove, North Riverside**

Learn how to kayak on moving water. The class will include a 3-mile trip down the Des Plaines River. *Registration required. Ages 13 and up. Instructions, equipment, kayaks, and a shuttle will be provided. Please call (312) 533-5751.*

**Thursday, 6/13; 4pm - 6pm**

**Rise of the Cicada, Caldwell Wellness Center, Chicago**

Learn about the once-in-a-lifetime double-brood cicada emergence and participate in cicada-themed activities. *Registration required. Please call (773)758-8899.*

**Thursday, 6/13; 6:30pm - 8:30pm**

**Nature Open Mic Night, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs**

Perform songs, poetry or enjoy the live performances while overlooking the slough at sunset. *Registration required. All ages. Please call (708) 839-6897.*

**Friday, 6/14; 10am - 2pm**

**Juneteenth Paddling, Little Calumet Boat Launch, Riverdale**

Experience the African American Heritage Water Trail. *Registration required. Please call (312) 415-2970.*

**Saturday, 6/15; 9 am - 12 pm**

**Busse Lake Outdoors Day and Fishing Derby, Busse Woods Grove 25, Elk Grove Village**

The whole family is invited for a day of outdoor fun! Free fishing derby, tree climb, nature play, animal encounters, and more! Enjoy local food and win prizes. Grove 25. **Registration Required**, call Cook County Board of Commissioners 15th district at 847-519-7674 or email [district15@cookcountyl.gov](mailto:district15@cookcountyl.gov).

**Saturday, 6/15; 10am - 2pm**

**Juneteenth Celebration, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland**

Celebrate freedom, family, and country! This event will have activities, presentations, performances, and exhibits highlighting Black history, arts, and culture. *Registration required. Please call (708)868-0606 or visit the website.*

**Saturday, 6/15; 10am - 3pm**

**MagiCicada Fest, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont**

Celebrate the biggest party in 17 years and make some noise with Brood XIII! Enjoy scheduled walks, presentations, exhibits and crafts. *Registration required. Please call (630)257-20245.*

**Saturday, 6/15; 1pm**

**Rainbow Families, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington**

Celebrate Pride Month and learn about different types of family arrangements in the animal kingdom.

**Sunday, 6/16; 10am - 2pm**

**Juneteenth Paddling, Little Calumet Boat Launch, Riverdale**

Experience the African American Heritage Water Trail. *Registration required. Please call (312) 415-2970.*

**Sunday, 6/16; 11am - 2pm**

**The Un-buried Treasure Hunt, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook**

Pick up a treasure map then decode the clues along the trails to find the unburied treasure.

**Sunday, 6/16; 1pm**

**Cicada Sensory Walk, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont**

Experience periodic cicadas through sound, sight, and touch on a guided walk. *Registration required. Please call (630)257-20245.*

**Tuesday, 6/18 through Friday, 6/21; 9:30am - 12pm****Nature Explorer Camp, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington**

Discover plants and animals through exploration, games, and crafts. *Registration required. Ages 7-11. The cost is \$30 per child. Registration and fee must be completed in-person at the nature center. For more information, please call (847)381-6598.*

**Tuesday, 6/18 through Friday, 6/21; 12pm - 3pm****Summer Nature Camp, Rolling Knolls, Elgin**

Learn the significance of the summer season in Native American culture while participating in various activities. *All ages. This event is presented with Trickster Cultural Center. For more information, please call (773)758-8899.*

**Tuesday, 6/18; 5pm - 7pm****Bird Banding, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont**

Join us for an evening of tagging and releasing to learn about our birds. *Registration required. Please call (630)257-20245.*

**Wednesday, 6/19; 6pm - 7:30pm****Juneteenth Freedom Ride, Dan Ryan Woods Pavilion, Chicago**

Enjoy the 16-miles roundtrip bike ride. *You must bring your own bike and helmet. This event is presented with Major Taylor Trail Keepers and Black Girls Bike. For more information, please call (312)415-2970.*

**Thursday, 6/20; 8am - 10am****Morning Solstice Paddle, Busse Lake Boating Center-South Pool, Elk Grove Village**

Celebrate the summer solstice by paddling Busse South Pool. *Registration required. Ages 5 and up. Please call (773)758-8899.*

**Thursday, 6/20; 10:30am - 12pm****American Indian Summer Solstice, Schiller Woods-West, Schiller Park**

Join us and learn about the importance of the solstice to the Native American community. You will enjoy traditional Native dancing while learning about the cultural significance of Serpent Mounds. *This event is presented with the American Indian Center of Chicago. For more information, please visit the website.*

**Thursday, 6/20; 7pm****Nature Book Club: “Entangled Life” by M. Sheldrake, Forest Park Public Library, Forest Park**

Join us for a lively discussion about the book “Entangled Life” by Merlin Sheldrake. This book and event will teach you about fungi and forests. *Ages 18 and up. This event is presented with the Forest Park Public Library. For more information, please visit the website.*

**Thursday, 6/20; 7:30pm****Campfire Stories, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook**

Enjoy the lingering daylight on the longest day of the year with stories, songs, and s’mores around the campfire. *Registration required. The cost is \$5 per person. Registration and payment are due by 6/18. Please call (847)824-8360.*

**Thursday, 6/20; 7:30pm****Solstice and Cicada Walk, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs**

The time has finally come to celebrate the emergence of the 17-year cicadas! Join us on the summer solstice as we walk and talk about these weird and fantastic insects while a librarian from the LaGrange Park Library recites a folktale. *Registration required. Please call (708)839-6897.*

**Saturday, 6/22; 10:30am****Summer Pride Walk, Trailside Museum, River Forest**

Celebrate Pride month with a casual nature hike to enjoy the sights, sounds, and scents of early summer. *Registration required. This is a family program. Please call (708)366-6530.*

**Saturday, 6/22; 11am - 1pm****Self-Love in Nature Series: Peace and Drum Circle, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland**

*For more information, please call (708) 868-0606 or visit the website.*

**Saturday, 6/22 through Sunday, 6/23; 5:30pm****Camping 101: Overnight, Camp Bullfrog Lake, Willow Springs**

This event is part workshop and part campout! You can learn camping skills and then spend the night. *Registration required. The cost is \$50 per family of 6 or less. For more information, please visit the website.*

**Sunday, 6/23; 1pm - 4pm****Cub Scout Adventure Series, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs**

A nature-related scout adventure will be offered and achieved. *Registration required. Please call (708) 839-6897.*

**Monday, 6/24 through Friday 6/28; 8:30am - 12:30pm****Outdoor Education Camp, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland**

Discover nature and enjoy experiences through exploration and recreation. *Registration required. This outdoor camp has two age groups. Group 1 will be for ages 6-8 and group 2 will be for ages 9-11. The cost is \$25 per child. Please call (708)868-0606 or visit the website.*

**Thursday, 6/27 through Friday 6/28; 9:30am - 12pm****Gone Fishin' Day Camp, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington**

Spend a day investigating fish, their habitat, making fish crafts, and learning how to cast.

We will go fishing at a local lake the next day. *Registration required. Ages 7-12. The cost is \$20 per child. Parents must sign a release form for the participant. Registration, fee, and forms must be completed in-person at the nature center. Supplies and assistance will be provided. For more information, please call (847)381-6598.*

**Thursday 6/27; 4pm - 6pm****Archery, Cherry Hill Woods, Palos Park**

Join us and learn archery skills. *Equipment will be provided. For more information, please call (312)533-5751.*

**Saturday, 6/29; 8am - 9am****Birding is Accessible, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland**

Join us for a short, slow-paced birdwatching experience on our ADA accessible trail with a stop at a marsh overlook. The total distance is a half-mile. *Registration required. Please call (708)868-0606 or visit the website.*

**Saturday, 6/29; 10am - 12pm****International Mud Day Celebration, Caldwell Wellness Center, Chicago**

Dress to get messy! Join others around the globe for a morning of splashing, squishing, mud creations, and more. *Registration required. All ages. This event is presented with the Niles-Maine Public Library. For more information, please visit the website.*

**Saturday, 6/29; 10am - 12:30pm****Hike the Freedom Trail Tour, Beaubien Woods, Chicago**

Part bus ride and part moderate walk. Experts will share a historically accurate story of "Freedom Seekers" who traveled the Underground Railroad through the south Chicagoland region. *Registration required. For more information, please visit the website.*

**Saturday, 6/29; 10am - 12:30pm**

**Queer Family Day, Dan Ryan Woods Visitor Center, Chicago**

Celebrate love and inclusion with nature play, games, art and more! *This event is presented with Out in Nature, Feminist Bird Club, and Southside Nature Play. For more information, please visit the website.*

**Saturday, 6/29; 2pm**

**Ophidiophobia, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs**

Are you afraid of snakes? You can overcome your phobia by gaining a healthy understanding of these misunderstood reptiles. *Registration required. Please call (708) 839-6897.*

**Saturday, 6/29; 12pm - 2:30pm**

**Nature Obstacle Course, Twenty-Sixth Street Woods-West, LaGrange Park**

Families can attempt an obstacle course created from natural materials. This event will include nature play, exploration, and art activities.

**Thursday, 7/4; 1:30pm**

**Animal Encounter, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook**

Get up and close and learn about one of our ambassador animals.

**Saturday, 7/6; 8am - 9:15am**

**Women’s Wellness, Swallow Cliff Pavilion, Palos Park**

Join The Do-Good Movement! This event will have a yoga class followed by a women’s wellness discussion based around the 31 Days to Wellness. *Registration required. Please call (312)533-5751.*

**Saturday, 7/6; 9am**

**Photography Walk, Maple Lake-East, Willow Springs**

Grab your camera and explore Paw Paw Woods Nature Preserve with us. *This event will begin at the Mountain Bike Staging Area. For more information, please visit the website.*

**Saturday, 7/6; 1pm**

**Insects Behind the Icons: Parasitoids and Xenomorphs, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont**

Parasitoids inspired one of horror’s greatest icons, the xenomorph, from the “Alien” franchise. You can learn about the ecology of these insects and how it led to the iconic monster. *Registration required. Please call (630)257-2045.*

**Sunday, 7/7; 10:30am**

**Pond Dip Discovery, Trailside Museum, River Forest**

Join us as we make discoveries when we dip our nets in the pond! *Registration required. Ages 5-12 with an adult. Equipment will be provided. Please call (708)366-6530.*

**Wednesday, 7/10; 6pm - 8pm**

**Camping and Cooking 101, Camp Sullivan, Oak Forest**

This 2-hour workshop covers camping and outdoor cooking basics. *Registration required. All ages. Camping and cooking gear will be provided. For more information, please visit the website.*

**Wednesday, 7/10; 7:30pm - 9:30pm**

**Jewels of the Night: Fireflies, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont**

You can learn how to identify fireflies during the event presentation and walk. *Registration required. Please call (630)257-2045.*

**Thursday, 7/11; 6:30pm - 8:30pm**

**Nature Open Mic Night, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs**

Perform songs, poetry or enjoy the live performances while overlooking the slough at sunset. *Registration required. All ages. Please call (708) 839-6897.*

**Friday, 7/12; 9:30am - 12pm**

**Bird Painting Step-By-Step, Trailside Museum, River Forest**

Sketch and paint a barn swallow. *Registration required. Ages 13 and up. The cost is \$5 per person. All skill levels are welcomed. Supplies and materials will be provided. Please call (708)366-6530.*

**Saturday, 7/13; 8am - 10am**

**Bilingual Community Plant Walk, Eggers Grove, Chicago**

Join Friends of the Forest Preserves for an early morning adventure to look for mid-summer blooms. *For more information, please visit the website.*

**Saturday, 7/13; 10am - 3pm**

**Kids' Fest, Wampum Lake, Thornton**

Embrace the great outdoors and the wonders of nature. This event has many community partners offering fishing, canoeing, archery and more. *Registration is encouraged but not required. For more information, please visit the website.*

**Sunday, 7/14; 8:30pm**

**Flickering Fireflies, Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, Willow Springs**

Discover why fireflies glow in the dark! You can learn about fireflies and then go on a 1-mile adventure to catch and release these incredible creatures. *Registration required. Please call (708) 839-6897.*



**Tuesday, 7/16 through Thursday 7/18; 9:30am - 2:30pm****Field Science Workshop: Earth Science & Geology of NE Illinois, Sagawau Environmental Learning Center, Lemont**

The workshop is open to all interested adult learners. You will develop familiarity with Silurian and glacial geology, fossils of northeastern Illinois, and using topographic maps to interpret the geologic history of your surroundings through indoor instruction and intensive field learning. Teachers can learn how to excite your class with geology and earn CPDUs with NGSS guidance from Illinois Science Teachers Association. *Registration required. For more information, please call (630)257-2045 or visit the website.*

**Thursday 7/18; 10am - 12pm****Without Limits: Recreation for All, Tower Road Boat Launch, Northfield**

Embrace adventure through rock climbing, cycling, and kayaking opportunities specially tailored for people of all ages with a primary physical disability. *This event is presented with Adaptive Adventure. For more information, please visit the website.*

**Thursday 7/18; 11am - 2pm****Insect Fest, Cummings Square, River Forest**

Join us for this all-things-insect event! You can go on a bug hunt, experience an insect petting zoo, explore bugs through yoga and movement, and create your own insect!

**Thursday 7/18; 6pm - 8:30pm****Learn to Fly Fish: On the Water, Horsetail Lake, Palos Park**

You can learn about casting and other aspects of fly fishing. Then jump into fishing with instruction and tips. *Registration required. Ages 10 and up with an adult. This event is presented with Ike Rhodes of Illinois Fly Fishing and the Village of Palos Park. For more information, please visit the website.*

**Thursday, 7/18; 7:30pm****Sunset Night Walk, River Trail Nature Center, Northbrook**

Some of our local wildlife begins their day just as the sun begins to set. You can learn about these animals and more on a guided walk. *Registration required. The cost is \$5 per person. Registration and payment are due by 7/16. Please call (847)824-8360.*

**Saturday, 7/20; 10am - 12pm****Dogs Days of Summer, Beck Lake, Des Plaines**

Calling all dog lovers! This dog-themed event will include adoption opportunities, canoe paddles, sniff walks, paw print Olympic medals, pictures, creative reuse toys, training tips, treats, and more. *Dogs must be pet and person-friendly and remain on leash. This event is presented with many organizations*

including Border Tails Rescue, Heartland Animal Shelter, and Niles-Maine Library. For more information, please visit the website.

**Saturday, 7/20; 11am - 3pm**

**Campus Block Party, Sand Ridge Nature Center, South Holland**

Create your own adventure with family and friends through music, nature play, games, artmaking, walks and more! For more information, please visit the website.

**Saturday, 7/20; 11am - 1pm**

**Self-Love in Nature Series, Camp Shabbona, South Holland**

For more information, please call (708) 868-0606 or visit the website.

**Saturday, 7/20; 4pm - 8:30pm**

**The Sounds Natural Creative Retreat Series, Camp Shabbona, South Holland**

Sounds Natural invites families to enjoy art activities, food, music, and workshops with the option to stay overnight in your own tent. *Registration required. There are a limited number of available camping sites. Please call (708) 868-0606 or visit the website.*

**Sunday, 7/21; 1pm**

**Cicadas, Crabtree Nature Center, Barrington**

Discover the secretive underground lives of our noisiest insects.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to receive and filed 24-0253. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**COMMITTEE ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Presented by: EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

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

Finance Subcommittee Meeting on Litigation - 6/11/2024

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

Proposed Settlements Approved Fiscal Year 2024 to Present:	\$0.00
Proposed Settlements to Be Approved:	\$0.00

Legal Fees Approved Fiscal Year 2024 to Present:	\$272,585.21
Legal Fees for 06/11/2024 to Be Approved:	\$31,295.59

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 24-0254. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

Presented by: EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

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

Finance Subcommittee Meeting on Workers' Compensation - 6/11/2024

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

Workers' Compensation Claims approved Fiscal Year 2024 to present:	\$434,230.89
Workers' Compensation Claims to Be Approved:	\$133,275.10
Workers' Compensation Lien Recovery approved Fiscal Year 2024 to present:	\$12,500.00
Workers' Compensation Lien Recovery to be Approved:	\$0.00

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to approve 24-0256. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**REPORT**

**Department:** Department of Finance and Administration

**Request:** Receive and File

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

**Report Period:** 1/1/2024 - 4/30/2024

**Summary:** Detailed Fund Analysis of Revenue and Expenditures for April 2024.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to receive and file 24-0080. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE**

**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**PROPOSED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT**

**Department:** Department of Planning and Development

**Other Part(ies):** Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (“MWRD”), Chicago, Illinois

**Request:** Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with MWRD for Land Acquisition, Concept Planning and Preliminary Engineering for a Multi-Benefit Project in Southeast Cook County

**Goods or Services:** Collaboration and cost sharing on the land acquisition, concept planning and preliminary engineering for a joint project to provide ecological restoration and nature-compatible outdoor recreation and flood control improvements along Deer Creek and Third Creek (the “Project”)

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

**Agreement Period:** Two (2) years from the Effective Date of the Agreement (“Initial Term”) with one (1) one-year optional extension upon approval of the Parties’ respective Boards of Commissioners

**Fiscal Impact:** Costs for this preliminary stage of the Project would be shared by the Parties but would be submitted separately to the Parties’ respective boards for approval. The Forest Preserves would be responsible for land acquisition costs with support from MWRD if needed. Authority for land acquisition costs for each acquisition parcel would be submitted separately to the Forest Preserves Board of Commissioners and, if necessary, to MWRD’s Board of Commissioners. MWRD would be responsible for all consultant costs associated with concept planning and preliminary engineering for the Project.

**Accounts:** N/A

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

**Summary:** Authorization is requested to document an understanding and commitment between the Parties to collaborate and share costs on the preliminary stages of a large-scale multi-benefit project that would advance the mission and goals of both agencies. The Forest Preserves is in the process of acquiring land along Deer Creek and Third Creek, located between the villages of Glenwood and Ford Heights, as part of its Southeast Cook County Land Acquisition Plan and other plans to make Cook

County more resilient to the effects of climate change. MWRD has also identified this area as a prime location to create stormwater storage to provide flood relief along Deer Creek, Thorn Creek and the Little Calumet River. There is an opportunity to collaborate on a joint project to accomplish the goals of both agencies more expeditiously, economically and comprehensively and leverage state and federal funding through partnership.

The Parties intend to collaborate at this preliminary stage to acquire land and design nature-based outdoor recreation opportunities and achieve ecological restoration of 350-750 acres of newly-acquired land on an accelerated schedule. The Project would also direct stormwater from Deer Creek and Third Creek into a series of hydraulically connected stormwater storage areas to provide a minimum of 1,650 acre-feet of volume on the land. The flood control improvements will benefit the villages of Ford Heights, Glenwood, Thornton, South Holland, Lansing and Calumet City.

An Intergovernmental Agreement is needed at this stage to coordinate the preliminary stages of the Project, including land acquisition, concept planning and preliminary engineering, which is necessary for the Parties to plan subsequent agreements addressing final design, construction, operation and maintenance to be presented to their respective Boards of Commissioners. Final Intergovernmental Agreement is subject to legal review and approval.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to approve 24-0188. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**EASEMENT REQUEST**

**Request:** Requesting authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to grant permanent and temporary easements to the Illinois Department of Transportation (“IDOT”) at the intersection of Golf Road and Barrington Road for safety improvements to the intersection and construction access.

**Reason:** The easements are needed for IDOT to construct new turning lanes at the intersection for safety purposes. The road will be widened, and the intersection’s trail connections will be re-built to Americans with Disability Act (“ADA”) standards. The term of the temporary easement is five (5) years, or completion of construction, whichever comes first.

The area for the permanent easements is 0.089 acres, or approximately 3,876 square feet, and the area for the temporary easements is 0.854 acres, or approximately 37,200 square feet. IDOT indicates that no trees are expected to be removed for this project.

**Easement Fee:** \$3,950.00 for permanent easements and \$6,100.00 for temporary easements

**Tree Mitigation Fee:** \$0.00

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

**District(s):** 15

**A motion was made by Commissioner Anaya, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to approve 24-0215. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**Presented by:** EILEEN FIGEL, Interim General Superintendent

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZING AND ADOPTING THE NAME SHĪSHKO MBISHKE FOR THE PRESERVES KNOWN AS CHERRY HILL WOODS SLOUGHS**

**WHEREAS**, on September 11, 2018, the Forest Preserves of Cook County ("Forest Preserves") Board of Commissioners approved a resolution to officially recognize and adopt names of Forest Preserves Lands and Amenities (Board Item No. 17-0178); and

**WHEREAS**, the Board and the Forest Preserves recognize that names are an important part of creating a sense of place and belonging, in honoring natural features or events, and that names may impart powerful and positive meaning for people; and

**WHEREAS**, the preserves informally referred to as Cherry Hill Woods Sloughs, located at 41.6700322, -87.8611659 / 41° 40' 12.12" N, 87° 51' 40.20" W in the Village of Palos Park, will henceforth be named Shishko Mbishke (pronounced: SHISK-ko BEESH-keh); and

**WHEREAS**, the site was formerly labelled on U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps from 1963 using a name containing a derogatory and sexist slur. This offensive name was removed from the Federal Register in 2022 and was never officially adopted by the Forest Preserves; and

**WHEREAS**, Shĭshko Mbishke translates to "muskrat swamp" in Boodewaadamimowin (Potawatomi language), honoring a native animal that plays a significant role in the creation story of the Potawatomi people; and

**WHEREAS**, this name was selected in collaboration with community partners including the Trickster Cultural Center, the Tribal Office of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, the American Indian Center, the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, and the Chicago American Indian Community Collaborative, underscoring the Forest Preserves' commitment to valuing and embracing the perspectives of the Native American community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Toni Preckwinkle, President and the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby recognize and adopt the name Shĭshko Mbishke for the preserves formerly known as Cherry Hill Woods Sloughs; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, appropriate action will be taken to register the new name with the U.S. Board on Geographic Names and initiate updates of all recorded surveys and maps, both printed and electronic.

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



**24-0174. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**RULES COMMITTEE**

**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 05/14/2024.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Degnen, to approve 24-0236. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2)

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Commissioner BILL LOWRY, seconded by Commissioner JOHN P. DALEY, that this was adjourn.. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gordon, Lowry, Miller, Moore, Morita, K. Morrison, S. Morrison, Quezada, Stamps and Trevor (15)

**Absent:** Deer and Gainer (2) (excused)

Respectfully submitted,



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Secretary

[Journal #24-0342](#)

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