



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 23-0528, **Version:** 1

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### **PROPOSED CONTRACT**

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

**Vendor:** Northwest Wood Products, Inc., Harvard, 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 agreement for woody debris removal and reclamation services

**Contract Value:** N/A

**Contract Period:** 11/14/2023 - 12/31/2028

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** N/A. The vendor will perform the detailed services at no cost to the Forest Preserves.

**Accounts:** N/A

**Contract Number(s):** #74000013145 issued under RFP #23-31-102

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

The Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Ordinance is not applicable due to the contract value per year being equal to or less than \$25,000.00.

**District(s):** Districtwide

**Summary:** The Forest Preserves issued a Request for Proposals (RFP #23-31-102) for the disposal of woody debris such as logs and woodchips generated through the Forest Preserves' vegetation maintenance and ecological restoration operations. This contract would serve to reduce the amount of debris stockpiled at Forest Preserves properties and facilities, promoting safety and ease-of-access for the public and personnel. Northwest Wood Products proposes to remove up to two hundred (200) loads of logs per year for milling into pallet lumber and hardwood landscaping mulch. Logs will be removed at no cost to the Forest Preserves.

Three (3) firms submitted proposals in response to a qualification-based selection process (RFP #23-31-102), two (2) of which are being recommended for award following review by an evaluation committee. The Forest Preserves is seeking approval of the other qualified firm through Board Item No. 23-0530. Proposals were evaluated based on cost efficiency, removal capacity, and potential for the materials to be repurposed for productive end use in alignment with the Forest Preserves' sustainability goals. The RFP may be re-posted periodically to allow additional firms to join the pre-qualified vendor pool, depending on disposal needs.