



Legislation Text

File #: 18-0113, **Version:** 1

PROPOSED CONTRACT

Department(s): Resource Management

Vendor: Friends of the Forest Preserves, Chicago, Illinois

Request: Authorization for the Forest Preserve District of Cook County to enter into and execute

Good(s) or Service(s): North Branch Conservation Corps Program

Contract Value: Not to exceed \$150,000.00 per year, or \$300,000.00 over a two (2) year term

Contract period: 1/9/2018 - 12/31/2019

Estimated Fiscal Impact: FY 2018 \$150,000.00, FY 2019 \$150,000.00

Accounts: Intern Programs 51009.521525, Habitat Enhancement 51009.521452, Habitat Restoration 51009.521444, Grant and Mitigation Accounts: 51010.29982 and 51010.22522, Construction and Development Fund 51058

Contract Number(s): N/A

Concurrences:

The Chief Financial Officer and Chief Attorney have approved this item.

District(s): 9, 10, 12, 13, 14

Summary: Friends of the Forest Preserves has received a grant from The Bobolink Foundation and The Caerus Foundation to support a North Branch Conservation Corps program providing conservation and leadership skills training to young adults, ages 18-24, at stewardship sites located along the North Branch of the Chicago River. The program engages four (4) participants, one (1) crew manager, and one (1) assistant crew manager in hands-on ecological restoration activities including invasive species control, herbicide application, seed collection and dispersal, and prescribed fire. Participants will receive the training and technical expertise necessary to pursue a long-term career in ecological restoration and related fields.

The Conservation Corps co-facilitates innovative job training and employment programs that provide participants with paid, hands-on experiences in conservation that train the next generation to restore and be responsible stewards of the land.

Total project costs are \$500,000.00 over the two (2) year term, with \$100,000.00 in match by the Preserves leveraging \$200,000.00 in investment by The Bobolink Foundation, and \$200,000.00 in investment by The Caerus Foundation. The overall annual contract authority was increased in anticipation of additional funding opportunities. This program advances the goals of the Next Century Conservation Plan.