



Legislation Text

File #: 20-0238, **Version:** 1

PROPOSED PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Request: Requesting authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”) to enter into a Partnership Agreement with the Bobolink Foundation, Chicago, Illinois.

Reason: The proposed agreement will authorize the Forest Preserves to partner with the Bobolink Foundation (the “Foundation”) to develop and implement ecological restoration projects on Forest Preserves property within the Spring Creek Forest Preserve complex, located in Barrington Township in northwest Cook County. Funding and contractual management services will be provided by the Foundation, at no direct cost to the Forest Preserves. An initial 100-acre project located west of Old Sutton Road between Penny Road and Dundee Road has been proposed, providing an estimated value of up to \$347,167.00 over a four (4) to five (5) year period for restoration work that will strengthen efforts to preserve, conserve and manage Forest Preserves lands. Subsequent projects may be developed and implemented within the Spring Creek complex, subject to additional funding opportunities.

Restoration activities will include invasive species control, seeding, and use of prescribed fire to restore native vegetation and benefit wildlife. Project design will require approval by the Forest Preserves. Final agreement is subject to legal review and approval.

The Bobolink Foundation is a not-for-profit organization with a mission to advance conservation and stewardship of biodiversity through the protection of natural areas, education, and building local constituencies for nature.

Contract period: Date of execution through 12/31/2024, with one (1) five-year extension option to be exercised at the discretion of the General Superintendent

Fiscal Impact: The Forest Preserves may provide in-kind staff support for the planning, implementation, and monitoring of projects.

Account(s): N/A

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

District(s): 15