



Legislation Text

File #: 22-0207, **Version:** 1

PROPOSED CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Department(s): Department of Resource Management

Vendor: Friends of the Forest Preserves, Chicago, Illinois

Request: Authorization for the Forest Preserves of Cook County (the "Forest Preserves") to increase contract

Good(s) or Service(s): Calumet Conservation Corps

Original Contract Period: 11/17/2020 - 12/31/2022

Proposed Contract Period Extension: N/A

Total Current Contract Amount Authority: \$150,000.00

Original Approval: 11/17/2020

Previous Increase(s): N/A

This Increase Requested: \$125,000.00

Estimated Fiscal Impact: FY 2022 \$200,000.00 (including previously approved amounts)

Accounts: Professional Services 51031.520840; Grant and Mitigation 51010.521444 and 51010.520840

Contract Number(s): N/A

Concurrences:

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

District(s): 4, 5, 6

Summary: The Forest Preserves is requesting an increase in the overall authority for this program to accommodate State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds ("SLFRF") allocated to Cook County through the federal American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA") for workforce development. These additional funds will supplement and expand capacity for this program for fiscal year 2022.

The Calumet Conservation Corps Program engages a Crew Manager, an Assistant Crew Manager, and three (3) adult participants in hands-on ecological restoration activities centered on invasive species control and restoration of native plants in the Calumet region. Participants receive training in herbicide application, prescribed fire, stewardship, and

chainsaw operation, in addition to experience leading various community engagement and volunteer workday events promoting forest preserve awareness. The Calumet Conservation Corps Program is administered by Friends of the Forest Preserves through an agreement that was originally approved by the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners on 11/17/2020 (Board Item No. 20-0411). Conservation Corps programs provide youth and young adult participants with paid environmental education and job skills training within the conservation field, with a focus on ecological restoration in the Forest Preserves.

The Forest Preserves intends to issue through its public solicitation process a Request for Proposals for additional Conservation Corps opportunities to bring to the Forest Preserves of Cook County Board of Commissioners for approval later in 2022.