



Legislation Text

File #: 14-0510, **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): The Forest Preserves wishes to utilize the Friends of the Forest Preserves to establish the Forest Preserve Leadership Corps ("FPLC") program to engage young adults in hand-on ecological restoration work and professional development training at sites throughout the Preserves.

The Friends of the Forest Preserves was selected through a Request for Proposal.

Contract Value: \$50,000.00

Contract period: 11/18/2014 - 11/17/2015

Estimated Fiscal Impact: \$50,000.00

Accounts: Habitat Restoration, 10-6750

Contract Number(s): 13-31-118

Concurrences:

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

The Vendor has met the Minority and Women Business Enterprise Ordinance Provisions.

Summary: The Forest Preserve Leadership Corps program provides advanced conservation and leadership skills training for young adults, ages 18 to 20, who have successfully graduated from the Chicago Conservation Leadership Corps ("CCLC") program. The FPLC fills a critical gap in the ladder of advancement by providing year-round opportunities for young adults that are not yet old enough to serve as crew leaders in sister programs.

The 52-week program will engage one leader (30 hours per week) and 5 participants (25 hours per week) in hands-on ecological restoration activities centered around invasive species control and restoration of native plants. Participants will receive training in prescribed fire, herbicide application, stewardship, and chainsaw operation, in addition to experience leading various community engagement and volunteer workday events promoting forest preserve awareness.