



Legislation Text

File #: 24-0120, **Version:** 1

PROPOSED GRANT AWARD

Department: Department of Planning and Development

Grantee: Forest Preserves of Cook County (the “Forest Preserves”)

Grantor: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Springfield, Illinois

Request: Authorization to accept grant

Purpose: Authorization is sought for the Forest Preserves to accept and enter into an agreement with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) for Boat Area Access Development (BAAD) grant funding for development of a canoe launch project at Maywood Grove in Maywood, Illinois in Cook County.

Grant Amount: \$80,000.00

Grant Period: 4/1/2024 - 3/31/2026

Fiscal Impact: Not to exceed \$268,000.00 (\$210,000.00 match + \$58,000.00 20% contingency). Estimated match in FY2024: \$214,400.00; and \$53,600.00 in FY2025

Accounts: Land Improvements 51009.560019, 51010.560019, 51033.560019, 51034.560019; and future Construction and Development accounts

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

District(s): 1

Summary: The proposed grant will support the improvement of an existing rustic canoe and kayak launch along the Des Plaines River in Maywood Grove, part of Thatcher Woods, a 245-acre forest preserve in central Cook County, Illinois. The existing carry-in launch is currently used by the Forest Preserves’ Greater Maywood Paddling Program, an award-winning initiative that partners with over a dozen organizations. The improved launch will address flooding, erosion, and accessibility and make the launch easier to use for beginners. In addition to improvements at the river edge, the project will include a paved access path from an existing parking lot located only 500 feet away. A new map and information signs will also be installed in the parking lot, where paddlers can also access equipment storage. The proposed accessible paddling launch will provide access for kayaks and canoes to the Des Plaines River which offers opportunities for paddling, fishing, and wildlife viewing. The Forest Preserves will bid construction of the boat launch and related improvements with an estimated total cost of \$290,000.00.