



LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES

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Preservation, Restoration, Education and Recreation

**DATE:** March 6, 2017

**MEMO TO:** Carol Calabresa, Chair  
Planning Acquisition Committee

**FROM:** Alex Ty Kovach  
Executive Director

**RECOMMENDATION:** Provide Policy Direction regarding a request from ComEd for a permanent easement for an existing line of electrical poles at Van Patten Forest Preserve.

**FINANCIAL DATA:** At this time there is no financial impact.

**BACKGROUND:** The License and Easement Ordinance cites Section 6 of the Downstate Forest Preserve District Act, which states the Lake County Forest Preserve District (the “District”) has the "power to grant licenses, easements and rights-of-way for the construction, operation and maintenance upon, under or across any property of [the] District of facilities for water, sewage, telephone, telegraph, electric, gas or other public service...”

The District was approached with a request for the replacement of an existing electric pole serving residents near Russell Road and Park Lane in unincorporated Lake County on the northern side of Van Patten Forest Preserve. Through this process it was discovered that no documentation could be found regarding rights for the existing utility poles between Russell Road and the residents’ properties. Staff is seeking approval to negotiate a permanent easement to ComEd to operate and maintain overhead and underground wires, poles and any necessary equipment within a 10-foot corridor at Van Patten Forest Preserve.

**REVIEW BY OTHERS:** Chief Operations Officer, Director of Planning and Land Preservation,  
Corporate Counsel

**PRESENTER:** Alex Ty Kovach