



LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES
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Preservation, Restoration, Education and Recreation

DATE: January 11, 2018
MEMO TO: S. Michael Rummel, Chair
Finance Committee
FROM: James L. Anderson
Director of Natural Resources

Agenda Item# 9.2

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend approval of an Ordinance amending (i) the FY 2017/2018 Budget, and (ii) the Ten-Year Capital Improvement Plan, to approve additional expenditures in FY 2017/2018 for the Southern Des Plaines River Woodland Habitat Restoration Project (SDPR).

STRATEGIC DIRECTION SUPPORTED: Conservation

FINANCIAL DATA: This project was approved as part of the adopted Ten-Year Capital Improvement Plan and includes work, such as woodland canopy thinning, vegetation analysis (partly partner-funded), and other restoration and monitoring actions. The District later added dam removal to the project and approved the re-allocation of budgeted funds toward the dam removal, which was partially grant-funded. The dam removals are now complete and there remains \$266,580.17 from the funds budgeted toward dam removal. The transfer provided for in the attached ordinance would move this amount back to the SDPR project as a whole.

BACKGROUND: In 2008, the District embarked on a landscape-scale project across the Southern Des Plaines River area (now a Strategic Conservation Area) to better understand how to restore oak woodlands. The primary focus of the project is to understand: 1) how to create conditions that allow for native regeneration of native oak trees, shrubs and a diverse suite of understory herbs, grasses and sedges; 2) how to reintroduce wildlife species that were extirpated from these woodlands; 3) how wildlife and plants respond to restoration; and 4) to assess and restore additional wetland areas that have been hydrologically altered by drain tiles and ditching.

Staff recommends that the Budget and the CIP be amended so the remaining funds from the dam removal portion of this project may be used in the Southern Des Plaines River area to (i) complete the final canopy thinning in the mesic gap treatments implemented in the sugar maple basswood communities in MacArthur Woods Forest Preserve, Grainger Woods, and Ryerson Conservation Area, (ii) fund the continued monitoring of woodland amphibians, semi-aquatic mammals and other woodland species to understand how species are distributed and occupy the restoration areas, and (iii) continue the assessment of wildlife reintroduction efforts.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: Executive Director, Chief Operations Officer, Director of Finance, Corporate Counsel

**LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2017/18 BUDGET AND
TEN-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN TO APPROVE ADDITIONAL
EXPENDITURES FOR THE SOUTHERN DES PLAINES RIVER HABITAT
RESTORATION PROJECT**

WHEREAS, on February 14, 2017, the Lake County Forest Preserve District ("District") Board of Commissioners approved a resolution approving the District's Ten-Year Capital Improvement Plan ("CIP"), which includes funding for (i) the Southern Des Plaines River Habitat Restoration Project ("SDPR Project") and (ii) the Wright Woods/MacArthur Woods Dam Removal ("Dam Removal Project"); and

WHEREAS, on May 9, 2017, the District Board approved (i) an Ordinance approving the District's Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Budget ("Budget") and (ii) an Ordinance setting forth the District's annual appropriations for Fiscal Year 2017/2018 ("Appropriations Ordinance"); and

WHEREAS, on October 10, 2017, the District Board approved an ordinance amending the Budget to account for projects and expenditures that were started and budgeted for in or prior to Fiscal Year 2016/2017, but were not completed or fully expended in Fiscal Year 2016/2017 ("Carry-Over Ordinance"); and

WHEREAS, through its annual audit process, and at the direction of its auditors, the District has further adjusted the amounts budgeted for certain expenditures, including capital improvement projects; and

WHEREAS, based on the Budget and CIP, as amended by the Carry-Over Ordinance and the audit process, the District has current funding for (i) the SDPR Project in the amount of \$458,351.00 and (ii) the Dam Removal Project in the amount of \$266,580.17; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the District to amend the Budget and CIP to transfer \$266,580.17 from the Dam Removal Project to the SDPR Project; and

WHEREAS, the funds in the Budget, as it will be amended by this Ordinance, to be expended on the SDPR Project, have already been appropriated in the Land Development Bond Fund by the Appropriations Ordinance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Lake County Forest Preserve District, Lake County, Illinois THAT:

Section 1. Recitals. The recitals set forth above are incorporated as a part of this Ordinance by this reference.

Section 2. Amendment of Budget. The Land Development Bond Fund section of the Budget (at page 148) is hereby amended by changing the amounts under "2017/2018 Request" for (i) "Southern DPR Habitat Restoration" to \$724,931.17 for the SDPR Project and (ii) "Wright Woods/MacArthur Woods" to \$0 for the Dam Removal Project.

Section 3. Amendment of CIP. The Director of Finance is hereby authorized and directed to amend the CIP by making any amendments that are necessary or appropriate to reflect the amendments in Section 2 of this Ordinance.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval in the manner provided by law.

PASSED this _____ day of _____, 2018

AYES:

NAYS:

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2018

Ann B. Maine, President
Lake County Forest Preserve District

ATTEST:

Julie Gragnani, Secretary
Lake County Forest Preserve District

Exhibit No. _____