



LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES
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Preservation, Restoration, Education and Recreation

DATE: August 6, 2018

MEMO TO: Carol Calabresa, Chair
Planning Committee

FROM: Randall L. Seebach
Director of Planning and Land Preservation

REQUEST: Provide policy direction regarding the potential dedication of the south half of 10th Street at Greenbelt Forest Preserve to the City of North Chicago (North Chicago).

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS SUPPORTED: Public Access and Connections; Leadership,

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

BACKGROUND: In 1971, the Lake County Forest Preserve District (District) obtained the first parcel in what has since become the Greenbelt Forest Preserve (Greenbelt). When the District began its acquisitions in the area, the majority of the site had already been subdivided, and some of the lots had been improved with single family residences, though few of the dedicated roads had been constructed.

By the end of 1980, the majority of present-day Greenbelt west of Green Bay Road had already been acquired by the District. Running through the area, however, were a series of road right-of-ways, most of which had never been constructed and served no purpose. North Chicago passed an ordinance on December 8, 1980, vacating the roads, and title to slightly more than 18 acres transferred to the District.

One of the vacated ROWs was the south half of 10th Street, between Green Bay Road and the Com Ed right-of-way, though the western portion of that road had been improved, apparently only to a gravel surface. In the intervening years, portions of the vacated road were paved and maintained, and the former ROW has been used for transportation access as well as parking for nearby businesses. In addition, a 0.002-acre triangular parcel located south of the vacated road, on its eastern side, had been deeded to the State of Illinois for road purposes in 1966, which resulted in a nonsensical boundary.

Since a portion of the former ROW continues to be used as an active transportation access and for parking, and since there is an existing post and cable fence along the south line of the former ROW, and since the balance of the parcel has little natural resource value, Staff is seeking direction on whether the District should (re-)dedicate the south half of 10th Street to the City of North Chicago (assuming the City is willing to accept it).

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