



LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES
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Preservation, Restoration, Education and Recreation

DATE: March 2, 2020

MEMO TO: John Wasik, Chair
Planning Committee

Terry Wilke, Chair
Finance Committee

FROM: Alex Ty Kovach
Executive Director

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend approval of an Ordinance amending the FY 2020 Budget and 10-Year Capital Improvement Plan to increase expenditures by \$200,000.00 to fund development of a master plan for Edward L. Ryerson Conservation Area (“Ryerson”).

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS SUPPORTED: Organizational Sustainability; Public Access and Connections; Leadership.

FINANCIAL DATA: Private funding of \$200,000.00 has been secured through the Preservation Foundation to pay for a master planning process for Ryerson, focused on its environmental education facility needs. For staff to access these funds to begin the planning process, the Land Development Levy Fund and the Capital Improvement Plan must be amended to incorporate this funding. If approved, account #20104100-803200-61410 for expenditures, and account #20102400-413000-61410 for the donation revenue, will be established for this project, and the CIP will be modified to include a new line for this project.

BACKGROUND: Ryerson has been a center of environmental education programming and public engagement for the District since it became a forest preserve in 1972. Two cabins, relocated from elsewhere on the preserve, have served as education classrooms for several decades, serving approximately 10,000 participants annually.

The condition of the education cabins at Ryerson Woods is an ongoing operational concern. The structures are in decline and not compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The heating systems are outdated, and the septic system was installed in the 1950’s. The cabins are serviced by two single-stall bathrooms installed in the 1980’s, neither of which are accessible to individuals with disabilities. These repurposed structures do not meet our education needs today.

The Preservation Foundation recently secured funding from a private foundation to support development of a master plan for Ryerson. The plan would address recommended site improvements for the entire preserve, with additional detail and cost estimates for constructing a new education facility to replace the existing education cabins. The planning process would begin with a space needs analysis, site assessment and pre-design services. Following our typical master planning process, the public would be invited to comment on conceptual designs, with final approval of a master plan by the Board of Commissioners.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: Director of Planning and Land Preservation, Director of Finance, Director of Education, Chief Operations Officer, Chief Development Officer, Corporate Counsel.

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF LAKE)

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
REGULAR MARCH MEETING
MARCH 10, 2020**

MISTER PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

Your **PLANNING COMMITTEE** and **FINANCE COMMITTEE** present herewith “An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget and Ten-Year Capital Improvement Plan to Fund Development of a Master Plan for Edward L. Ryerson Conservation Area,” and request its approval.

PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Date: 3-2-2020 Roll Call Vote: Ayes:____ Nays:____
 Voice Vote Majority Ayes: Nays: 0

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Date: _____ Roll Call Vote: Ayes:____ Nays:____
 Voice Vote Majority Ayes: Nays: _____

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

**AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE
FISCAL YEAR 2020 BUDGET AND TEN-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
TO FUND DEVELOPMENT OF A MASTER PLAN FOR
EDWARD L. RYERSON CONSERVATION AREA**

WHEREAS, on June 11, 2019, the Lake County Forest Preserve District (“District”) Board of Commissioners (“Board”) approved a resolution approving the District’s Ten-Year Capital Improvement Plan (“CIP”); and

WHEREAS, on October 8, 2019, the District Board approved an Ordinance approving the District’s Fiscal Year 2020 Budget, incorporating the CIP (“Budget”); and

WHEREAS, after those approvals, the District secured a commitment from an anonymous private funder to provide \$200,000.00 to complete a master plan for Edward L. Ryerson Conservation Area; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the District to amend the Budget and CIP to authorize the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00 for development of a master plan for Edward L. Ryerson Woods Conservation Area; and

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 part of this Ordinance by this reference.

Section 2. Amendment of CIP. The CIP is hereby amended by: (i) at page 209 of the Budget, adding a new project line under “Public Access/Misc. Projects” called “Ryerson Master Plan” (ii) at page 209 of the Budget, adding \$200,000 to the same new project line under the column titled “Other Funds”, (iii) at page 211 of the Budget, adding \$200,000 to the “Preservation Foundation and Donations” line item, under the section titled “Source of Funds,” in the column titled “Budget 2020” and (iv) at page 211 of the Budget, adding a new project line under “Public Access/Misc. Projects” called “Ryerson Master Plan”, and (v) at page 211 of the Budget, adding \$200,000 to the same new project line under the column titled “Budget 2020”. The Executive Director or his designee is hereby authorized and directed to make any further amendments to the CPI necessary or appropriate to reflect the amendment provided for in this Section 2.

Section 3. Amendment of Budget. The Budget is hereby amended by, within the Land Development Levy fund (i) at page 150 of the Budget, increasing Revenues by adding \$200,000 to the “Donations” line item, resulting in a total 2020 Request of \$202,650 and (ii) at page 151 of the Budget, increasing Capital expenditures by adding \$200,000 to the “Capital Imprvmnts-Preserves” line item, resulting in a total 2020 Request of \$929,310. The Executive Director or his designee is hereby authorized and directed to make any further amendments to the Budget necessary or appropriate to reflect the amendment provided for in this Section 3.

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

PASSED this ____ day of _____ 2020.

AYES:

NAYS:

APPROVED this ____ day _____ 2020.

Angelo D. Kyle, President
Lake County Forest Preserve District

ATTEST:

Julie Gragnani, Board Secretary
Lake County Forest Preserve District

Exhibit No. _____