



DATE: January 4, 2021

MEMO TO: Terry Wilke, Chair
Planning Committee

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

REQUEST: Provide policy direction regarding a request from the Lake County Division of Transportation (LCDOT) to consider granting 0.60 acres of temporary easements and 0.04 acres of permanent easements at Cuba Marsh Forest Preserve for road improvements to the intersection of Ela and Long Grove Roads and the authority to negotiate an easement agreement with LCDOT regarding such easements and certain obligations associated with the road improvements.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION SUPPORTED: Public Access and Connections.

FINANCIAL DATA: There is no financial impact at this time.

BACKGROUND: LCDOT is in the process of preparing pre-final design plans for future improvements to the intersection of Ela and Long Grove Roads. Improvements include widening the intersection to accommodate safety and capacity issues and installing a left turn lane, pedestrian crosswalks, a bike lane and a shared use path with a direct connection to the existing trail at Cuba Marsh Forest Preserve.

As part of the improvements, LCDOT is requesting approximately 0.60 acres of temporary construction easements for grading purposes and 0.04 acres of permanent easements for the installation and long term maintenance of two storm sewer pipe end sections. At the District's request, within a portion of the temporary easements, LCDOT will grade and install vegetated swales to divert and clean storm water prior to entering existing wetlands.

Staff is seeking approval to continue discussions with LCDOT, and for authorization to negotiate an easement agreement. If the Committee directs that negotiations proceed, staff would bring the negotiated agreement back to the Committee for its review and approval at a future meeting. LCDOT is currently targeting a November 2021 letting with construction to follow in 2022.

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