



DATE: January 3, 2022

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 Village of Libertyville (Village) and the Libertyville Township Road District (Road District) to consider granting 0.61 acres of temporary easements and 0.008 acres of permanent easements or fee simple ownership at Old School Forest Preserve for the Rockland Road bridge reconstruction and the authority to negotiate an easement and/or intergovernmental agreement with the Village and the Road District regarding such easements and certain obligations associated with the bridge improvements

STRATEGIC DIRECTION SUPPORTED: Public Access and Connections

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

BACKGROUND: The Village and the Road District are in the process completing a Phase I engineering study for the future Rockland Road bridge reconstruction, roadway approaches and the realignment of an existing 300-foot long trail connecting to the Des Plaines River Trail. The purpose of the project is to reconstruct the deteriorating bridge over the Des Plaines River, raise the bridge above the 30-year floodplain elevation, and provide an improved pedestrian connection to the main stem of the Des Plaines River Trail.

As part of the improvements, the Village and the Road District are requesting 0.61 acres of temporary construction easements for bridge construction access and realignment of the connector trail and 0.008 acres of permanent easements or fee simple ownership for the installation and long term maintenance of stone rip rap for the southeast bridge abutment. At the District's request, within a portion of the temporary easements, the Road District will remove and reconstruct an existing 300-foot long trail connecting an existing pedestrian walkway to the Des Plaines River Trail.

Staff is seeking approval to continue discussions with the Village and the Road District, to sign a letter of concurrence that the project will have no adverse effect on the activities, features and attributes of Old School Forest Preserve (which is necessary for the Village and/or Road District to utilize the grant program that is partially funding the work), and for authorization to negotiate an easement and/or intergovernmental agreement. If Committee directs that negotiations proceed, staff would bring the negotiated agreement back to the Committee for its review and approval at a future meeting.

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