

**REPORT OF THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL COMMITTEE**

February 2, 2012 (REVISED March 26, 2012)

The Honorable,
The Board of Commissioners of Cook County

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chairman Gorman, Vice Chairman Steele, Commissioners Gainer, Murphy, Schneider, Silvestri and Tobolski (7)

Absent: None (0)

Also Present: Commissioners Sims and Suffredin; Deborah Stone, Director of Environmental Control

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Your Committee on Environmental Control of the Forest Preserve District of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County met pursuant to notice on Wednesday, February 1, 2012 at the hour of 1:30 PM in the Board Room, Room 569, County Building, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois.

Your Committee has considered the following item and upon adoption of this report, the recommendations are as follows:

12ENVI0001 LARRY SUFFREDIN and PETER N. SILVESTRI, WILLIAM BEAVERS, JERRY BUTLER, EARLEAN COLLINS, JOHN P. DALEY, JOHN A. FRITCHEY, BRIDGET JESUS G. GARCIA, GAINER, ELIZABETH "LIZ" DOODY GORMAN, GREGG GOSLIN, JOAN PATRICIA MURPHY, EDWIN REYES, TIMONTHY O. SCHNEIDER, DEBORAH SIMS, ROBERT STEELE, and JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI, sponsors, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board Commissioners

PROPOSED ORDINANCE

Forest Preserve District of Cook County Lighting Ordinance

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners, that Title I, Chapter 16, Section 1-16-4 of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Code is hereby enacted as follows:

Section 1-16-4. – Forest Preserve District of Cook County Lighting Ordinance

- A. *Title.* This division shall be known and may be cited as the "Forest Preserve District of Cook County Lighting Ordinance."
- B. *Purpose.* The purpose of the Forest Preserve District Cook County Lighting Ordinance is to achieve effective and efficient lighting, while:

1. preserving the safety, security and well-being of Cook County residents and visitors;
2. protecting natural flora and fauna;
3. conserving energy and other resources; and
4. allowing visual access to starry night skies.

Accordingly, it is the intent of this Ordinance to have Forest Preserve District of Cook County Departments use lighting systems that minimize light pollution, light trespass and conserve energy while maintaining nighttime safety, utility, security and productivity.

- C. *Public and Private Partners.* Forest Preserve District of Cook County Departments shall strive to plan, design, operate and maintain their lighting systems, with public and private partners, in a manner that meets the guidelines and objectives outlined in this ordinance.
- D. *Applicability.* The requirements of this Code shall apply to all new and replacement lighting on roadways, developments, properties, buildings or structures under the jurisdiction of Forest Preserve District of Cook County Departments. Each Forest Preserve District of Cook County Department will create, enact and implement policies and procedures to meet the purposes of this ordinance in accordance with the guidelines set forth herein.
- E. *Severability.* If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence or clause of this ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction or administrative agency, the invalidity of that provision or application shall not affect, impair or invalidate any remaining section, subsection, paragraph, sentence or clause of this ordinance or its application.
- F. *Conformance with Applicable Codes.* All outdoor electric illuminating devices shall be installed in conformance with the provisions of the Cook County Code, the Cook County Zoning Regulations, the Illinois Compiled Statutes or any Federal Statute. Where any provision of any of the Illinois Compiled Statutes, or any Federal Statute, or any related County regulation conflicts with the requirements of this ordinance, the most restrictive shall govern.
- G. *Guidelines.* In furtherance of this ordinance, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Departments will work to ensure that:
1. All lighting fixtures and lamps shall be located, installed, directed, shielded and maintained to avoid light trespass and to eliminate direct light and/or glare on neighboring properties. To the best extent practicable, light emitted from outdoor lighting on Forest Preserve District property shall not cause the light level along any property line, as measured at a height of 60 inches above grade in a plane at any angle of inclination to exceed the maximum light level of 0.1 footcandles. For purposes of this section, "footcandle" is defined as "a

unit of luminous flux.”

2. Lights that minimize the amount of electricity consumed (such as Low Pressure Sodium, High Pressure Sodium, Mercury Vapor or Light Emitting Diode) are to be installed, to the best extent practicable.
 3. Lighting directed upwards is to be eliminated, to the best extent practicable. When lighting flags, Forest Preserve District of Cook County Departments will strive to install lighting that is directed downwards, to the best extent practicable.
 4. All non-essential lighting is encouraged to be turned off after business hours and/or when not in use.
 5. Where practical, outdoor lighting installations are to include timers, dimmers, sensors, or photocell controllers that turn the lights off during daylight hours to reduce overall energy consumption and eliminate unnecessary lighting. Sensor activated fixtures should not be triggered by activity off the subject property.
 6. When selecting new outdoor lighting, the full cost of operation over the life of the fixture(s) should be considered. Substantial annual energy savings may be realized by using quality efficient fixtures. To the best extent practicable, all lamps installed must exceed 72 lumens per watt.
 7. Indiscriminate and excessive lighting should be avoided. Light should be directed only to where it is needed with appropriate intensity.
 8. On properties which are adjacent to or contain sensitive biological resources, any exterior lighting shall be limited to low-level lights and shields to minimize the amount of light entering any identified sensitive biological resource areas, to the best extent practicable.
- H. *Exceptions.*** This ordinance shall not apply if the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Administrative Department finds that one or more of the following conditions apply:
1. The lighting is required by State, County or Federal law.
 2. The lighting is in use for a temporary purpose, including, but not limited to:
 - a. Special Events
 - b. Seasonal Decorations
 - c. Maintenance or repair operations
 - d. Other emergency lighting

3. The lighting is in use for construction activities intended to keep a roadway in serviceable condition. Lighting used for construction must only be erected during the period of construction and must be removed upon completion of construction activities.
4. The lighting is in use for the control of aircraft.
5. The lighting is located within a fountain, underwater or to illuminate the American Flag.

***Referred to the Environmental Control Committee on 1-19-12**

Commissioner Silvestri, seconded by Commissioner Murphy, moved the approval of Communication Nos. 12ENVI0001. The motion carried.

Chairman Suffredin asked the Secretary to the Board to call upon the registered public speaker, in accordance with Cook County Code, Sec. 2-107(dd):

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| 1. Joseph P. Mayer | Observatory Director, Chicago Astronomical Society |
| 2. Daniel Joyce | Outreach Educator/Telescope maker Cernan Space Center |
| 3. George Blakemore | Concerned Citizen |
| 4. Joseph Glynn | Electrician Local 134 |
| 5. Audrey Fisher | One Star at a Time |
| 6. Florence Amy Wisinski | Concerned Citizen |
| 7. Robert Gadbois | Concerned Citizen |
| 8. Anthony Harris | Concerned Citizen |

Vice Chairman Murphy moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Silvestri. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

**YOUR COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING ACTION
WITH REGARD TO THE MATTER NAMED HEREIN:**

Communication Number

12ENVI0001 Approved

Respectfully submitted,
Committee on Environmental Control



Elizabeth "Liz" Doody Gorman, Chairman

Attest:


Matthew B. DeLeon, Secretary

*An audio recording of this meeting is available in the Office of the Secretary to the Board, 118 North Clark Street, Room 567, Chicago, IL 60602.