

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON REAL ESTATE OF THE FOREST PRESERVE
DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

January 19, 2012

The Honorable,
The Forest Preserve District of Cook County
Board of Commissioners

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chairman Murphy, Vice Chairman Gorman, Commissioners Beavers, Daley, Fritchey, Garcia, Goslin, Schneider, Sims and Tobolski (10)

Absent: Commissioners Butler, Collins, Gainer, Reyes, Silvestri, Steele and Suffredin (7)

Also

Present: Chris Flattery – Director, Planning & Development, Forest Preserve District of Cook County;

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Your Committee on Real Estate of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County Board of Commissioners met pursuant to notice on Thursday, January 19, 2012 at the hour of 9:30 A.M. 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 recommendation is as follows:

11REAL0007 ARNOLD RANDALL, General Superintendent, transmitting a communication dated December 15, 2011, requesting authorization for the District to grant temporary and permanent easements totaling less than one (1) acre to the Illinois Department of Transportation (“IDOT”) for road construction and improvements at the intersection of 95th Street and 104th Avenue in unincorporated Palos Township.

Reason: IDOT has indicated that the easements are necessary to increase safety and improve traffic flow through this intersection. IDOT is proposing to add new turn lanes on 95th Street and 104th Avenue, new traffic signals, drainage improvements, retaining walls, guardrails, pedestrian signage and pavement markings. The permanent easements total 0.693 acre and the five (5) year temporary easements total 0.012 acre. Drawings are included in the background materials which identify the location of these easements at the three corners where the Forest Preserve District owns property.

IDOT has agreed to payment of the estimated fair market value of the easement and payment for the loss of five (5) trees. District engineering staff has reviewed the proposed drainage plan and has determined there will be no additional adverse impact on the forest preserves, including

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Long John Slough located at the southeast corner of the intersection. The District's recommendation is subject to legal review of specific easement agreements prior to the Real Estate Committee meeting.

Granting of the requested easements will result in a benefit to the Forest Preserve District as a result of safety improvements for Forest Preserve users. There is currently a bicycle path crossing at the intersection. New striping and signage identifying a trail crossing at this newly signalized intersection will improve safety for multi-use trail users.

The District will also benefit from the vacation of an existing 66' right of way on Forest Preserve land at the northeast corner. IDOT and the Cook County Highway Department will release their interests in this right of way encumbering 0.768 acres of Forest Preserve land – roughly the same area as the proposed new easements. A letter from the Cook County Highway Department confirming this is included in the background materials.

Estimated Fiscal Impact: Revenue generating. IDOT has tendered an offer of \$88,040.00 in consideration for issuance of the permanent and temporary easements. IDOT will also pay \$39,849.71 for tree mitigation.

District: 6 17

***Referred to the Real Estate Committee on 12/15/11 (item #8)**

Vice Chairman Gorman, seconded by Commissioner Sims, moved to Approve Communication No. 11REAL0007 as amended. The motion carried.

Commissioner Daley moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Garcia. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

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

Communication Number 11REAL0007

Approved As Amended

Respectfully submitted,
Committee on Real Estate of the Forest
Preserve District of Cook County


Joan Patricia Murphy, Chairman

Attest:


Matthew B. DeLeon, Secretary

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