



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 25, 2026

TO: Forest Preserve District Planning & Utilization Committee

FROM: Jennifer Rooks-Lopez, Director of Planning & Land Protection
Benjamin Haberthur, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Presentation and Approval of a Contract with Engineering Resource Associates for Preliminary Engineering and Permitting Services for Deer Valley & Big Rock Creek Restoration at Big Rock Forest Preserve

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Committee with information to consider the approval of a contract with Engineering Resource Associates for Preliminary Engineering and Permitting Services for Deer Valley & Big Rock Creek Restoration at Big Rock Forest Preserve.

BACKGROUND:

In 2021, the District closed the Deer Valley Golf Course within Big Rock Forest Preserve. The land on which this 9-hole course was operated is bisected by Big Rock Creek, which is considered the highest quality waterway in Kane County. The District then began restoring the land to appropriate natural communities which consist of a mosaic of creek corridor, oak/hickory woods and tallgrass prairie.

The first phase of the project was the initial conversion of the cool season turf grasses that made up the playing areas to a place-holding native prairie mix. The next proposed phase is for engineering and permitting to develop a site-specific watershed and water quality plan for Big Rock Creek. Best Management Practices will be utilized to address runoff from District property and the upstream agricultural land uses to include “dirt work” that reties Big Rock creek to its historic floodplain and integrates a “treatment train” of settling ponds that cleans surface water as it flows into the creek.

The District utilized a request for qualifications process to select a consultant. Three firms responded; and Engineering Resource Associates (ERA), Warrenville, IL was selected. A scope of work was developed and a total fee of \$34,390.00 was established. Additionally, \$610.00 shall be set aside as contingency to cover any unanticipated additional costs that may arise during design, for a total contract price not to exceed \$35,000.00

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Funds totaling \$35,000.00 were budgeted in the 2023/24 fiscal year and are available for preliminary engineering and permitting services in account # 03-35-35-5070, project number 31010, for this portion of the project.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Committee approve a contract with Engineering Resource Associates, Warrenville, Illinois, for preliminary engineering and permitting services in the amount of \$34,390.00, plus a contingency of \$610.00 to cover any unanticipated additional costs that may arise, for an amount not to exceed \$35,000.00.

ATTACHMENTS:

Big Rock Forest Preserve Location Map

Deer Valley & Big Rock Creek Project Site Map

Proposal for preliminary engineering and permitting services for Deer Valley & Big Rock Creek: Engineering Resource Associates