



# AGENDA MEMORANDUM

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**DATE:** August 26, 2025

**TO:** Forest Preserve District Finance & Administration Committee

**FROM:** Jeremy Jensen, Director of Operations  
Benjamin Haberthur, Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** Presentation and Approval for the Purchase of One 96" Toro 7500 Z Master Replacement for the Operations Department

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## **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Committee with information to consider the approval and purchase of one (1) 96" Toro 7500 Z Master for North Operations.

## **BACKGROUND:**

Funding was approved in the fiscal year 2025/26 budget for the replacement of mower #306, a 2008 Toro 4000D Groundsmaster with 2,561 hours. The Toro 4000D mowers were originally purchased in 2008-2009 as wide area finish mowers for North and South Operations. These machines are part of Toro's commercial line, specifically designed for golf course use. These specialized models have functioned well enough for staff to operate them until the end of their usable life, but a model change is recommended to better meet the District's needs at a reduced price point.

The District purchased a Toro 7500 Z Master with a 96" cutting deck last year. This relatively new model from Toro is in use in the South Operations division and has proven durable, efficient, lighter, and easier to secure when trailering. The cost of a Toro 7500 Z Master is almost half that of a 4000D.

The 96" Toro 7500 Z Master is available through the Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Agreement, with Ralph Helm Inc. of Elgin, Illinois, being an authorized dealer. The Sourcewell contract offers a 27% reduction off of MSRP, for a savings of \$12,299.58.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

Funds totaling \$35,000.00 were budgeted in account 01-21-22-7020, North Operations Machinery & Equipment for the replacement of M-306 and are sufficiently available to cover the total cost of \$34,814.39.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the Committee approve the purchase of one 96" Toro 7500 Z Master from Ralph Helm Inc., of Elgin, Illinois, for a total cost of \$34,814.39.

## **ATTACHMENTS:**

*Quotation 96" Toro Z Master 7500*