



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 30, 2025

TO: Forest Preserve District Planning & Utilization Committee

FROM: Jennifer Rooks-Lopez, Director of Planning and Land Protection

SUBJECT: Presentation and Approval of a Resolution Authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding Between the Forest Preserve District of Kane County and the Fox Valley Park District

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Committee with information to consider a Memorandum of Understanding between the Forest Preserve District of Kane County and the Fox Valley Park District for the future construction of a bike and pedestrian bridge spanning over the Fox River between Les Arends Forest Preserve and Lippold Park.

BACKGROUND:

The Fox Valley Park District (FVPD) applied for and was recently awarded a federal grant to design and construct a pedestrian and bike bridge over the Fox River between their Lippold Park and our Les Arends Forest Preserve. After extensive site studies, it was determined the best western shore landing site is the northern edge of Les Arends and a future intergovernmental easement agreement ("IGA Easement") between the parties will be required. The specific details of the future easement agreement are subject to finalization of engineering and planning of the exact landing placement locations. The proposed Memorandum of Understanding is necessary to comply with preliminary documentation requirements for the federal grant, and addresses the following issues:

- The intent of the Forest Preserve District of Kane County (FPDKC) to grant reasonable site access for preliminary studies and layout determination.
- An IGA Easement will be drafted to allow for the bridge's west terminus at Les Arends Forest Preserve.
- The terms of the IGA Easement will be terms generally acceptable to both parties and that they will not unreasonably withhold consent.
- The bridge, its' construction, and all future maintenance, will be at the sole expense of the FVPD.
- FVPD agrees to take all reasonable planning steps to minimize adverse impacts to Les Arends Forest Preserve.
- Both the FVPD and the Forest Preserve District of Kane County are each represented by Kinnally, Flaherty, Krentz, Loran, Hodge & Masur, P.C.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact to the District associated with the Memorandum of Understanding.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approving the Memorandum of Understanding as presented, with the Fox Valley Park District (FVPD) to enable the placement of a bike and pedestrian bridge between Les Arends Forest Preserve and Lippold Park.

ATTACHMENTS:

County Location Map

Bridge Location Site Plan

Memorandum of Understanding