



# AGENDA MEMORANDUM

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**DATE:** December 4, 2025

**TO:** Forest Preserve District Executive Committee

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

**SUBJECT:** Presentation and Approval of Easement and Right of Way Agreements with ANR Pipeline Company at Cardinal Creek, Virgil, and Hampshire Forest Preserves

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**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Committee with information to consider granting temporary and permanent easements to ANR Pipeline Company for the expansion of existing pipeline easements at Cardinal Creek, Virgil, and Hampshire Forest Preserves.

**BACKGROUND:**

In March 2024, the District was contacted by representatives of ANR Pipeline Company to discuss plans to expand and upgrade their existing natural gas service lines at Big Rock, Cardinal Creek, Virgil, and Hampshire Forest Preserves. The proposed plans expanded on already existing easements, in mostly agricultural areas of the preserves. However, the expansion at Big Rock Forest Preserve would have taken an additional 100' width of old growth oaks from the area known as Gwinn Oaks. Staff informed ANR representatives of the unique and irreplaceable habitat that would be destroyed at Big Rock and requested ANR look at another option.

In early 2025, ANR Pipeline reworked their plans removing Big Rock Forest Preserve as a site and presented their first financial offer to purchase the required permanent and temporary easements for Cardinal Creek, Virgil, and Hampshire Forest Preserves for \$159,850.00.

The proposed easement agreements permit ANR Pipeline Company to install and maintain a pipeline for the transportation of natural gas, hydrocarbon, petroleum products, and petroleum byproducts and includes compensations for additional impacts to future wetland mitigation banking, lost agricultural income and prairie restoration. Further discussions and calculations of projected losses between District staff and ANR Pipeline resulted in the attached final compensation and easement agreements. The total compensation to the District for all three preserves is \$1,483,419.20 and includes 8.04 acres of permanent easement and 16.334 acres of temporary construction easement.

• Cardinal Creek Forest Preserve	\$121,204.90
• Virgil Forest Preserve	\$1,342,076.30
• Hampshire Forest Preserve	\$20,138.00

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

ANR Pipeline Company will pay a one-time fee of \$1,483,419.20 for the easement rights.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the Committee approve the easements and right of way agreements with ANR Pipeline Company, at Cardinal Creek, Virgil, and Hampshire Forest Preserves for a one-time fee of \$1,483,419.20.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

*County Locator Maps; Cardinal Creek, Virgil, and Hampshire Forest Preserves*

*Preserve Maps: Cardinal Creek, Virgil, and Hampshire*

*Pipeline Easement Maps: Cardinal Creek, Virgil, and Hampshire*

*Easement and ROW Agreements: Cardinal Creek, Virgil, and Hampshire*

*Supplemental Easement Agreements: Cardinal Creek, Virgil, and Hampshire*