



FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF KANE COUNTY
2015 Comprehensive Master Plan
Reconnecting Residents with Nature

2026 UPDATE



From the Executive Director



At the end of 2024, the people of Kane County successfully passed a public referendum, securing an increase in dedicated funds for the Forest Preserve District. This increase is assessed annually and offers new, recurring revenue that allows the District to continue meeting its mission. In real terms, it equates to approximately \$6.9 million in total, with \$2.5 million committed for land protection, \$3 million for construction and development projects, and about \$1.4 million for operating expenses.

The trust and support of the people is both encouraging and a responsibility to be met. Given the rapid rate of positive change the District is currently experiencing, plans are promptly being redrawn to ensure allocated funds are expensed in a timely but responsible manner. This work is being incorporated into the final update of the District's 2025 Adaptive Strategy (Master Plan), with an expected publication date in late summer 2025.

For the interim, and in a continued commitment to transparency, this 2026 Update to the 2015 *Comprehensive Master Plan* is presented. This represents the best snapshot of the District's upcoming capital plans, and features details on some of the most exciting referendum promises — including a new wildlife-viewing platform at Muirhead Springs Forest Preserve, expansion of the bison-reintroduction project at Burlington Prairie Forest Preserve, and engineering and construction of a new Urban Ecology Field Station in Aurora.

Exciting changes are ahead, and I encourage you to stay tuned for more big things to come from your Forest Preserve District!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ben Habarthur', is positioned above the name and title of the Executive Director.

Benjamin Habarthur
Executive Director

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Fund Balances

As of June 30, 2024

General Fund (01)

As of 6/30/2024	\$10,364,704
Six Months of Reserves	<u>\$(6,018,041)</u>
Remaining Excess Fund Balance	\$4,346,663

IMRF Fund (02)

\$178,767

Construction & Development (03)

\$9,055,184

Insurance Liability Fund (06)

\$157,248

Social Security Fund (08)

\$181,203

Land Acquisition Fund (05)

\$9,104,224

Wetland Mitigation Bank (11)

\$1,958,694

Construction & Development Fund

Available Cash Analysis

	FY2025		FY2026	FY2027	FY2028
Current Cash Balance as of 3/31/25	\$ 7,420,414	Beginning Cash From Prior Year	\$ 478,277	855,622	(2,122,957)
Existing Outstanding Projects	\$ (8,642,402)	New Projects	(3,647,575)	(6,740,835)	(7,610,896)
Available Funds	\$ (1,221,988)	Available Funds	\$ (3,169,298)	(5,885,213)	(9,733,853)
		Less Transfer to Mitigation Bank	(500,000)	(500,000)	(500,000)
		Less Transfer to Land Acquisition	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)
		Available Funds after Transfer	\$ (5,169,298)	(7,885,213)	(11,733,853)
Revenues - Grants		Potential Future Revenues - Grants			
Carpentersville Dam Grant Revenue (net)	1,552,337	Centennial Foundation Fundraiser (FY26)	40,000		
DCEO- Hoscheit Bumblebee	36,316	Jon J. Duerr OSLAD (FY26)	400,000		
DCEO- Fabyan Migratory Bird	34,083	Windmill Renovations DCEO (FY26)	700,000		
		Johnson's Mound Riverboat Grant (FY26)	50,500		
		Big Rock Forest Preserve RTP (FY27)		176,512	
		Mill Creek Archery Range OSLAD (FY27)		600,000	
Future Grant Revenue	\$ 1,622,736	Future Grant Revenue	\$ 1,190,500	776,512	-
Projected Recurring Revenues beyond 3/1/25		Recurring Revenues			
Property Taxes	\$ -	Property Taxes	\$ 4,500,000	\$ 4,500,000	\$ 4,500,000
Golf Course Revenue	\$ (122,096)	Golf Course Revenue	\$ 113,676	\$ 115,000	\$ 115,000
Less Golf Course Capital Improvements	\$ (29,600)	Less Golf Course Capital Improvements	\$ (150,000)	\$ -	\$ -
Rentals Agriculture	\$ 128,025	Rentals Agriculture	\$ 290,744	\$ 290,744	\$ 224,444
Investment Income	\$ 101,200	Investment Income	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000
Total	\$ 77,529	Total	\$ 4,834,420	4,985,744	4,919,444
Money Available for New Projects	\$ 478,277	Estimated Ending Cash Balance	\$ 855,622	(2,122,957)	(6,814,409)

Land Acquisition Fund

As of March 2025

PRIOR PURCHASES:

Township	Description	Preserve Name	Bonds	Date	Acres	Price Per Acre	Donated Value	Purchase Price
Sugar Grove	Cutsinger	Sauer Family Prairie Kame	2017A	10/6/2017	71.48	\$ 12,088.52		\$ 864,087.66
Burlington	Faber	Cardinal Creek	2017A	11/15/2017	12.25	\$14,363.35		\$ 175,951.06
Big Rock	Baldrige- Huiner Holdings LLC	Needham Woods	2017A	11/28/2017	28.40	\$12,491.75		\$ 354,765.76
Big Rock	Baldrige- Ernest & Martha Baldrige	Needham Woods	2017A	11/28/2017	28.44	\$12,524.41		\$ 356,194.08
Big Rock	Baldrige- Anderson/Dearvil etc.	Needham Woods	2017A	11/28/2017	28.40	\$10,252.69		\$ 291,176.32
Rutland	Lueth Property	Binnie Woods	2017A	12/7/2017	82.66	\$12,494.41		\$ 1,032,788.06
Plato	Chicago Title Land Trust Co.	Muirhead Springs	2017A	12/15/2017	53.18	\$11,947.62		\$ 635,374.65
Aurora	Strzelecki Property	Oakhurst	2017A	12/21/2017	4.69	\$67,770.10		\$ 317,841.79
Blackberry	Cloonara-Hughes Property	Johnson's Mound	2017A	12/29/2017	150.38	\$33,795.18		\$ 5,082,119.78
Blackberry	Cloonara-Hughes Property	Johnson's Mound	N/A	12/29/2017	61.67	\$34,052.21	\$ 2,100,000.00	
Elgin	Edwards Property Donation	Johnson's Mound	N/A	12/4/2017	25.74	\$20,000.00	\$ 514,800.00	
Plato	Winkelman	Bowes Creek Woods	2017A	1/12/2017	55.60	\$12,527.93		\$ 696,552.97
Burlington	Lenkaitis Property	Cardinal Creek	2017B	1/26/2017	120.92	\$12,816.43		\$ 1,549,762.44
St Charles	Imhoff/ Kelley Property	LeRoy Oakes	2017A	2/8/2017	22.24	\$7,030.70		\$ 156,362.77
Plato	Butts Family Farm	Muirhead Springs	2017B	3/15/2017	110.84	\$11,770.52		\$ 1,304,644.14
Aurora	Chicago Premium Outlets		N/A	2/16/2018	75.00	\$5,000.00	\$ 375,000.00	
Big Rock	Baumez	Big Rock	2017A	3/28/2018	82.77	\$12,135.40		\$ 1,004,446.82
St Charles	THG Properties LLC	Ferson Creek	2017A	5/24/2018	17.00	\$14,394.13		\$ 244,700.19
Dundee	Meadowdale	Raceway Woods	2017A	6/27/2018	7.00	\$71,551.10		\$ 500,857.71
Dundee	Urban Property	Fox River Shores	2017A	7/26/2018	0.24	\$72,583.88		\$ 17,420.13
Dundee	Bischof Property	Fox River Shores	2017A	7/26/2018	0.26	\$143,655.54		\$ 37,350.44
Rutland	Plote Property	Binnie Woods	2017A	7/26/2018	1.35	\$12,993.36		\$ 17,541.03
Saint Charles	Riemer Property near mission hills	Ferson Creek	2017A	8/13/2018	60.00	\$12,947.43		\$ 776,846.00
Dundee	Unimproved Besinger Properties	Raceway Woods	2017A	8/15/2018	86.00	\$20,805.17		\$ 1,789,244.56
Batavia	Basler Property Montessori School	Glenwood	2017A	8/8/2018	1.92	\$20,512.50		\$ 39,384.00
Plato	Roberts-Huerth Trust & Vogel Trust	Muirhead Springs	2017A	10/25/2018	81.18	\$11,224.06		\$ 911,169.38
Plato	Roberts-Huerth Trust & Vogel Trust	Muirhead Springs	2017B	10/25/2018	79.86	\$11,223.99		\$ 896,347.74
St Charles	Conserv. Found. Pheasant Meadows	Fox River Bluff	2017A	11/29/2018	12.50	\$1,425.34		\$ 17,816.78
Dundee	Conserv. Found. Holzer Property	Helm Woods	2017A	3/6/2019	14.40	\$2,946.50		\$ 42,429.58
Elgin	Siljestrom Property	Bowes Creek Woods	2017A	4/4/2019	23.00	\$17,344.01		\$ 398,912.12
Campton	Hawkins	Campton Forest Preserve	2017A	5/29/2019	60.16	\$19,987.06		\$ 1,202,421.47
Big Rock	Gwinn Oaks	Big Rock	2017A	6/28/2019	113.00	\$10,611.19		\$ 1,199,065.01
Rutland	County Red Slips	Freeman Kame	2017A	8/27/2019	0.60	\$853.33		\$ 512.00
Dundee	Spiegler Trust	Sleepy Hollow Ravine	2017A	11/15/2019	7.25	\$20,785.34		\$ 150,693.70
Rutland	Stade Property	Binnie Forest Preserve	2017A	12/13/2019	67.73	\$14,988.21		\$ 1,015,151.62
Rutland	Johnson Little Acres	Freeman Kame	2017A	1/13/2020	11.37	\$3,963.59		\$ 45,066.07
Rutland	Belom Property	Binnie Forest Preserve	2017A	1/31/2020	100.00	\$11,990.98		\$ 1,199,097.70
Big Rock	Shaw Property	Prairie Kame-Sauer Family	2017A	5/13/2020	118.35	\$10,869.71		\$ 1,286,430.75
Sugar Grove	Knierim Property- Nickels Farm	Hannafor Woods	2017A	8/12/2020	13.18	\$19,126.66		\$ 252,089.41
Campton	Tangalos Property	Great Western Trail	2017A	8/17/2020	56.36	\$8,877.64		\$ 500,343.58

Land Acquisition Fund

As of March 2025

PRIOR PURCHASES:

Township	Description	Preserve Name	Bonds	Date	Acres	Price Per Acre	Donated Value	Purchase Price
Elburn	Sisko Property	Grunwald Farms	2017A	8/20/2020	11.70	\$29,986.90		\$ 350,846.73
Elburn	Urich Property	Johnson's Mound	2017A	10/29/2020	24.98	\$25,590.15		\$ 639,242.01
Rutland	Harrigan Farm / Rutland Farm LLC	Rutland Forest Preserve	2017A	12/16/2020	172.52	\$14,970.44		\$ 2,582,684.49
Aurora	Sanchez Property	Oakhurst Forest Preserve	2017A	12/11/2020	0.29	\$37,534.79		\$ 10,885.09
Rutland	Kane County, As Trustee	Freeman Kame- Meagher	2017A	1/20/2021	0.81	\$632.10		\$ 512.00
St Charles	Kane County, As Trustee	Riverbend St. Charles	2017A	1/20/2021	0.12	\$4,266.67		\$ 512.00
St Charles	Kane County, As Trustee	Riverbend St. Charles	2017A	1/20/2021	0.05	\$10,240.00		\$ 512.00
Rutland	Reedy Property	Binnie Forest Preserve	2017A	6/30/2021	79.54	\$17,876.10		\$ 1,421,775.52
Aurora	Hoffer Living Trust	Oakhurst Forest Preserve	2017A	3/24/2022	0.17	\$27,802.00		\$ 4,726.34
Batavia	Reckinger Property	Dick Young Forest Preserve	2017A	6/11/2022	21.84	\$11,071.61		\$ 241,792.92
Big Rock	Breon Property	Big Rock Forest Preserve	2017A	7/27/2022	49.68	\$13,495.67		\$ 670,438.02
Hampshire	Colby/Scarpelli Property	Hampshire South Forest Preserve	2017A	11/14/2022	30.68	\$14,203.06		\$ 435,749.93
Hampshire	Doetsch Property	Hampshire South Forest Preserve	2017A	11/23/2022	99.65	\$13,933.48		\$ 1,388,457.10
Batavia	Dow Property	Dick Young Forest Preserve	2017A	2/8/2023				\$ 461,328.14
Batavia	Dow Property	Dick Young Forest Preserve	2017B	2/8/2023	23.80	\$20,138.02		\$ 17,956.70
St Charles	County Red Slips - Watseka Ave			2/13/2023	0.09	\$5,688.89		\$ 512.00
Plato	Neville Property	Stony Creek	2017B	4/28/2023	52.15	\$20,709.61		\$ 1,080,005.93
Blackberry	Norris Property	Lake Run FP	2017B	5/26/2023	88.11	\$12,500.41		\$ 1,101,411.21
Batavia	Dow (2) Property	Dick Young Forest Preserve	2017B	7/21/2023	94.60	\$13,821.51		\$ 1,307,514.77
Elburn	Bonterra/Polivka Property	Johnson's Mound	2017B	5/6/2024	23.25	\$18,860.50		\$ 438,412.25
Huntley	Donaue/Barancik Parcel	Rutland Forest Preserve	2017B	8/23/2024	298.00	\$10,250.17		\$ 3,054,549.63
Huntley	Donaue/Barancik Parcel	Rutland Forest Preserve		8/23/2024				\$ 1,905,450.37
Total					3,019.39	\$	2,989,800.00	\$ 43,478,234.42

AVAILABLE FUNDS:

Total Funds Available			\$	4,644,721.89
		Professional Services/Taxes	\$	250,000.00
BALANCE		\$	\$	4,394,721.89

Construction & Development Fund

Capital Improvement & Maintenance Projects

	Actual FY22/23	Actual FY23/24	Budget FY24/25	Projected FY25/26	Projected FY26/27	Projected FY27/28
OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT						
Bridge Replacements/Repairs						
10601	\$ 2,810	\$ 10,933	\$ 75,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 240,000	\$ 165,000
	\$ 2,810	\$ 10,933	\$ 75,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
NEW: Bridge Repairs Assessment Update					\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000
NEW: Red Gate Trail Bridge Replacement Engineering					\$ 75,000	
Infrastructure Maintenance (Includes Demolitions)						
10506	\$ 86,759	\$ 144,534	\$ 50,000	\$ 148,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
10803	\$ 6,880					
10804	\$ 12,489					
10811	\$ 27,010					
11005	\$ 40,380					
11007		\$ 14,735				
11008		\$ 65,819				
11009		\$ 63,980	\$ 50,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
NEW: Stabilize & Remediate - Big Rock Historical House				\$ 78,000		
NEW: Japanese Garden Pond Engineering				\$ 30,000		
Road/Parking Repaving						
10903	\$ 190,895	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,000	\$ -
10904	\$ 4,360					
11003	\$ 45,290					
11004	\$ 60,177					
11004	\$ 81,068					
NEW: Culver FP Parking Resurface					\$ 45,000	
Restroom Replacement						
11002	\$ 31,773	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 80,000
	\$ 31,773			\$ 80,000	\$ 70,000	
NEW: Big Rock FP Restroom Replacement						
NEW: Tekakwitha FP Restroom Replacement						

Construction & Development Fund

Capital Improvement & Maintenance Projects

	Actual FY22/23	Actual FY23/24	Budget FY24/25	Projected FY25/26	Projected FY26/27	Projected FY27/28
Restroom Replacement						
NEW: Culver FP Parking Resurface						
	\$ 31,773	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 80,000
11002	\$ 31,773					
NEW: Big Rock FP Restroom Replacement						
NEW: Tekakwitha FP Restroom Replacement				\$ 80,000	\$ 70,000	
NEW: District-Wide RomTech Replacements					\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000
Trail Resurfacing						
	\$ 114,100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 759,575	\$ 670,835	\$ 347,396
10901	\$ 114,100					
NEW: Fox River Trail and Resurfacing				\$ 274,300	\$ 670,835	\$ 347,396
NEW: Resurfacing of RiverBend Parking Lot- North				\$ 38,000		
NEW: Resurfacing IL Prairie Path-Batavia Spur				\$ 75,000		
NEW: Stearns Rd Parcel Improvements				\$ 372,275		
Preserve Shelter and Site Improvement						
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,000	\$ 568,500
NEW: Burlington Bison - Electric					\$ 45,000	\$ 130,500
NEW: Fox River Shores Shelter						\$ 265,000
NEW: Johnson's Mound Cabin, Tomo, Creek Bend Impr.						\$ 150,000
NEW: Fabyan Shelter Replacement						\$ 23,000
NEW: Paving Project- Japanese Garden at Fabyan FP						
Sub-Total - OPERATIONS	\$ 426,337	\$ 155,466	\$ 125,000	\$ 1,002,575	\$ 1,175,835	\$ 1,185,896

Construction & Development Fund

Capital Improvement & Maintenance Projects

	Project #	Actual FY22/23	Actual FY23/24	Budgeted FY24/25	Projected FY25/26	Projected FY26/27	Projected FY27/28
<u>NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT</u>							
Dick Young/Nelson Lake Marsh Revitalization	20601	\$ 51,528	\$ 22,400				
Vegetation Inventories	20603	\$ 15,331	\$ 10,326				
Pingree Grove FP - Wetland	20604	\$ 12,139	\$ 307,807				
Fabyan Woods Migratory Bird Habitat	20901	\$ 216,881	\$ 165,329				
Hoscheit Woods Rusty Patch Bumblebee Habitat	21001	\$ 152,569	\$ 34,084				
Burlington Prairie FP Prairie Pothole Creation	21002		\$ 32,690				
Eagle/Turkey Big Rock FP	21003	\$ 154,885	\$ 82,700				
Oakhurst FP Teasel Control	21004	\$ 13,250	\$ 7,250				
Settler's Hill GC Multi-Year Natural Area Management	21005	\$ 59,598	\$ 89,796	\$ 55,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Oakhurst FP Multi-Year Natural Area Management	21006	\$ 3,203	\$ 6,546				
Fabyan FP Multi-Year Natural Area Management	21007	\$ 2,350	\$ 4,100				
Fiddlehead Hampshire FP	21008		\$ 160,748	\$ 50,000			
Burlington Prairie FP- Bison Reintroduction	21009			\$ 15,000	\$ 125,000		
Big Rock FP- Revitalizing Oak Savanna	21010			\$ 22,000			
Maple Esker Bliss Woods FP	21011			\$ 170,000			
Grand Trillium - Elburn FP	NEW				\$ 300,000		
Rutland North - IL Clean Energy Restoration Grant	NEW				\$ 85,000		

Construction & Development Fund

Capital Improvement & Maintenance Projects

	Project #	Actual FY22/23	Actual FY23/24	Budgeted FY24/25	Projected FY25/26	Projected FY26/27	Projected FY27/28
Raceway Woods Landscape Scale Restoration	NEW				\$ 100,000		
Virgil Ditch Cost Share	NEW				\$ 35,000		
Stearns Road - Natural Area Restoration	NEW				\$ 200,000		
Fox River Fen - FRS FP	NEW					\$ 300,000	\$ 175,000
Grasshopper Sparrow Prairie - Prairie Kame FP	NEW					\$ 125,000	\$ 200,000
Schweitzer Woods Pothole Marsh & Woodland Rest.	NEW						
Sub-Total - NATURAL RESOURCES		\$ 681,734	\$ 923,776	\$ 312,000	\$ 895,000	\$ 475,000	\$ 425,000

Construction & Development Fund

Capital Improvement & Maintenance Projects

Project #	Actual FY22/23	Actual FY23/24	Budgeted FY24/25	Projected FY25/26	Projected FY26/27	Projected FY27/28
PLANNING DEPARTMENT						
Raymond St. Tunnel	\$ 11,389	\$ 2,140				
Carpentersville Dam Removal		\$ 32,245				
Settler's Hill GC Improvements	\$ 504,949	\$ 15,296				
Drainage Consulting & Repairs						
	\$ 4,496					
	\$ 3,120	\$ 31,860			\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
ADA Corrections						
Great Western Trail Extension						
Brunner/Raceway Woods FP Trail Connection Engineering						
LeRoy Oakes FP Interpretive Signage & Trail Planning	\$ 269,805	\$ 171,510				
Natural Resources Facility Phase II Building Construction	\$ 39,350	\$ 3,281				
Interactive Prairie Exhibit	\$ 101,478					
Elburn FP Tree Planting	\$ 49,960					
Brunner FP Improvements	\$ 45,412	\$ 87,747	\$ 100,000			
Jon J Duerr FP Renovation Project	\$ 69,381	\$ 251,640	\$ 374,503			
Village of Sugar Grove Bridge Engineering IGA		\$ 25,790				
Comprehensive Master Plan		\$ 104,238				
Fox River Trail Renovation & Resurface Engineering		\$ 60,655	\$ 300,000			

Construction & Development Fund

Capital Improvement & Maintenance Projects

Project #	Actual FY22/23	Actual FY23/24	Budgeted FY24/25	Projected FY25/26	Projected FY26/27	Projected FY27/28
Freeman Kame FP- Hunt Club Road Repair		\$ 3,727				
Chicago Premium Outlets- Berm Stabilization						
Settler's Hill Golf Course Clubhouse	\$ 307	\$ 33,185				
Big Rock Forest Preserve Deer Valley Restoration						
Blackberry Creek Bridge Phase 2 Engineering & Phase 3 Construction						
Fabyan Windmill Protection & Improvement						
Mill Creek Greenway Engineering & Construction		\$ 35,170				
Big Rock FP Limestone Trail Resurfacing- RTP		\$ 2,045				
Geneva Creek Stabilization - Kane County			\$ 50,000			
Johnson' Mound 100th			\$ 575,000			
Fitchie Creek FP Limestone Trail Restoration			\$ 300,000			
Campton Shelter Rebuild (Insurance Claim/Full Reimbursement)		\$ 750				
Glenwood FP Engineering & Construction				\$ 650,000		
Muirhead Springs FP Overlook-Design, Engineering & Permitting				\$ 50,000	\$ 1,200,000	
Brunner FP Trail Improvements				\$ 475,000		
Mill Creek Greenway/ Brundidge Barn Improvements				\$ 100,000		
Urban Ecology Station - Assessment and Site Concept				\$ 50,000		\$ 1,500,000
New District Admin Headquarters - Assessment & Site Concept				\$ 100,000	\$ 3,500,000	\$ 3,500,000

Construction & Development Fund

Capital Improvement & Maintenance Projects

Project #	Actual FY22/23	Actual FY23/24	Budgeted FY24/25	Projected FY25/26	Projected FY26/27	Projected FY27/28
Rutland North, New Preserve Access Planning				\$ 40,000	\$ 110,000	
New Bridge for Eakin Creek Crossing at Rutland FP				\$ 135,000		
Hughes Creek Golf Course Phase II Cart Path Improvements			\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000		
Settler's Hill Golf Course Renumbering & Trail Adjustments			\$ 150,000			
Stony Creek - Parking/Facility Remodel					\$ 50,000	\$ 200,000
LeRoy Oakes- Barn Preservation					\$ 30,000	
Virgil - Trail Station Improvements					\$ 100,000	\$ 150,000
Rutland Bog - Loop Trail Restoration					\$ 50,000	\$ 600,000
Transfer to Wetland Mitigation Bank	\$ 976,963	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000
Transfer to Land Acquisition				\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000
Sub-Total - PLANNING	\$ 2,076,609	\$ 1,361,278	\$ 2,499,503	\$ 3,750,000	\$ 7,090,000	\$ 8,000,000
GRAND TOTALS	\$ 3,184,680	\$ 2,440,520	\$ 2,936,503	\$ 5,647,575	\$ 8,740,835	\$ 9,610,896

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Arlene Shoemaker Forest Preserve (Aurora)

Urban Ecology Field Station

IMPROVEMENT	PERCENTAGE	ESTIMATED COST
Urban Ecology Center Design (2026)	3.23%	\$50,000
Urban Ecology Center Construction (2028)	96.77%	\$1,500,000
TOTAL COST		\$1,550,000
Fiscal Year: 2026 - 2028		Funding Source: Capital/Grant

A nature center devoted to interpreting urban environmental issues does not exist in Kane County or any of the surrounding collar counties. The urban ecology station focus would fully support the District's mission and would give us a distinct and sustainable "competitive" advantage over other regional nature centers. An urban nature center in Aurora that is within walking distance of residential neighborhoods would allow us to better reach under-served communities, at-risk youth, and low-income families that reside and attend school in that city. The project is a strong candidate for the Park and Recreational Facility Construction Grant (PARC) program. PARC, is offered through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) to assist funding recreational facilities, otherwise not eligible for OSLAD grants. The PARC program is funded through State General Obligation Bonds and is not available every year. The intent is to proceed with preliminary architecture, design and have a package ready to submit for PARC once it becomes available. If selected for the grant, the traditional cost share has been 25% to the District and 75% to the IDNR with a maximum award amount of \$2,800,000.



Arlene Shoemaker Forest Preserve (Aurora)



Bridge Repairs (District-wide)

Safety Assessment Phase II

IMPROVEMENT	PERCENTAGE	ESTIMATED COST
Bridge Evaluations (2027 - 2028)	50%	\$150,000
Bridge Repairs (2027 - 2028)	50%	\$150,000
TOTAL COST		\$300,000
Fiscal Year: 2027 - 2028		Funding Source: Capital

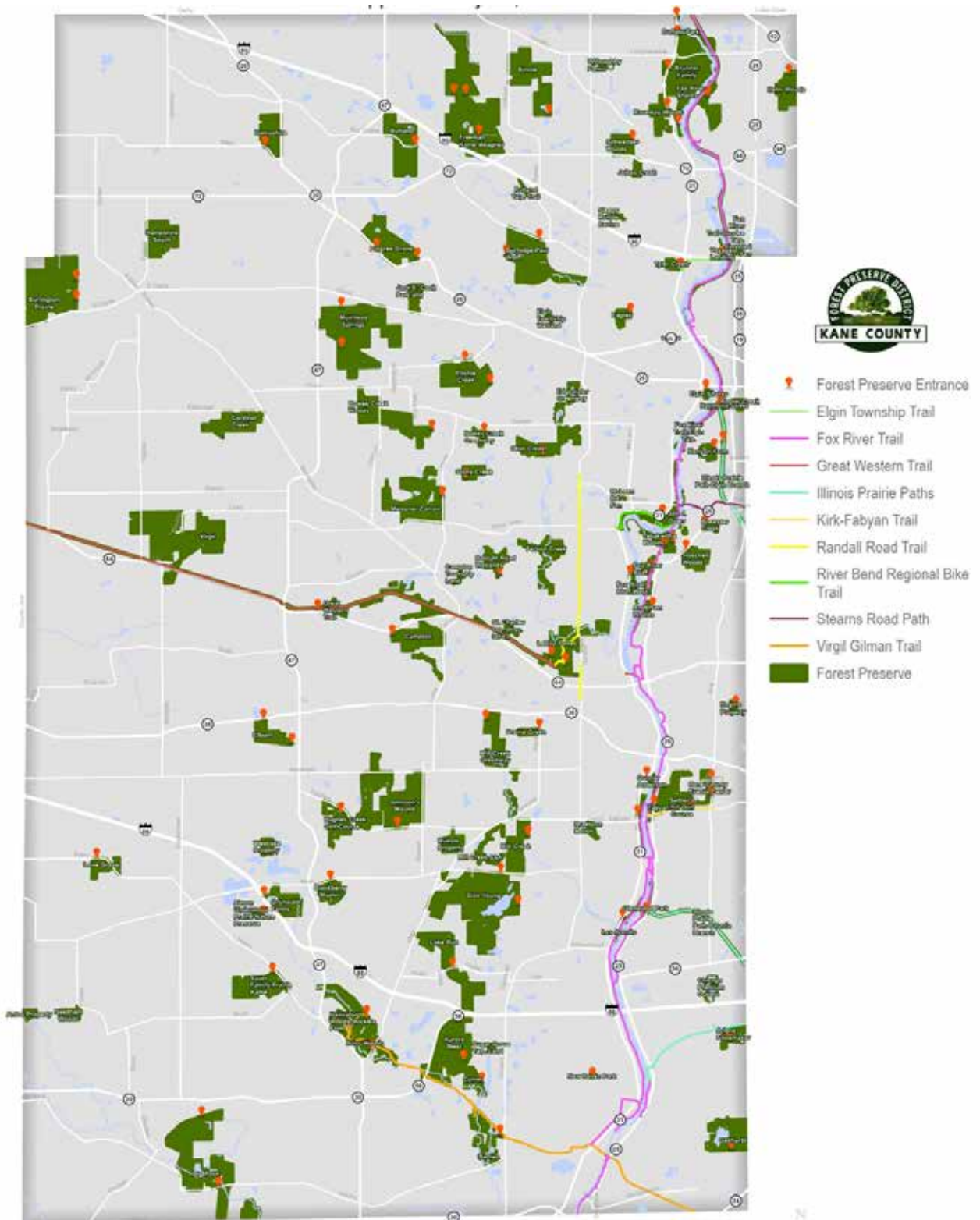
In 2017, the District contracted Benesch Engineering to assess all of its 78 bridges, throughout the County. The assessment report outlined the bridges' conditions. Each bridge was prioritized in order of urgency of need for repairs. The District has made good progress on Priority Levels 1 and 2 repairs, however, the combination of elapsed time and new property acquisition has necessitated an updated assessment.

In order to solve these growing safety concerns and ensure safe passage for all preserve users, staff is recommending a multi-year plan to make new assessments to prioritize repairs of the bridges, beginning in fiscal year 2025/26.

Staff will be submitting a budget fund request of \$150,000 for fiscal years 2026/27 and 2027/28, for this project.



Bridge Repairs (District-Wide)



Burlington Forest Preserve (Sycamore)

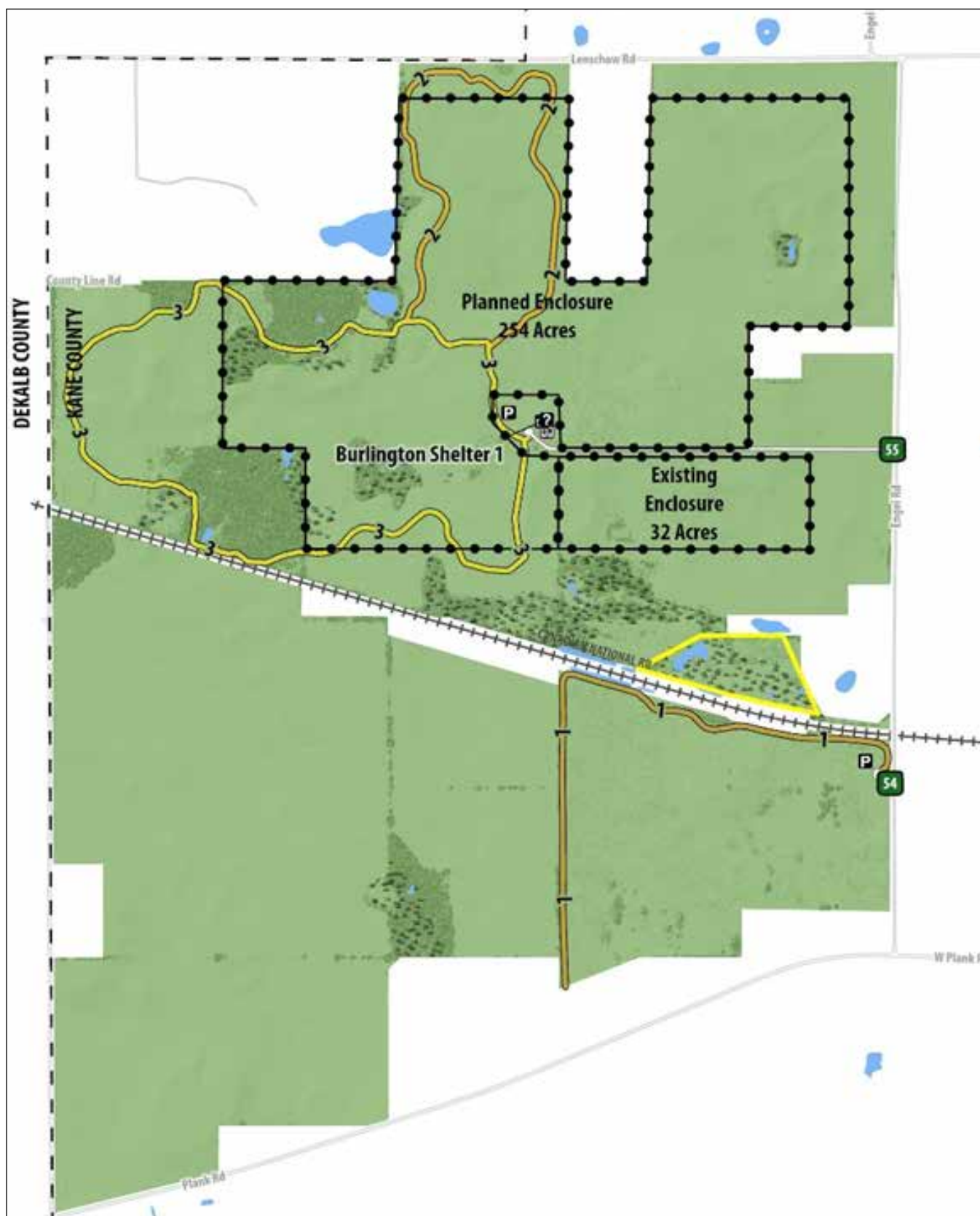
Bison Reintroduction Expansion Project

IMPROVEMENT	PERCENTAGE	ESTIMATED COST
Bison Expansion & Electric Upgrades (2026)	100%	\$125,000
TOTAL COST		\$125,000
Fiscal Year: 2026		Funding Source: Capital

In 2024 the District began the Bison reintroduction program at Burlington, creating a 31 acre enclosure within the established prairie . The first herd is expected in 2025, and there are plans to increase the size of the Bison area to approximately 170 acres over the next 10 years. To accommodate the anticipated popularity of the Bison additional improvements are planned for the preserve including enlarging the existing parking lot, rerouting the existing mowed trails and a possible bison overlook. Grant funding should be sought to help funding the project.



Burlington Forest Preserve (Sycamore)



Elburn Forest Preserve (Elburn)

Grand Trillium Woods Restoration Project

IMPROVEMENT	PERCENTAGE	ESTIMATED COST
Grand Trillium Woods Restoration (2026)	100%	\$300,000
TOTAL COST		\$300,000
Fiscal Year: 2026		Funding Source: Capital/Operating

Elburn Forest Preserve was one of the first natural areas protected by the Forest Preserve District. Purchased in 1928, and long known as Preserve #4, the woods at Elburn Forest Preserve were of a quality to immediately warrant protection. Light use of the land combined with early protection have left all three of the major woodland structural tiers intact. The overstory exhibits great tree diversity with beautiful examples of old hardwoods. The midlayer, typically absent from many of our woods, abounds with native Viburnums, Hazelnuts, juvenile Oak trees, and even a rare native Honeysuckle. However, the understory vegetation is something really special at Elburn Forest Preserve. Along with true Kane- genetic populations of ephemeral spring plants like Wild geraniums, Jacob's ladder and Jack-in-the- pulpit, the woods also protects the largest colony of large-flowered trilliums (*Trillium grandiflorum*) in Kane County. Structural woodland diversity also brings about avifaunal diversity, and the migratory birds present at Elburn certainly prove the case.

While the woods at Elburn Forest Preserve still have many of the important components necessary for the proper functioning of an ecosystem, it is currently suffering encroachment from non-native woody vegetation. The scope of this project will entail the selection of a knowledgeable tree-and-brush clearing company to conduct the initial removal of decades of encroaching trees. Follow-up will be conducted to be certain that the brush and its progeny have all been removed. Finally, the area will be reseeded, as necessary, after the native seedbank has been allowed to naturally express itself. The estimated cost of clearing, follow-up, and enrichment seeding is \$300,000.



Elburn Forest Preserve (Elburn)



Fabyan Forest Preserve (Geneva)

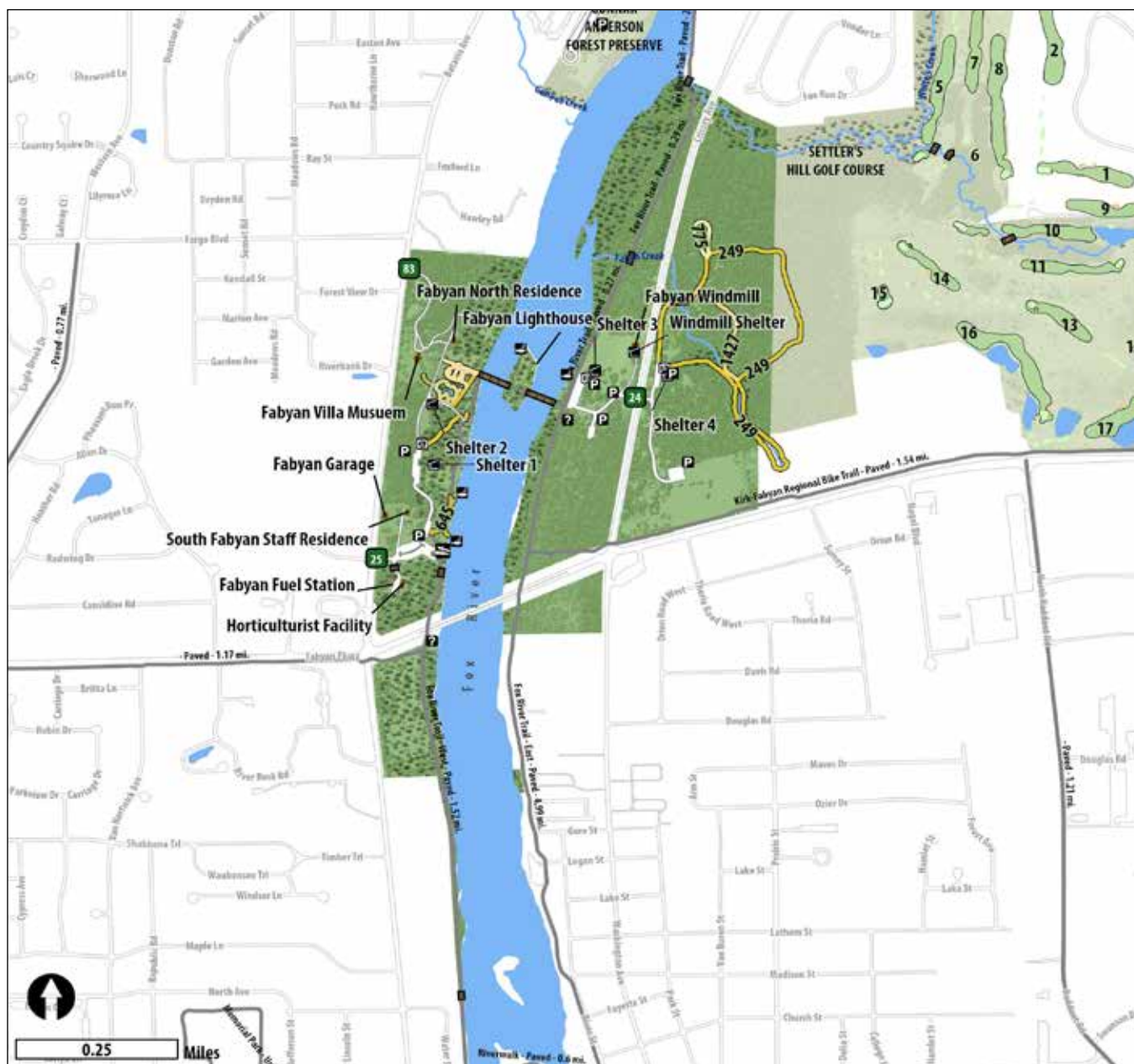
Site-Wide Improvements

IMPROVEMENT	PERCENTAGE	ESTIMATED COST
Pond Repairs & Engineering (2026)	14.78%	\$30,000
Shelter Replacement (2028)	73.89%	\$150,000
Paving at Japanese Garden (2028)	11.33%	\$23,000
TOTAL COST		\$203,000
Fiscal Year: 2026 - 2028		Funding Source: Capital/Grant/Fundraising

Fabyan Forest Preserve is a heavily used preserve, owing to its location on the Fox River and its numerous natural and historic features. Thousands of visitors spend hours fishing along its river shores and thousands more jog and bike along the trails and across the river bridge. Others explore the historic elements remaining in the preserve, especially the Fabyan Villa Museum, the Japanese Tea Garden and the Fabyan Windmill. To preserve the historic character of the preserve capital investment will need to address aging historic structures as well as updates to popular features like shelters, sculptures, garden pond and Kayak launch. Wayfinding signage needs to be incorporated into the preserve to direct patrons to the numerous features of the preserve, and linking both sides of the river.



Fabyan Forest Preserve (Geneva)



Forest Preserve District Headquarters (To Be Determined)

Headquarters Relocation Project

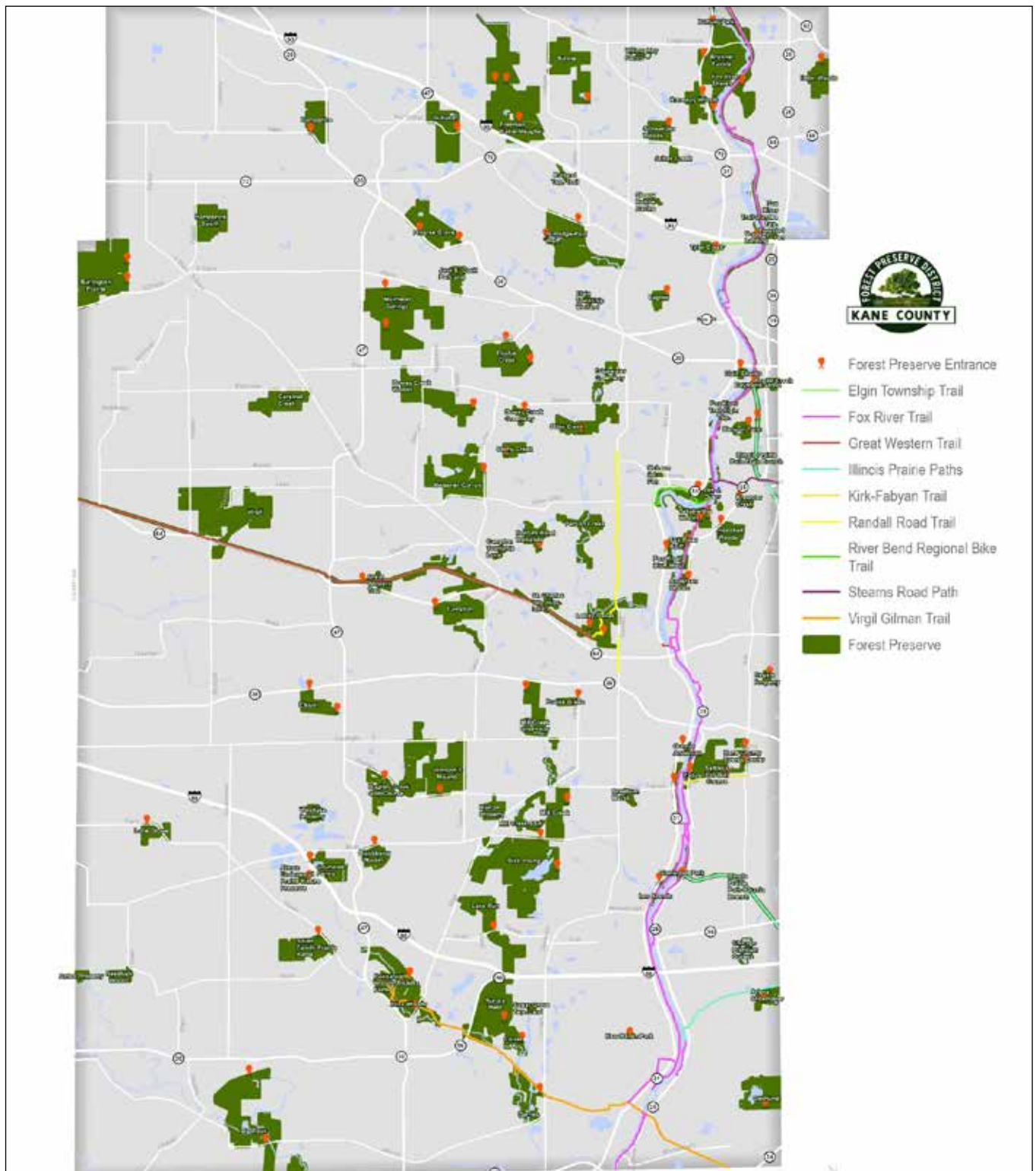
IMPROVEMENT	PERCENTAGE	ESTIMATED COST
Architecture/Engineering Design (2026)	1.41%	\$100,000
Construction, Bidding and Permitting (2027 - 2028)	98.59%	\$7,000,000
TOTAL COST		\$7,100,000
Fiscal Year: 2026-2028		Funding Source: Capital/ADA/OSLAD

Over the last 100 years, the Forest Preserve District has established itself as a local and regional leader for conservation. Situated as one of Chicago's collar counties and bolstered by that geography and local economy, Kane is known as of "the bigs" of Illinois conservation and forest preserve districts. The District partners with all other open space entities in the County, and often assists smaller entities to achieve their similar missions.

In all its existence, this District has never had a purpose-built headquarters. From its start in a few offices of the government center, to farmhouses, to occupying the Cole Pope House, also known as "the yellow house," and since 2009, in the Fox Valley Ice Arena, the District has had to make do with secondary space. While this is certainly cost-effective, there is some cost for this lack of investment, primarily in the opportunity cost to build continued trust with the public through an easily identifiable headquarters, morale and sense-of-belonging with staff, and pride of place for an entity with a hard-won reputation as a conservation leader.

Funds are sought for a building to accommodate current and mid-term growth of all administrative and public safety personnel for an approximately 10,000-square foot, standalone building to either be adapted for District needs or newly constructed. The building would house the Administration, Human Resources, Finance, Community Engagement, Planning & Land Protection departments, as well as equip the District's Public Safety Department with appropriate office and garage space.

Forest Preserve District Headquarters (To Be Determined)



Fox River Bluff Forest Preserve (St. Charles)

Red Gate Bridge Project

IMPROVEMENT	PERCENTAGE	ESTIMATED COST
Engineering (2027)	100%	\$75,000
TOTAL COST		\$75,000
Fiscal Year: 2027		Funding Source: Capital/Grant

In 2012, the District was gifted the Fox River Bluff Bridge at Red Gate Road from the City of St. Charles. Since that time, the wooden decking of the bridge has experienced an accelerated rate of decline. Staff makes surface repairs, as necessary, but is having difficulty managing the volume of repairs needed. At only 11 years old, the bridge should not be experiencing these issues; initial inspections indicate the problem may be with the timber treatment used at installation. Extensive investigation and engineering is required. Re-decking of the bridge is estimated to cost over \$1,000,000.



Fox River Bluff Forest Preserve (St. Charles)



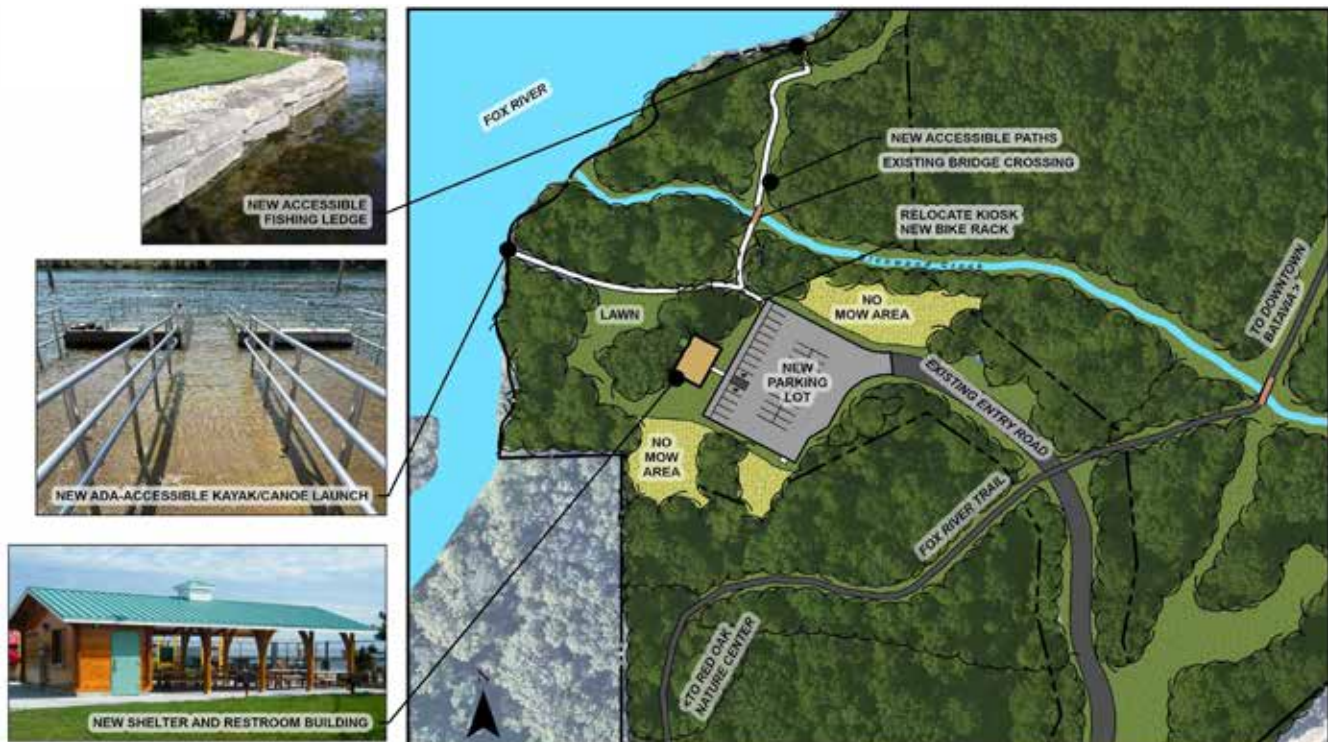
Glenwood Park Forest Preserve (Batavia)

Site Revitalization

IMPROVEMENT	PERCENTAGE	ESTIMATED COST
Parking Lot Repairs (2026)	30.30%	\$250,000
Replace Picnic Shelter (2026)	30.30%	\$200,000
Replace Restroom (2026)	15.15%	\$100,000
Fox River Trail Realignment (2026)	15.15%	\$100,000
TOTAL COST		\$650,000
Fiscal Year: 2026		Funding Source: Capital

Glenwood Forest Preserve is an older preserve located on the eastern side of the Fox River, in South Batavia, that is in need of site renovations. This popular fishing and shelter-rental site is in dire need of upgrades in order to meet current ADA standards and rectify the degrading amenities that exist. The parking lot, restroom and access paths have all fallen out of ADA-compliance. The property was purchased in 1976. The existing shelter and parking lot were installed in 1984 (40-year lifespan) and then followed by the single-vault waterless restroom in 2002 (22-year lifespan). The aging of these features can be highlighted in the crumbling pavement, overgrown walkways and rotting wooden pieces of the shelter and restroom.

The District expects the preserve to become even more visited, as the Fox Valley Park District (owner of Lippold Park to the south of the site), will install a new pedestrian bridge that will link users to both sides of the Fox River in early 2026. The entrance road, Fox River Trail crossing, and parking lot configuration will be reconfigured and resurfaced, bathroom facilities and existing shelter will be replaced.



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Hughes Creek Golf Course (Elburn)

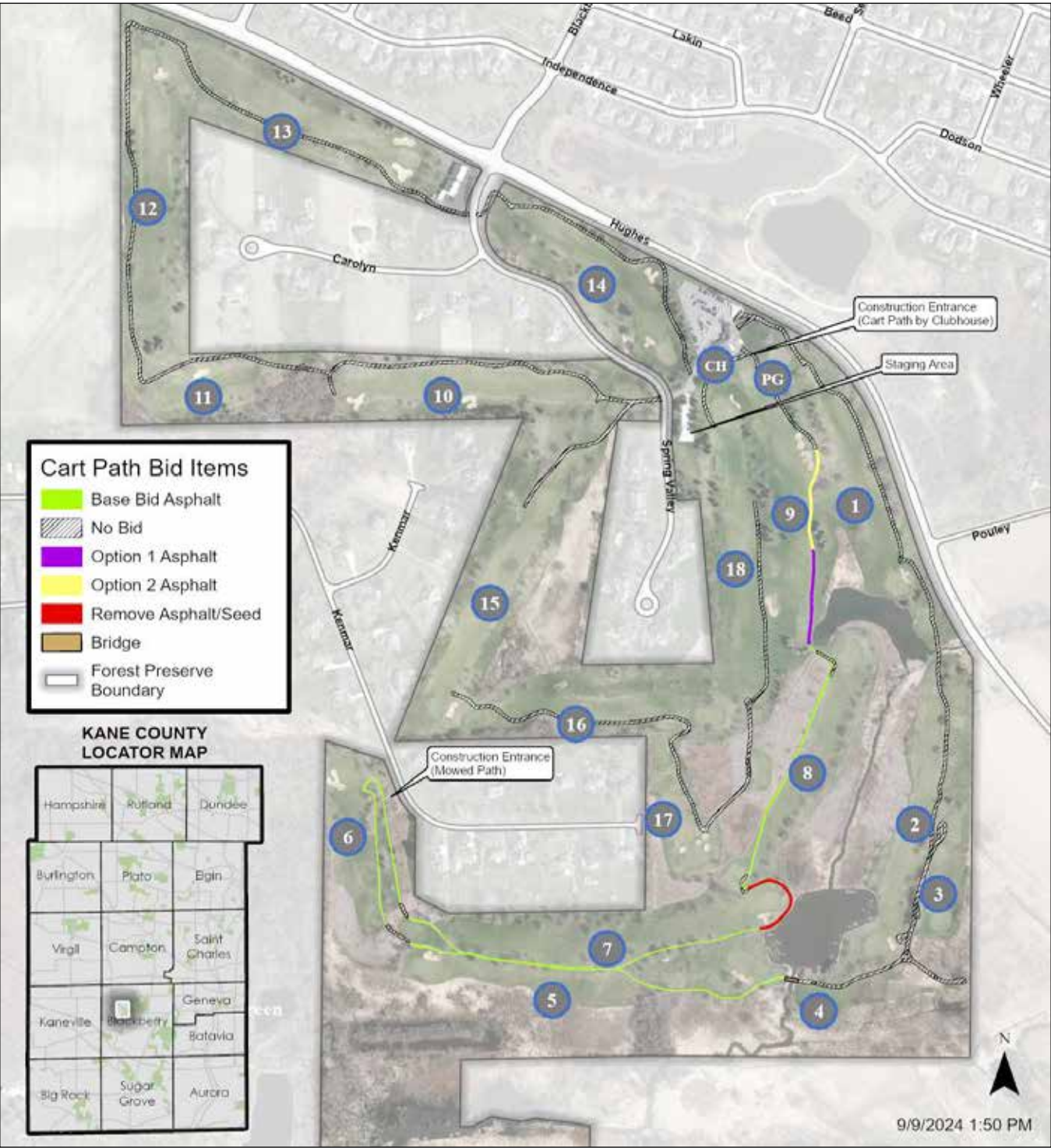
Trail Resurfacing & Maintenance-Level Repair

IMPROVEMENT	PERCENTAGE	ESTIMATED COST
Phase 2 - Trail Resurfacing (2026)	23.08%	\$150,000
TOTAL COST		\$150,000
Fiscal Year: 2026		Funding Source: Capital

The Golf Club is over 30 years old and the asphalt trails are in poor condition. Phase 1 trial resurfacing was bid in fall of 2024 and will be completed in spring of 2025. Phase 2 will complete the project by resurfacing the remaining asphalt trails. An overly of the existing trails, will utilize the existing base and provide a smooth finished surface for golf carts and patrons. Those areas of trail that have experienced base failure will need to have a full depth replacement.



Hughes Creek Golf Course (Elburn)



Jon J. Duerr Forest Preserve (South Elgin)

Erosion Repair & Shoreline Stabilization

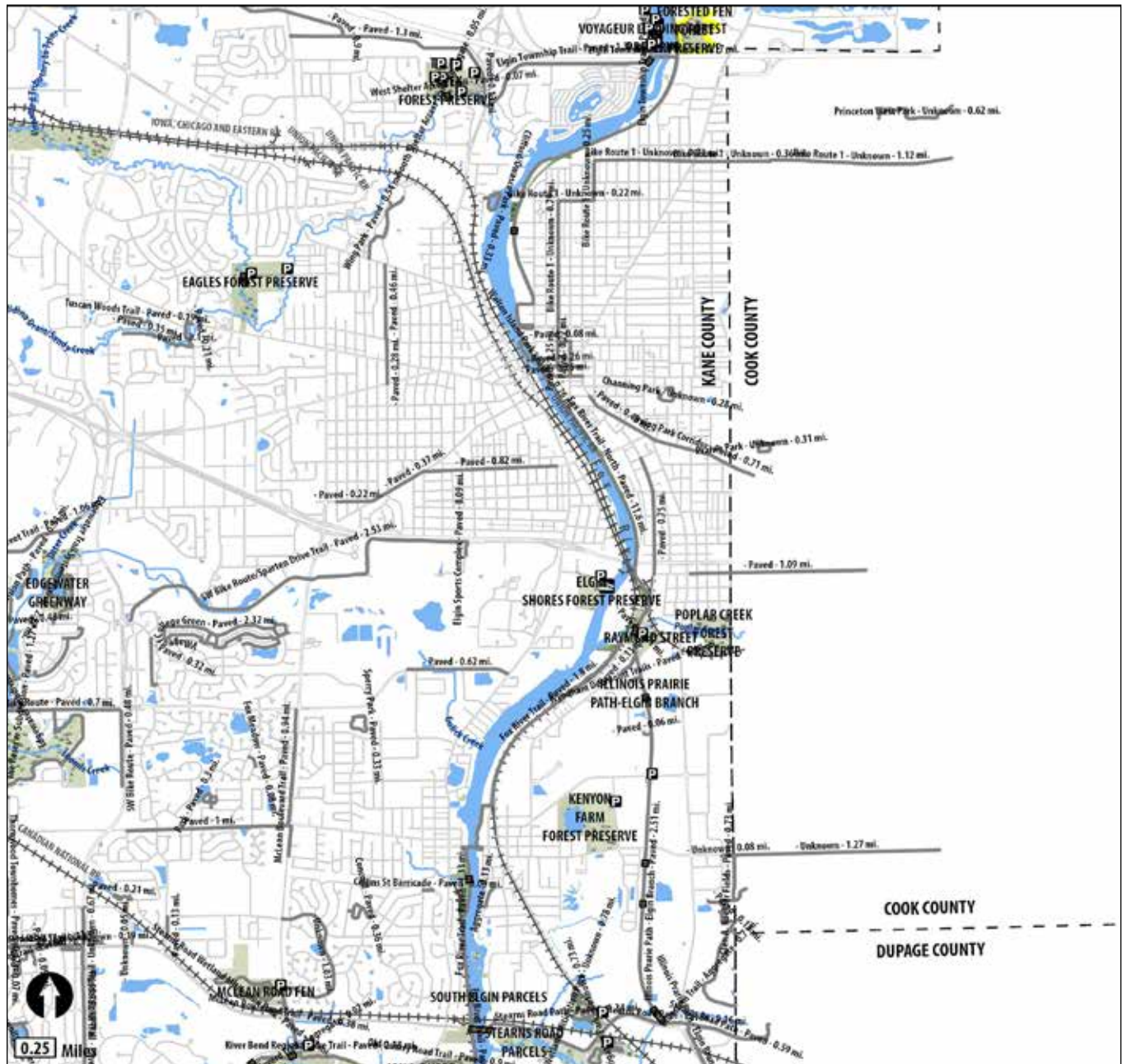
IMPROVEMENT	PERCENTAGE	ESTIMATED COST
Phase 1 (2026)	21.22%	\$274,300
Phase 2 (2027)	51.90%	\$670,835
Phase 3 (2028)	26.88%	\$347,396
TOTAL COST		\$1,292,531
Fiscal Year: 2026 - 2028		Funding Source: Capital/Grant

The Fox River Trail provides transportation and recreation options for the hikers and bicyclists in Kane County every year. To provide this service for the public, the District has on-going repair and maintenance activities throughout the trail system. One of the heavily used sections of trail between South Elgin and Jon J. Duerr Forest Preserve was paved nearly 20 years ago and is in need of repair.

A qualified engineering firm was hired to evaluate the trail and provide solutions for the developing problems. Construction has been broken down into 3 phases to address deterioration, erosion, drainage issues, and future hazard concerns, as well as established anticipated costs. Phase 1 concentrates on drainage improvements and modifications to be completed in FY 2025/26. Phase 2 will be part of FY 2026/27 and focuses on erosion, shoreline stabilization, and retaining wall structures. Phase 3 is scheduled to be a complete pulverization of existing asphalt pavement and re-surfacing in FY 2027/28.



Jon J. Duerr Forest Preserve (South Elgin)



LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve (St. Charles)

Barn Stabilization & Nature Play Space

IMPROVEMENT	PERCENTAGE	ESTIMATED COST
Barn Stabilization (2026)	7.27%	\$30,000
Creek Bend Tuck-pointing & Window (2028)	1.82%	\$10,000
Nature Play Area (2026) (Foundation Project)	18.18%	\$100,000
Barn Rehabilitation for Reuse (Future)	72.73%	\$400,000
TOTAL COST		\$540,000
Fiscal Year: 2026 - Future		Funding Source: Capital/Grant/ADA

The Dairy Barn in LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve was found to be in deteriorating condition. The wood siding, floors and roof showed varying levels of wear, with significant water damage identified at the juncture between the barn and the silo shaft. Immediate repairs are recommended to prevent further degradation. In 2024, the District was awarded a partial grant from the Grand Victoria Riverboat Foundation to install an outdoor Nature Play Area, west of the Durant House Museum, not far from Creek Bend Nature Center.



This map of LeRoy Oakes Park illustrates a network of trails and key facilities. The park is situated near the intersection of Highway 70 and Highway 18. Key landmarks include the LeRoy Oakes Dairy Barn, Horse Barn, and Silo, as well as the Durant Peterson House and Pioneer Sholes School. Three shelters are marked: Shelter 1, Shelter 2, and Shelter 3. The map also shows the Creek Bend Garage and Nature Center. Various parking areas are indicated with 'P' symbols. The map includes a scale bar for 0.25 miles and a north arrow. Numerous roads and trails are labeled, including LeRoy Oakes Trail, LeRoy Oakes Loop, and LeRoy Oakes Path. The map also shows the LeRoy Oakes Trail, LeRoy Oakes Loop, and LeRoy Oakes Path. The map includes a scale bar for 0.25 miles and a north arrow.

Mill Creek Greenway Forest Preserve (Elburn)

Brundidge Barn Stabilization & Safeguarding

IMPROVEMENT	PERCENTAGE	ESTIMATED COST
Brundidge Barn Stabilization (2026)	100%	\$100,000
TOTAL COST		\$100,000
Fiscal Year: 2026		Funding Source: Capital/Grant

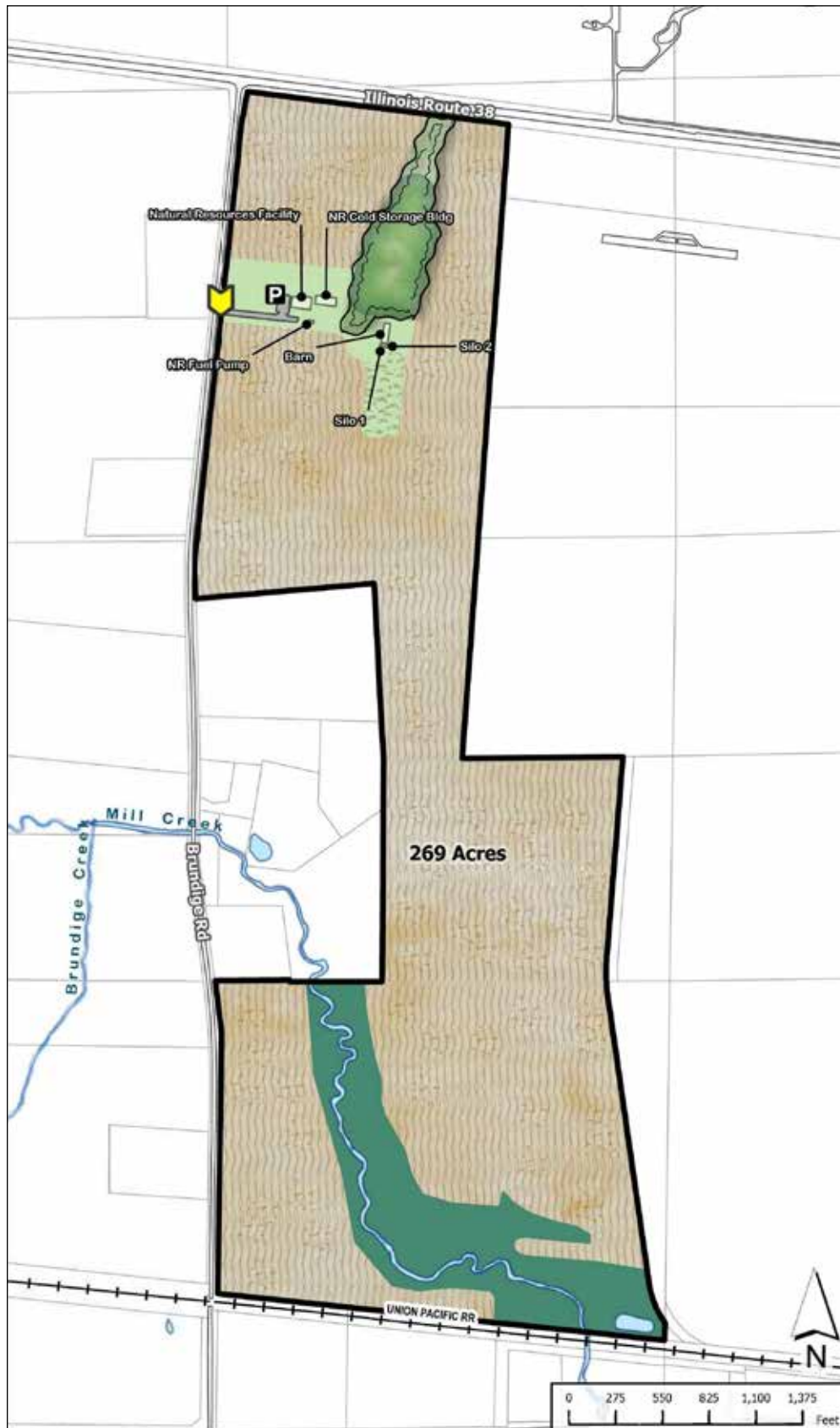
Located on the fringe of Kane County's urban and rural corridor, Mill Creek Greenway Forest Preserve (269 acres) houses the District's Natural Resource Management facilities. The 62.5-acre subject parcel, acquired in 2016, consists of farmland flanked by intermittent deciduous and evergreen trees.

On March 1, 2023, the District was awarded an Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Open Space Land Acquisition & Development (OSLAD) grant for \$600,000 to enhance this land by introducing resource-based recreation elements. The project includes an outdoor archery range (the first of the District's kind), interpretive nature trails, prairie restoration and a potential linkage to a future regional bike trail.

Improvements will need to be made to the barn and the surrounding area to ensure it is safe, prior to opening the new improvements. Costs include the demolition and landscape restoration of the abandoned concrete foundations, as well as minor improvements to the exterior of the barn.



Mill Creek Greenway Forest Preserve (Elburn)

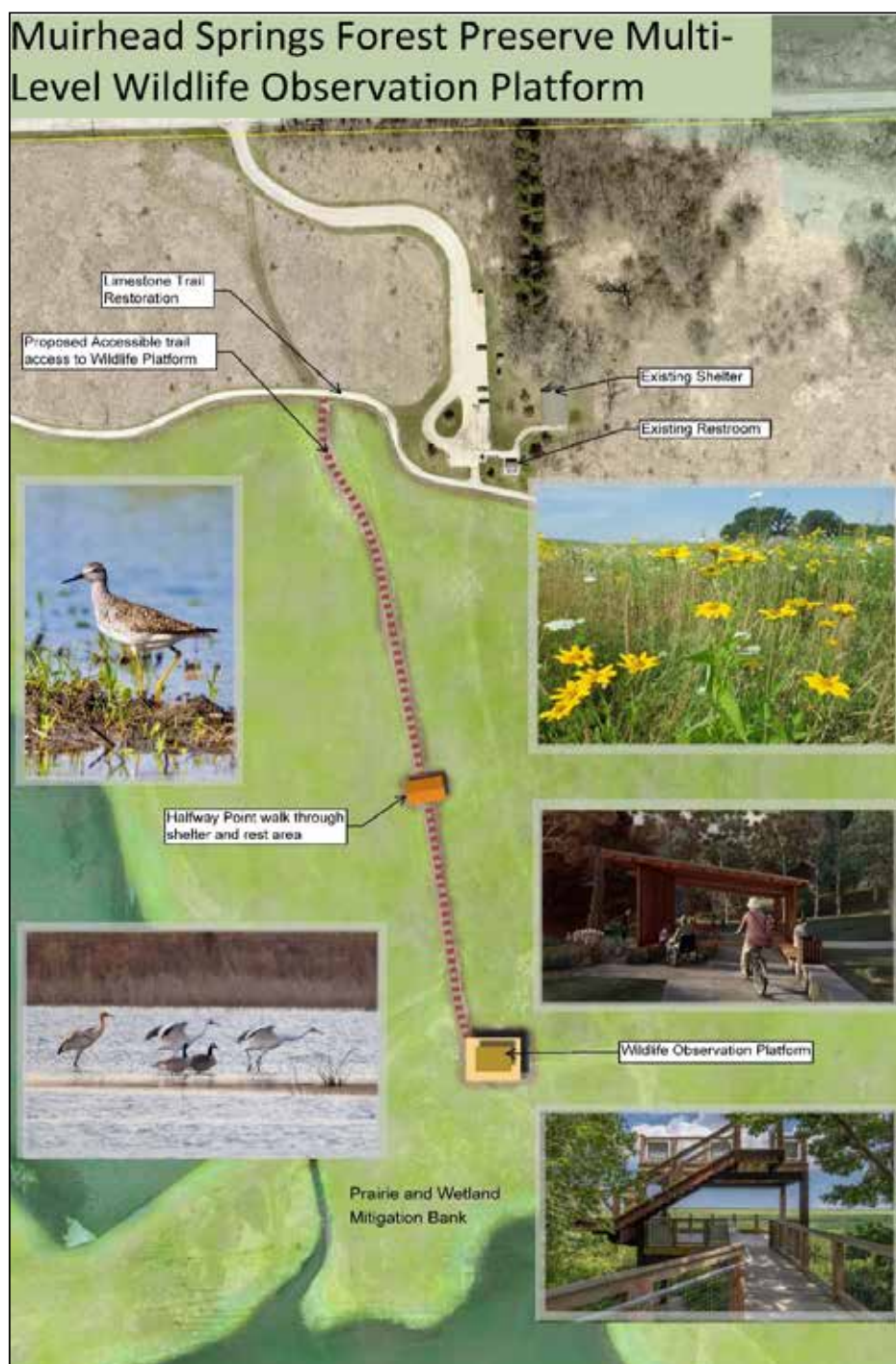


Muirhead Springs Forest Preserve (Hampshire)

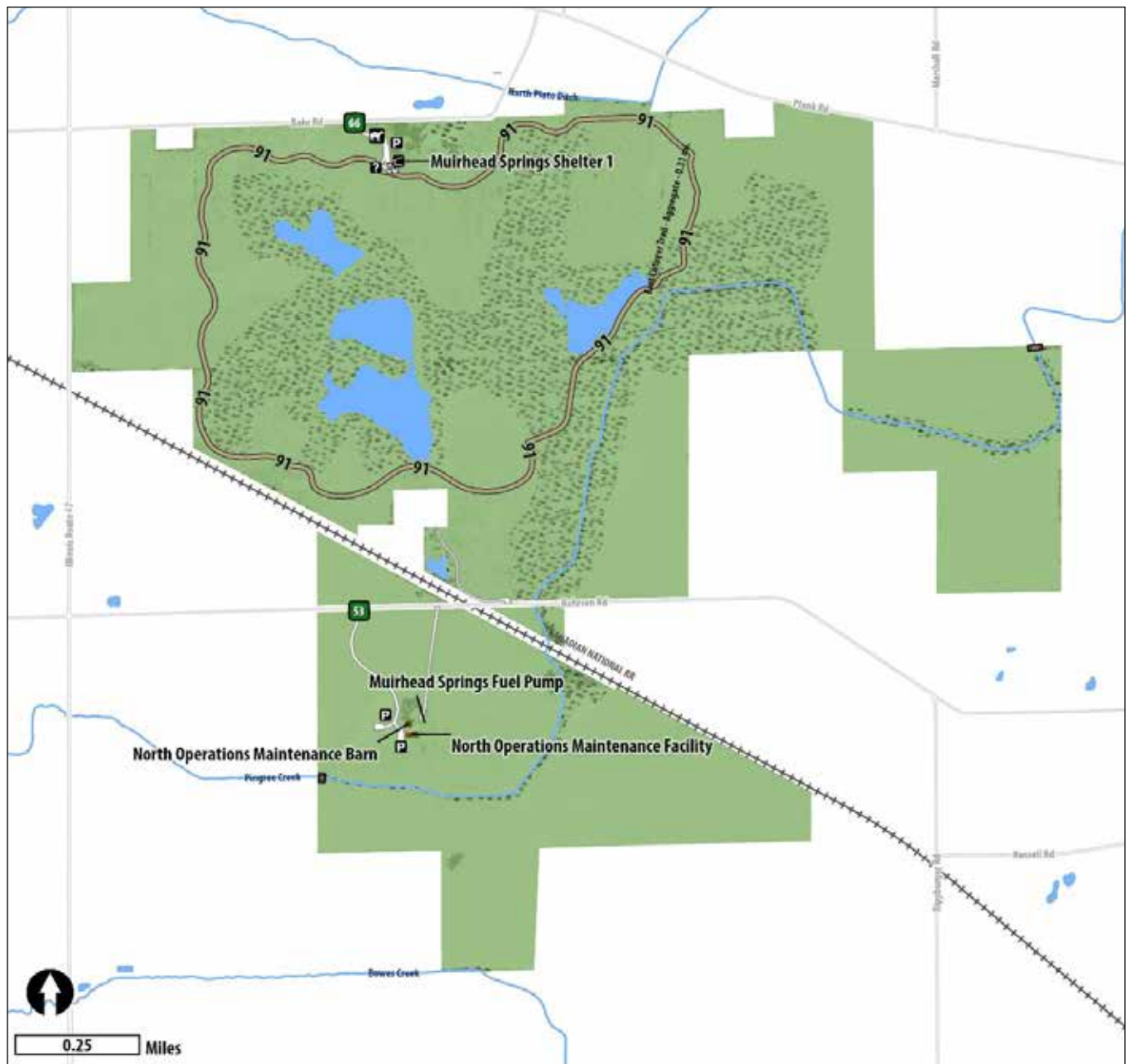
Observation Platform

IMPROVEMENT	PERCENTAGE	ESTIMATED COST
Observation Platform, Engineering & Construction	100%	\$1,250,000
TOTAL COST		\$1,250,000
Fiscal Year: 2026-Future		Funding Source: Capital/Grant

In 2022, the District began construction on its first wetland mitigation bank, restoring 260 acres of wetland and 6,000 linear feet of stream. The result has created a unique wetland and prairie habitat for a variety of species, including migrating shorebirds. In 2025, the District will seek grant assistance to create an ADA-accessible wildlife viewing platform. During the construction and five year maintenance of the wetland project, the limestone trails have taken significant abuse. In late 2029, once the establishment phase is complete, the District should seek grant assistance to restore the existing limestone trails, and explore a new parking and access entrance off of Rohrsen Road. As properties become available, a trail connection between Bowes Creek Woods Forest Preserve and Muirhead Springs Forest Preserve should be pursued.



Muirhead Springs Forest Preserve (Hampshire)



Raceway Woods Forest Preserve (Carpentersville)

Chicago Region Trees Initiative Grant Project

IMPROVEMENT	PERCENTAGE	ESTIMATED COST
Landscape Restoration (2026)	100%	\$100,000
TOTAL COST		\$100,000
Fiscal Year: 2026		Funding Source: Capital/Grant

In 2024, the Forest Preserve District partnered with the Morton Arboretum and the Chicago Region Trees Initiative on a Landscape Scale Restoration Grant application. This grant is administered by the US Forest Service. The project submitted was entitled “Public and Private Action to Implement the Oak Ecosystem Recovery Plan in Under-Served Communities” and engaged multiple partners around the Chicagoland area to help improve the region’s urban forests. In October of 2024, the District was informed that this application was successful and the grant was funded.

The District’s proposal involves the hiring of contractors to work within Raceway Woods in Carpentersville. Raceway Woods is 161 acres and contains remnant oak woodlands along with a mountain bike park and multiple hiking trails. The work conducted during this project will clear invasive species from across 35 acres of remnant oak-hickory woodlands.

The District’s portion of this grant was for a total of \$100,000 including \$50,000 of match and \$50,000 of reimbursable grant funding.



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Rutland Forest Preserve (Hampshire)

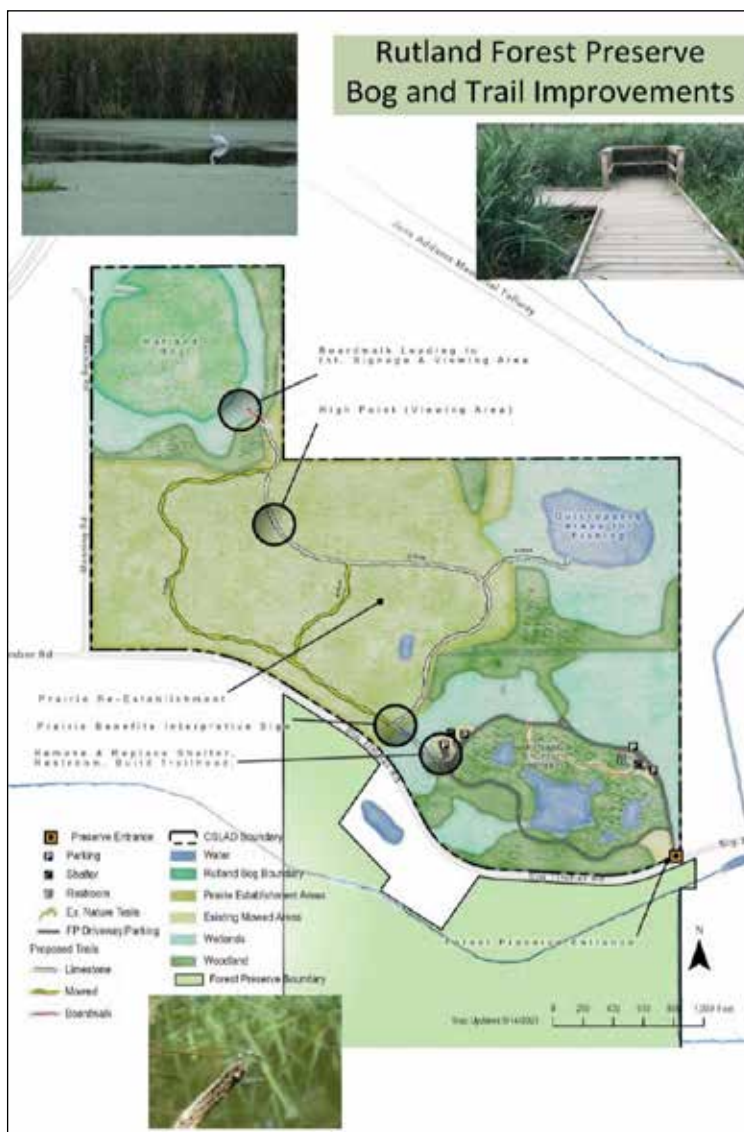
Rutland Bog View & Trail Development

IMPROVEMENT	PERCENTAGE	ESTIMATED COST
Limestone Trail (2027 - 2028)	16.56%	\$130,000
Shelter Replacement (2) (2027 - 2028)	25.48%	\$200,000
Restroom (2) (2027 - 2028)	20.38%	\$160,000
Fishing Station/Signage (2027 - 2028)	1.27%	\$10,000
Asphalt Repairs (2027 - 2028)	19.11%	\$150,000
Eakin Creek Crossing (2026)	17.20%	\$135,000
TOTAL COST		\$785,000
Fiscal Year: 2026 - 2028		Funding Source: Capital/Grant

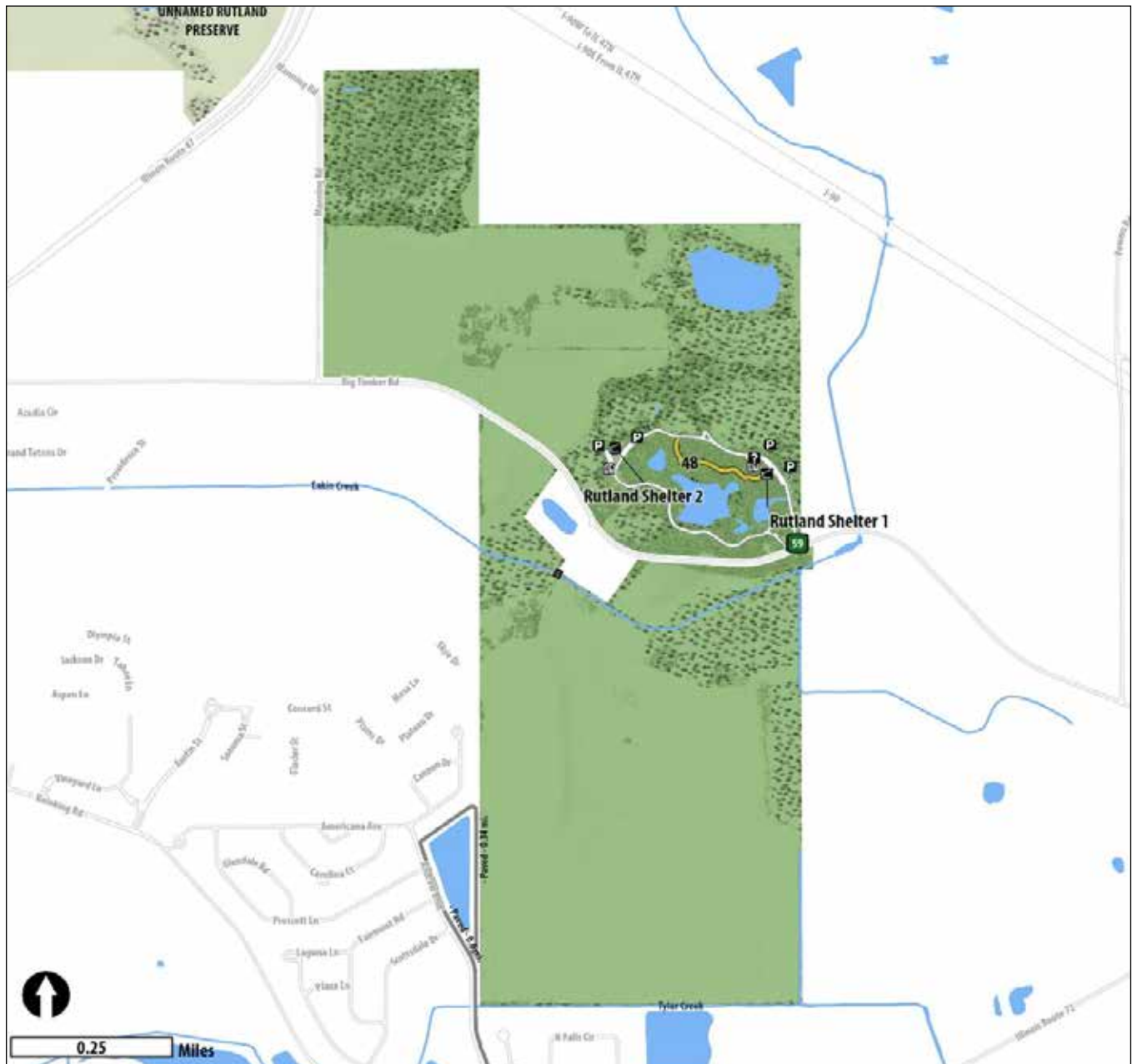
Rutland Forest Preserve is a total of 463 acres located in the north central section of Kane County. It is easily accessible from Interstate 90 as well as the rapidly growing nearby communities of Elgin, Huntley and Hampshire. A boardwalk and overlook will allow visitors the opportunity to view the bog while protecting and preserving its delicate ecosystem. Interpretative signage will be provided along the trail and near the bog, explaining the importance of the native landscape.

The previously developed section of Rutland Preserve offers two shelters, parking and restrooms. To accommodate the expected future demand, a portion of this project will include funds to improve the existing shelter and restroom located near the trail head, as well as improvements to parking and vehicular access.

South of the developed portion of Rutland Forest Preserve is an active farm owned by the District. The current Eakin Creek crossing is failing, and needs to be replaced. The District plans to replace the crossing in 2026. The new crossing will continue to provide access for the farmer, and when this section of Rutland Forest Preserve is restored, will also provide access for the public and maintenance crews, south of the creek.



Rutland Forest Preserve (Hampshire)



Rutland North Forest Preserve (Huntley)

Road Access & Prairie Conversion

IMPROVEMENT	PERCENTAGE	ESTIMATED COST
Agricultural Restoration of 160 Acres (2026)	36.2%	\$85,000
Parking Engineering & Construction (2026 - 2027)	63.8%	\$150,000
TOTAL COST		\$235,000
Fiscal Year: 2026 - 2027		Funding Source: Capital/ADA/Grant

In 2023, the District received a \$1,085,000 grant from the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation for the acquisition and restoration of the Donahue Farm property in Huntley. The property sits at almost 300 acres and contains a large wetland/woodland complex. Among the highlights of the preserve are a remnant sedge meadow and rolling hills covered in century-old oaks. As a condition of the acquisition grant, the site needs to be restored, including the retirement of the 160 acres of conventional agriculture. This restoration work is set to commence in 2025.

Funds received from the grant will cover approximately \$500/acre for native seed purchase in order to help conduct this restoration of the 160 acres of farmland. In order to plant a diverse and productive tallgrass prairie mix, the District typically plants at about \$2,000/acre. In order to achieve that goal, the grant funds will be supplemented by District-purchased seed as well as staff- and volunteer-harvested seed.

Additionally access to the site from Illinois Route 47 must be established. Additional grants should be sought to assist in funding future developments with amenities such as trails, parking, fishing, picnic shelter and environmental education opportunities.



Rutland North Forest Preserve (Huntley)



Sauer Family/Prairie Kame Forest Preserve (Sugar Grove)

Grasshopper Sparrow Project

IMPROVEMENT	PERCENTAGE	ESTIMATED COST
Restore 183 Acres of Agriculture (2027)	41.67%	\$125,000
Grasshopper Sparrow Restoration (2028)	58.33%	\$175,000
TOTAL COST		\$300,000
Fiscal Year: 2027 - 2028		Funding Source: Capital/ADA/OSLAD

The core of Sauer Family – Prairie Kame Forest Preserve is a large gravel prairie kame. At about 40 feet tall and comprising about an area of about an acre, the kame rises high above the surrounding landscape. Once a part of the Kaneville esker, much of the remnants of the sub-glacial stream were mined over time due to their valuable gravel component. This kame however, remains untouched by time and contains a diverse assemblage of dry prairie species, including the locally rare, Short Green Milkweed.

Over time, the District has created a buffer of restored prairies and wetlands on site and there are now about 160 acres of restoration present. This area now contains over 120 species of plants, which in turn support the 135 bird species documented from the area. Notable species documented from the preserve include several grassland nesting species such as Henslow’s Sparrows, Grasshopper Sparrows, and Eastern Meadowlarks. These species rely on large tracts of grassland for habitat, a commodity that is increasingly rare, especially in the western third of Kane County.

This project seeks to convert 185 acres of cropland to additional restored grasslands. This will more than double the size of the natural area present on site. Plantings will also be catered to increasing plant diversity and structure to accommodate increased habitat for a number of grassland nesting birds. It is anticipated that prairie seed costs will remain at about \$1,500-2,000 per acre going forward, resulting in a grand total for the project at \$300,000.



Sauer Family/Prairie Kame Forest Preserve (Sugar Grove)



Schweitzer Woods Forest Preserve (West Dundee)

Pothole Marsh & Woods Restoration

IMPROVEMENT	PERCENTAGE	ESTIMATED COST
Invasive Brush Removal (2028)	75.0%	\$150,000
Herbaceous Weed Control (2028)	12.5%	\$25,000
Enrichment Seed (2028)	12.5%	\$20,000
TOTAL COST		\$200,000
Fiscal Year: 2028		Funding Source: Capital/Grant

While all of the 156 acres at Schweitzer Woods Forest Preserve are under some stage of ecological restoration, the approximate 56 acres that make up the woods on the southwest portion of the site have a leg up on the rest of the preserve. Emily Schweitzer and her family valued the beautiful trees and scattered wetlands in this area, for their intrinsic value.

Because of that protection, wood ducks still fly over the Kane County's only remaining population of Dwarf bur reed. Multiple species of oaks persist amongst the Shagbark hickories.

Of course, in the face of invasive species and fire suppression, the woods still need an intervention to maintain what was preserved. This project would remove invasive woody brush from the woods, knock back the weedy Reed canary grass and Phragmites from the wetlands, and then reseed both of these habitats with diverse, native seed mixes. The entire project is anticipated to cost approximately \$200,000.

Schweitzer Woods Forest Preserve (West Dundee)



Stearns Road (South Elgin)

Natural Area Restoration

IMPROVEMENT	PERCENTAGE	ESTIMATED COST
Site Restoration (2026)	34.94%	\$200,000
Parking Lots, ADA & Roadway Improvements (2026)	65.06%	\$372,275
TOTAL COST		\$572,275
Fiscal Year: 2026		Funding Source: Capital/ADA/OSLAD

In December 2024, the Kane County Department of Transportation (KDOT) transferred title of the Stearns Road parcels to the District. While the County made significant improvements to the parcels, including public amenities and restoration work, these improvements have suffered due to their age. In order to re-open these areas to the public, a variety of activities are necessary and being funded by KDOT.

When evaluating only the natural areas, the parcel south of Stearns Road along the Brewster Creek corridor stands alone in a general state of disrepair. The parcel is dominated by invasive species, primarily black alder, common reed, and cut-leaved teasel. In order to begin the restoration process throughout that parcel, funds are being requested to hire contractors to clear the invasive trees and brush followed by a year of woody re-sprout control. Funds will also be used to hire contractors to treat both common reed and teasel across the site.

Many of the public amenities were already installed when the properties were transferred to the District. Funds will be used to re-stripe parking lots, ADA designated areas, and roadways, as well as correct any deficiencies in asphalt paved surfaces. Interior trails will be realigned to maximize access to the natural areas within the parcels and resurfaced to ensure safe, multipurpose public use. Preserve identification signs will be constructed and installed at the entrance of each of the 3 accesses, along with standard boundary and traffic signage. Funds will also cover any erosion control, turf restoration, and public safety measures needed.

Stearns Road (South Elgin)

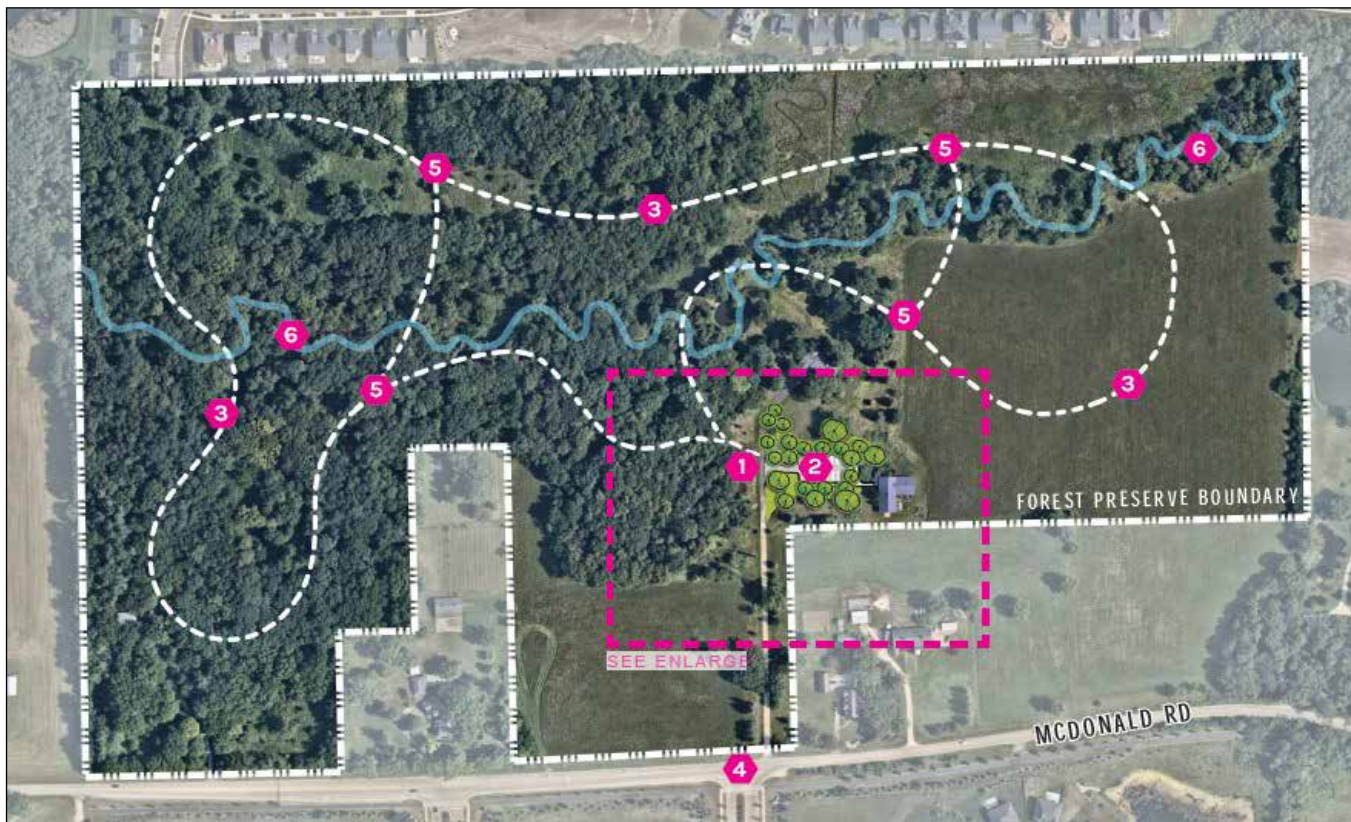


Stony Creek Forest Preserve (Plato Township)

Project

IMPROVEMENT	PERCENTAGE	ESTIMATED COST
Facilities Remodel (2027 - 2028)	40.00%	\$100,000
Parking (2027 - 2028)	60.00%	\$150,000
TOTAL COST		\$250,000
Fiscal Year: 2027 - 2028		Funding Source: Capital/Grant

In 2023 the District acquired additional land adjacent to Stony Creek Forest Preserve. The acquired property includes a residence and climate controlled barn. Both structures should be renovated and utilized by the District. Public parking should be provided as well as trail connections.



Stony Creek Forest Preserve (Plato Township)





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