



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 30, 2026

TO: Forest Preserve District Planning & Utilization Committee

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

SUBJECT: Presentation and Approval of a Bid for the Big Rock Forest Preserve Restroom Replacement

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Committee with information to consider the approval of a bid to replace a waterless vault restroom located within Big Rock Forest Preserve.

BACKGROUND:

The District currently maintains 75 restroom facilities across our holdings. Different styles of restrooms have been utilized throughout our history. Currently three different types of restrooms exist in over 40 Forest Preserves. In order of age, "Romtec" branded prefabricated plastic units, custom-built block vault toilets, and our current precast concrete units can be found throughout the preserves. The District is currently using the CXT (LB Foster Company) precast concrete units for their mix of aesthetics, durability, and low long-term cost of maintenance.

Big Rock Forest Preserve has 5 restroom facilities; 3 located within the Big Rock Campground and 2 located in the southern access. The southern facility located nearest to Siegler Lake is a single-vault plastic Romtec unit that was installed in 2003. Staff are recommending the replacement of this with a double-vault CXT unit to accommodate the increase in popularity of this area for fishing, hiking, biking, and horseback riding. Additionally, in 2025, the District completed a RTP (Recreation Trails Program) grant-funded trail extension whose trailhead aligns with this restroom facility.

This project was advertised using the District's online bidding platform with three responding bidders. The qualified lowest bid was Midwest Excavators of Wasco, IL with a cost of \$138,992.00. Additionally, staff is requesting a 5% contingency to cover any unforeseen costs during construction, for a project total not to exceed \$145,941.60

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Funding for this project was approved in FY 26 budget under account 03-21-24-7050, Operations Land Area Development, project 11012 totaling \$80,000. In addition to the budgeted funds, sufficient savings are available within the Construction and Development Fund from other completed projects to cover the additional costs of \$65,941.60.

Current savings available:

Project Name	Project #	Savings Available
Breon House Remediation and Stabilization	11015	\$ 38,323.00
Muirhead Springs FP Overlook Design & Eng	31021	\$ 20,622.63
Hughes Creek GC Improvements	31018	\$ 6,995.97
		\$ 65,941.60

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff is recommending to the Committee the approval for the bid for the Big Rock Forest Preserve Restroom Replacement with Midwest Excavators of Wasco, Illinois for a total project cost not to exceed \$145,941.60.

ATTACHMENTS:

Bid Abstract

County Locator Map

Project Locator Map