



**Lake County
Forest Preserves**

General Offices
1899 West Winchester Road
Libertyville, Illinois 60048
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www.LCFPD.org

DATE: August 4, 2025

MEMO TO: Paul Frank, Chair
Planning Committee

Agenda Item # 10.4

FROM: Kevin Kleinjan
Director of Planning

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract to Apex Landscaping, Inc. for Planting at Lakewood Forest Preserve, in the Contract Price of \$159,442.90.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS SUPPORTED: Public Access and Connections; Conservation.

FINANCIAL DATA: This work was included in the adopted FY2025 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) as part of the following project: Lakewood – Tree Planting (Project 61010). The total amount available in the budget is \$314,620.00. The actual amount of \$159,442.90 will be charged to 20104100-803200-61010 and will be funded by the LCDOT funds described below.

BACKGROUND: As part of the Lake County Division of Transportation’s (LCDOT) Fairfield Road and Route 176 intersection improvement project, LCDOT provided funding to the District in the amount of \$500,000.00 for mitigation of the tree and visual impacts caused by the project at Lakewood Forest Preserve. Portions of the original \$500,000.00 funded prior installations of trees and other plant material at Lakewood. This contract will install additional plant material within areas of the Lakewood Phase I Master Plan that are scheduled for completion in 2025.

The project was advertised for bid on June 3, 2025, and six (6) bids were received and opened on June 26, 2025. The bid amounts are:

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>BID AMOUNT</u>
Apex Landscaping, Inc.	\$159,442.90
Countryside Industries, Inc.	\$262,900.00
Bluestem Ecological Services	\$269,957.40
Mark 1 Landscape, Inc.	\$384,041.50
J.F.V. Landscaping Service Inc.	\$393,376.00
V3 Construction Group, Ltd.	\$475,246.00

Staff recommends award of the contract to the lowest responsible bidder, Apex Landscaping, Inc., in the amount of \$159,442.90.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: Director of Finance, Purchasing Manager, Manager of Board Operations, and Corporate Counsel.

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF LAKE)

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
REGULAR AUGUST MEETING
AUGUST 13, 2025**

MADAM PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

Your **PLANNING COMMITTEE** presents herewith “A Resolution Awarding a Contract to Apex Landscaping, Inc. for Planting at Lakewood Forest Preserve” and requests its approval.

PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Date: August 4, 2025 Roll Call Vote: Ayes: _____ Nays: _____
 Voice Vote Majority Ayes; Nays: 0

**LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**A RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT TO APEX LANDSCAPING, INC.
FOR PLANTING AT LAKEWOOD FOREST PRESERVE**

WHEREAS, the Lake County Forest Preserve District (the “District”) has advertised in The Lake County News Sun for sealed bids for planting at several locations within Lakewood Forest Preserve (the “Work”); and

WHEREAS, all sealed bids were received and opened by the District at its General Offices, 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois on June 26, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. and;

WHEREAS, bids were received in the following amounts from the following bidders;

	<u>TOTAL BID</u>
Apex Landscaping, Inc.	\$159,442.90
Countryside Industries, Inc.	\$262,900.00
Bluestem Ecological Services	\$269,957.40
Mark 1 Landscape, Inc.	\$384,041.50
JFV Landscaping Service, Inc.	\$393,376.00
V3 Construction Group, LTD.	\$475,246.00

and;

WHEREAS, the District’s staff, the Purchasing Manager, the Director of Planning, and the Planning Committee, have reviewed the bids and recommend that the Board of Commissioners find Apex Landscaping, Inc. to be the lowest responsible bidder and award a contract for the Work to Apex Landscaping, Inc. (the “Contract”); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners hereby finds that Apex Landscaping, Inc. is the lowest responsible bidder for the Work;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Lake County Forest Preserve District, Lake County, Illinois, **THAT**:

Section 1: Recitals. The recitals set forth above are incorporated as a part of this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2: Award of Contract. The bid submitted by Apex Landscaping, Inc. in the amount of \$159,442.90 (the “Contract Price”) is hereby accepted, and a Contract for the Work is hereby awarded to Apex Landscaping, Inc.

Section 3: Execution of Contract. The Executive Director of the District is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Contract for the Work in the amount of the Contract Price.

Section 4: Payments. The Treasurer shall make payments under the Contract only pursuant to and in accordance with the Contract terms.

Section 5: Effective Date. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval in the manner provided by law.

PASSED this _____ day of _____, 2025

AYES:

NAYS:

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, 2025

Jessica Vealitzek, President
Lake County Forest Preserve District

ATTEST:

Julie Gragnani, Secretary
Lake County Forest Preserve District

Exhibit No. _____