



Lake County  
Forest Preserves

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**DATE:** February 2, 2026  
**MEMO TO:** Sara Knizhnik, Chair  
Operations Committee  
**FROM:** Daniel E. Stearns  
Director of Facilities

**Agenda Item #** 11.3

**RECOMMENDATION:** Recommend approval of a Resolution Pre-Authorizing the Purchase of Certain Vehicles pursuant to Section 6.0(J) of the District Purchasing Policy.

**STRATEGIC DIRECTION SUPPORTED:** Organizational Sustainability.

**FINANCIAL DATA:** The attached Resolution would pre-authorize the purchase of up to 11 vehicles totaling not more than \$780,000.00. Costs for replacement of these vehicles were included in the FY 2026 Annual Budget in the total amount of \$780,000.00. The actual costs, not-to-exceed \$780,000.00, will be charged to the Vehicle Replacement fund, account 90104100-804000.

**BACKGROUND:** Under Section 6.0(J) of the District's Purchasing Policy, the Board of Commissioners may pre-authorize certain vehicle purchases and delegate to the Executive Director, a Department Director, or the Purchasing Manager authority to solicit and receive competitive bids for such vehicles and award contracts to the lowest responsible bidders accordingly.

In accordance with the District's vehicle replacement guidelines, staff have determined previously that the vehicles listed in Exhibit A to the attached Resolution (under the "Justification" column) are due to be replaced this fiscal year. The Resolution would authorize the Executive Director to solicit competitive bids for the listed vehicles (under the "Type of Vehicle to be Acquired" column in Exhibit A) and thereafter award contract(s) to the lowest responsible bidder(s), provided that the bid prices do not exceed the budgeted costs for each such vehicle.

**REVIEW BY OTHERS:** Chief Operations Officer, Director of Finance, Manager of Board Operations and Corporate Counsel.

STATE OF ILLINOIS     )  
                                  ) SS  
COUNTY OF LAKE     )

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT  
REGULAR FEBRUARY MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2026**

**MADAM PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:**

Your **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** presents herewith “A Resolution Pre-Authorizing the Purchase of Vehicles” and request its approval.

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:**

Date: 2/2/2026     Roll Call Vote: Ayes: \_\_\_ Nays: \_\_\_  
 Voice Vote Majority Ayes; Nays: 0

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

**A RESOLUTION PRE-AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF VEHICLES**

**WHEREAS**, the Lake County Forest Preserve District (the "District") maintains a fleet of vehicles necessary to support operations, maintenance, public safety, and stewardship of District lands; and

**WHEREAS**, the District periodically replaces or adds vehicles to ensure safe, reliable, and efficient operations; and

**WHEREAS**, under Section 6.0(J) of the District's Purchasing Policy, the Board of Commissioners ("Board") may pre-authorize certain vehicle purchases and delegate to the Executive Director, a Department Director, or the Purchasing Manager authority to solicit and receive competitive bids for those vehicles and award contracts to the lowest responsible bidders accordingly; and

**WHEREAS**, the District's staff, the Director of Facilities, the Purchasing Manager, and the Operations Committee have recommended that the Board pre-authorize the purchase of the vehicles listed in Exhibit A attached hereto under the column titled "Type of Vehicle to be Acquired" (collectively, the "Vehicles"), subject to the terms and conditions of this Resolution;

**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: Pre-Authorization of Vehicle Purchases.** Pursuant to Section 6.0(J) of the District's Purchasing Policy, the Board hereby pre-authorizes the purchase of the Vehicles, subject to the following terms and conditions:

- (a) The Executive Director of the District is authorized to solicit competitive bids for the Vehicles (or their approved equivalents), individually or in combination;
- (b) The Executive Director shall receive and review all responsive bids and determine the lowest responsible bidder for the purchase of each Vehicle, consistent with the District's Purchasing Policy; and
- (c) The Executive Director is authorized to award contracts for the purchase of Vehicle(s) (each a "Contract") to the lowest responsible bidder(s) (each a "Successful Bidder"), provided that the contract price for each such Vehicle (the "Contract Price") does not exceed the associated "Estimated Cost" identified in Exhibit A hereto.

**Section 3: Execution of Contracts.** The Executive Director is hereby authorized to execute a Contract with each Successful Bidder for the purchase of the relevant Vehicle(s) in amount of the associated Contract Price.

**Section 4: Term of Pre-Authorizations.** The Vehicle purchase pre-authorizations set forth in this Resolution shall be in effect until December 31, 2026.

**Section 5: Payments.** The Treasurer shall make payments under the Contracts only pursuant to and in accordance with the Contract terms.

**Section 6: 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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

AYES:

NAYS:

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

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Jessica Vealitzek, President  
Lake County Forest Preserve District

ATTEST:

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Julie Gragnani, Secretary  
Lake County Forest Preserve District

Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_\_

**EXHIBIT A**

<b>Type of Vehicle to be Acquired (or equivalent)</b>	<b>Justification</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>	<b>Budget Source</b>	<b>Intended Use</b>	<b>Anticipated Lifecycle</b>
Two (2) 2026 Toyota Sienna hybrid minivans	Planned replacement of Unit 98 (2011 Toyota Sienna) & Unit 140 (2014 Dodge Grand Caravan)	\$112,000.00 (\$56,000.00 each)	Vehicle Replacement Fund 90104100-804000	Education Department	10 years or 120,000 miles
Two (2) 2026 Ford F350 Pickup with plow and spreader	Planned replacement of Unit 139 (2014 Chevrolet K3500 Dumptruck) & Unit 152 (2016 Chevrolet K3500 Dumptruck)	\$160,000.00 (\$80,000.00 each)	Vehicle Replacement Fund 90104100-804000	Golf & Grounds Maintenance operations	10 years
One (1) 2026 Ford Police Interceptor Hybrid SUV with administrative package	Planned replacement of Unit 16 (2021 Ford Police Interceptor)	\$60,000.00	Vehicle Replacement Fund 90104100-804000	Public Safety Department	125,000 miles
One (1) 2026 Ford Police Interceptor Hybrid SUV with police package	Planned replacement of Unit 17 (2021 Ford Police Interceptor)	\$66,550.00	Vehicle Replacement Fund 90104100-804000	Public Safety Department	125,000 miles
One (1) 2026 Chevrolet Police Tahoe SUV	Planned replacement of Unit 18 (2021 Ford Police Interceptor)	\$89,450.00	Vehicle Replacement Fund 90104100-804000	Public Safety Department	125,000 miles
One (1) 2026 Ford Explorer Hybrid SUV	Planned replacement of Unit 149 (2015 Ford Explorer)	\$62,000.00	Vehicle Replacement Fund 90104100-804000	Natural Resources Department	10 years or 120,000 miles

<b>Type of Vehicle to be Acquired (or equivalent)</b>	<b>Justification</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>	<b>Budget Source</b>	<b>Intended Use</b>	<b>Anticipated Lifecycle</b>
One (1) 2026 Ford E-Transit work van	Planned replacement of Unit 151 (2015 Chevy C2500 Pickup)	\$68,000.00	Vehicle Replacement Fund 90104100-804000	Facilities Department	10 years
One (1) Ford F350 Pickup	Planned replacement of Unit 120 (2012 Chevrolet K3500 Pickup)	\$80,000.00	Vehicle Replacement Fund 90104100-804000	Facilities Department	10 years
One (1) Ford F350 Pickup with Plow, Toolbox and Fire Pump	Planned replacement of Unit 158 (2015 Chevrolet K3500 Crew Cab Pickup)	\$82,000.00	Vehicle Replacement Fund 90104100-804000	Natural Resources Department	10 years