



LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES  
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Preservation, Restoration, Education and Recreation

**DATE:** August 4, 2016  
**MEMO TO:** S. Michael Rummel, Chair  
Finance and Administrative Committee  
**FROM:** James L. Anderson  
Director of Natural Resources

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve reduction of the existing Farm License Agreement at Ray Lake Forest Preserve.

**STRATEGIC DIRECTION SUPPORTED:** Conservation

**BACKGROUND:** The farming program is conducted with local farmers to provide cost-effective, interim land use and management until the District is ready to convert farmland to other forest preserve purposes.

When the District’s Licensee attempted to plant crops in the proposed reduction area, it was noticed that another farmer, leasing land from the Fremont Elementary School District (lands to the south and east of the proposed reduction), had already planted this area. District law enforcement staff will investigate this encroachment. Staff recommends reduction to the Licensee’s Agreement since the Licensee did not plant this area. Staff also recommends permanent retirement of this portion of the Farm License for three reasons:

- 1. To avoid similar issues in the future;
- 2. The USDA Farm Service Agency stated that this area was too small to enroll into Federal farm programs;
- 3. Retirement of this area will help buffer Squaw Creek and adjacent wetlands.

**REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:** Committee approval is required in accordance with District Policy.

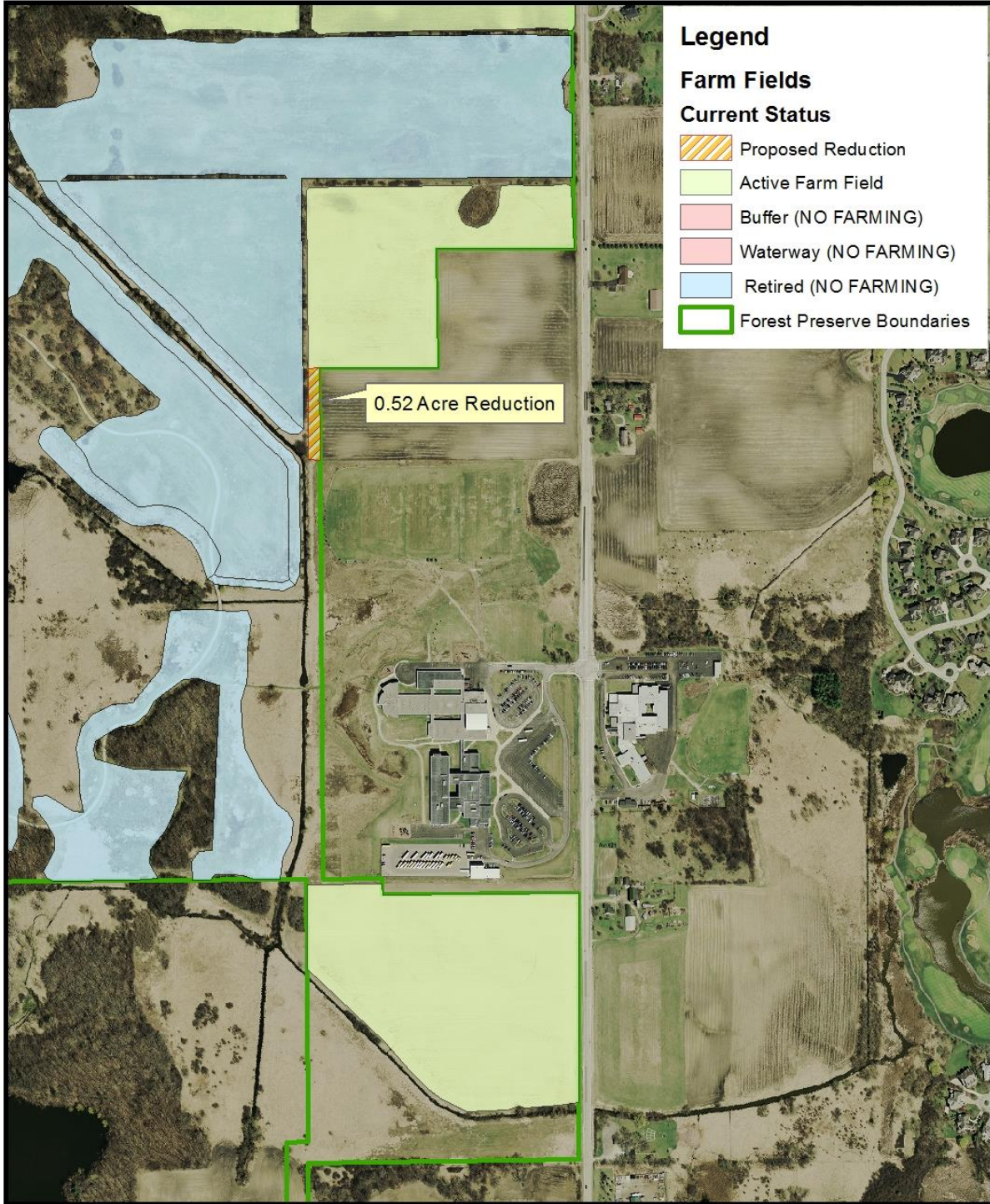
**REVIEW BY OTHERS:** Director of Finance, Chief Operations Officer, Executive Director

**FINANCIAL DATA:** Removal of 0.52 acres from the farm program will reduce annual revenue generated by the Ray Lake Farm License from \$7,943.48 (55.94 acres at \$142.00/acre) to \$7,869.64 (55.42 acres at \$142.00/acre); a loss of \$73.84 annually.

**PRESENTER:** James L. Anderson

**APPROVED:**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  Roll Call Vote: Ayes: \_\_\_\_ Nays: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Voice Vote Majority Ayes; Nays: \_\_\_\_\_



Lake County Forest Preserves; Farm Program  
Proposed Reduction to Ray Lake Farm License

