



DATE: March 6, 2025

MEMO TO: Sara Knizhnik, Chair
Operations Committee

FROM: Pati Vitt
Director of Natural Resources

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding Contracts for the Purchase of Trees and Shrubs for Multiple Preserves to (i) Possibility Place Nursery in the Contract Price of \$49,518.00; and (ii) Majestic Oaks Nursery in the Contract Price of \$30,536.00.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION SUPPORTED: Conservation

FINANCIAL DATA: District-wide Reforestation was approved as part of the adopted FY25 Budget in the amount of \$100,000.00. These proposed contracts total \$80,054.00, which will be charged to the District-wide Reforestation Account (11104100-803200-60008) in the amount of \$66,452.00 and to the Native Plant Sale Account (14433800-643000-42050) in the amount of \$13,602.00.

BACKGROUND: The District implements a reforestation program to (i) restore historically altered or degraded lands to their natural condition as forests, woodlands, and savanna communities, (ii) reduce habitat fragmentation, (iii) restore woodland connectivity, (iv) enhance wildlife habitat, and (v) improve the aesthetic quality of its preserves. In the fall of 2025, more than 2,200 native trees and shrubs will be installed at Lakewood, Ray Lake, Fourth Lake, Ryerson, Greenbelt and Cuba Marsh Forest Preserves, across more than 159 acres. Additionally, 424 trees and shrubs are included in this purchase to be re-sold as part of the OAKtober event.

The project was advertised on December 30, 2024, and bids were received from four (4) bidders, each of which submitted bids on multiple species. The low bidders and their total bids for those items for which they are the low bidder are listed below:

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>TOTAL BID</u>
Possibility Place Nursery	\$ 49,518.00
Majestic Oaks Nursery	\$ 30,536.00
Johnsons Nursery	\$3,202.00

Materials were bid based on a unit price per species.

Staff recommends that Possibility Place Nursery and Majestic Oaks Nursery each be awarded a contract as the lowest responsible bidder for the species for which it was the low bidder. Each submitted total low bids greater than \$30,000.00, thus requiring Committee recommendation and Board approval of the contracts for those bids. Staff separately awarded a contract to Johnsons

Nursery for the trees and shrubs for which it was the low bidder in the amount \$3,202.00, which is below the threshold requiring Committee recommendation and Board approval.

Work is anticipated to begin in September 2025 and be completed by October 2025.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: Chief Operations Officer, 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 MARCH MEETING
MARCH 12, 2025**

MADAM PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

Your **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** presents herewith "A Resolution Awarding Contracts for the Purchase of Trees and Shrubs for Multiple Preserves" and requests its approval.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:

Date: _____ ☐ Roll Call Vote: Ayes: ____ Nays: _____

☐ Voice Vote Majority Ayes; Nays: _____

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

**A RESOLUTION AWARDING CONTRACTS FOR
THE PURCHASE OF TREES AND SHRUBS FOR MULTIPLE PRESERVES**

WHEREAS, the Lake County Forest Preserve District (the “District”) has advertised in The Lake County News Sun for sealed bids for the purchase of trees and shrubs identified on Exhibit A (the “Products”); and

WHEREAS, all sealed bids were received and opened by the District at its General Offices, 1899 West Winchester Road, Libertyville, Illinois, on January 15, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, the District’s staff, the Purchasing Manager, the Director of Natural Resources, and the Operations Committee have reviewed the bids and recommend that the Board of Commissioners (i) finds Possibility Place Nursery, Inc. to be the lowest responsible bidder with respect to the bids it submitted that are listed on Exhibit A in the table titled “Possibility Place Nursery, Inc.” (the “Possibility Place Bids”); (ii) finds Majestic Oaks Nursery LLC to be the lowest responsible bidder with respect to the bids it submitted that are listed on Exhibit A in the table titled “Majestic Oaks Nursery LLC” (the “Majestic Oaks Bids”; collectively, the Possibility Place Bids and the Majestic Oaks Bids are referred to as the “Low Bids”); and (iii) awards contracts for the Products consistent therewith (the “Contracts”); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners hereby finds that each of Possibility Place Nursery, Inc. and Majestic Oaks Nursery LLC (collectively, the “Bidders”) is the lowest responsible bidder for the Products for which it submitted Low Bids, as set forth in the previous clause and on Exhibit A;

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 Contracts. The Low Bids in the amounts listed on Exhibit A are hereby accepted, and a Contract for the relevant Products is hereby awarded to each of the Bidders in the amount of that Bidder’s Low Bids.

Section 3: Execution of Contracts. The Executive Director of the District is hereby authorized and directed to execute a Contract for the Products with Possibility Place Nursery, Inc. in the amount of the Possibility Place Bids and a Contract with Majestic Oaks Nursery LLC in the amount of the Majestic Oaks Bids.

Section 4: Payments. The Treasurer shall make payments under the Contracts only pursuant to and in accordance with the Contracts’ 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. _____

EXHIBIT A

Possibility Place Nursery, Inc					
Species	Common Name	Size	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
Carya cordiformis	BITTERNUT HICKORY	5-Gallon	34	\$40.00	\$1,360.00
Carya ovata	SHAGBARK HICKORY	5-Gallon	44	\$40.00	\$1,760.00
Cercis canadensis	REDBUD	1"/15-Gallon	7	\$100.00	\$700.00
Crataegus mollis	DOWNY HAWTHORN	5-Gallon	79	\$35.00	\$2,765.00
Juglans cinerea	BUTTERNUT	1"	3	\$100.00	\$300.00
Ostrya virginiana	HOP HORNBEAM	5-Gallon	21	\$30.00	\$630.00
Populus grandidentata	LARGE-TOOTHED ASPEN	5-Gallon	3	\$40.00	\$120.00
Prunus serotina	WILD BLACK CHERRY	5-Gallon	11	\$35.00	\$385.00
Prunus serotina	WILD BLACK CHERRY	1"	4	\$150.00	\$600.00
Quercus alba	WHITE OAK	1"	157	\$68.00	\$10,676.00
Quercus ellipsoidalis	HILLS OAK	1"	12	\$85.00	\$1,020.00
Quercus macrocarpa	BUR OAK	1"	134	\$72.00	\$9,648.00
Quercus rubra	RED OAK	1"	20	\$85.00	\$1,700.00
Quercus velutina	BLACK OAK	1"	49	\$85.00	\$4,165.00
Tilia americana	AMERICAN LINDEN	1"	4	\$100.00	\$400.00
Cornus obliqua	BLUE-FRUITED DOGWOOD	1-Gallon	3	\$20.00	\$60.00
Cornus obliqua	BLUE-FRUITED DOGWOOD	5-Gallon	15	\$22.00	\$330.00
Cornus stolonifera	RED-OSIER DOGWOOD	1-Gallon	3	\$20.00	\$60.00
Euonymus atropurpureus	WAHOO	5-Gallon	6	\$40.00	\$240.00
Hamamelis virginiana	WITCH HAZEL	1-Gallon	5	\$32.00	\$160.00
Hypericum prolificum	SHRUBBY ST. JOHN'S WORT	1-Gallon	70	\$18.00	\$1,260.00
Lonicera prolifera	YELLOW HONEYSUCKLE	1-Gallon	10	\$19.00	\$190.00
Prunus virginiana	CHOKE CHERRY	1-Gallon	9	\$19.00	\$171.00
Ribes americanum	WILD BLACK CURRANT	1-Gallon	27	\$22.00	\$594.00
Ribes missouriense	WILD GOOSEBERRY	1-Gallon	53	\$13.00	\$689.00
Ribes missouriense	WILD GOOSEBERRY	5-Gallon	41	\$26.00	\$1,066.00
Rosa carolina	PASTURE ROSE	1-Gallon	43	\$25.00	\$1,075.00
Rosa carolina	PASTURE ROSE	5-Gallon	45	\$26.00	\$1,170.00
Rosa setigera	ILLINOIS ROSE	5-Gallon	78	\$30.00	\$2,340.00
Sambucus canadensis	ELDERBERRY	5-Gallon	11	\$22.00	\$242.00
Spiraea alba	MEADOWSWEET	5-Gallon	10	\$19.00	\$190.00
Viburnum acerifolium	MAPLE-LEAVED ARROW-WOOD	5-Gallon	20	\$17.00	\$340.00
Viburnum lentago	NANNYBERRY	5-Gallon	87	\$26.00	\$2,262.00
Viburnum prunifolium	BLACK HAW	1-Gallon	4	\$19.00	\$76.00
Viburnum prunifolium	BLACK HAW	5-Gallon	12	\$30.00	\$360.00
Viburnum rafinesquianum	DOWNY ARROW-WOOD	1-Gallon	6	\$19.00	\$114.00
Xanthoxylum americanum	PRICKLY ASH	5-Gallon	6	\$50.00	\$300.00
					\$49,518.00

Majestic Oaks Nursery LLC					
Species	Common Name	Size	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
Amelanchier laevis	ALLEGHENY SHADBLOW	5-Gallon	44	\$26.00	\$1,144.00
Carpinus caroliniana	MUSCLEWOOD	5-Gallon	25	\$27.00	\$675.00
Celtis occidentalis	HACKBERRY	5-Gallon	4	\$26.00	\$104.00
Celtis occidentalis	HACKBERRY	1"	3	\$70.00	\$210.00
Cercis canadensis	REDBUD	5-Gallon	14	\$27.00	\$378.00
Crataegus crus-galli	COCKSPUR HAWTHORN	5-Gallon	13	\$30.00	\$390.00
Malus ioensis	IOWA CRAB	5-Gallon	65	\$26.00	\$1,690.00
Quercus alba	WHITE OAK	5-Gallon	78	\$26.00	\$2,028.00
Quercus bicolor	SWAMP WHITE OAK	5-Gallon	29	\$26.00	\$754.00
Quercus bicolor	SWAMP WHITE OAK	1"	6	\$72.00	\$432.00
Quercus ellipsoidalis	HILLS OAK	5-Gallon	50	\$27.00	\$1,350.00
Quercus macrocarpa	BUR OAK	5-Gallon	99	\$25.00	\$2,475.00
Quercus macrocarpa	BUR OAK	1"	20	\$67.00	\$1,340.00
Quercus rubra	RED OAK	5-Gallon	9	\$27.00	\$243.00
Quercus rubra	RED OAK	1"	12	\$74.00	\$888.00
Quercus velutina	BLACK OAK	5-Gallon	40	\$27.00	\$1,080.00
Amorpha canescens	LEAD PLANT	1-Gallon	21	\$18.00	\$378.00
Amorpha canescens	LEAD PLANT	5-Gallon	10	\$23.00	\$230.00
Ceanothus americanus	NEW JERSEY TEA	5-Gallon	10	\$24.00	\$240.00
Cephalanthus occidentalis	BUTTONBUSH	1-Gallon	7	\$18.00	\$126.00
Cephalanthus occidentalis	BUTTONBUSH	5-Gallon	24	\$22.00	\$528.00
Cornus alternifolia	PAGODA DOGWOOD	5-Gallon	11	\$27.00	\$297.00
Cornus obliqua	BLUE-FRUITED DOGWOOD	5-Gallon	15	\$22.00	\$330.00
Cornus stolonifera	RED-OSIER DOGWOOD	5-Gallon	18	\$22.00	\$396.00
Corylus americana	AMERICAN HAZELNUT	5-Gallon	193	\$24.00	\$4,632.00
Diervilla lonicera	DWARF HONEYSUCKLE	5-Gallon	25	\$23.00	\$575.00
Hamamelis virginiana	WITCH HAZEL	5-Gallon	8	\$26.00	\$208.00
Hypericum prolificum	SHRUBBY ST. JOHN'S WORT	5-Gallon	5	\$24.00	\$120.00
Ilex verticillata	WINTERBERRY	1-Gallon	8	\$18.00	\$144.00
Ilex verticillata	WINTERBERRY	5-Gallon	12	\$24.00	\$288.00
Physocarpus opulifolius	NINEBARK	5-Gallon	18	\$22.00	\$396.00
Prunus americana	WILD PLUM	1-Gallon	34	\$19.00	\$646.00
Prunus americana	WILD PLUM	5-Gallon	77	\$23.00	\$1,771.00
Prunus virginiana	CHOKE CHERRY	5-Gallon	22	\$23.00	\$506.00
Rhus glabra	SMOOTH SUMAC	5-Gallon	7	\$24.00	\$168.00
Ribes americanum	WILD BLACK CURRANT	5-Gallon	12	\$24.00	\$288.00
Ribes missouriense	WILD GOOSEBERRY	5-Gallon	40	\$21.50	\$860.00
Rosa blanda	EARLY WILD ROSE	5-Gallon	15	\$22.00	\$330.00
Rosa carolina	PASTURE ROSE	1-Gallon	12	\$18.00	\$216.00
Rosa carolina	PASTURE ROSE	5-Gallon	8	\$22.00	\$176.00
Salix humilis	PRAIRIE WILLOW	5-Gallon	21	\$24.00	\$504.00
Sambucus canadensis	ELDERBERRY	1-Gallon	19	\$18.00	\$342.00
Sambucus canadensis	ELDERBERRY	5-Gallon	11	\$22.00	\$242.00
Staphylea trifolia	BLADDERNUT	5-Gallon	8	\$24.00	\$192.00
Viburnum acerifolium	MAPLE-LEAVED ARROW-WOOD	5-Gallon	5	\$30.00	\$150.00
Viburnum prunifolium	BLACK HAW	1-Gallon	4	\$19.00	\$76.00
					\$30,536.00