



DATE: March 31, 2025

MEMO TO: Paul Frank, Chair
Planning Committee

FROM: Ken Jones
Director of Land Preservation

RECOMMENDATION: Provide policy direction regarding a request from Lake County Public Works to amend the current easement allowing it to replace and relocate the existing sewer line within Cahokia Flatwoods Forest Preserve.

FINANCIAL DATA: At this time there is no financial impact.

BACKGROUND: A Lake County Public Works force main (sewer line) extends north from Lake Cook Road, crossing under the Des Plaines River, and intersecting Milwaukee Avenue north of Inverrary Lane.

The force main is located within an easement granted by the District in 1983. It was constructed in 1986, and most recently repaired in 2024.

In February, Public Works approached the District with a request to replace the force main and to change its location. The force main currently runs along and under the Des Plaines River Trail, and within a heavily forested area, making access to some portions of the force main difficult. Public Works would like to amend the current easement to allow the force main to more closely align with the Des Plaines River Trail. The new force main would be installed primarily via directional boring.

Staff is seeking policy direction to negotiate and prepare an updated easement addressing Public Works' request and other matters related to the project.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: Executive Director, Chief Operations Officer, Director of Natural Resources, Director of Planning, Manager of Board Operations and Corporate Counsel.