



Kane County

1996 S. Kirk Rd. Suite 320
Geneva, IL 60134

Forest Preserve District, Planning and Utilization Committee

Agenda

Chair Cheryl Strathmann, President Christopher Kious, President Pro Tem, Mavis Bates,
Executive Director Benjamin Haberthur
Ron Ford, Michelle Gumz, Mike Kenyon, Anita Lewis, Mike Linder, Vern Tepe

Thursday, February 29, 2024

9:30 AM

3rd Floor Board Room

I. Call To Order

II. Approval of Minutes from November 16, 2023

III. Public Comment (Each Speaker is limited to three minutes)

IV. Bids and Proposals

V. New or Unfinished Business

[TMP-24-1960](#) Resolution Approving a Request to Submit an IDNR Recreational Trails Program Grant Application for the Development and Improvement of the Limestone Trails at Fitchie Creek Forest Preserve

[TMP-24-2002](#) Authorization to Apply for and Enter Into Grant Agreements

[TMP-24-1995](#) Discussion Items

- Rookies Patio
- Fox Valley Park District - Fox River Bridge
- Schweitzer House ADA Remodel
- Lily Lake Solar Farm Sign/Bench

VI. Closed Session to Discuss Land Acquisition, License Agreements, Potential Litigation and Personnel

VII. Communications

VIII. Chairman's Comments

IX. Adjournment

Adjournment until: Thursday, March 28, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. in person at the Forest Preserve District Administration Offices 1996 S. Kirk Road, Suite 320 Geneva, Illinois and via zoom <https://zoom.us/j/6302325980?pwd=aURTSGJoRIVJNDRcCkJXZ3dvaVVrUT09> Meeting ID: 630 232 5980
Password: 24680 The Request to Speak Form on our website must still be completed for guests to speak at the meeting.



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 29, 2024

TO: Forest Preserve District Planning & Utilization Committee

FROM: Jennifer Rooks-Lopez, Chief of Planning & Land Management

SUBJECT: Presentation and Approval of a Resolution Approving a Request to Submit an IDNR Recreational Trails Program Grant Application for the Development and Improvement of the Limestone Trails at Fitchie Creek Forest Preserve

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Committee with information to consider the approval of submitting a federal Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant application for improving sections of the limestone trails within Fitchie Creek Forest Preserve.

BACKGROUND:

Constructed in 2008 with the assistance of an Open space Land Acquisition and Development Grant (OSLAD) grant, Fitchie Creek Forest Preserve is a popular preserve for hiking and horseback riding. The limestone and asphalt trails meander through woodlands, prairie, and wetlands along Fitchie Creek. Due to the topography, wetlands, and active creek areas, sections of the limestone trail experience significant wash out during heavy rains. This project if awarded, will design and install drainage solutions for problem areas as well as restore sections of the limestone trail.

This project is estimated to cost \$300,000 and the RTP grant will reimburse the District a maximum of \$200,000 for the project costs. This project aligns with one of the grant's eligibility factors; Trail maintenance or restoration, including trail damage by unauthorized users.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The Fitchie Creek Forest Preserve Trail Improvements Project is estimated to cost \$300,000. Funding for the project will be included in the 2024/25 Fiscal Year Budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Committee approve submitting an RTP grant application for trail improvements at Fitchie Creek Forest Preserve.

ATTACHMENTS:

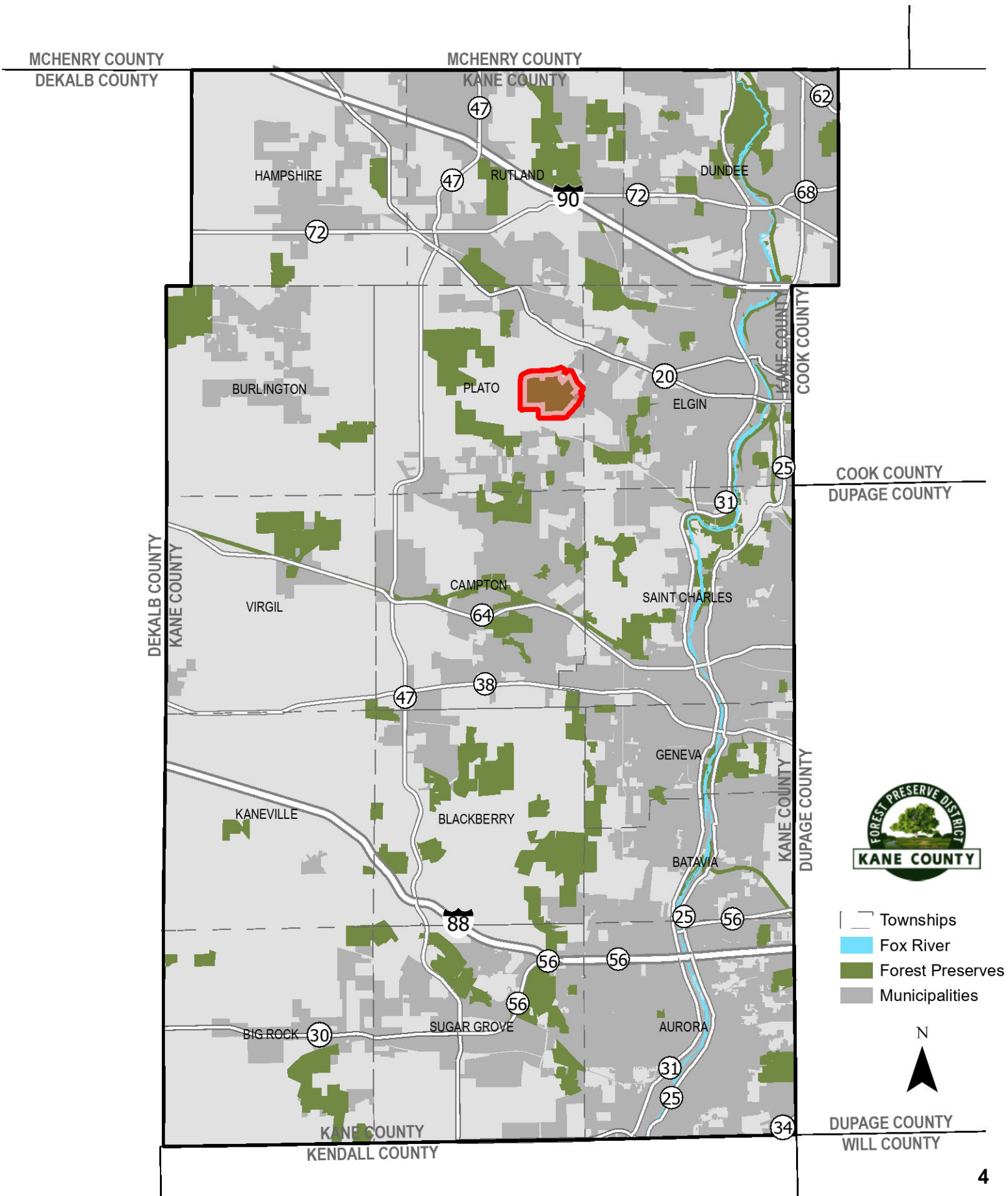
Fitchie Creek Site Location Map

Fitchie Creek Site Plan

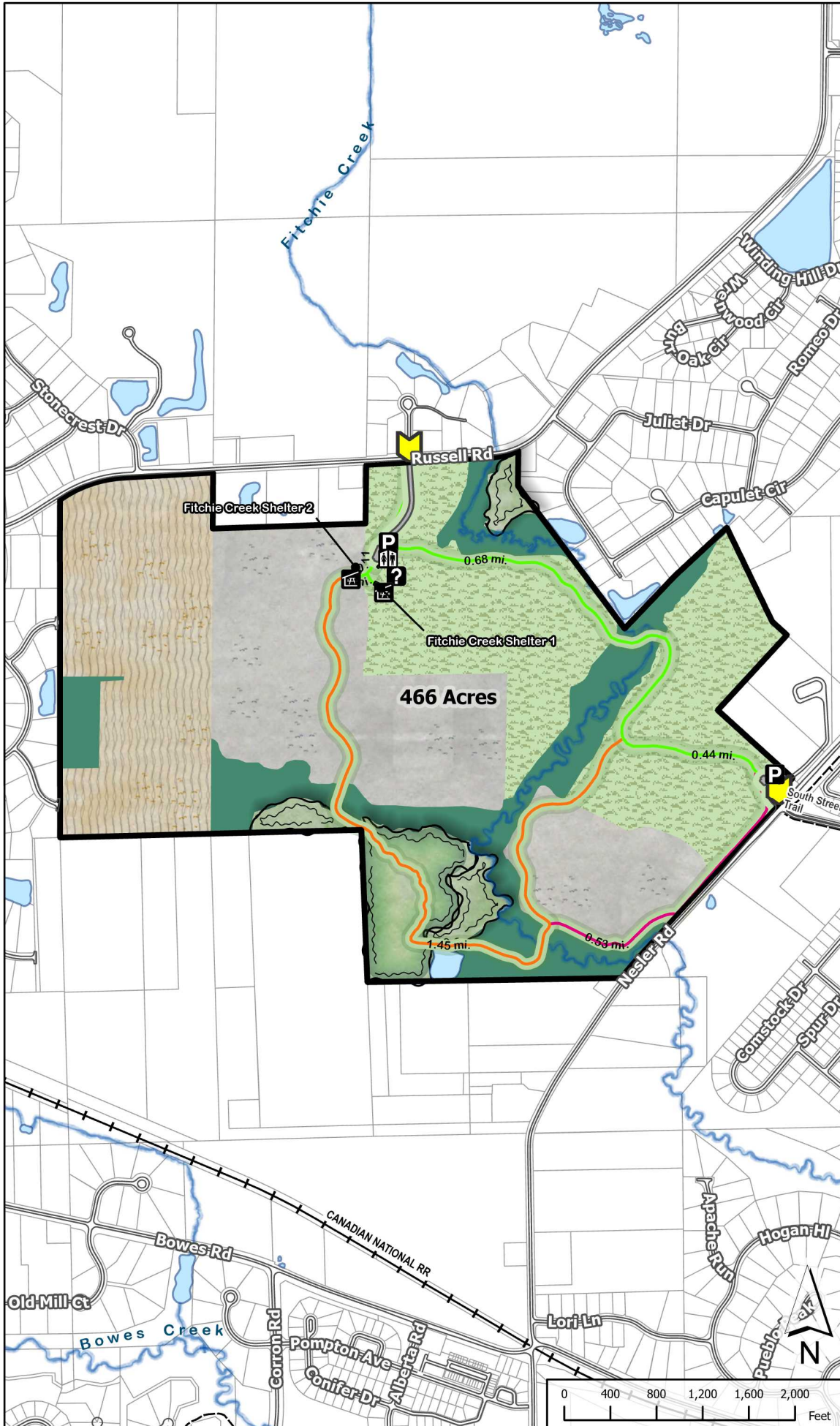
Fitchie Creek F.P.

County Location Map

Elgin, IL



Fitchie Creek Forest Preserve

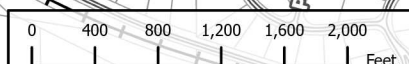
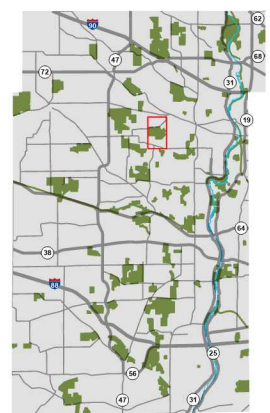


- Entrance
- Model Aircraft/Drone Field
- Equestrian Area
- Off-Leash Dog Area
- RV Campground
- Camp Sites
- Kiosk
- Parking
- Shelter
- Restroom
- Forest Preserve Road
- Forest Preserve Boundary
- Cropland
- Grassland
- Shrubland
- Wetland
- Woodland
- Bobolink Trail, Asphalt
- Mid-County Trail, Asphalt
- Opossum Trail, Asphalt
- Kane County Bike Trails

39W933 Russell Road
 Elgin, IL 60124

Information: (630) 232-5980
 www.kaneforest.com
 Hours: Daily, Sunrise-Sunset

Updated 1/24/2023



STATE OF ILLINOIS)

SS.

COUNTY OF KANE)

FP RESOLUTION NO. TMP-24-2002

AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR AND ENTER INTO GRANT AGREEMENTS

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserve District of Kane County, Kane County, Illinois desires to seek the aid of state and federal funding through various grants made available each year to assist in funding for the District’s preserves and land acquisitions; and

WHEREAS, these grants provide ongoing funding from year to year to support the various departments within the Forest Preserve District of Kane County, in order to ensure future grant deadlines are not missed, and to minimize the amount of ratification asked of the board, broader authorization is being sought for senior District staff to apply for any grant (private, state, federal or other); and

WHEREAS, the Forest Preserve District through its Planning and Land Management, Natural Resource Management, Community Affairs, Public Safety and Human Resources departments, wishes to apply for the offered yearly grants and accept the maximum available grant funds; and

WHEREAS, various programs including, but not limited to are: Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD), Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO), Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), Recreational Trails Program (RTP), Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation (ICECF), Grand Victoria River Boat (GVRB), ComEd Regional Programs, and others made available; and

WHEREAS, awarded grants are included in the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Forest Preserve District hereby authorizes and approves the application being made for monetary and in-kind grants by staff of the District on its behalf, provided that the President, Executive Director, or Executive Committee of the District acknowledges and approves such applications for grants, all without further resolution being required in advance of such applications being filed.

APPROVED AND PASSED on this 12th day of March 2024.

Christopher Kious
President, Kane Forest Preserve
Kane County, Illinois

Myrna Molina
Secretary, Kane Forest Preserve
Kane County, Illinois



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 27, 2024

TO: Forest Preserve District Finance & Administration Committee

FROM: Benjamin Haberthur, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Presentation and Approval of Authorization to Apply for and Enter into Grant Agreements

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Committee with information to consider allowing broader authority for senior staff to expedite the grant application process and better position the District for success.

BACKGROUND:

The District has a long history of successfully leveraging capital funds as match for large state and federal grant programs. This practice has allowed us to install more miles of trail, create more acres of habitat, and build more interactive nature exhibits than we could have managed without the assistance of these programs.

However, Requests for Proposals (RFP) are often only posted for short time durations and deadlines for applications often require quick turnaround for full project consideration. Additionally, most applications are not considered complete without a board resolution from the applying organization. These short postings and quick turnarounds often do not sync with the District's commission cycle. This results in either missed opportunities or the need for retroactive ratification by the board after a grant's deadline has passed.

In order to ensure future grant deadlines are not missed, and to minimize the amount of ratification asked of the board, broader authorization is being sought for senior District staff to apply for any grant (private, state, federal or other) that will help offset the cost of any upcoming capital project. These projects are enumerated in the 2024 Update to the Comprehensive Master Plan (available upon Commission approval at www.kaneforest.com).

Large grant applications (i.e. OSLAD, LWCF etc.) will still be presented to the board; however, this broader annual authorization and associated resolution will obviate the need for individual resolution requests and convert these presentations to simple communications.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Capital projects that have the potential for grant funding will be identified in the 2024/2025 fiscal year budget. The competitive nature of grants prevents the prediction of exact award amounts, however typical grant splits vary from 50:50, 80:20 or even 100% (DCEO) of total project cost.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Committee approve the grant application authority as detailed above effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

ATTACHMENTS: *None.*

STATE OF ILLINOIS)

SS.

COUNTY OF KANE)

REPORT NO. TMP-24-1995

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- **ROOKIES PATIO**
- **FOX VALLEY PARK DISTRICT - FOX RIVER BRIDGE**
 - **SCHWEITZER HOUSE ADA REMODEL**
 - **LILY LAKE SOLAR FARM SIGN/BENCH**