

Statement of Intent

June 16, 2016

Submitted by: Jim Rogers, Executive Director, Elmhurst Park District
Jim Grabowski, City Manager, City of Elmhurst

The City of Elmhurst, IL has been struggling with residential neighborhood flooding issues for decades. Only recently has the change in weather patterns accelerated the search for solutions. Christopher B. Burke Engineering conducted a study on the City's behalf in 2010. One element of the solution is to utilize existing open-space as temporary detention of storm water for low lying residential areas. The west lobe of Golden Meadows Park is one of those open-space parcels. This project will move 12.5 acre feet (4,073,000 gallons) of storm water out of and away from 22 residents' homes in the area. The construction of this project is estimated to cost \$3.5 million, all city expense. We have evaluated that this is the most cost-effective assistance the City can provide to the homeowners.

The Elmhurst Park District and City of Elmhurst have negotiated terms of a draft intergovernmental agreement (copy and highlights attached) that will enable the Park District to facilitate the City's efforts to bring aid to residents as described above while also allowing the Park District to continue to meet its mission to provide open space for recreation to the greater community. The terms of the proposed IGA call for the City to compensate the Park District for the appraised yellow book value of the property to be used for stormwater management purposes (and up to a maximum of 1.5 times that value if the cost of replacement property exceeds the appraised value).

The Elmhurst Park District is requesting that the IDNR (after securing approval from the National Park Service) allow the Park District to immediately deed over the western portion (approximately 3 acres) of Golden Meadows Park (17-00160 – map attached) to the City of Elmhurst in order to allow for the construction of stormwater improvements and then, subsequently, proceed to acquire replacement property in accordance with the conversion process required by Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act.