

July 18, 2016

Ms. Jan Nation
Senior Grant Administrator
Division of Grant Administration
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, IL 62702-1271

Dear Ms. Nation,

It was nice speaking with you last week. As we discussed, 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 provide stormwater flooding relief to residents 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).

Based on our conversation, IDNR concurs with the processes outlined in the IGA in paragraph 2 stating that the appraisal of the proposed conversion property be obtained in accordance with IDNR regulations and paragraph 6 concerning the acquisition of replacement property with the understanding that the Park District has every intention of initiating good faith efforts, and without any time limits imposed as to when the replacement must take place.

To that end, the Elmhurst Park District is now formally requesting that the IDNR, after securing approval from the National Park Service, allow the Park District to 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.

The Elmhurst Park District will then proceed with the process of acquiring replacement property in accordance with the conversion process required by Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act. The Park District fully understands its responsibility to replace the converted property and has every intention of doing so in as expeditious a manner as the real estate market will allow.

As always, thank for your continued assistance in this matter. I look forward to hearing from you once your formal review of this request has been completed.

Sincerely,

James W. Rogers, Executive Director

cc: Board of Park Commissioners

James Grabowski, City of Elmhurst

Attached: Golden Meadows IGA

Golden Meadows IGA Highlights

Golden Meadows Park 17-00160 map

