50-R-17

A RESOLUTION

Registering the City of Evanston's Objection to Cook County's Roadway Easement Request through Property Owned by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago and leased by the City of Evanston

WHEREAS, on October 14, 1966, the Metropolitan Sanitary District of Greater Chicago, now known as the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, a municipal corporation, agreed to lease land that it owns along the North Shore Channel to the City of Evanston (the "Lease"); and

WHEREAS, the leased property includes land that is bounded to south by Isabella Road, west of the North Shore Channel and east of the Chicago Transit Authority train tracks (the "Subject Property"); and

WHEREAS, the Subject Property contains a remnant forest, a unique ecosystem with 55 trees that are mostly mature providing a haven for local wildlife and diverts thousands of gallons of storm water from the combined sewer system; and

WHEREAS, on April 28, 2017, the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways exercising its roadmaking authority submitted a request for a roadway easement through the Subject Property and access off of Isabella Road to support private property that is located in Wilmette, Illinois and owned by the Keefe Family Trust, attached as Exhibit A is a copy of the easement request and map of the roadway; and

WHEREAS, the City of Evanston registers its objection to the infringement of its planning and environmental stewardship because this roadway
request is not in the best interests of the residents of Evanston and the natural environment,

NOW BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EVANSTON, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS:

SECTION 1: The City of Evanston affirmatively states that it opposes the roadway easement request submitted by Cook County over the Subject Property.

SECTION 2: The City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to send a certified copy of Resolution 50-R-17 to the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago and the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways.

SECTION 3: This resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval, in the manner provided by law.

Attest:                                            
Devon Reid, City Clerk

Adopted: 05/15, 2017

Stephen H. Hagerty, Mayor
EXHIBIT A

COOK COUNTY ROADWAY EASEMENT REQUEST
April 28, 2017

Ms. Susan Morakalis
Head Assistant Attorney
Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago
100 East Erie Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611 3154

Re: Request of Cook County for a 75 Year Easement across MWRD Property in Evanston, Illinois North Shore Channel Parcel 1.11

Dear Ms. Morakalis:

The County of Cook is requesting a 75-year, non-exclusive easement through the District’s North Shore Channel Parcel 1.11. Parcel 1.11 is located north of Isabella Street, east of the CTA railroad tracks in the City of Evanston. The easement is for the construction, operation, maintenance, rehabilitation, and removal of an access road to reach private property located in Wilmette, Illinois, north of North Shore Channel Parcel 1.11 and owned by the Keefe Family Trust. Attached is a diagram and location drawing of the proposed easement. This road is necessary because the property is land locked and has no access.

Sincerely,

John Yonan, P.E.
Superintendent
Department of Transportation and Highways
Cook County, Illinois

$ Fiscal Responsibility • Innovative Leadership • Transparency & Accountability • Improved Services