December 3, 2013

TO: Park District Board of Commissioners
FROM: Dave Harris, Executive Director
RE: Additional 2014 Budget Discussion Items

Please add the following to agenda item # 9 “2014 Budget Discussion” as I did not include with the Board packet. As mentioned previously, staff has a revised plan for Lake Ellyn Park improvements utilizing the same funding that was identified within the original proposed 2014 capital improvements. After hearing feedback from the Board, community and survey and considering that the Lake Ellyn Park master plan was approved at the beginning of 2013, staff believes it’s important to begin implementation sooner than originally forecasted. Rather than apply for an OSLAD grant and wait potentially until 2015 to find out if we were successful or not, meaning construction would not take place until middle to end of 2015, staff is recommending the following in order to expedite some of the recommendations and maintain and gather momentum from the master plan process:

Lake Ellyn Park Improvements (revised):

Phase 1: Oak Savannah initiated in 2013, Lenox Road and path along Lenox Road within park to be constructed by Village in 2014 ($50,000 budgeted for additional expense of sidewalk to be constructed using permeable pavers)

Phase 2: Park improvements (TBD), but could include additional path work, landscape, benches, lighting improvements based on master plan with installation in 2014 ($370,000 approx. already budgeted which was originally to be set aside for a potential OSLAD grant)

Phase 3: OSLAD application in June 2014, park improvements (TBD) but could include playground, shoreline restoration and other OSLAD favorable elements with installation occurring most likely in 2016 depending on grant application ($800,000 = $400,000 District and $400,000 State)

• The previously allocated funds remain the same as originally budgeted. However, where the funds set aside for Lake Ellyn improvements / master plan recommendations $150,000 and playground replacement year 2 and year 3 in the amount of $125,000 each would now fund more immediate Lake Ellyn Park improvements rather than be set aside for the matching portion of the OSLAD application. Total budgeted funds = $400,000 + $50,000 from the funds previously allocated for Maryknoll path

• The District would also still apply for an OSLAD grant and if successful would have to come up with the matching portion (up to $400,000) in 2016. If awarded
a grant, funding could either come from fund balances or new issue of non-referendum bonds.

- Staff will have a more defined plan in the next three months as to what elements of the plan would be addressed in 2014 and what would be included in the OSLAD grant application. As this is beyond staff’s ability, it is recommended to engage and negotiate with CDF to facilitate and manage the project throughout the next several phases.

- Staff would also recommend allocating a portion of the available funds to replace one of our smaller playgrounds ($80,000/ $450,000 total available funds - $370,000 phase 2 Lake Ellyn Park improvements) identified on the playground replacement schedule since the Lake Ellyn Park playground would not be addressed until the earliest late 2015. If we do not address a playground for another year, the District will fall further behind on its replacement program.

Staff will be available for questions and comments.