

**VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE**  
Report for the Village

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>
Native Landscape and Natural Areas Maintenance and Monitoring Services for 2021	Andy Sikich Director of Public Works

**SYNOPSIS**

A resolution has been prepared to authorize a contract extension for Native Landscaping and Natural Areas Maintenance and Monitoring with Hampton, Lenzini and Renwick, Inc. (HLR), of Elgin, Illinois in an amount of \$47,656, which includes a 20% contingency.

**STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT**

The goals for 2019-2021 include *Top Quality Infrastructure*.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The FY21 budget includes \$50,000 in the Stormwater Fund for maintenance of Village-owned naturalized areas.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Approval on the March 2, 2021 consent agenda.

**BACKGROUND**

The Village owns and manages an increasing number of properties with a naturalized landscape. These landscapes have many environmental benefits, including improved water and air quality, increased habitat and biodiversity, and reduced pesticide and herbicide use. The scope of work includes maintenance services for identified naturalized areas including: the 2nd and Cumnor stormwater facility, Village-owned parcels at Grand Avenue, Hill Street, and 55th Street, 3944 Sterling, Fire Station #3 bioswale, Grove Street rain gardens, Valley View, Deer Creek and the Forest Avenue rain gardens. HLR's team has worked on many of these sites since 2014 and understands the needs for each site. Their work will include a high frequency of inspections, preventing invasive species from getting established, and a high level of awareness and professionalism onsite.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Resolution  
Contract Extension  
Contractor Evaluation

## RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF  
AN EXTENSION TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
THE VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE AND  
HAMPTON, LENZINI & RENWICK, INC.**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Village Council of the Village of Downers Grove, DuPage County, Illinois, as follows:

1. That the form and substance of a certain Extension (the "Agreement"), between the Village of Downers Grove (the "Village") and Hampton, Lenzini & Renwick, Inc. ("HLR"), for native landscaping and natural areas maintenance services, as set forth in the form of the Agreement submitted to this meeting with the recommendation of the Village Manager, is hereby approved.

2. That the Village Manager and Village Clerk are hereby respectively authorized and directed for and on behalf of the Village to execute, attest, seal and deliver the Agreement, substantially in the form approved in the foregoing paragraph of this Resolution, together with such changes as the Manager shall deem necessary.

3. That the proper officials, agents and employees of the Village are hereby authorized and directed to take such further action as they may deem necessary or appropriate to perform all obligations and commitments of the Village in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement.

4. That all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict with the provisions of this Resolution are hereby repealed.

5. That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage as provided by law.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Passed:

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Village Clerk

**EXTENSION TO THE AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE AND  
HAMPTON, LENZINI AND RENWICK, INC.**

The Village of Downers Grove, Illinois and Hampton, Lenzini and Renwick, Inc. ("HLR") entered into an Agreement ("Agreement") to provide native landscaping and natural areas maintenance services on or about May 15, 2019. Pursuant to the terms stated therein, the parties desire to extend that Agreement under the following terms:

1. The Agreement shall be extended for a one-year period through December 31, 2021.
2. The scope of work to be completed is set forth on the proposal attached hereto as Exhibit A.
3. The fees for services are \$39,713.00, plus a 20% contingency, for a total not-to-exceed contract amount of \$47,656.00 as set forth in Exhibit A.
4. All other terms from the May 15, 2019 Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

**VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE**

**HAMPTON, LENZINI AND  
RENWICK, INC.**

\_\_\_\_\_

Erica Spolar

Title

Executive Vice President  
Title

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 2/9/21

# Exhibit A



## Hampton, Lenzini and Renwick, Inc.

Civil Engineers • Structural Engineers • Land Surveyors • Environmental Specialists  
www.hltreengineering.com

February 9, 2021

Downers Grove Public Works Department  
c/o Mr. John Welch  
5101 Walnut Avenue  
Downers Grove, IL 60515

RE: Downers Grove 2020 Site Management Summaries

Dear Mr. Welch,

Hampton, Lenzini and Renwick (HLR) managed several Downers Grove native areas in 2020. During the 2020 management season HLR focused on the removal of invasive species via herbicide application and also removed woody species from sites selected by the Village. Below are the yearly management summaries for each of the sites managed by HLR for the Village of Downers Grove.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> & Cumnor:

The site was managed with five herbicide treatments during the growing season. Pennycress (*Thlaspi arvense*), yellow rocket (*Barbarea stricta*), giant ragweed (*Ambrosia trifida*), common ragweed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*), and Siberian elm (*Ulmus pumila*) were the most prominent undesirable species. Various woody species including Siberian elm, box elder (*Acer negundo*), and common buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*) were cut in the 2019 season. This growing season all woody regrowth was monitored and treated as necessary. The landscaped section surrounding the planted redbud tree was previously planted with little bluestem (*Andropogon scoparius*). This section was hand weeded five times to ensure only little bluestem remained. Mulch was applied to this section in the spring and winter to limit weed growth. The entire length of the path was trimmed back multiple times this season to reduce overgrown vegetation blocking pedestrian access. Among the highest quality and most colorful natives on site include wild bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*), yellow coneflower (*Ratibida pinnata*), Indian grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*), New England aster (*Aster novae-angliae*), and rattlesnake master (*Eryngium yuccifolium*).

Recommendations: HLR recommends continuous management of saplings within the site. A live plug install along the pond shoreline would increase overall diversity, and aid in shoreline stability. An overseeding of any bare areas is recommended. Additional live plugs, or little bluestem seed is recommended within the landscaped area.

2nd and Cumnor Storm Water Facility	
Task	Fee
Spot Seeding	\$560.00
Site Management	\$4,295.00
<b>2nd and Cumnor Stormwater Facility</b>	<b>\$4,855.00</b>

### Washington Street Bio-Infiltration Basin:

The site was hand weeded five times over the growing season. Targeted species included creeping Charlie (*Glechoma hederacea*), yellow foxtail (*Setaria glauca*), wild carrot (*Daucus carota*), Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), curly dock (*Rumex crispus*), green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) saplings, and field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*). A desirable native species, tall ironweed (*Vernonia gigantea*), has formed a dense stand in the front portion of the site. Other noteworthy native species include Ohio spiderwort (*Tradescantia ohioensis*) and wild bergamot. Small saplings continue to be an issue on site. All saplings were removed, and the stumps were treated with herbicide. The front section of the site, along Washington Street, was filled in with mulch to limit weed growth and enhance aesthetic appeal. The site was mowed in December 2020 to remove dormant vegetation.

Recommendations: HLR recommends a live plant installation in the front of the site along Washington Street and also within the basin bottom. Shorter growing forbs would give the front of the site appeal and allow for visibility to the plants growing in the center

380 Shepard Drive  
Elgin, Illinois 60123-7010  
Tel. 847.697.6700  
Fax 847.697.6753

6825 Hobson Valley Drive, Suite 302  
Woodridge, Illinois 60517  
Tel. 847.697.6700  
Fax 847.697.6753

3085 Stevenson Drive, Suite 201  
Springfield, Illinois 62703  
Tel. 217.546.3400  
Fax 217.546.8116

323 W. Third Street, P.O. Box 160  
Mt. Carmel, Illinois 62863  
Tel. 618.262.8651  
Fax 618.263.3327

Downers Grove Public Works Department  
 Mr. John Welch  
 5101 Walnut Avenue  
 Downers Grove, IL 60515

of the site. Wetland plugs would increase the overall diversity of the site and create dense vegetation to block out weed growth. Continual mulching will be necessary to combat creeping Charlie.

<b>59<sup>th</sup> Street Bio-Retention Facility</b>	
<b>Task</b>	<b>Fee</b>
Site Management	\$1,720.00
Mulch	\$320.00
<b>59<sup>th</sup> Street Bio-Retention Facility</b>	<b>\$2,040.00</b>

#### **Grove Street Rain Gardens:**

The site was hand weeded five times throughout the season. Undesirable plants at this site include those that are too tall for these garden areas, non-native invasives, and weedy natives. Such species were thistle, nodding burr-marigold (*Bidens cernua*), pinkweed (*Polygonum pennsylvanicum*), field bindweed, lamb's quarters (*Chenopodium album*), and woody saplings. Native species on site include purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*), prairie blazing star (*Liatris pycnostachya*), and sweet black eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia subtomentosa*). All standing vegetation was brush cut in January 2021. A mulch border was added on either side of the parking lot to limit vegetation overhang, and salt and snow accumulation in the winter.

Recommendations: HLR recommends the vegetation should continue to be trimmed and maintained to keep visibility for turning vehicles. The mulch border should be upkept for visibility and aesthetic purposes. Supplemental plantings are recommended in the 2021 growing season to keep the rain gardens full and dense.

<b>Grove Street Rain Garden</b>	
<b>Task</b>	<b>Fee</b>
Site Management	\$1,605.00
Mulch	\$520.00
<b>Grove Street Rain Garden Total</b>	<b>\$2,125.00</b>

#### **55<sup>th</sup> and Grand/ Grand and Hill:**

These two sites were each treated four times during the growing season. Construction along 55<sup>th</sup> Street has caused continued disturbance along the edge of the site. Targeted species for Grand and 55<sup>th</sup> included giant ragweed, dames rocket (*Hesperis matronalis*), and reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*). Prolific saplings continue to be a focus during the 2020 season. Species targeted included maple saplings, box elder, white mulberry (*Morus alba*), and common buckthorn. Grand and 55<sup>th</sup> was also treated for motherwort (*Leonurus cardiaca*) and poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*).

Recommendations: Saplings should continue to be treated with a foliar application. Areas with sparse vegetation should be spot seeded with a shade-tolerant mix. The southern section along 55<sup>th</sup> Street should be seeded once construction is finished.

<b>Village Owned Parcels at Grand and Hill</b>	
<b>Task</b>	<b>Fee</b>
Site Management	\$775.00
Seed	\$805.00
<b>Grand and Hill Total</b>	<b>\$1,580.00</b>

Downers Grove Public Works Department  
 Mr. John Welch  
 5101 Walnut Avenue  
 Downers Grove, IL 60515

Village Owned Parcels at Grand and 55 <sup>th</sup>	
Task	Fee
Site Management	\$775.00
Seed	\$805.00
<b>Grand and 55<sup>th</sup> Total</b>	<b>\$1,580.00</b>

#### Forest Avenue Rain Gardens:

The site was hand weeded four times throughout 2020. Target species included common dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*), common ragweed, lamb's quarters, reed canary grass, and carrot. In seasons past, a major concern with the rain gardens has been residential mowing. In the 2019 season, we replanted the gardens and in 2020 the residents allowed the gardens to grow. Native forbs including cardinal flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*), great blue lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*), purple coneflower, and prairie blazing star were able to establish. In December 2020, a dormant mow was performed to remove dead material and allow for future establishment of plug installation.

Recommendations: The rain gardens should continue to be hand weeded to prevent invasive species from establishing. Informative signage is recommended to educate residents about the benefits of residential rain gardens. Heavy planting and seeding, primarily of the northwest garden, is suggested to increase vegetative cover and improve native species diversity.

Forest Rain Gardens	
Task	Fee
Live Plant Install	\$940.00
Site Management	\$1,745.00
Mulch	\$520.00
<b>Forest Rain Gardens Total</b>	<b>\$3,205.00</b>

#### Fire Station Bioswale:

The site was managed with four herbicide treatments. Targeted species in 2020 included annual bedstraw (*Galium spurium*), stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*), black mustard (*Brassica nigra*), giant ragweed, and cocklebur (*Xanthium strumarium*). Black mustard produces allelopathic chemicals that prevent any native plants from growing around it. The northern portion of the site has a small stand of black mustard establishing, and it will remain an area of priority to prevent proliferation. A live plug installation occurred in July 2020. Species planted included prairie cordgrass (*Spartina pectinata*) and purple coneflower. Prairie cordgrass is an aggressive native that grows into dense stands, preventing any invasive weed growth. A mulched pathway was created leading to a fire hydrant on the northwest side of the site for easy access.

Recommendations: HLR recommends a live plug installation and seeding to increase vegetative cover within bare areas. The mulched pathway to the fire hydrant should continue to be maintained and treated with herbicide as necessary.

Fire Station Bioswale	
Task	Fee
Spot Seeding	\$420.00
Live Plant Install	\$1,030.00
Site Management	\$960.00
<b>Fire Station Bioswale Total</b>	<b>\$2,410.00</b>

Downers Grove Public Works Department  
 Mr. John Welch  
 5101 Walnut Avenue  
 Downers Grove, IL 60515

### 3944 Sterling:

The site received four herbicide applications during the 2020 season. Common buckthorn, creeping Charlie, garlic mustard, daisy fleabane (*Erigeron annuus*), and white mulberry are among the undesirable species treated within the growing season. A thunderstorm in July 2020 left large branches scattered throughout the site, hindering plant growth. All branches were removed from site and stacked along Sterling Road to be chipped. This year, we performed woody removal along the southern border of the site. Species removed included common buckthorn, white mulberry, box elder, and amur honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*). Removing the dense invasive understory will allow for more light to penetrate to the soil and allow for native herbaceous growth.

Recommendations: A custom seed mix is recommended for the newly opened space from woody removal. HLR recommends a live plug installation along the west border of the site to attract pollinators. Desirable species would include butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), purple coneflower, black-eyed Susan, and prairie blazing star.

Sterling Road North of 40th Street	
Task	Fee
Woody cutting	\$560.00
Site Management	\$2,270.00
Spot seeding	\$775.00
<b>3944 Sterling Total</b>	<b>\$3,605.00</b>

### Valley View

The site received four herbicide treatments within the growing season. Undesirable plants at this site include dames rocket, reed canary grass, creeping Charlie, stinging nettle, field bindweed, and giant ragweed. Eradicating the prolific purple loosestrife continues to be our main goal on site. Valley View continues to have high native character with a vast array of native species. Among these species includes meadow rue (*Thalictrum dioicum*), ironweed (*Veronia fasciculata*), obedient plant (*Physostegia virginiana*), and prairie blazing star. Small saplings continue to be an issue on site. All saplings were removed, and the stumps were treated with herbicide.

Recommendations: Overseeding with a custom native seed mix is recommended for areas of scarce vegetation. A live plug installation along the pond's shoreline would be beneficial in increasing diversity, and assisting in shoreline stability. A dormant mow is recommended for Spring 2020 to remove dead vegetation, prevent encroachment of brush and non-natives, and encourage native growth by revealing soil mineral layers.

Valley View	
Task	Fee
Spot Seed	\$750.00
Winter Mow	\$2,600.00
Site Management	\$6,400.00
<b>Valley View Total</b>	<b>\$9,750.00</b>

### Deer Creek:

The site received five herbicide treatments throughout the growing season. Giant ragweed, common ragweed, crown vetch (*Securigera varia*), bedstraw, horseweed (*Erigeron canadensis*), pennycress, common evening primrose (*Oenothera biennis*), and woody species along the creek were all treated during these applications. All woody species were previously removed in winter of 2019, so the focus of the 2020 season was to monitor any woody regrowth and treat it when necessary. The buffer was extended in the fall of 2019, and overseeded with a custom seed mix. The newly converted sections are establishing well and will need continued maintenance as they continue to establish.

Downers Grove Public Works Department  
 Mr. John Welch  
 5101 Walnut Avenue  
 Downers Grove, IL 60515

Recommendations: Continued maintenance of the area would be recommended. This would consist of herbicide treatments to any woody regrowth, and herbicide and mechanical removal of invasive species within the prairie buffers. We recommend an overseed of the newly converted area to help establish a diverse ecosystem.

<b>Deer Creek</b>	
<b>Task</b>	<b>Fee</b>
General Maintenance	\$6,400.00
Seeding	\$2,163.00
<b>Deer Creek Total</b>	<b>\$8,563.00</b>

### Conclusion

Each of the 9 sites have exhibited improvements from previous years. The live plant installation helped to fill in any sites that had bare spots from invasive species control. Many of the sites show native character, and through continuous management, could continue to improve in quality. Please feel free to call me with questions relating to any of the above sites.

Sincerely,

**HAMPTON, LENZINI AND RENWICK, INC.**



Karen Kase, PWS, CPESC

Natural Resources Manager



# Village of Downers Grove

## Consultant Evaluation

---

Contractor: Hampton, Lenzini & Renwick, Inc.

Project: Monitoring and Maintenance of Native Planting Areas

Primary Contact: Erica Spolar Phone: 847-697-6700

Time Period: April 2020 thru December 2020

On Schedule (allowing for uncontrollable circumstances)  Yes  No

Provide details if early or late completion:

Change Orders (attach information if needed): None

Difficulties / Positives: Very responsive

Interaction with public:

Excellent  Good  Average  Poor

(Attach information on any complaints or compliments)

General Level of Satisfaction with work:

Well Satisfied  Satisfied  Not Satisfied

Reviewers: John Welch, P.E., CFM

Date: 02/10/21