



**Forest Preserve District
of DuPage County**

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Sent Via email: MorganJ@aurora.il.us

May 20, 2024

Donald Pilmer, Chair
Planning and Zoning Commission
City of Aurora
44 East Downer Place
Aurora, IL 60505

Re: Notice of Public Hearing – Case file Number: NA06/4-24.158 – CUPD/Ppn/Psd
2725 Bilter Road, Aurora, PIN: 07-06-401-013

Dear Chairman Pilmer,

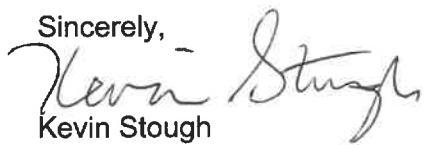
The Forest Preserve District of DuPage County recently received a Notice of Public Hearing regarding C1 Chicago Aurora III LLC's request for approval of an Amendment to a Plan Description, approval of a Conditional Use, and the establishment of modified standards as it relates to the construction of a telecommunications facility at the aforementioned property. We appreciate receiving timely notification of such requests that may have an impact on Forest Preserve District property and thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please note that Big Woods Forest Preserve is across the street from the proposed development.

According to an email received by the Forest Preserve District from the petitioner's attorney on 5/10/24, two communications towers will be erected on the subject property, both at a height of 350 feet. Communication towers are some of the tallest structures across the landscape and birds are regularly injured or deceased around these towers for various reasons. We recommend the petitioner follows the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's "Recommended Best Practices for Communication Tower Design, Siting, Construction, Operation, Maintenance, and Decommissioning", which can be found at the link below. To minimize wildlife impacts, communication equipment should be co-located on existing towers, new towers should be no more than 199 feet above ground, and the minimum amount of lighting required by the FAA should be used.

<https://www.fws.gov/media/recommended-best-practices-communication-tower-design-siting-construction-operation>

Please consider this as the Forest Preserve District's request that this letter be read and entered into the public record at the 5/22/24 Planning and Zoning Commission meeting. Please do not hesitate to call me at (630) 933-7235 with any questions.

Sincerely,


Kevin Stough
Land Preservation Manager

cc: Jessica Ortega, Strategic Plan and Initiatives Manager