



MEMORANDUM

Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District

Date: September 3, 2026
To: CLFLWD Board of Managers
From: Mike Kinney, District Administrator
Subject: Letter of Support for City of Forest Lake Grant Application



District Wide

Background/Discussion:

The City of Forest Lake is preparing an application for the Department of Natural Resources' Community Forests for Community Resiliency grant program. The proposed project will add up to 100 trees to portions of the Castlewood Park and Golf Course. Native canopy trees reduce stormwater runoff, improve air and water quality, and can improve property values in areas where they are planted. If approved, the tree planting project will be conducted in phases, with most trees planted in fall of 2027.

Staff recommend the District provide a letter of support for this application. This tree planting project will be an excellent example of the importance of trees in building community health and resiliency, and it will be another opportunity to demonstrate the strong relationship between the District and the City of Forest Lake.

Recommended Motion:

Proposed Motion: Manager _____ moves to authorize the Board President to sign the attached letter of support on behalf of the Board of Managers and directs staff to forward the letter of support to the City of Forest Lake for their proposal to the Department of Natural Resources. Seconded by Manager _____.

Attached

Letter of Support for City of Forest Lake's Proposal



CLFLWD
WATERSHED DISTRICT

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44 Lake St. South, Suite A
Forest Lake, MN 55025 

September 3rd, 2026

Urban and Community Forestry Program
Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

RE: Letter of Support for the City of Forest Lake's Protect Community Forests for
Community Resiliency Grant Application

Dear Grants Steering Committee members,

The Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District extends our support for the City of Forest Lake as it seeks funding for its Castlewood Reforestation Project. The City's funding request is for the reforestation of areas of the city owned Castlewood Park and Golf Course.

This effort will add valuable tree canopy to an area of Forest Lake that lacks important canopy cover and has the potential to provide water quality benefits to the local drainage area as well as nearby Forest Lake and the larger connected ecosystem complex of the area.

The City of Forest Lake has been a valuable partner of the District, and we look forward to their continued efforts in restoring and conserving the land and water resources of our community.

Regards,

Jackie Anderson, President
Board of Managers
Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District