



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Project Name: **Ravinia and Indian Creek Parks Project**

Grant Recipient: Fremont Township Highway Department

Project Location: Ravinia Park and Indian Creek Park

Project Budget: 319 Grant Award \$118,449 / Total Project Costs - \$207,809

Project Summary: Several BMPs were proposed for two areas: Ravinia Park above Sylvan Lake and Indian Creek Park below the lake. Immediately above Sylvan Lake, a wetland was constructed to remove suspended and soluble pollutants before an unnamed tributary discharged into the lake. This wetland construction project involved disabling old drain tiles, installation of a sediment basin, planting emergent and wet mesic native wetland vegetation, and maximizing the path of flow through the wetland. Just above the wetland, bioengineered streambank stabilization techniques were applied along both sides of a 790 foot segment of the unnamed tributary. Such practices aim to reduce streambank erosion, reduce damage from “flashier” flow conditions, and enhance habitat by eradicating invasive and other nondesirable species and planting of more desirable native species. Additionally, 0.40 acre of bottomland forest was restored in Ravinia Park.

This project had intended to remove an old spillway that was failing and causing erosion downstream and construct a new concrete spillway for Sylvan Lake. Creation of riffle structures were planned for the unnamed tributary immediately below the restored spillway. During the breach analysis and associated correspondence with the Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources, Office of Water Resources, it was discovered that the Sylvan Lake spillway was classified as an unpermitted Class II dam and, therefore, was in violation of rules that govern dams. One of Fremont Township Highway Dept.’s (FTHD) subcontractors proceeded to request a reclassification of the dam to Class III status, whereby future work on the spillway would be considered maintenance only, but the reclassification request was not decided in time for this portion of the project to proceed as intended. Spillway reconstruction was aborted as a component of this grant. Work related to spillway reconstruction was nonetheless completed and submitted for payment under this grant.

Below the spillway (i.e. Indian Creek Park), woodland restoration took place involving a combination of invasive species removal and seeding / planting of native herbaceous vegetation. For more information, including imagery,

pollutant load reduction calculations, and detailed project costs, the reader is referred to a final report developed by FTHD's primary subcontractor.¹

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.indiancreekwp.org/resources.html>

¹ Ravinia and Indian Creek Parks, Streambank Stabilization and Enhancement, Fremont Township, Lake County, Illinois. Prepared by Applied Ecological Services, Inc. and submitted to CMAP. June 11, 2007.