

RESOLUTION

VILLAGE OF GILBERTS

A Resolution authorizing participation in the Fox River Study Group and authorizing the Village Administrator to execute a Contract Agreement with the cost not to exceed .25 ¢ per capita per year

Be it Resolved by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Gilberts, Kane County, Illinois that:

Section 1:

The Village of Gilberts hereby authorizes the Village President and Village Clerk to execute a contract agreement between the Village of Gilberts and Fox River Study Group and authorize the Village Administrator to approve a contract with a cost not to exceed 25 ¢ per capita per year as here by attached hereto and made part hereof as Exhibit A as approved.

Section 2:

This resolution shall be in full force and in effect from and after its passage and approval pursuant to law.

Passed this 11th day of April, 2017 by a roll call vote as follows:

	<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Trustee Elissa Kojzarek	✓	_____	_____	_____
Trustee Dave LeClercq	_____	_____	✓	_____
Trustee Nancy Farrell	✓	_____	_____	_____
Trustee Louis Hacker	✓	_____	_____	_____
Trustee Dan Corbett	✓	_____	_____	_____
Trustee Guy Zambetti	✓	_____	_____	_____
President Rick Zirk	_____	_____	_____	_____

APPROVED THIS 11th DAY OF April, 2017

*[Signature]*  
Village President, Rick Zirk



ATTEST: *[Signature]*  
Village Clerk, Debra Meadows

Published: \_\_\_\_\_

# Fox River Study Group

682 State Route 31, Oswego, IL 60543  
www.foxriverstudygroup.org

*Sent via email to [gsakas@villageofgilberts.com](mailto:gsakas@villageofgilberts.com)*

April 6, 2017

George Sakas  
Village Administrator  
Village of Gilberts  
87 Galligan Road  
Gilberts, IL 60136

Dear Mr. Sakas,

Thank you for the Village of Gilberts' interest in becoming a member of the Fox River Study Group and your request for more information about the work of the Fox River Study Group.

The Fox River Study Group (FRSG) originated in 2001 when a number of wastewater agencies and environmental groups came together with the mission to bring together a diverse coalition of stakeholders to work together to preserve and/or enhance water quality in the Fox River watershed. The group incorporated as a 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation in 2003. It is governed by a nine-member board with seats held by these organizations: City of Aurora, City of Elgin, Fox Metro Water Reclamation District, Fox River Ecosystem Partnership, Fox River Water Reclamation District, Friends of the Fox River, Kane County, Sierra Club and the Tri-Cities (Batavia, Geneva and St. Charles).

Since 2002, the Fox River Study Group has conducted a monthly in-kind water quality monitoring program on the Fox River and its tributaries, including Tyler Creek. This is one of the most comprehensive, continuous monitoring efforts underway in any watershed in Illinois. These monitoring results along with additional data collection conducted during summer low flows and storm events by the Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS) and Deuchler Environmental have been used to calibrate computer models developed for FRSG by the Illinois State Water Survey. We are using the models to evaluate management scenarios for reducing the identified problems with high algae levels and low levels of dissolved oxygen in the mainstem of the Fox River. Management measures we have evaluated and continue to study include reducing phosphorus inputs from wastewater treatment plants, urban runoff and agricultural runoff as well the removal of legacy dams that provide an ideal environment for algae to grow and unfavorable habitat for fish and other aquatic organisms. Our findings can be found in the [Fox River Implementation Plan \(FRIP\)](#) released in December 2015. Key findings include that the annual phosphorus loading to the Fox River is 1.29 million pounds and summer low flow conditions are the critical times when nuisance algae levels are too high and dissolved oxygen (DO) levels are too low. Major wastewater treatment plants (if not already doing so) are in the process of reducing phosphorus discharges to the Fox River, resulting in an approximately 75% reduction of phosphorus loading in the summer months. This is anticipated to lead to

reductions in algae levels. In 2016 we conducted studies in areas of the river where our modeling indicates algae blooms and low DO levels are occurring. We will use this new information to recalibrate our models before we again run them to evaluate the next steps we need to take to further reduce algae and plant growth in the river. We are also working with the Army Corps of Engineers on a dam removal study on the Fox River.

The Village of Gilberts may also find useful this [2014 memo](#) prepared by the ISWS on the contributions of point and non-point sources to the phosphorus load to the tributary watersheds of the Fox River. Urban runoff from the village and its wastewater discharges contribute phosphorus to Tyler Creek that then flows into the Fox River.

One tool developed as part of the FRIP is the [Fox River Phosphorus Reduction Tool](#) which allows communities and farmers to evaluate the phosphorus reductions that can be achieved through the use of practices such as bioretention, dry & wet detention, street sweeping, vegetated swales, conservation tillage, constructed wetlands, field borders, grassed waterways and nutrient management. This tool and the FRSG's monitoring program are FRSG work products that the Village of Gilberts can make use of to satisfy the requirements of the village's MS4 permit. We also ask communities to report to the FRSG the measures they have taken each year to reduce phosphorus loads to waterways from their wastewater treatments plants and in runoff.

FRSG asks communities that want to be part of the study group to support the work of the group through a contribution of 25¢ per capita per year. The cities of Aurora and Elgin are contributing 50¢ per capita each year. These contributions fund the work of the group. Currently, the FRSG has no paid staff; our efforts are managed by the board of directors with the help of consultants hired for specific projects. Besides contributions from municipalities, our work is also funded by grants we have secured. Currently we are receiving funding from the Kane County Grand Victoria Riverboat Fund. In the past we have also secured funding support from the Dunham Fund, CMAP, Illinois EPA and USEPA.

The FRSG welcomes all communities in the watershed to contribute financially to the work of the FRSG and to participate in our monthly meetings. Together we are working as a watershed community to develop the most cost effective means to address the water quality issues in our watershed, rather than leaving it to the Illinois EPA to develop a clean-up plan for us. The Illinois EPA recognizes the value of our work and encourages communities to participate. The FRSG's workplan is incorporated into NPDES permits for participating communities, identifying the steps the community has underway to improve the water quality in our watershed.

If the Village decides it wishes to join as a member of the Fox River Study Group, please indicate so by returning this letter with the signature of a village official below.

If you have additional questions, you can contact me via email to [cskrukrud@foxriverstudygroup.org](mailto:cskrukrud@foxriverstudygroup.org) or by phone to my cell: 815-353-5123. Thank you!



Cindy Skrukrud  
Chair

The Village of Gilberts will become a funding member of the  
Fox River Study Group.



Name, Title George Sakas, Village Administrator

4/11/2017

Date