



# 2023/2024 Legislative Platform

The Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD) 2023-2024 Legislative Platform addresses the pressing concerns and needs of park districts, forest preserves, conservation, recreation and special recreation agencies. The following recommendations represent the culmination of research, input, and recommendations of elected board members, their professional staff, and legal counsel. After months of exploring and researching these issues, IAPD gives these proposals our highest priority and respectfully presents them to members of the 103rd General Assembly for further review and consideration.

■ **SB 2841 (Johnson, A.)**  
**HB 4502 (Lilly, C.)**

Seek legislation to statutorily protect dedicated Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) grant funds from being swept or transferred to another State fund.

■ **SB 2849 (Morrison, J.)**  
**HB 4715 (Rita, B.)**

Seek legislation to allow local governments to establish rules for the recreational use of drones on their property.

■ **SB 2870 (Aquino, O.)**  
**HB 4503 (Stuart, K.)**

Seek legislation to ensure cooperation between local governments and election authorities on the use of local government facilities as early voting polling places.

# IAPD

Illinois Association of Park Districts

**Dedicated to Helping Our  
Members Thrive Through  
Education, Advocacy, and Research**

✓ **SB 1840/Public Act 103-0235**

**(Sims, E., Jr./Slaughter, J.  
- Morgan, B.)**

Seek legislation to allow park district to utilize the existing police levy for additional public safety and security measures.

✓ **HB 2277/Public Act 103-0153**

**(Moeller, A./Morrison, J.)**

Seek legislation to clarify that periodic park district programs do not require a DCFS license.

✓ **HB 2192/Public Act 103-0146**

**(Didech, D./Ellman, L.)**

Seek legislation to permit park districts to enter into solar energy and equipment agreements for up to 20 years.

✓ **HB 2033/Public Act 103-0137**

**(Stephens, B./Chesney, A. - Turner, S.)**

Seek legislation to allow taxing districts to file bond ordinances electronically.

✓ **SB 2123/Public Act 103-0467**

**(Morrison, J. / Stuart, K.)**

*\*Passed as part of elections omnibus bill. Introduced as SB 1485 (Lewis, S. / Hammond, N.)*

Seek legislation to codify that once an election cycle has begun, a change in the number or terms of commissioners does not affect that election cycle.

■ Support full funding for the OSLAD matching grant program and protect these dedicated special funds from fund sweeps.

■ Support the appropriation of additional funding for the Park and Recreational Facility Construction (PARC) Grant Program and for the Public Museums Capital Grants Program.

■ Support funding assistance for early childhood development, pre-school and other early learning programs offered by park districts, forest preserves, conservation districts, recreation and special recreation agencies.

■ Support new funding for the Youth Recreation Corps Grant program to provide more first-time job opportunities and experience for youth.

■ Support funding for grants administered by the Illinois Arts Council.

■ Support measures that preserve local control by elected officials to determine the amount of their annual levy by protecting the CPI-growth within the PTELL.

■ Support and protect the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund as a secure and well-funded pension system for public employees of park districts, forest preserves, conservation districts, recreation agencies and special recreation associations.

■ Oppose the State's diversion of local revenues such as the Personal Property Replacement Tax.

■ Oppose unfunded mandates and other legislation which negatively impacts the ability of park districts, forest preserves, conservation districts, recreation and special recreation agencies to deliver services.

■ Oppose changes to Illinois labor laws that result in increased employer costs, unless subject to the State Mandates Act.