

Sent: Tuesday, January 13, 2004 6:14 PM
Subject: Re: There is no misunderstanding just a short memory by the DCFPD

Dear Mary:

Thank you for your email follow-up. In your recent email (copied below) you state...

"There seems to be a misunderstanding about who is proposing gun ranges and auto pounds in the Forest Preserve, according to Bill Weidner of the DuPage County Forest Preserve. Mr. Weidner said the land surrounding the forest preserve actually is owned by the government of DuPage County." There is no misunderstanding just a very short memory by the DCFPD officials. The DCFPD claims that the site the Sheriff wants to build an outdoor gun and rifle shooting range and junkyard for up to 300 vehicles is not on DCFPD land. That is technically true BUT until Dewey Pierotti signed off on the land transfer 12/12/02 those 3 parcels totaling 11.6 acres was part of the Greene Valley Forest Preserve.

We would like the DCFPD especially their Public Relations guru to stop making the statements that this land is not under DCFPD control. Not only should the DCFPD still try to have a strong influence on this property they should be trying to get the 11.6 acres back from DuPage County to ensure no future environmentally challenging proposals are built there which is in the middle of the Greene Valley forest preserve.

We have copied the DCFPD general email box and the DCFPD Commissioner that represents this area (W. Brown, District 3) on this email. In addition, we have copied the press and the Village of Woodridge so they too can help stop any misleading comments made to try and deflect any hint of responsibility with the DCFPD over these proposals.

The truth of the matter is that if the DCFPD did not give DuPage County these 11.6 acres the outdoor shooting range and the junkyard for 300 vehicles would not be proposed on a site in the middle of the Greene Valley forest preserve and next to the already polluted (according to the Sierra Club) East Branch of the DuPage River.

The other truth that Mr. Weidner failed to mention is that DCFPD Commissioner Joe Cantore has proposed building an outdoor gun and rifle range for recreational purposes. This shooting range would require the destruction of 30 acres of forest preserve land (location to be determined). **So the DCFPD is pursuing an outdoor shooting range.** Maybe Mr. Weidner missed the meeting where that was being discussed since the official DCFPD Recreational Committee did give the DCFPD staff the recommendation to pursue this recreational shooting range proposal.

Thank you again for your support and quick responses to our concerns. We hope our explanations will help clarify who is responsible (the DCFPD & DuPage County) for these terrible proposals.

Here is your complete email sent today:

There seems to be a misunderstanding about who is proposing gun ranges and auto pounds in the Forest Preserve, according to Bill Weidner of the DuPage County Forest Preserve. Mr. Weidner said the land surrounding the forest preserve actually is owned by the government of DuPage County. The Forest Preserve has no jurisdiction over it and has also objected and continues to object to the plans for a shooting range and auto pound.

His suggestion was to contact those who do have the authority to make a decision in these matters, namely the Chairman of the DuPage County Board, Mr. Robert Schillerstrom, or to the Sheriff's Office.

I hope this information will be helpful.

Mary O'Connor, Legislative Aide

The Preserve the DCFPD group is an all volunteer consortium of concerned individuals and groups from around the region that is working to stop the proposed outdoor gun and rifle shooting ranges (Sheriff Zaruba's and a proposed recreational range which would destroy 30 acres of forest preserve land) along with a junkyard for up to 300 vehicles in or next to any forest preserve in DuPage County.