

# County rejects auto pound, gun range

**By Jennie Korb**

Staff writer

DuPage County's Public Works Committee has shot down the possibility of a firing range or vehicle impoundment lot being built near the Greene Valley Forest Preserve.

District 3 County Board member Tom Bennington, who serves as the vice chairman of the committee, said it passed a resolution Jan. 20 deeming the site "inappropriate for both uses."

Last year, the Woodridge Village Board took a strong stand against placing a gun range or impound lot near the Greene Valley Forest Preserve. The village first passed a resolution "strongly opposing" the pro-

posals, then annexed the northern 28 acres of the Greene Valley Waste Water Treatment Plant to provide more control over development of that area.

County representatives said last month the possibility of building a shooting range near Greene Valley was "dead," and Bennington said the committee's resolution reinforces that. It also marks the "death knell of the impound lot at that site," he said.

Bennington said the committee's decision came after a review by county staff and a discussion with Woodridge Mayor William Murphy.

"There was a lot of resident opposition, which in itself goes to whether a site is appropriate or

not," he said.

According to a statement from Woodridge, numerous groups spoke out against the proposals, including a consortium of groups under the banner "Preserve the DuPage County Forest Preserve District," the Woods of Hobson Greene homeowners, and the Illinois Prairie Path Corp.

"Obviously I was quite pleased to hear (about the resolution). I think it reflects well on the many citizens who got involved, not just from the Woodridge area but throughout the county, who were concerned about the impact of such plans on the forest preserve," Murphy said.

He said Bennington called him the day the resolution was passed to

let him know what had happened. The resolution demonstrates Bennington's responsiveness to constituents' concerns, he said.

Bennington said because the proposals were brought to the Public Works Committee, that committee's resolution should be the "nail in the coffin" for the possibility of either use near Greene Valley.

"I believe the matter is a settled matter and that should be the end of it," Murphy said.

Bennington said the sheriff's department has withdrawn its support for that location, as well, and he expects their search for appropriate sites for the shooting range and impound lot to continue.

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