Proclamation #504

WHEREAS, The Illinois Prairie Path runs through the heart of the City of West Chicago and has been cared for by West Chicago citizens since it was founded in 1963; and

WHEREAS, Thousands of West Chicago volunteers have dedicated thousands of hours to preserve its natural beauty; and

WHEREAS, the City of West Chicago has enjoyed and embraced the beauty of the mature trees and native plant species in our community and along the Illinois Prairie Path; and

WHEREAS, West Chicago residents value the positive impact these trees and native vegetation bring to our quality of life and property values;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by I, Michael B. Kwasman, Mayor of West Chicago, Illinois, and City Council together with the Environmental Commission that the City recognizes there is a rising public discourse regarding the aggressive tree trimming and the elimination of swaths of native vegetation along the Illinois Prairie Path by Commonwealth Edison and its contractor Asplundh.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of West Chicago supports the ongoing efforts of its citizens to protect the trees and trails and believes they should be protected.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of West Chicago and its' citizens call for Commonwealth Edison and the County of DuPage to promptly develop a comprehensive management plan for IPP vegetation with an emphasis on native plantings and addressing invasive species.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of West Chicago petitions the Illinois Commerce Commission – I.C.C. for a public hearing to be held to discuss and resolve these important matters.

DATED this 19th day of October, 2009.

Mayor Michael B. Kwasman

ATTEST:

City Clerk Nancy M. Smith