



March 11, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) are organized in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 70 of the Illinois Compiled statutes and are subject to powers and restrictions as set forth in paragraphs 405.1 to 405.43; the General Assembly declares it to be in the public interest to provide:

- For the conservation of the soil, soil resources, water, and water resources of this State,
- For the control and prevention of soil erosion,
- For the prevention of air and water pollution and,
- For the prevention of erosion, floodwater and sediment damages, and thereby to conserve natural resources, control floods, prevent impairment of dams and reservoirs, assist in maintaining the navigability of rivers and harbors, conserve wildlife and forests, protect the tax base, protect and promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of this State.

It is the concern of the Will-South Cook SWCD that the proposed Compass Business Park includes prime Will County farmland. This farmland includes many conservation practices implemented by landowners with cost-share and technical assistance provided by NRCS and the SWCD. Significant tax dollars have been spent to improve and sustain the conservation of soil and water in the area.

Furthermore, development of prime farmland results in excessive soil erosion, water quality impacts, (storm water and drinking), increased flooding, urban sprawl, and negative financial impacts upon local, state, and federal government budgets.

Therefore, the policy of the Will-South Cook Soil and Water Conservation District is to oppose the plan for the proposed Compass Business Park in Elwood, Illinois.

Jim Robbins
Chairman

Will South Cook Soil & Water Conservation District