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**THE VILLAGE OF OAK BROOK**  
COOK AND DUPAGE COUNTIES, ILLINOIS

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**RESOLUTION**  
2020-OPP-GMD-R-1900

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A RESOLUTION OF OPPOSITION TO GRAUE MILL DAM REMOVAL

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**RESOLUTION OF OPPOSITION TO GRAUE MILL DAM REMOVAL**

**WHEREAS**, the portion of the Salt Creek watershed and flowage located within the boundaries of the Village of Oak Brook is a vital natural resource, source of historic power to the Graue Mill, and riparian host to the Graue Mill dam and reservoir pond created by that dam, which in turn is listed in the National Historic Register of the United States<sup>1</sup> as one of our nation's "historic places worthy of preservation."<sup>2</sup>

**WHEREAS**, The DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup (DRSCW) is an association of sixty-one (61) "Agency Members" including the Village of Oak Brook, as well as other municipalities located in the Salt Creek Watershed, including eleven (11) municipalities operating sewage treatment plants (the "Sewage Plants") that release sewage into Salt Creek, and the DRSCW is funded by dues assessed from each member, with extra "discharge fees" imposed on members operating treatment plants, resulting in DRSCW revenues of \$500,000 per year, administered by the Conservation Foundation, which seeks to "implement targeted watershed activities that resolve priority waterway problems efficiently and cost-effectively"<sup>3</sup> with its budget that is augmented with IEPA project grants;

**WHEREAS**, according to the *Final Report* titled Total Maximum Daily Loads for Salt Creek, Illinois, submitted to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (CH2M Hill, Inc. 2004), used as the basis for the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) to approve the Total Maximum Daily Loads (TDML) for chlorides, carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD), volatile suspended solids (VSS)<sup>4</sup> and ammonia-N, the sources of pollution in Salt Creek are the Sewage Plants and at least thirty-one (31) public and private properties and businesses discharging point-source dirty water into Salt Creek and its tributaries, to the extent that these chemicals now cause the water of Salt Creek to conduct electricity.<sup>5</sup>

**WHEREAS**, Salt Creek and its tributaries upstream and downstream from the Village flow through numerous golf courses soaked for decades in chemical fertilizers and weed killers known to be ruinous for the environment, and water from at least four (4) public and private golf courses in Oak Brook flows into the Ginger Creek tributary and into Salt Creek directly as it flows through the Village, and this chemical pollution has not been inventoried, assessed or mapped;

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<sup>1</sup> Property No. 75002077, listed May 12, 1975, [www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/database-research.htm#table](http://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/database-research.htm#table) The National Register of Historic Places was established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and is overseen by the National Park Service.

<sup>2</sup> nps.gov website "What is the National Register of Historic Places?"

<sup>3</sup> DRSCW website, [www.drscw.org/wp/about-us](http://www.drscw.org/wp/about-us)

<sup>4</sup> Including but not limited to copper, ammonia, phosphorous, chlorides

<sup>5</sup> See *Final Report* at 3-14 (referencing, e.g., Badger Pipeline Company, Accurate Cast Products, Prairie Material Sales, Union Pacific Railroad, Xerox Corp., Hillside Landfill, Blackhawk Molding Company); and as to conductivity, *Final Report* at 4-6.