



Hello Again Concerned Citizens of Manteno!

Last Friday I traveled to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources building and spoke at the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board's 200th meeting. When I arrived, the board members and department members were gathering. They showed me where to sit and where I would be speaking. I met the Chair of the Board and she was very inviting. It was a breath of fresh air from when I spoke at our Village Board Meeting. The atmosphere was very warm and inviting.

After sitting through the majority of the meeting, it was my turn. I had five minutes to speak, however they willingly gave me more since I was the only public speaker. I informed the board about what is happening in Manteno. I told the board of what materials Gotion will be using and their environmental danger. Some members were shaking their heads in agreement, they knew the dangers.

I also talked about the Kankakee Mallow plant on Langham Island and the Sheepnose Mussel in the Kankakee River. Some members/ scientists knew exactly what I was talking about and had the same concerns. Did you know Kankakee River is 133 miles long and runs into the Des Plaines and Illinois River?

Unlike our Village board meetings, the IESP Board responded back with their own questions! We had a great conversation about our concerns. And although they cannot do anything right now, it was very nice to be heard, understood, and shown respect. After the meeting, I meet with a few board members and department leads. They gave me some great information on where to go next.

Thank you all for reaching out and supporting this trip. I know our voices and concerns were heard.

Shannyn Dockery

