



WATERSHED PLANNING IN COOK COUNTY

JANUARY 2017 - CALUMET STORMWATER COLLABORATIVE

Background on 319 and existing plans

- Section 319 of Clean Water Act
- Six watershed plans for major watersheds in Cook County by MWRD – currently address flooding
- Water quality considerations, community engagement + potential projects are required for Section 319 eligibility



CSC took action

- The CSC identified this as a potential initiative to work on as a collaborative
- MPC was asked to develop a grant application for watershed planning work and submit to IEPA
- Initial application in 2015 for all six watersheds in Cook County

Illinois EPA said yes!

- Grant agreement finalized and signed between IEPA and MPC
- 2-year period (2017-2018)
- MPC has selected and signed a contract with a sub-contractor for technical work
- Funding will support work to supplement existing MWRD plans in four watersheds

The four watersheds

- Little Calumet River South (IL_HB-01) Year 1
- Cal Sag Channel (IL_H-01) Year 1
- Poplar Creek (IL_DTG-03) Year 2
- Lower Des Plaines River (IL_G-03) Year 2

Elements required

- Causes of impairment and sources of pollutant loading sources
- Identification of management measures that will need to be implemented to achieve pollutant load reductions
- Estimates of the load reductions expected from management measures
- Estimate of costs and the amounts of technical and financial assistance needed
- Planning of education and outreach appropriate for plan implementation
- Schedule for implementing the planned management measures.
- Milestones for gauging and tracking plan implementation
- Criteria that can be used to determine whether loading reductions are being achieved
- Planning for monitoring to evaluate the effectiveness of the implementation efforts over time

Opportunities for stakeholder input

- MWRD Meetings with Watershed Planning Councils (Winter, Spring, and Early Fall)
- Briefings and Feedback Opportunities in CSC meetings
- Opportunities to Review Draft Plans (Late Summer/Early Fall)

**Final Plan Submittals (for 2 Calumet Watersheds)
to IEPA December 2017**

Questions?

