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# CALUMET STORMWATER COLLABORATIVE

MEETING SUMMARY – June 1, 2018  
Metropolitan Planning Council  
140 S. Dearborn, Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60603

## Attendees

Emily Grimm, Baxter & Woodman, Inc.  
Kim Siemens, CDMSmith  
Monica Rockstroh-Giermek, Christopher Burke Engineering  
Thomas Burke, Christopher Burke Engineering  
Kate Evasic, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning  
Michael Ryzhov, Current Water  
Ramont Bell, Faith in Place  
Patrick Lach, Hey and Associates  
Lisa Cotner, Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
Annie Turek, Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
Jerry McGovern, Independent  
Jeff Edstrom, Illinois State Water Survey  
Saki Honda, Mott MacDonald  
Josh Ellis, Metropolitan Planning Council  
Danielle Gallet, Metropolitan Planning Council  
Bob Newport, Metropolitan Planning Council  
Shehara Waas, Metropolitan Planning Council  
Seema Wadia, Metro Strategies  
Celia Chagnovich, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago  
Joe Kratzer, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago  
John Watson, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago  
Ted Haffner, Openlands  
Bill Wood, SmithGroup JJR  
Mike Fraider, Village of Alsip  
Keith Molitor, Village of Alsip  
Karen Kreis, Village of Midlothian



## Member Updates

Kate Evasic from Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning announced that the draft ON TO 2050 comprehensive regional plan will be [posted on June 15 for public comment](#) through August 14. This plan, a follow-up to GO TO 2040, is slated to feature an updated, more robust Stormwater and Water Resources section. The plan will be published and scheduled for adoption in October 2018. Register today to celebrate metropolitan Chicago's future and the launch of ON TO 2050 on Wednesday, October 10, 2018 from 10am to noon. Learn more and RSVP [here](#).

Josh Ellis from the Metropolitan Planning Council announced that MPC is partnering with CMAP and the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus to undertake a transformative effort to build local government capacity in the Chicago region. This body of work regularly intersects with MPC's

[Water Supply program](#). MPC is hiring a full-time Associate to assist with this work and related projects that deepen the organization's effective government and water management agendas. Qualified applicants with background in local government, public administration, or related fields are especially encouraged to apply. To learn more, click [here](#).

Danielle Gallet from MPC announced on behalf of The Wetlands Initiative that TWI is seeking a Development Associate to focus on the identification, cultivation and stewardship strategy for individual donors. Those interested can find more information [here](#).

## **Presentation**

### **MWRD Green Infrastructure Program: Past, Present, and Future?**

#### **Insights from last year's program and lessons learned in identifying local government partnerships**

***Joseph Kratzer, Managing Civil Engineer, MWRD***

Joseph provided an informative overview of MWRD's stormwater management programs, including 1) Stormwater Phase I (DWP) Projects that entail design and construction of regional flood control and streambank stabilization projects, 2) Stormwater Phase II Projects that entail funding of shovel-ready projects and design of conceptual projects, 3) Green Infrastructure partnerships with local communities, and 4) Flood-Prone Property Acquisitions that entail voluntary buyouts where no practical engineered solution exists.

Within the Green Infrastructure Program, Joseph highlighted the award-winning Space to Grow program, working with the Chicago Housing Authority on rainwater harvesting at Dearborn Homes and working with local municipalities on projects in Evanston, Blue Island, Kenilworth, Wilmette, Northbrook, Niles, and Berwyn (complete) as well as Skokie (under construction).

The call for Green Infrastructure projects in 2017 resulted in 20 projects being accepted, comprising an estimated total construction costs of \$11.7 million and 3.6 million gallons of design retention capacity estimated. Among some of the new initiatives, Joseph mentioned developing a Green Book as a guide for residents to build rain gardens, etc., enhance green infrastructure details for developers and provide a suite of green infrastructure best management practices for use by municipal engineers. MWRD is also looking to develop and implement a flood relief plan for Cook County, working with local communities to find solutions to stormwater issues using an outcome-based approach and deliver results that address stormwater and other community issues at an affordable cost.

Joseph shared insights from the programs' successes and lessons learned along the way. A short question and answer session following the presentation facilitated further considerations of the programs' great potential and synergies with the goals and objectives of the Collaborative.

For more information on the MWRD and these efforts, contact Joseph Kratzer [kratzerj@mwrdd.org](mailto:kratzerj@mwrdd.org) or Jim Yurik [yurikj@mwrdd.org](mailto:yurikj@mwrdd.org). Visit the [CSC website](#) to review the full presentation materials.

## June 2018 Work Planning

Following the presentation, the meeting transitioned into a work planning-focused session. Danielle revisited the Framework for the CSC 3-Year Work Plan consisting of actionable and measurable objectives, fundamental goals, and the ultimate vision that the CSC holds for the Calumet region—that it can effectively manage wet-weather events today and is resilient to future events under a changing climate. Members paired up to brainstorm what are examples of member agencies' current/future Activities that align with the CSC Objectives and Goals that could be documented in the CSC 3-Year Work Plan and track progress on. Each of the Work Groups also met to start discussing next steps with discrete Activities. Danielle concluded the meeting by challenging everyone to consider if there are any other initiatives that Work Groups or new Project Teams could advance that members think would be important to drive the CSC mission.

## Meeting Wrap-up and Final Remarks

Danielle thanked everyone for participating throughout the work planning session and for sharing a number of ideas to inspire CSC members to activate within their own agencies. She also reminded everyone of the next CSC meeting, Friday, July 13, which falls on the second Friday of July.

## Next Meeting

Friday, July 13, 2018  
10:00am to 12:00pm  
Metropolitan Planning Council  
140 S. Dearborn, Suite 1400, Chicago

**For more information contact:**

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