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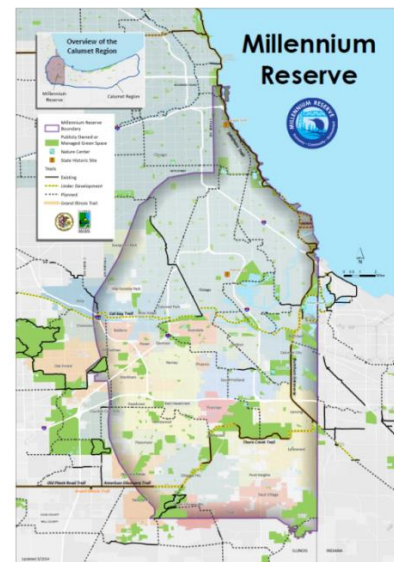
# CALUMET STORMWATER COLLABORATIVE

MEETING SUMMARY – Aug 4, 2017  
Metropolitan Planning Council  
140 S. Dearborn, Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60603



## Attendees

Marcella Bondie Keenan, Center for Neighborhood Technology  
Rebecca Raines, Center for Neighborhood Technology  
Anjolie Cheema, CH2M  
Carol Kim, Chicago Park District  
Thomas Burke, Christopher Burke Engineering  
Monica Giermek, Christopher Burke Engineering  
K.C. Doyle, Cook County Dept. of Environment & Sustainability  
Eve Pytel, Delta Institute  
Graig Neville, EDI  
Ramont Bell, Faith in Place  
Eric Otto, Forest Preserves of Cook County  
Craig Clarkson, Geosyntec  
Julia Plumb, High Bridge  
Lisa Cotner, Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
Annie Turek, Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
Margaret Schneemann, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant  
Jeff Edstrom, Independent Consultant  
Sarah Cardona, Metropolitan Planning Council  
Danielle Gallet, Metropolitan Planning Council  
Liz Granger, Metropolitan Planning Council  
Bob Newport, Metropolitan Planning Council  
Ranjita Tiwari, Metropolitan Planning Council  
Shehara Waas, Metropolitan Planning Council  
Ted Haffner, OpenLands  
Jose Alarcon, South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association  
Stephanie Nurre, Stantec  
Melissa Custic, The Morton Arboretum  
Emily Okallau, The Morton Arboretum  
John Legge, The Nature Conservancy



## Member Updates

Lisa Cotner from IDNR announced that IL State Water Survey is seeking a Visiting Water Resources Specialist to provide support and technical assistance to the Coastal Management Program, specifically nonpoint source pollution issues. The application close date is August 9, 2017. Please follow this [link](#) for more details.

Melissa Cusic from The Morton Arboretum shared that the Chicago Region Trees Initiative is organizing its annual Partner Recognition celebration on October 12, 2017 from 12 noon to 7pm when partners will gather to collect an inventory of every public tree in Pullman. If you are interested in leading a team or joining a team, please complete this [form](#).

Emily Okallau from the Morton Arboretum added that they are conducting a tree inventory in the Woodlawn neighborhood on three dates: Friday, 8/25 from 9-5pm; Friday, 9/22 from 9-5pm and Wednesday, 10/4 from 9-5pm. Some basic tree identification skills required. Participants do not need to participate for the entire time. For more information or to sign up, please contact Emily at [eokallau@mortonarb.org](mailto:eokallau@mortonarb.org).

Stephanie Nurre from Stantec announced that the American Society of Civil Engineers IL Section is hosting an in-person Envision SP Accreditation Training on September 13th from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm at Northwestern University Kellogg School of Management Chicago Campus. Envision is a civil engineering and infrastructure rating system. Details and to RSVP are found [here](#).

K.C. Doyle from Cook County shared that Prairie State College, the South Suburban Higher Education Consortium, the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus and Cook County will be hosting a Solar Education Summit on Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 am to 12 noon at Prairie State College. RSVP to Alessandra Kummelehne at [akummelehne@prairiestate.edu](mailto:akummelehne@prairiestate.edu).

## Presentations

### ***Rain Garden installations funded by Chi-Cal Rivers Fund Ray Bell, Faith in Place***

Ray gave an inspiring presentation about the cross-sector, multi-agency collaboration that led to an application to the Chi-Cal River Fund that was successfully funded. Multiple CSC member agencies were involved including MWRD, CNT, Faith in Place, OAI as well as member Jeff Edstrom.

Leveraging the various partners' expertise areas, Faith in Place secured the Chi-Cal Rivers Fund support in 2016 to install five rain gardens, deliver and install 500 rain barrels, and train youth on barrel installation. Of the measurable impacts, Ray reported that already 195,000 gallons of rainwater have been diverted in 2017 as a result of the five rain gardens alone, and a total of 1.7 million gallons have been diverted with all rain gardens and rain barrels combined.

Of the lessons learned, Ray noted how critical it was to engage and educate residents early, understand their concerns and adapt where necessary. In one instance, Faith in Place switched from native plants to native shrubs to gain the support of the community. He also noted how this experience was a great example of collaborating with multiple parties to seek out funding and make a tangible impact on urban flooding.

***Capturing Success Stories and Impacts of the CSC  
Danielle Gallet and Liz Granger, MPC***

Danielle and Liz reiterated how Ray's presentation about the collective effort to make a difference in communities is an example of the very powerful stories coming out of the Calumet Stormwater Collaborative. MPC is undertaking a new initiative to tell these stories about the work of the Calumet Stormwater Collaborative members in order to highlight the metrics, the people, and overall how we are solving urban flooding together. Liz is a new member of MPC's communications team, and will be reaching out to CSC members to hear more about the work being done, so please stay tuned! Danielle and Sarah at MPC are also conducting interviews with CSC member agencies to better capture the impacts of the CSC, and will also be contacting members in the near future.

***Work Group Initiative Update – Education + Engagement  
Eve Pytel, Delta Institute and Sarah Cardona, MPC***

Eve gave an update on behalf of the work group about the practical training that Delta Institute in collaboration with the CSC is hosting in early 2018. This will be a half-day workshop in the Calumet region geared around practical information for on-the-ground implementation of stormwater management best practices. Some of the training content will include the updated green infrastructure design templates from Delta Institute, the Mapping Viewer Tool from the CSC Data + Modeling work group, and other tools being developed by the CSC. The agenda will soon be finalized and marketing the event will start around October. Eve asked the CSC members to help promote this event once all marketing materials are available.

Sarah reported on two other initiatives the work group has been advancing over the past year: a one-page handout as well as a template PowerPoint presentation. Both pieces briefly summarize the CSC, its initiatives-at-a-glance and ways to get involved. These are meant to be simple pieces that CSC members can use when introducing or presenting on the CSC at meetings, during stakeholder outreach or at external events about stormwater initiatives to help promote the CSC.

The one-page handout is available on the [CSC website](#). Danielle will circulate via email a copy of the PowerPoint template to CSC members.

***Next Meeting***

Friday, Sept 8, 2017  
10:00am to 12:00pm  
Metropolitan Planning Council  
140 S. Dearborn, Suite 1400, Chicago

**For more information contact:**

Danielle Gallet  
Metropolitan Planning Council  
312.863.6016  
[dgallet@metroplanning.org](mailto:dgallet@metroplanning.org)