

Member Updates

Karen Kreis from the Village of Midlothian took the opportunity to announce, again, that the first RainReady plan was adopted— Midlothian is the first community in the U.S. to have created a RainReady plan, and there has been some great press coverage. To view this plan, please click [here](#). Additionally, she mentioned that Midlothian RainReady will be awarded the Illinois Association of Floodplain and Stormwater Management 2016 Education and Outreach Award at the IAFSM Annual Luncheon on March 17th. In addition to that, the village will be hosting Green Drinks at 6 p.m. that same day. All the meeting attendees are invited.

Chris Mulvaney from Chicago Wilderness provided a brief update about the agency's work. He mentioned that one of the areas the alliance will be focusing on this year is water as a resource. They have been working with a group of advisors to design different strategies and define their role in water management at a regional scale. Likewise, they announced their plans to organize a regional water summit this year.

Overview of work planning process, results thus far and structure for moving forward

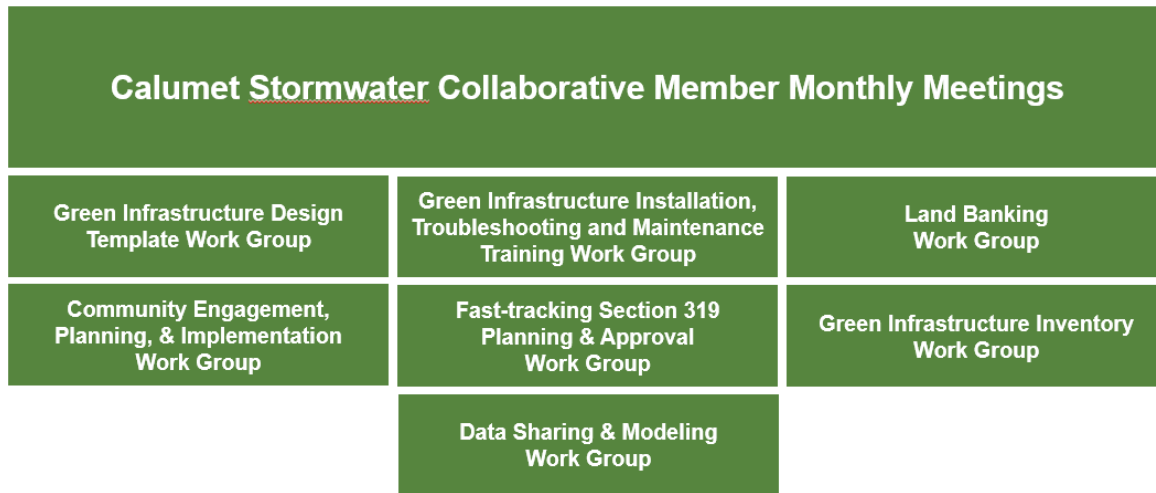
Danielle Gallet from MPC began the conversation by outlining where the CSC has been, and where it is headed. She gave a quick overview of the CSC process to-date, which was started in April 2014 and explained the extensive process the group went through to establish its first work plan. The work plan contains the CSC's mission statement, vision statement, the fundamental challenges it focuses on, its intended actions and working group structure.

She also addressed how the past year helped to solidify the value of the collaborative among its members, and stressed the importance of maintaining this value now and into the future. The focus of this next year will be on finding a balance between value and impact of the CSC. With this additional focus on impact, the 2016/2017 work planning process was designed to help support this goal. Gallet then walked the group through that three-month work planning process:

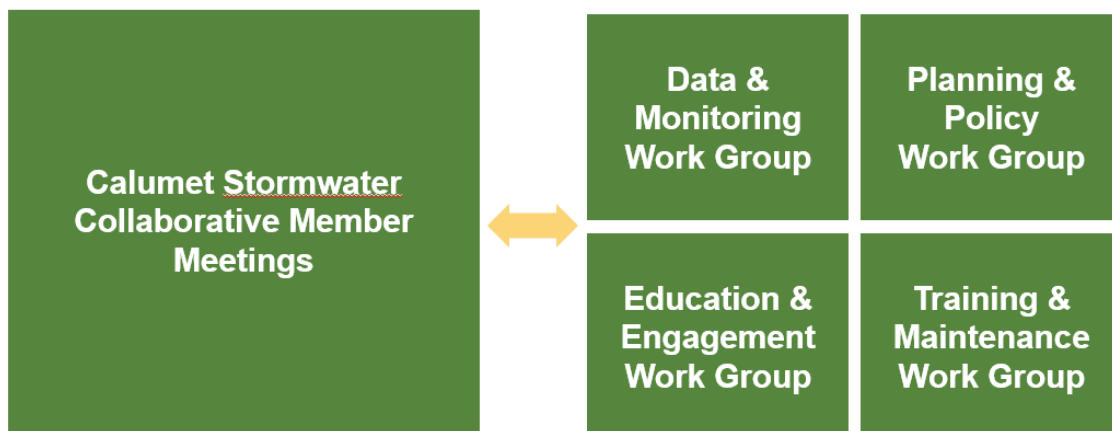


The focus of the March meeting is to discuss updates to the existing structure of the CSC in order to support the value, impact and actions the members have identified throughout this working planning process that they would like to see happen. Following are two images – a before and after – on the proposed structure changes of the CSC:

Where We've Been: Original Structure



Where We're Headed: Proposed Structure



The two main adjustments proposed were going from seven to four working groups, and in order to place emphasis and a new level of support for on-the-ground initiatives of those working groups, to adjust the full member meetings to an every other month timeframe. In placing more resources, time and effort in the working groups this year, the CSC would be able to deliver on its new balance between value and impact.

CSC members were then welcomed to share their thoughts and reactions to the proposed structure adjustments. These reactions included concern about not meeting as a large group every month to

maintain cohesion, how to keep the work groups organized to achieve impact on specific initiatives going forward and how the work groups might structure themselves to support conference call options and meeting location logistics. This beneficial conversation helped inform MPC and the larger CSC on reactions to the proposed structure changes, which will be considered before a final arrangement will be announced in April.

CSC work group presentations

Following the discussion on updates to the CSC structure, each of the work group leads gave a quick presentation about the groups purpose, their impact statement and current or possible initiatives. In addition, a handout was given out to all the attendees to provide them with an overview of the new work group structure, with the intention of providing a better sense of the potential initiatives and projects they are thinking about, and how they can get involved. To view this draft handout, please click on the link provided in the March meeting summary.

4 New/Existing Work Groups:



Work group chats: a “career day” exercise

Following the work group presentations, each of the work group leads sat down at their group’s assigned table. Participants not already involved in a working group were then encouraged to walk around and talk to the different working group leads where they were potentially interested in being involved in – a take on a career day experience. Participants were encouraged to ask questions and make suggestions about ideas they had for potential initiatives, and to discuss how they might like to collaborate and get actively involved.

Attendees interested in one or more work groups filled out a sign-in sheet specifying their contact information and briefly mentioning their interest in that particular work group.

Presentation: CMAP’s Developing Stormwater Local Technical Assistance Program

The final activity of the March CSC meeting featured a presentation by Kate Evasic and Nora Beck from CMAP about the agency’s developing Stormwater Local Technical Assistance Program. The presenters shared the four main components of the program:

- Local Approach
- White Paper-Integrating Stormwater Management into Comprehensive Planning
- Data Sharing
- Regional Analysis

Afterwards, they dedicated a significant part of the presentation to the data collection and data sharing information process they have been working through. To view the PowerPoint presentation, please click on the link provided in the March meeting summary.

As part of CMAP's focus on its ON TO 2050 regional plan, Beck mentioned that one of the intentions of this program is to take what they have learned from a local approach, and see what can be done at a regional scale.

Closing remarks and announcements

Danielle Gallet from MPC thanked all the attendees for coming and actively participating in the activities, and let everyone know that their valuable feedback would be considered as the crafting of the next work plan for April is being done. She also mentioned that all of the four working groups would be meeting between now and the end of March in order to solidify the specific initiatives each group will be working on for incorporation into the work plan.

Next Meeting

Friday, April 1, 10:00am – 12:00pm

Metropolitan Planning Council

140 S. Dearborn, Suite 1400, Chicago

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