
CALUMET STORMWATER COLLABORATIVE

MEETING SUMMARY – June 5, 2020
Metropolitan Planning Council
Zoom meeting



Attendees

Brad Kasberg, Audubon Great Lakes
Drew Williams-Clark, Center for Neighborhood Technology
Graig Neville, CERA Solutions
Jack Eskin, Delta Institute
Cassie Pettit, Delta Institute
Chelsey Grassfield, Friends of Chicago River
Patrick Lach, Hey and Associates
Vidya Balasubramanyam, IDNR Coastal Management Program
Ania Bayers, IDNR Coastal Management Program
Jeff Edstrom, IDNR Coastal Management Program
Cody Eskew, IDNR Coastal Management Program
Lisa Krause, IDNR Coastal Management Program
Margaret Schneemann, Illinois Indiana Sea Grant
Cathy Cannon-Wells, Lewis & Associates
Josh Ellis, Metropolitan Planning Council
Meg Fredericks, Metropolitan Planning Council
Justin Keller, Metropolitan Planning Council
Ryan Wilson, Metropolitan Planning Council
Moriah Gelder, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago
Aislinn Gauchay, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Traci Giefer, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Megan Lewis, Planning Consultant
Leslie Dorworth, Purdue University Northwest/Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant
Bill Wood, SmithGroup
Caroline O'Boyle, The Trust for Public Land
Jen Jenkins, The Nature Conservancy
Dean Massey, University of Illinois at Chicago
Eliana Brown, University of Illinois Extension/Illinois Indiana Sea Grant
Kate Gardiner, University of Illinois Extension
Karen Kreis, Village of Midlothian
And others...

Member Updates

Moriah Gelder from the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago said the Green Infrastructure Partnership Opportunity Program is now accepting applications. The submission deadline has been extended to August 30 to give people more time. Check out more information at mwrdd.org/gi-app.

Cody Eskew from the IDNR Coastal Management Program announced that NOAA will be hosting a webinar on FEMA's Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program on June 17 at 2:30-3:30 PM. [Register here](#).

Drew Williams-Clark from the Center for Neighborhood Technology thanked everyone for their good feedback on the Urban Flooding Baseline. They are starting to have an idea of what the tool might look like and will discuss this further at the July CSC meeting.

Extended Member Update

WMO update & identifying projects for StormStore

Ryan Wilson, Metropolitan Planning Council

Jen Jenkins, The Nature Conservancy

Ryan delivered news that MWRD has updated their Watershed Management Ordinance (WMO) to remove prominent barriers to credit trading in Cook County. This enables StormStore, a partnership between TNC and MPC, to begin seeking partners within the Lower Des Plaines and Little Calumet watersheds for their Credit Trading Pilot. Ryan and Jen outlined criteria for participants, which include geographical, size-based, and topographical requirements. [A full list can be found here](#). More information is also available in recent publications on the [MPC](#) and [TNC](#) websites.

Presentations

Theme: advancing the CSC's Goal 1: Significant reduction in non-overbank flooding, and Goal 2: Grey and green infrastructure maintains its designed performance over time

Chi-Cal Rivers Fund 2020: Navigating an Abbreviated Application Process

Traci Giefer, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Aislinn Gauchay, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

The Chi-Cal Rivers Fund is a public-private partnership which has invested over \$28 million in Chicago-area projects since 2013. There will be \$1 million available for grant funding in 2020, with a typical grant size of \$100,000 to \$300,000. Grants usually last 24 months, or two field seasons. The types of projects that are prioritized for funding are those that center habitat quality, green stormwater infrastructure, and public access improvements. Eligibility requirements and additional guidance is available on the [Chi-Cal Rivers Fund RFP Page](#).

The application process has changed slightly for 2020. Specifically, there is no pre-proposal for grant funding. Grants made by the Chi-Cal Rivers Fund do not require match funding, but applications with 1:1 match are more competitive. Match can be federal or non-federal, other grants, in-kind services, land acquisition, volunteer activities, and more. Because there is no pre-proposal this year, Traci Giefer (Traci.Giefer@NFWF.ORG) and Aislinn Gauchay (Aislinn.Gauchay@NFWF.ORG) encourage applicants to reach out with any questions; they want to help you submit a competitive application. Awards will be made in November, with no other delays expected. [Guidelines for competitive applications and answers to frequently asked questions can be found in the meeting presentation](#).

IDNR Coastal Management – Competitive Grants Program

Ania Bayers, IDNR Coastal Management Program

The IDNR Coastal Management Program (CMP) works to protect and enhance the environmental, economic, and social value of Illinois' Great Lakes coast, fostering healthy ecosystems and resilient communities. IDNR CMP has awarded over \$5.5 million in grants to 60 grantees, with individual grants ranging from \$3,000 to \$100,000. In the past, competitive grants have been predominantly focused on education and outreach (71%), planning (25%), and restoration (4%).

In 2020, a Request for Proposals will likely go out in October or November, and the pre-application will likely be due in January. A pre-application decision will be made by March, and selected applicants will be invited to submit a full application, which will be due in April and May (45 days after notification). The grant period covers 18 months, from Fall 2021 to Spring 2023. IDNR CMP funding comes in the form of a reimbursement grant, meaning that there are no advance payments. A 1:1 in non-federal match is required for most projects, with the exception of economically challenged communities, where a grant can cover 75% of the total cost (1:3 match). [Visit the IDNR website to learn more about the grant program. Selection criteria, restrictions, and application guidelines can be viewed in Ania's full presentation.](#)

Visit the [CSC website](#) to review the full presentation materials.

Next Meeting

****Work Group-focused meeting****

Friday, July 10, 2020

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Location TBD

For more information contact:
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