



CALUMET STORMWATER COLLABORATIVE

Work Plan 2022

Developed by Metropolitan Planning Council in
collaboration with Calumet Stormwater Collaborative

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

About	4
Mission Statement	5
Vision Statement	5
Collective Impact Model	6
Tasks for 2022	7
Meetings	7
Work Groups	7
Steering Committee	8

ABOUT



Calumet Stormwater Collaborative (CSC) is a diverse group of stakeholders, including government officials, engineers, researchers, planners, policy experts, community members, and more. CSC works to improve coordination of knowledge, technology, and financial resources to minimize the negative impacts of stormwater in the Calumet region of Illinois.

CSC is one of the priority projects of Calumet Collaborative (formerly the Millennium Reserve) and is facilitated by Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC). CSC includes key stakeholders controlling land, infrastructure, financing tools, and regulatory powers related to stormwater.

The purpose of CSC is to foster awareness of the many ongoing stormwater management initiatives in the Calumet region, forge a shared understanding of terms, establish common goals, and identify opportunities to align existing and future projects toward those goals.

MISSION STATEMENT

CSC builds intergovernmental and cross-sectoral partnerships to increase the effectiveness of stormwater management initiatives for the communities and ecosystems of the Calumet region of Illinois through knowledge sharing, coordination, and deployment of interventions at appropriate scales.

VISION STATEMENT

CSC will be a venue for the coordinated deployment of knowledge, technology, and financial resources to minimize the negative impacts of precipitation and, through interventions at an appropriate scale, support new and ongoing initiatives with Calumet-region communities, many of which are historically underserved, financially strained, and prone to severe flooding, especially in the face of increasingly frequent and severe storms caused by climate change.



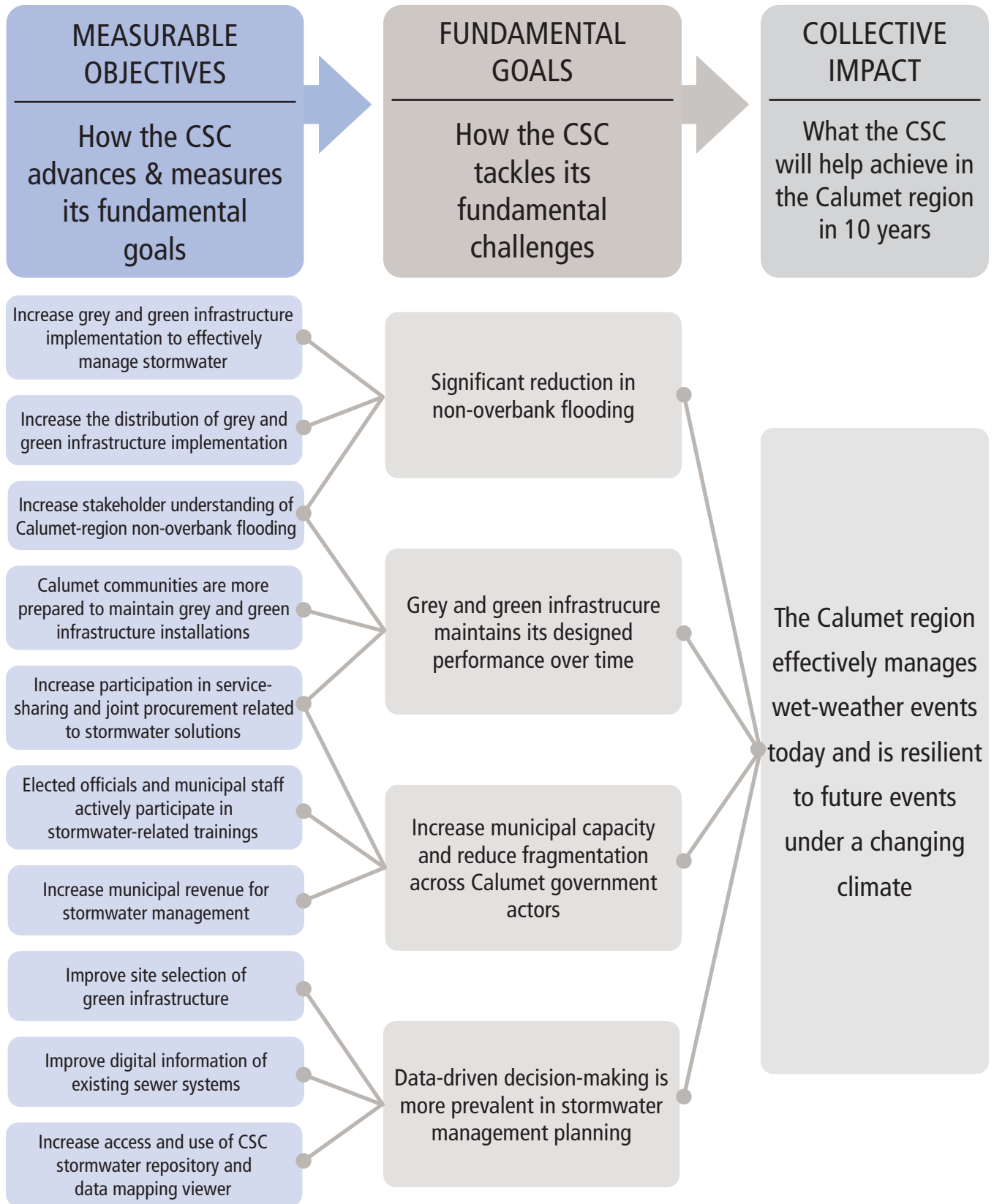
COLLECTIVE IMPACT MODEL

The Collective Impact Model (Fig. 1) describes the pathway for achieving CSC's intended long-term impact, i.e., "the Calumet region effectively manages wet-weather events today and is resilient to future events under a changing climate." The model includes Goals and Objectives to help CSC track and refine our efforts.

The Goals are as follows:

1. Significant reduction in non-overbank flooding;
2. Grey and green stormwater infrastructure maintains its designed performance over time;
3. Increase municipal capacity and reduce fragmentation across Calumet government actors; and
4. Data-driven decision-making is more prevalent in stormwater management planning.

Figure 1: CSC Collective Impact Model



TASKS FOR 2022

The overarching goal of Work Plan 2022 is to build on the accomplishments of Work Plan 2018-2021. In many cases, tasks are a continuation of Phase 3 activities from the previous work plan while addressing identified gaps and strengthening ongoing initiatives.

1. Meetings

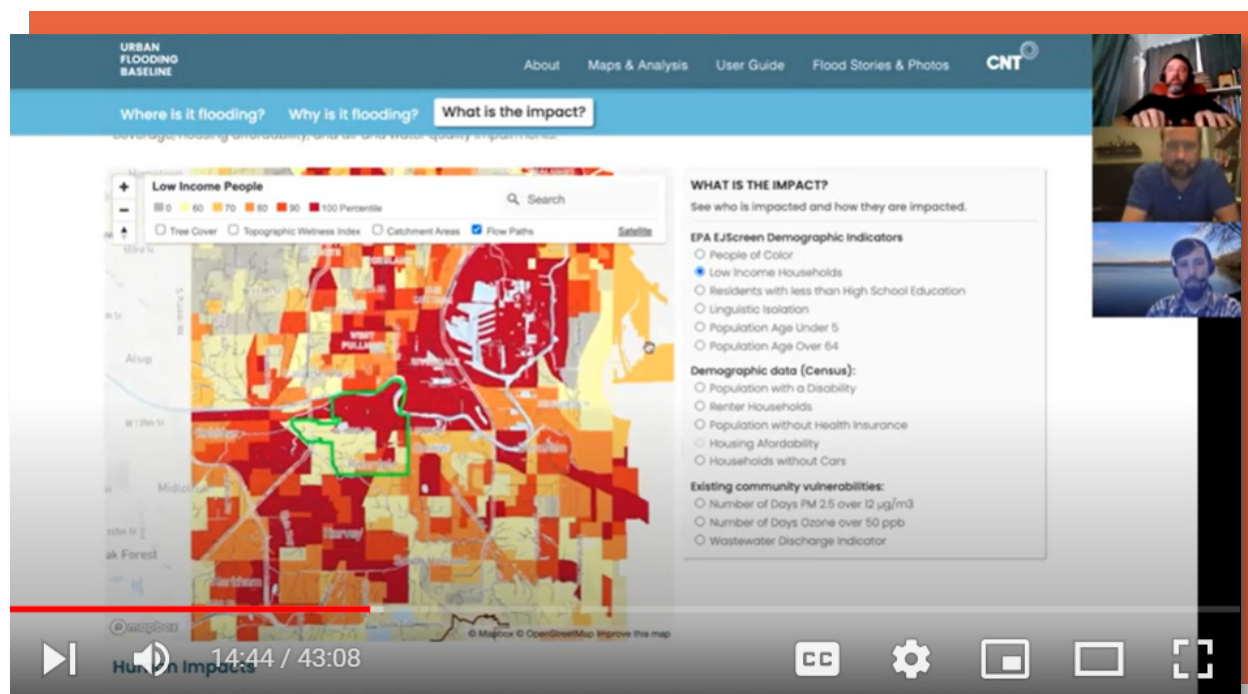
Description: CSC meetings occur monthly, generally on the first Friday of each month. Presentation topics, updates, discussion items, and other activities are curated by MPC and the CSC Steering Committee, as well as elicited from CSC member organizations.

Starting in April 2020, meetings transitioned from in-person to a virtual meeting platform. Based on the consensus opinion of two informal CSC surveys, this format will continue for the foreseeable future. When it is safe to do so, virtual meetings will be supplemented by a limited number of in-person gatherings throughout the year, such as a mid-year Field Trip and the Annual Holiday Party.

Everyone is welcome to attend CSC meetings. All participants are invited to share in the development of monthly agendas.

Scope: Topics should align with the Goals in CSC's Collective Impact Model. They are intended to foster awareness of ongoing stormwater management initiatives in the Calumet region and beyond, forge a shared understanding of terms, establish common goals, and identify opportunities to align existing and future projects in the service of achieving CSC's intended long-term impact.

Lead: MPC, Steering Committee



2. Work Groups

Description: CSC leverages the expertise of its diverse membership by forming Work Groups that advise, shape, and execute activities that connect to CSC's Goals and Objectives. Work Groups convene during CSC meetings, generally meeting five times per year. At the discretion of Work Group leads, members can supplement these meetings with additional coordination via phone, email, and in-person or virtual meetings.

CSC members self-select into Work Groups, based on interest, expertise, organizational priorities, etc. If additional expertise is needed, Work Groups can identify and recruit new members, including individuals who do not regularly attend CSC meetings.

Below is more information about each Work Group, including the stated purpose and lead organization(s):

Municipal Outreach & Engagement Work Group

Purpose: Increase local capacity to address stormwater challenges in the Calumet region by engaging municipalities and disseminating resources, best practices, and pilots in stormwater management.

Scope:

- Develop, and modify throughout the year, a targeted list of municipal stakeholder meetings which the Work Group lead will attend and provide update presentations
- Curate a list of updates to be presented at municipal stakeholder meetings, including but not limited to CSC initiatives, resources, and pilot programs as well as relevant funding and other opportunities to support municipal stormwater management initiatives
- Based on report-outs from the Work Group lead, identify municipal priorities and challenges for which CSC and its members can be a resource and develop a strategy to connect municipalities with these resources, as well as funding
- Collect and review existing municipal plans to identify implementation opportunities related to local stormwater/flooding needs and maintain a repository for use by CSC and Work Group members

Lead: TBD

Planning & Policy Work Group

Purpose: Establish and work directly with a cohort of municipal stakeholders to leverage CSC analytical, expertise, and influence resources for the purpose of building local government capacity to improve policy and attract investments for stormwater management.

Scope:

- Review the results of MWRD's Municipal Survey and advise on the establishment of a cohort of municipal stakeholders to participate in an education, networking, and capacity building and assistance program aimed at supporting local stormwater management champions building capacity and addressing resource gaps
- Develop, and modify throughout the year, strategies to connect municipal stakeholders with CSC resources and member organizations with a view to education and action around stormwater priorities and needs
- Based on report-outs from the Work Group lead, identify opportunities to connect stakeholders with resources, consulting, etc. that will have the greatest impact for local stormwater management priorities
- Identify a pipeline of stormwater management projects ready for federal and/or philanthropic investment based on work with municipal stakeholders

Lead: Center for Neighborhood Technology

Training & Maintenance Work Group

Purpose: Bolster long-term functionality, performance, and cost-effectiveness of green stormwater infrastructure in the Calumet region by developing and executing training and management systems.

Scope:

- Build Work Group capacity, participation, and engagement with other Work Groups and improve Work Group structure
- Help arrange the delivery of quality (i.e., credentialed and certified) training on green stormwater infrastructure installation and maintenance
- Strengthen Assist in strengthening management systems related to budgeting, planning, delivery, and accountability for maintenance work and help “operationalize” the delivery of maintenance services
- Work to align training with actual hiring and project needs, place trainees in jobs/internships, and provide wrap-around services. Address incumbent worker needs

Lead: IDNR Coastal Management Program, OAI, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, CRTI at The Morton Arboretum

3. Steering Committee

Description: The CSC Steering Committee is a subset of CSC members tasked with developing strategies to help the broader CSC achieve its Goals and Objectives. The Steering Committee also supports MPC’s facilitation of CSC meetings. Meetings are held 2-3 times per year and supplemented by additional coordination via phone and email.

The CSC Steering Committee group is limited to fewer than 10 individuals, and efforts are made to ensure diversity in terms of geography, demography, and sector. Everyone is invited to become a member of the CSC Steering Committee, pending approval by MPC (email jkeller@metroplanning.org).

This is a group of advisors and not an oversight body, and i.e., it has no formal authority.

Scope: Steering Committee members meet throughout the year to discuss issues germane to CSC, including but not limited to the following:

- Utilizing members’ professional networks, identify and make connections to relevant presenters, topics, updates, discussion items, and other activities for CSC meetings
- Evaluate and develop strategies to support Work Groups in achieving CSC’s intended long-term impact
- Expand CSC membership (i.e., recruitment), specifically targeting groups and organizations not currently represented among CSC members – as well as improving diversity of experience/expertise and seniority among groups and organizations represented – to improve CSC’s ability to achieve its Goals and Objectives through a diversification of skills and abilities, perspectives, networks, resources, etc.
- Identify other groups that have potential alignment with CSC and its Work Groups but without, necessarily, a stormwater focus – e.g., economic development groups, community development groups, special purpose districts, business owners, real estate developers, transportation departments, utilities – and, if applicable, make connections to Work Groups and the communities they support
- Identify opportunities for collaboration between the Work Groups and help foster and facilitate that collaboration

Lead: MPC



For more information about
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