

# Calumet Stormwater Collaborative:

May, 6 2016 Meeting

## **Mission Statement**

The Calumet Stormwater Collaborative builds intergovernmental and cross-sector *partnerships to increase the effectiveness of stormwater management initiatives* for the communities and ecosystems of the Calumet region through knowledge sharing, coordination and deployment of interventions at appropriate scales.

## **Vision Statement**

The Calumet Stormwater Collaborative will be a model of coordinated deployment of knowledge, technology and financial resources to minimize the negative impacts of precipitation and maximize the positive to make the Calumet region a better place to live, work and recreate.

# CSC 2016-2017 Work Plan

## CALUMET STORMWATER COLLABORATIVE 2016-2017 WORK PLAN



### Who we are.

The Calumet Stormwater Collaborative was formed in 2014 to pursue the Millennium Reserve priority to “Improve stormwater management through investments in and coordination of green infrastructure solutions.” [Read more about this Millennium Reserve priority and others here.](#) The negative impacts of precipitation, or “stormwater,” in the Calumet region and southeast Chicago lakefront, from flooding to poor water quality, result from historic land use decisions, declining infrastructure sufficiency and increasingly severe storms. Thus the negative impacts are largely an issue of management, rather than the “fault” of the precipitate itself, and these impacts work at a larger scale than the scope or jurisdiction of any one organization or agency. Systemic change necessitates solutions at the scale of the problem.

However coordination between governments is a fundamental challenge to managing stormwater in any geography, be it a watershed or manmade [sewershed](#). Government units have different regulatory and political pressures with varying financial and technical capacities—absent coordination—inconsistent goals, processes and investments will persist. Other non-government actors also manage land, provide financing tools and assist with on-the-ground solutions, all of whom are just as much a piece of the puzzle. In the Millennium Reserve area—Illinois’ portion of the Calumet Region and parts of the Illinois Lake Michigan coast ([see map](#))—the Calumet Stormwater Collaborative (CSC) serves to provide the appropriate scale, structure and tools necessary to facilitate ongoing coordination.

The CSC was convened and is facilitated by the Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC) with funding from The Chicago Community Trust, Grand Victoria Foundation, Joyce Foundation and Prince Charitable Trusts, and is comprised of the key stakeholders controlling land, managing infrastructure, providing financing tools, holding regulatory powers and working on solutions in the region related to stormwater. Stakeholders throughout the Millennium Reserve have identified a wide range of different stormwater management goals, strategies and tactics. The one universal and consistent desire has been for better communication and coordination. That is the core purpose of the Calumet Stormwater Collaborative. The CSC addresses three central problems:

1. Stormwater overwhelms current infrastructure;
2. Green infrastructure’s role in stormwater management is still taking shape; and
3. Coordinated action between government units and other stakeholders controlling land, infrastructure, financing tools and regulatory powers is necessary to solve systemic problems in systemic ways.



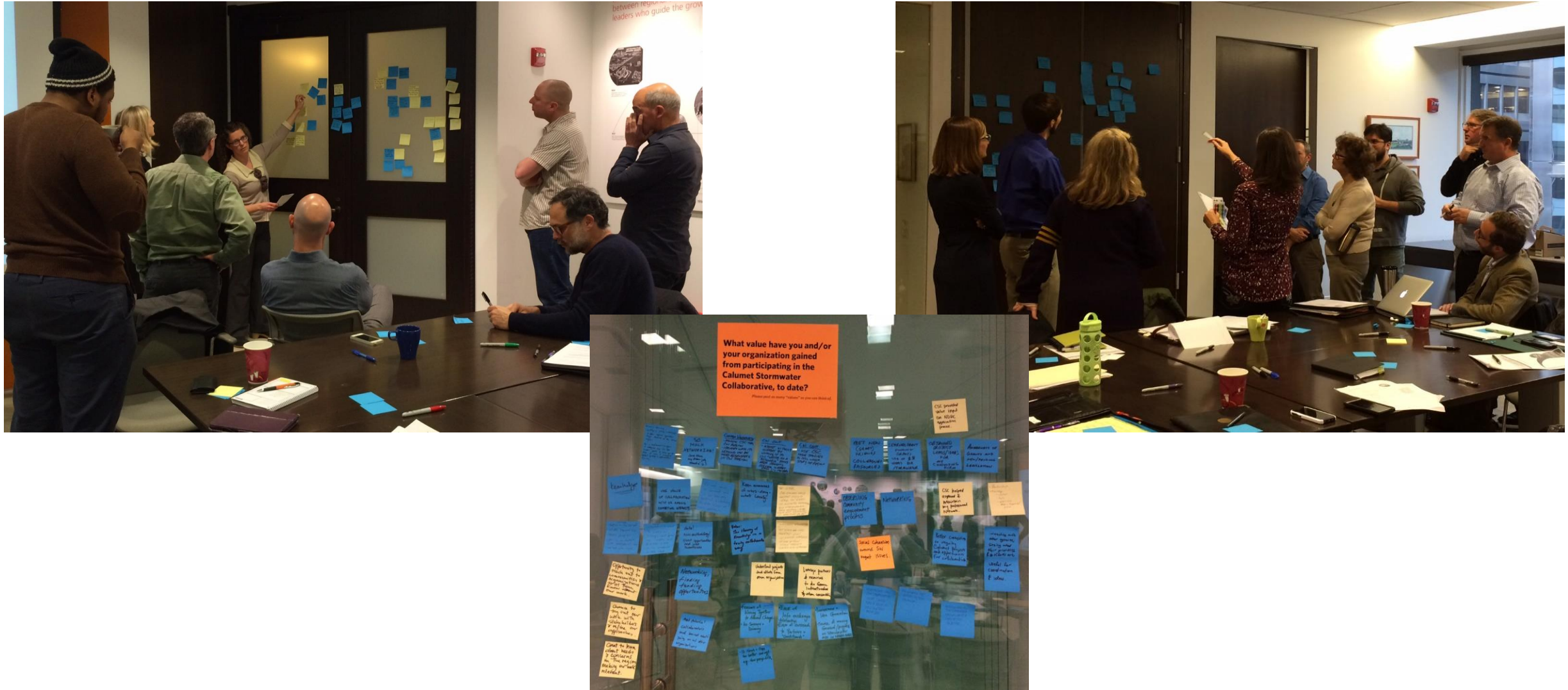
Who we are.

Where we have been.

Where we are headed.

Work groups + initiatives.

# CSC Members Drove the Process



# Structure

**Calumet Stormwater  
Collaborative Member  
Meetings**



**Data &  
Modeling  
Work Group**

**Planning &  
Policy  
Work Group**

**Education &  
Engagement  
Work Group**

**Training &  
Maintenance  
Work Group**

# 2016-2017 Work Groups:

**Data &  
Modeling  
Work Group**

**Education &  
Engagement  
Work Group**

**Planning &  
Policy  
Work Group**

**Training &  
Maintenance  
Work Group**

# Data & Modeling Work Group

## Data and Modeling Work Group

**Work Group Lead(s):** Mason Throneburg (CH2M)

**Work Group Purpose:** The Data and Modeling work group focuses on how models, tools and data can be developed, shared and applied to support the overall objectives of the CSC. This work group focuses on connections between systems (e.g., surface and sub-surface systems, community systems and regional interceptors and/or tunnel systems) that may exceed the purview of any one agency or community. The working group facilitates stormwater planning informed by its system-wide context, as well as developing a technical basis for the prioritization and selection of stormwater solutions.

**Work Group 2016 Impact Statement:** Facilitate access to stormwater data and feasible monitoring approaches in order to improve knowledge sharing and decision making across the region.

### Initiatives:

- Produce a stormwater regional mapping viewer
- Develop a modeling extents data layer
- Create a data sharing portal
- Act as a resource for the CSC.
- Expand the gap analysis performed in early 2015 to new members of the CSC and to the other work groups.

# Education & Engagement Work Group

## Education and Engagement Work Group

**Work Group Lead(s):** Molly Oshun (CNT), Lisa Cotner (IDNR) and Melissa Cusic (The Morton Arboretum)

**Work Group Purpose:** Increase local capacity to address stormwater challenges in the Calumet through practical education of residents, agencies, organizations and landowners.

**Work Group 2016 Impact Statement:** The Education and Engagement work group will actively engage the residents, agencies, organizations and land owners of the Millennium Reserve to identify priority areas and determine effective strategies to meet stormwater and green infrastructure needs with CSC resources. We will also work with residents to raise public awareness of the challenges and opportunities for improved on-site stormwater management.

### Initiatives:

- Engage 6 new community groups and/or local government officials regularly in the CSC process.
- Leverage the social media bandwidth of CSC E&E members to share success stories from the MR region and pause to celebrate through emails, written case studies, public events and/or green infrastructure fieldtrips in Calumet region.
- Increase awareness of flooding issues and solutions by engaging decision makers and community groups in meetings and workshops.
- Leverage the CSC expertise to host 4 CFM accredited workshops for public officials on key green infrastructure topics (e.g., transportation resurfacing, green infrastructure maintenance).
- Leverage the CSC expertise to host 2 workshops for public works staff on tree planting and maintenance and tree benefits regarding stormwater.
- Produce CSC "pitch" materials for different audiences to share with other work group and members (boilerplate language, PowerPoint slides for engagement, internal CSC speaker bureau with lists of expertise and interests to help E&E members in shaping future engagement opportunities).

# Planning & Policy Work Group

## Planning and Policy Work Group

**Work Group Lead(s):** Nora Beck (CMAP) and Danielle Gallet (MPC)

**Work Group Purpose:** The Planning and Policy work group will focus on creating and implementing effective planning practices and policies that advance the integration of stormwater best management practices in the region.

**Work Group 2016 Impact Statement:** Develop guidance on the integration of stormwater best management practices into various community planning and project work, and explore policy avenues to advance improved stormwater management.

### Initiatives:

- Develop a repository of resources on best practices and key considerations for communities on how to implement stormwater management into their community planning and capital improvement projects.
- Review the Urban Flooding and Awareness Act report and identify possible policy recommendations to pursue.
- Provide input to CMAP on its development of a white paper for communities in how to incorporate stormwater management into land use plans.
- Support the piloting of UIC's participatory planning tool for green infrastructure in communities.
- Weigh-in on the exploration research being done about the use of vacant land as a stormwater management opportunity.



# Training & Maintenance Work Group

## Training and Maintenance Work Group

**Work Group Lead(s):** Margaret Schneemann (IISG) and Mollie Dowling (OAI)

**Work Group Purpose:** The Training and Maintenance work group strives to ensure long-term functionality/cost-effectiveness of and commitment to GI by aligning workforce development, training, installation & maintenance capacity with regional demand drivers.

**Work Group 2016 Impact Statement:** Better understand training and maintenance demand, ability to meet this demand, performance standards and policy barriers in order to identify actions necessary to build capacity for workforce training, volunteer training, and related economic development in the GI sector of the CSC regional economy. This work group will foster collaborations and partnerships to advance actions to achieve these efforts.

**Initiative:**

- Conduct a needs assessment/market analysis to ensure that training and workforce development efforts are a) in alignment with the Calumet coastal zone region's occupational and employment needs, b) effectively leveraging partnerships and trainings and c) in accordance with demand drivers for green infrastructure, skills gaps, design standards, municipal regulations and the regional policy environment.

# Related, Useful Initiatives

- Calumet region community contact database (MPC)
- Map of existing projects/activities by agencies in the Calumet region related to stormwater (CMAP)
- Request: Calendar of events, workshops, etc. created and maintained for CSC and partner agency outreach opportunities (?)
- ?

# New Structure Reminder

## CSC Large Group Meetings

May

July

September

November

## CSC Work Group Focused Meetings

June

August

October

December

# Next Meeting

Friday, June 3, 2016 10:00am to 12:00pm

Work group-focused meeting

Metropolitan Planning Council

140 S. Dearborn, Suite 1400, Chicago