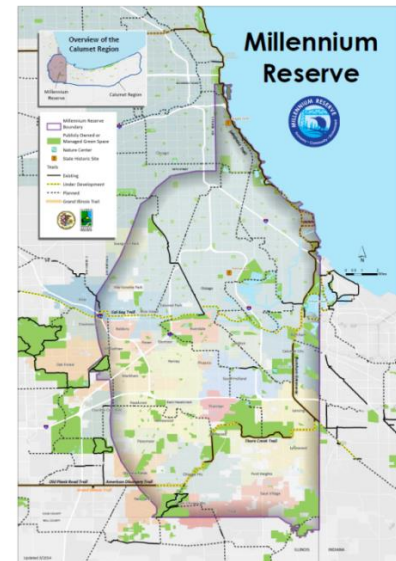

CALUMET STORMWATER COLLABORATIVE

MEETING SUMMARY – Oct 6, 2017
Metropolitan Planning Council
140 S. Dearborn, Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60603



Attendees

Emily Grimm, Baxter & Woodman
Elizabeth Evans, Bluestem Communications
Rebeca Bell, Bluestem Communications
Marcella Bondie Keenan, Center for Neighborhood Technology
Hal Sprague, Center for Neighborhood Technology
Anjolie Cheema, CH2M
Carol Kim, Chicago Park District
Michael Berkshire, Chicago Department of Planning & Development
Nora Beck, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
Kate Evasic, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
Thomas Burke, Christopher Burke Engineering
Monica Giermek, Christopher Burke Engineering
Sarah Fahy, EDI
Graig Neville, EDI
Eric Otto, Forest Preserves of Cook County
Craig Clarkson, Geosyntec
Lisa Cotner, 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
Gabriel Tyler, Metropolitan Planning Council
Shehara Waas, Metropolitan Planning Council
Ashley Munson, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
Alfred Saucedo, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
Melissa Custic, The Morton Arboretum
Mollie Dowling, OAI Chicago Southland
Ludovica Gazze, University of Chicago Energy & Environment Lab
Moira Zellner, University of Illinois at Chicago



Member Updates

Michael Berkshire from the Chicago Department of Planning and Development announced that the city has started construction of green infrastructure projects on city-owned vacant land in three neighborhoods, including West Humboldt Park and North Lawndale. Stormwater from surrounding streets and alleys will be directed to the green infrastructure features. The city is working with local community groups who will be providing long term maintenance of the landscapes. Michael also

shared about the city's work with the Kelly Hall YMCA on Chicago Avenue to provide outdoor recreational areas with 18 inches of stormwater storage, permeable materials, tree planting and an outdoor classroom with growing beds for residents to harvest food to use at the YMCA. This project is funded through a Community Development Block Grant with a goal of completion by 2017.

Kate Evasic from CMAP reported that they received 80 applications by 69 different applicants to the LTA program, and the CMAP Board will formally announce the approved Local Technical Assistance projects this month. A full list of 2017 project applications can be found [here](#). Related to stormwater, the Village of Midlothian submitted a proposal with help from CNT for a capital improvement plan focusing on stormwater. The Village of Robbins also partnered with MWRD to develop a plan that includes stormwater improvements and transit-oriented development and industrial districts. For any questions, please contact Kate Evasic at kevasic@cmapp.illinois.gov or Nora Beck at nbeck@cmapp.illinois.gov.

Melissa Cusic from The Morton Arboretum reminded everyone of the Chicago Region Trees Initiative annual Partner Recognition celebration on October 12, 2017 from 12 noon to 7p when partners will gather to collect an inventory of every public tree in Pullman.

Sarah Cardona from MPC shared about the various CSC engagement with the Water Environment Federation's Annual Technical Exhibition and Conference (WEFTEC). During the conference, a panel of speakers from MPC, CMAP and CNT presented on the Calumet Stormwater Collaborative, showcasing the great work of this effective regional collaboration. MPC also led a successful tour for 30 conference attendees to visit three green infrastructure sites in the Calumet region: the City of Blue Island, a Space to Grow schoolyard site, and green infrastructure features at the Method Soap Factory in Historic Pullman. Lastly, at WEFTEC, MWRD received two awards, one for operational and design excellence for completion of the Calumet Tunnel and Reservoir Plan and one in project excellence for the Stickney Reclamation Plant Nutrient Recovery Facility.

Danielle Gallet from MPC reminded everyone that the holidays will be upon us soon, and called for volunteers to join the Holiday/End-of-Year Celebration planning committee to help plan a fun celebratory meeting during the December 2017 CSC meeting. She reminded the group of the highly-competitive CSC trivia contest that was part of last year's event. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please email Sarah Cardona at scardona@metroplanning.org.

Presentations

Accessing Section 319 Grants For Local Communities
Danielle Gallet, Bob Newport, Metropolitan Planning Council
Dave Buckley, Christopher B. Burke Engineering

MPC was awarded a grant from Illinois EPA to develop water quality-focused materials for four watershed plans in Cook County. Two watersheds are being addressed in 2017: the Cal-Sag Channel watershed (IL_H-01) and the Little Calumet River watershed (IL_HB-01). These materials will be supplemental to the Detailed Watershed Plans (DWPs) previously developed by MWRD. The idea of applying for funding to develop watershed plans for the Cal-Sag Channel and Little Calumet River watersheds first arose from discussions at a CSC meeting about 2 years ago.

Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. has been doing the technical work on the watershed plans. Watershed resource inventories were developed in the spring and submitted to Illinois EPA at the end of June. Full drafts of the plans for the Cal-Sag Channel and Little Calumet River watersheds were submitted to Illinois EPA at the end of September. The final versions of the plans are due in December.

An important component of the watershed planning work was to evaluate loadings of key pollutants in each subwatershed. This led to the development of tables identifying the priority watersheds – those with the highest loadings. The types and amounts of loadings in both the Little Calumet and Cal-Sag Channel watersheds are closely related to land use. The highest loadings come from areas with residential and industrial land use and road right-of-ways.

Work was then undertaken to determine what Best Management Practices (BMPs) and infrastructure retrofits would be appropriate to reduce pollutant loadings and make progress in improving water quality. Suites or combinations of BMPs were identified for each type of land use/land cover and applied in each subwatershed. This led to overall quantitative calculations of the scale of BMP implementation, the associated loading reductions, and costs. An implementation schedule was laid out covering a 25-year period, and project milestones were formulated. Implementation of the planned BMPs will achieve a 17% reduction in loadings of sediment (a key indicator pollutant) with other pollutant loadings anticipated to be reduced as well.

MPC and CBBEL are interested in feedback from CSC stakeholders on the plan components, including:

- What kind of information or elements presented in other 319 watershed plans have been most helpful/useful to your work in the past? Why?
- What nonpoint source (non-pipe) stormwater-related projects are you aware of within these two watersheds?
- What are your thoughts/reactions to using the projected implementation level (25% of areas in all subwatersheds will have BMPs applied) and the associated pollutant reductions and costs?

Feedback can be emailed directly to the email boxes set up for submitting feedback and information:

calsag319@cbbel.com
littlecal319@cbbel.com

Bluestem Communications
Elizabeth Evans and Rebeca Bell

Bluestem Communications specializes in values-based communications that aim to inspire action. Elizabeth and Rebeca gave an overview of their work to change behavior related to flooding reduction in the Great Lakes region. Their team is comprised of scientists, communications and public engagement experts. Acknowledging that people are driven to make decisions based on values, not just the facts, Bluestem works in communities to help them put their values into practice.

They have recently created a [guidebook](#) for the Millennium Reserve (now the Calumet Collaborative) which direct residents and tourists to exciting options they may have overlooked in a

region teeming with historic sites, museums, natural beauty, biking and hiking, breweries, restaurants, music and more. To obtain a hard copy, please contact Rebeca Bell at rbell@bluestemcommunications.org.

Liz and Rebeca highlighted their interest in partnering with the CSC to bring their communications and outreach approach to our work. During the Q&A section, the group discussed what resident habits the CSC would like to encourage to reduce stormwater pollution or flooding as well as embrace natural infrastructure solutions like rain gardens or tree planting. There was also a desire to continue general education and engagement on stormwater solutions particularly in communities of color.

The slides from both of the above presentations are posted on the [CSC webpage](#).

Work Group Initiative Update – Data + Modeling **Anjulie Cheema, CH2M**

Anjulie updated the group about the Data Mapping Viewer Tool, found [here](#). After her presentation in April, the Work Group received a lot of helpful feedback from the CSC.

They have just transitioned the tool to a custom web-based application to be able to use it from your phone. For additional feedback or suggestions, please email collaborativestormwaterviewer@gmail.com.

The Education & Engagement Work Group also gave a quick update about the Member Spotlight initiative with a call to watch for an email with a questionnaire to advance that initiative.

Next Meeting

Friday, November 3, 2017
10:00am to 12:00pm
Metropolitan Planning Council
140 S. Dearborn, Suite 1400, Chicago

For more information contact:

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