
CALUMET STORMWATER COLLABORATIVE

MEETING SUMMARY – October, 7 2016

Metropolitan Planning Council

140 S. Dearborn, Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60603



Attendees

Burrell Poe, Center for Neighborhood Technology
Curtis Witek, Center for Neighborhood Technology
Rebecca Raines, Center for Neighborhood Technology
Anjolie Cheema, CH2M
Mason Throneburg, CH2M
Chris Mulvaney, Chicago Wilderness
Thomas Burke, Christopher Burke Engineering
Monica Giermek, Christopher Burke Engineering
Ben Shorofsky, Delta Institute
Graig Neville, EDI
Eric Otto, Forest Preserves of Cook County
Lisa Cotner, Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Lauren Schnoebelen, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant
Jeff Edstrom, Independent consultant
Mark Wagstaff, M3 Engineering Group
Josh Ellis, Metropolitan Planning Council
Danielle Gallet, Metropolitan Planning Council
Jack Chan, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago
Brent Shraiberg, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago
John Watson, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago
Melissa Custic, The Morton Arboretum
John Legge, The Nature Conservancy
Ted Haffner, Openlands



Member Update

Curtis Witek from CNT RainReady extended an invitation to any interested Calumet Stormwater Collaborative members who would like to join a short-term, multidisciplinary Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). The purpose of this TAC is to refine preliminary plan recommendations and

implementation strategies, which currently fall into three broad categories, those that: 1) *repair* and improve existing grey infrastructure systems, 2) *retrofit* developed areas with green infrastructure, 3) *reorient* new developments and redevelopments. The TAC will convene in mid-November at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers offices downtown (Date/Time TBD) and again in early-January at a location in the south suburbs (Date/Time TBD). CNT is grateful for those that have already signed up and would be happy to engage additional CSC members! People interested in joining the TAC should email Curtis Witek (cwitek@cnt.org) by 10/14. To learn more about CNT's Calumet-focused RainReady planning efforts please visit: <http://rainready.org/SouthSuburbs>.

Melissa Cusic from the Morton Arboretum reminded collaborative members about October 2016 being officially proclaimed OAKtober – Oak Awareness Month in Illinois by Governor Rauner. She also announced there will be an arborist mentoring program for experts. If interested, please [click here](#) for more information.

Chris Mulvaney from Chicago Wilderness reminded meeting participants of Chicago Wilderness' upcoming Congress on November 2. For more information or to register, please click here: <http://www.chicagowilderness.org/page/congress>.

Josh Ellis from the Metropolitan Planning Council recognized and congratulated Kelsey Pudlock (a previous Research Assistant and Fellow at MPC) on her new job with the Chicago Metropolitan Planning Council (CMAP) working on stormwater among other great topics.

Danielle Gallet from the Metropolitan Planning Council announced that MPC will be hosting a Roundtable event on emerging best practices in stormwater management. The event will include speakers from the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD), Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) and Center for Neighborhood Technology (CNT). The roundtable also will highlight two new resources MPC is releasing to assist the region and municipalities in tackling our urban flooding woes: a vision for a regional stormwater modeling system and research into effective ways to generate revenue for stormwater management. To learn more and register for this event, please click here: [A Flood of Ideas: Emerging Best Practices in Stormwater Planning](#).

2 Work Group Updates

Two work groups had the opportunity to provide an update on their progress over the last few months on respective initiatives.

Training & Maintenance

Lauren Schnoebelen from Illinois Indiana Sea Grant Program let participants know that the workgroup had a call last week to go over the green infrastructure case studies that are being done as part of the needs assessment this year. It was identified the case studies need more detail, and

the group is working to identify a potential green infrastructure case study on private property. Members provided some ideas on who to contact for potential case studies.

Education & Engagement

Melissa Custic from the Morton Arboretum informed meeting participants the Education + Engagement work group is working to craft interview questions and organize a handful of interviews with key staff members at local municipalities within the Calumet region. The purpose is to better understand how the CSC and provide resources and keep they communities regularly engaged. She also let everyone know the work group will have a completed a one-pager and PowerPoint about the CSC for public distribution by members shortly.

2 Work Group Presentations and Engagement Exercises

The other two work groups of the CSC had the opportunity to engage meeting participants in interactive discussions to help them refine their current initiatives.

Data & Modeling

Anjolie Cheema from CH2M unveiled a draft of the mapping viewer tool this work group has created to assist members of the CSC and local communities in understanding the various plans and data available currently within the Calumet region. It is important to reiterate this is a draft of the viewer – additional edits, data uploads and layer descriptions are still be worked on. However, members were given a tutorial about the mapping viewer, and asked to respond to the following three questions:

1. How would you or your organization use this tool?
2. What data is missing?
3. What would enhance the user's experience?

Attendees were able to ask questions on usage, methodology and data, and provided feedback to the work group on the above questions. This is a really exciting tool that is being publically hosted by SSMMA – congrats to the work group, and a special thanks to Anjolie and Mason Throneburg from CH2M on their hard work!! To see the DRAFT mapping viewer, please [click here](#).

Planning & Policy

Due to the important review of the data mapping viewer by the Data + Modeling work group, Danielle Gallet from MPC gave just a short update on the Planning & Policy work groups current initiatives:

- The work group has also been reviewing and prioritizing the community-scale recommendations from the Urban Flooding Awareness Act to identify which

recommendations the work group might be able to help recommend within the Calumet region.

- Work continues on assisting South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association (SSMMA) in moving forward with a program to assist local communities in the Calumet in updating/creating sewer atlas' in order to better understand local infrastructure maps and conditions.

A handout was then passed around, and meeting participants were asked to take a couple minutes to fill it out in order to assist the work group in identifying key resources that should be included in the stormwater repository the group is working on. This online resource will be a curated resource of best practices and key considerations aimed at CSC members to help them equip Calumet communities to better manage stormwater and urban flooding issues.

Meeting Wrap-up and Final Remarks

After the repository resource exercise, Danielle Gallet from MPC thanked everyone for their participation, and reminded everyone about the upcoming November 17th roundtable at MPC on emerging stormwater best practices. She also emphasized that the next CSC monthly meeting will be on Friday, November 4th and it will take place at the offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Planning Council. An RSVP for the meeting will be required due to building security at Willis Tower.

Upon final wrap-up of the formal monthly meeting, work groups were given 40 minutes to hold private, working sessions on their respect initiatives, which lasted until shortly after 12:00 p.m.

Next Meeting

Friday, November 4, 10:00am to 12:00pm

****New Meeting Location****

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)

233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite #800, Chicago, IL 60606

A meeting RSVP will be required.

For more information contact:

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