
CALUMET STORMWATER COLLABORATIVE

MEETING SUMMARY – November 5, 2021
Metropolitan Planning Council
Zoom meeting



Attendees

Matt Moffitt, Baxter & Woodman
Drew Williams-Clark, Center for Neighborhood Technology
Michael Brown, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
Kate Evasic, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
Thomas Burke, Christopher B. Burke Engineering
Kim Hayward Buys, Cook County Dept. of Emergency Management and Regional Security
Kim Nowicki, Cook County Dept. of Emergency Management and Regional Security
Deb Kutska, Cook County Dept. of Environment and Sustainability
Chelsey Grassfield, Friends of the Chicago River
Eric Otto, Forest Preserves of Cook County
Becky Helfrich, Geosyntec
Karoline Qasem, Geosyntec
Lisa Krause, IDNR Coastal Management Program
Margaret Schneemann, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant
Dave Lampert, Illinois Institute of Technology
Bill Wood, SmithGroup
Justin Keller, Metropolitan Planning Council
Ryan Wilson, Metropolitan Planning Council
John Watson, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago
Becky Nicodemus, NOAA Office for Coastal Management
Kara Riggio, OAI
Saki Handa, Optimatics
Karen Kreis, unaffiliated
& others

General Updates

Drew Williams-Clark said the Center for Neighborhood Technology and the Riverdale Park District have publicly posted for the rebidding for the Green Stormwater Infrastructure Installation project at Pekny Park, in Riverdale, IL. [More information is available here](#) under "Contracting Opportunities." The deadline to receive proposals is November 17 at 3:00 p.m.

John Watson said MWRD selected seven great projects this year in their Green Infrastructure Partnership Opportunity Program. The selected applicants will be announced in the coming weeks. If you applied and were not selected, contact John with any questions or to discuss how to make future applications stronger.

Lisa Krause from the IDNR Coastal Management Program attended NOAA's 'Navigating Federal Funding for Green Infrastructure and Nature Based Solutions' webinar and found their

table of funding resources to be very helpful. A recording of the webinar will be available soon, or email Lisa for the slides.

Becky Nicodemus from the NOAA Office for Coastal Management added that, related to the webinar Lisa mentioned, EPA keeps a running list of funding opportunities here: <https://www.epa.gov/green-infrastructure/green-infrastructure-funding-opportunities>.

Megan Lewis announced that she joined Delta Institute as Director, Programs. Her LLC, Grantify will still be active, but she will focused mainly on advancing Delta's nature-based climate solutions and restorative agriculture work, as well as promoting sustainability support services. Congrats, Megan!

Jeff Edstrom from Illinois EPA said 319 Notice of Funding Opportunity proposals are due November 16, 2021. [Click here for more information](#).

CSC Work Plan Updates

The Training & Maintenance Work Group is working on training in Alsip and a project to remove asphalt and put in amended soils with biosolids from MWRD. They are continuing targeted technical assistance. If you know of communities that would benefit, email Kara (kriggio@oaiinc.org): Who are they, what GSI do they have, and what are their challenges?

CNT is still developing the Urban Flooding Baseline; no major updates at this time

The Green Infrastructure Baseline Inventory is still done and still ready to use. MPC is working on an ArcGIS Online map (coming soon) and exploring option to validate the dataset via satellite imagery.

The draft CSC Work Plan 2022 was sent to Steering Committee earlier this month and will be shared with the broader CSC soon with a goal of formally adopting it at the December or January CSC meeting.

The StormStore website (<https://www.stormstore.org/>) will probably go live in Q1 2022. In the meantime, TNC's Opportunity Fund closed; they received multiple applications in the Little Calumet watershed and will award a grant soon. Also, Franklin Park is nearing completion and hoping for some trades coming soon.

Presentations

Theme: advancing the CSC's Goal 1: *Significant reduction in non-overbank flooding*; and Goal 3: *Increase municipal capacity and reduce fragmentation across Calumet government actors*

Scalable Solutions for Green Infrastructure Design

Jack Eskin, Delta Institute

Tom Price, Environmental Consulting & Technology, Inc.

This is the 3rd update of the resource, [A Design Guide for Green Stormwater Infrastructure Best Management Practices: Scalable Solutions to Local Challenges](#). Over the intervening years, they have learned a lot and have new information to share. This version has similar content as previous versions but includes 11 practices, up from five in the 2015 version and seven in the

2017 update. New BMPs in this version include naturalized detention, stormwater trees, filter strip-level spreader, and vegetated swale. The update also includes expanded guidance on where to locate GSI and information on the types of issues each type can help solve.

The resource is intended to assist communities in planning GSI design. It does not replace the need for design professionals, but it can simplify the process and help establish local in-house standards. To that end, it clarifies what different BMP types are good for, provides information on sizing and cost, and allows for flexibility to reflect different stakeholders' primary goals. Additional new features include an explanation of the connection between green and grey infrastructure and guidance on maintenance requirements.

CMAP Capacity Building Program: Building Resources and Boosting Local Governments across Northeastern Illinois

Michael Brown, CMAP

CMAP and MPC explored barriers for municipalities in the [Municipal Capacity Strategy Paper](#). Building on that, CMAP piloted local capacity initiatives, including embedding CMAP planners in capacity-constrained communities. The goal of these pilots was to help communities effectively implement local plans to achieve regional goals, informed by the development of the ON TO 2050 regional plan and inclusive development goals.

The Embedded Staff Planner program worked with Calumet Park and Sauk Village on a two-year engagement. The pandemic, however, impacted those projects and caused them to shift how they will deliver the next round of capacity building initiatives. CMAP pivoted to three new programs which built on insights from previous projects, namely: 1) "NEXT" to help communities implement recommendations from 200+ CMAP Local Technical Assistance plans; 2) a grant-readiness program called "Resource, Opportunity, Impact;" and 3) the "Capacity Building Collaborative" to connect resource-constrained communities with higher capacity communities to build networks and foster collaboration.

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

Next Meeting

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

Friday, December 3, 2021

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (CT)

Location: virtual

For more information contact:

Justin Keller

[Metropolitan Planning Council](#)

jkeller@metroplanning.org

312.863.6033