# **Chicagoland Stormwater Collaborative**

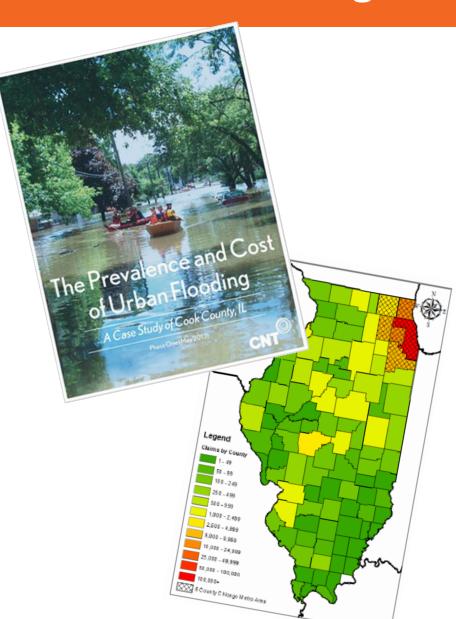




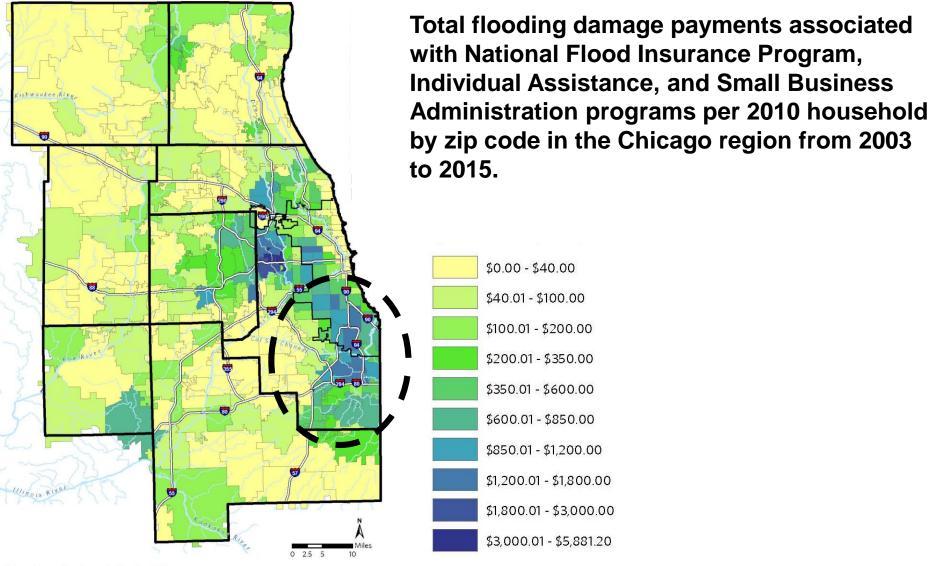
## The Issue and Impacts of Urban Flooding

# CNT Prevalence and Cost of Urban Flooding IDNR Urban Flooding Awareness Act Report

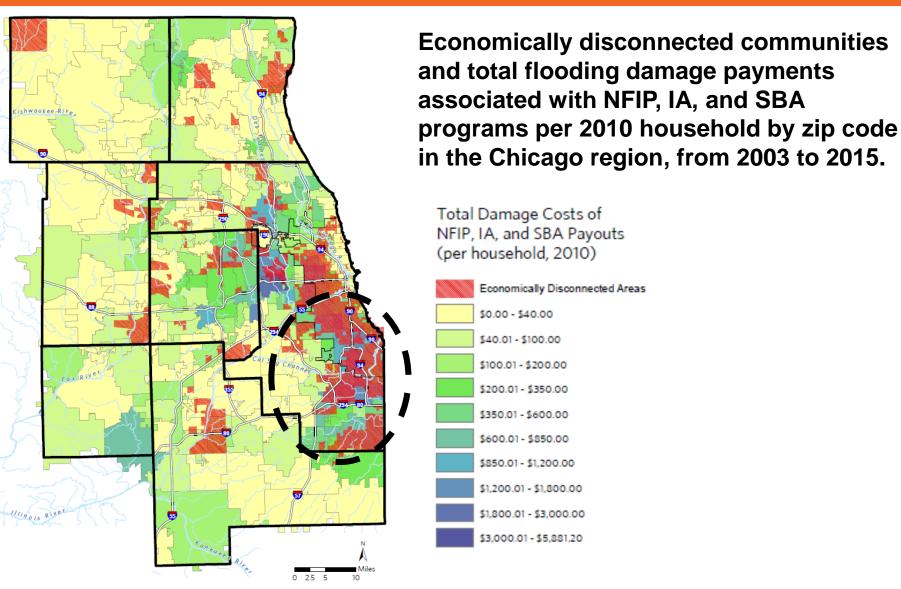
- Statewide damages: \$2.319
   billion (2007-2014)
- 6-county region: 85%, or 1.975
   billion
- Majority of payments connected to 5 specific storm events
- 90% of claims outside of mapped floodplain



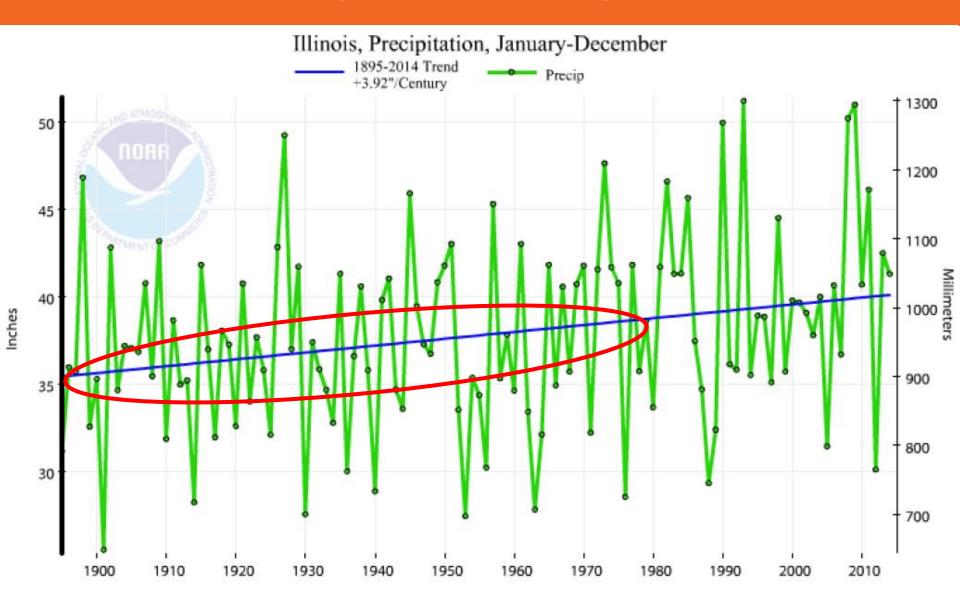
## The Impacts: documented damages



# The Impacts: documented damages and community characteristics

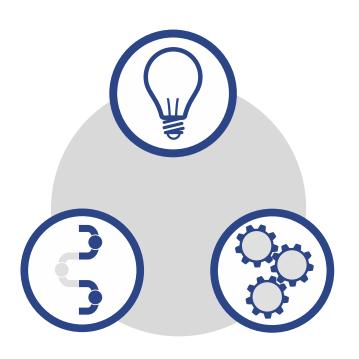


# Climate Change: increasing precipitation



# COLLABORATION APPROACH + SUCCESS

# Metropolitan Planning Council



Immediate and long-term solutions

Connect region's assets

Partnerships with governments, communities and business

# Calumet Stormwater Collaborative (CSC)

#### **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.

#### **CSC Members**

#### **Government Agencies**

**Cook County** 

Cook County Land Bank Authority

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant

Illinois State Water Survey

Metropolitan Mayors Caucus

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

#### Planning, Land Managers + Academics

**Argonne National Laboratory** 

**Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning** 

Chicago Park District

Forest Preserves of Cook County

University of Illinois at Chicago and Urbana Champaign

#### **Private Companies**

Baxter & Woodman

Christopher B. Burke Engineering

Bluestem Communications

Environmental Design Intl. Geosyntec Consultants

CDM Smith

CH2M

Robinson Engineering

#### **NGOs**

#### **Center for Neighborhood Technology**

Chicago Wilderness

Delta Institute

**Elevate Energy** 

Faith in Place

Foresight Design Initiative

Friends of the Chicago River

Historic Chicago Bungalow Association

#### **Metropolitan Planning Council**

Morton Arboretum

OAI Chicago Southland/Highbridge

Openlands

The Nature Conservancy

#### **Communities**

**Calumet City** 

City of Blue Island

City of Chicago

Village of Homewood

Village of Midlothian

Village of Park Forest

Village of Steger

#### CSC Overview + Structure

- Convening since April 2014
- Yearly work plans
- Regular monthly meetings of all stakeholders
- 4 work groups with specific initiatives

# CALUMET STORMWATER COLLABORATIVE - YEAR ONE WORK PLAN



#### Introduction

#### Where We Started

The Calumet Stormwater Collaborative, convened by the Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC) with funding from The Chicago Community Trust, was formed 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. Stakeholders throughout the Millennium Reserve area (see map)—Illinois' portion of the Calumet Region and parts of the Illinois Lake Michigan coast—have to date independently identified a wide range of different stormwater management goals, strategies and tactics. The result has been a lot of activity, but not much impact.

At the outset, the Collaborative was designed to address 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.

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 or financing tools, and are just as much a piece of the puzzle.

The Calumet Stormwater Collaborative is comprised of the key stakeholders controlling land, infrastructure, financing tools or regulatory powers related to stormwater. The initial purpose of the Collaborative 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 projects (or develop new ones) toward those qoals.

The purpose is not to slow individual projects, but to determine whether their outcomes can be leveraged to benefit others—all for the collective good.

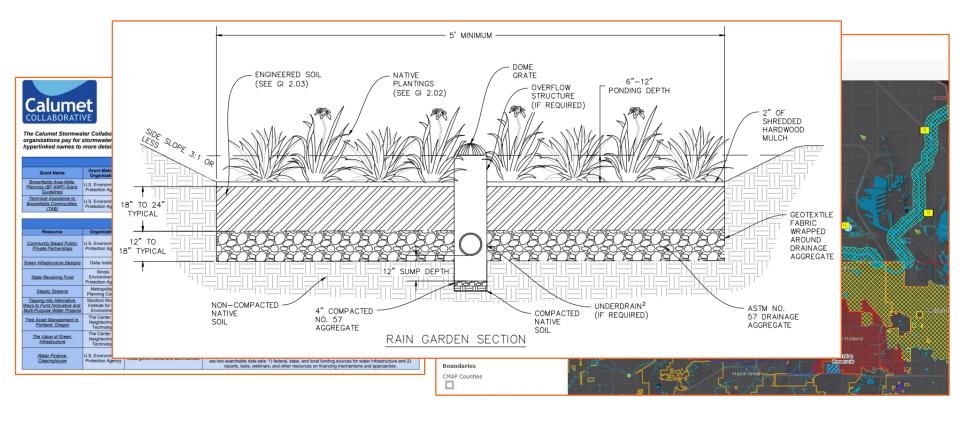


#### Where We've Been

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

#### 1. Creating tools + sharing data

- Repository to capture joint knowledge of collaborative
- Regional mapping viewer + data extents layers
- Green infrastructure design guidelines



#### 2. Expanding education + engagement

- RainReady community engagement process + local community workshops
- Needs assessment for training + maintenance of green infrastructure
- Sharing lessons learned: tour + session at WEFTEC



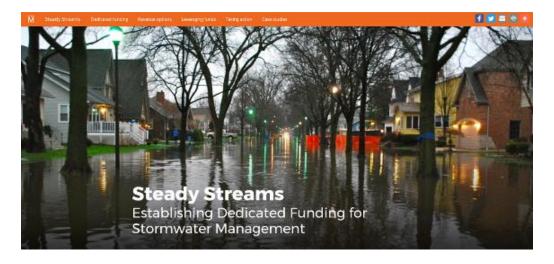


#### 3. Leveraging funding sources

- Complete Streets Project: local technical assistance grant
- Section 319 Watershed Plans: community eligibility for grants
- Local Revenue Funding: dedicated revenue streams



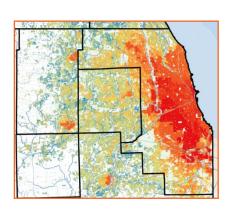
Village of Midlothian, 147th Street Project

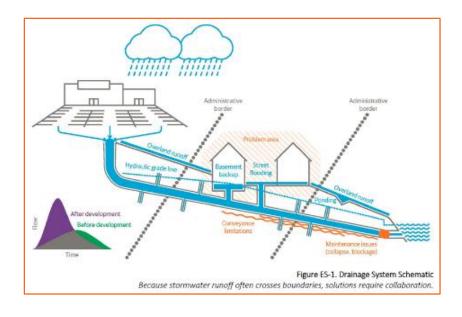


https://www.metroplanning.org/steadystreams

#### 4. Expert review of member initiatives

- Planning-level stormwater analysis
- Regional modeling framework
- Investigating stormwater detention credit trading
- RainReady Technical Advisory Committee









# Center For Neighborhood Technology



#### **About Us**

- Founded in 1978
- Sustainable Urban Solutions
- Climate
- Water
- Transportation
- Community Development

# Community-Based Programs

- Outreach + Education
- Community Organizing
- Resilience Planning
- Program Administration

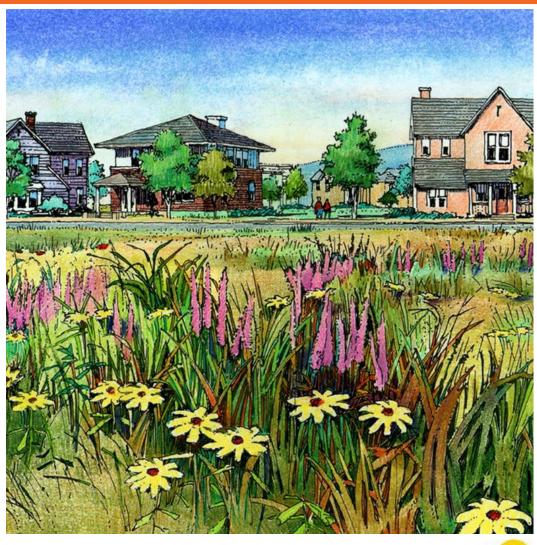




## The RainReady Program and Approach

#### **Principles**

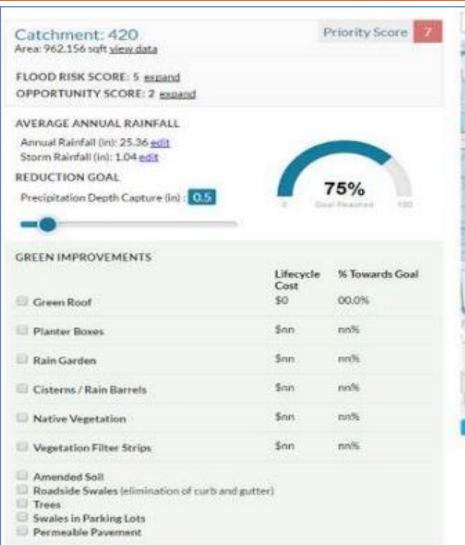
- Based on community needs + goals
- Incentivize communitywide benefits
- Offer evidence-based solutions
- Promote "fair share" approaches
- Suite of solutions to fight urban flooding:
  - RainReady Home
  - RainReady Community

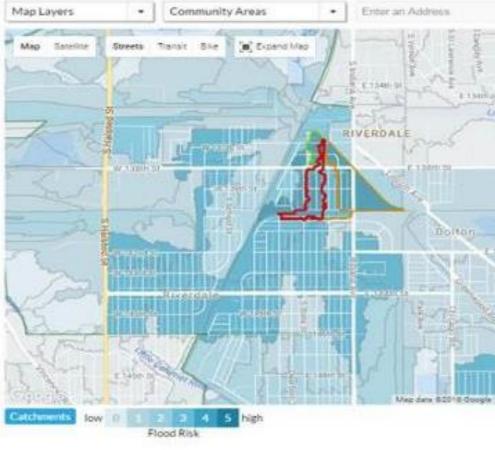






#### **Data Platform for Collaboration**









#### RainReady Recommendations and Wins

#### **SOLUTION DESIGN**

# Reco - In - St - Vi - Ni RainReady Midlothian Plan

#### Recommended Interventions:

- Individual Property
- Street and Neighborhood

A Citizen's Guide to a RainReady Midlothian

- Village Wide
- Natalie Creek

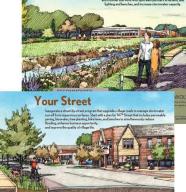


#### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND EDUCATION**









**Natalie Creek** 



✓ Complete Streets Project: local technical assistance grant

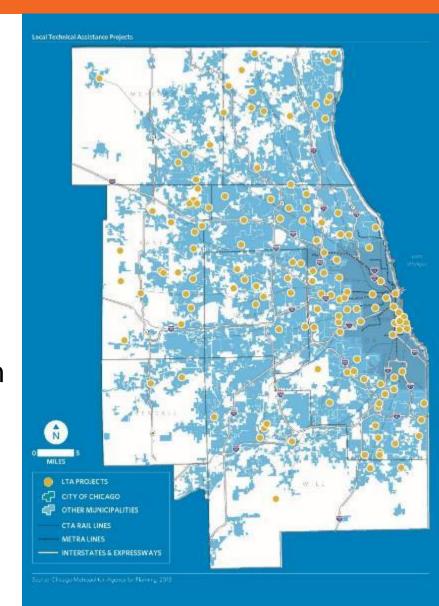
Over \$10 million for flood mitigation projects





# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

- Official regional planning organization and MPO for northeastern Illinois
- Adopted GO TO 2040 regional plan in 2010
- Local Technical Assistance Program
  - Collaborate with regional partners to provide planning support to local communities
  - Over 160 projects





# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning



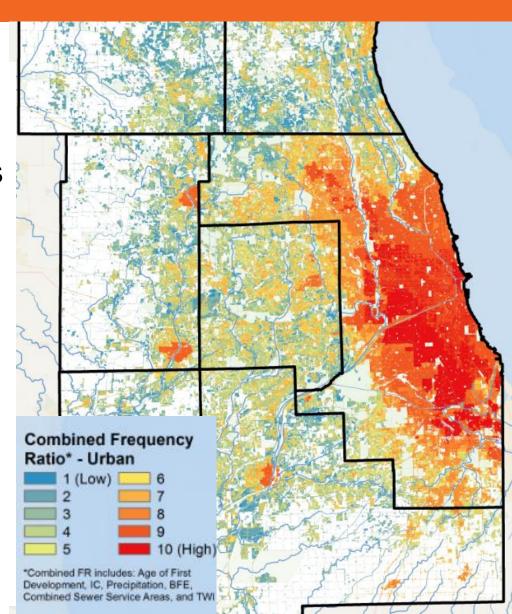
# Stormwater and Flooding Initiatives

# Regional flooding susceptibility index

Identify priority areas across the region for flooding mitigation activities

#### **Applications**

- Help CMAP focus Local Technical Assistance Projects
- May help coordinate activities by partners





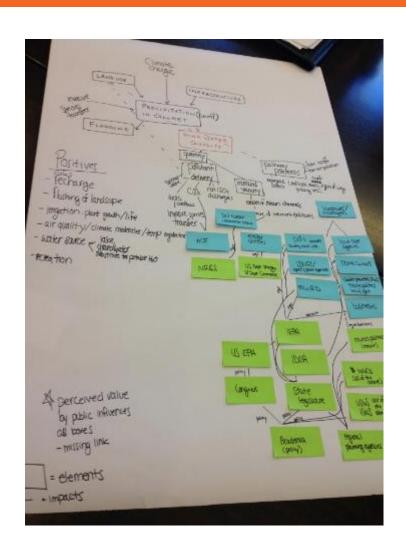


# TIPS FOR BUILDING + SUSTAINING COLLABORATION

# 1. Have the right mix of stakeholders



# 2. Go slow to go fast





# 3. Fun & inspiring – create VALUE



## Thank you!

Danielle Gallet

dgallet@metroplanning.org

Kate Evasic

kevasic@cmap.illinois.gov

Dawn Thompson

dthompson@cnt.org