Stirring it up for the South Suburbs
Partnerships for HUD’s National Disaster Resilience Competition

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Agenda

• Introduction to Cook County’s pilot area for the National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC)

• Key aspects of cross-agency planning for NDRC application
  ▪ Problem area evaluation and prioritization
  ▪ Solutions development

• Partnering lessons learned
National Disaster Resilience Competition

Need in Cook County

• Demonstrated unmet need in infrastructure and housing

• Focused on economic, environmental, and social toll of flooding and other hazards

• Highlighted disproportionate impacts on low-to-moderate income households

• Emphasized the need for a response to severe, repetitive, and chronic effects of flooding
National Disaster Resilience Competition Partners

- **MWRD** - Provide stormwater management expertise, and assist with outreach, data and narrative compilation

- **Arcadis (consultant to MWRD)** - Assist with outreach, data and narrative compilation, project identification and cost benefit analysis work

- **Outreach** – Led by Hubert Morgan in partnership with Cook County, MWRD, Arcadis, and municipalities

- **SSMMA** – knowledge of and contact with active redevelopment opportunities

- **Other County Departments, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) and other external partners, especially non-profit agencies**
National Disaster Resilience Competition

Approach

• Building capacity for resilience: physical (built environment), individual, government

• Asset-rich, but many challenges and vulnerabilities

• NDRC will target projects that address flood response and mitigation as the first layer in a broader program to foster recovery and growth in the pilot area

• Improvements in residential, commercial and industrial areas promote:
  • Sustainable water management
  • Economic viability by generating jobs and investment
  • Health and quality of life within the communities

• Use the above as screening criteria for the application
Phase 2 application planning process

• Identify and select problem areas*
• Analyze existing conditions
• Develop solutions*
• Select and prioritize projects
• Consult communities
• Revise projects based on community input
• Write application
Initial Problem and Opportunity Areas
Project selection/ ranking criteria

- Number of flood-affected structures
- Flooded in April 2013
- Existing County or MWRD projects
- Housing opportunity
- Redevelopment opportunity/ identified developer
- Community priority
- Stormwater management opportunity
- Space for public amenities
- Access to transit
- Potential environmental hazards *Points subtracted*

High weight

Medium weight

Low weight
Riverdale Subarea C – Proposed Improvements

- Green streets along five major streets
- Individual property solutions for remaining areas through Residential Resilience program
Residential Resilience Program

- Demonstration area-wide program to alleviate flooding for low-and-medium income homeowners
- Planned for up to 500 properties
- Interior improvements: overhead sewers, backflow valves, basement flood proofing, sump pumps, etc.
- Exterior improvements: Downspout disconnections, rain barrels, rain gardens, cisterns, etc.
Riverdale Subarea A – Proposed Improvements

Artist rendering of public park, constructed wetlands and commercial redevelopment possibilities at northwest corner of Halsted and 138th
Partnering lessons learned

- Stormwater management and economic development
- Addressing flooding issues can improve communities in other aspects
- How stormwater projects can also serve as community amenities
- Finding partners with intersecting goals
**Building strong partnerships**

- Understanding partner roles and responsibilities
  - Share your programmatic information
  - Share your areas of expertise
  - Share your limitations
- 3 Levels of Partnership
  - Cooperation
  - Coordination
  - Collaboration
- Most successful partnerships provide multiple benefits
Active Partnerships
Thank you!

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