



Southwest Conference of MAYORS

Cal-Sag Watershed Planning Council Meeting Agenda September 30th, 2020 - Wednesday 6:00 P.M. – Cal-Sag WSPC Meeting

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- I. Call to Order & Welcome
- II. Roll Call
- III. January 29th, 2020 Meeting Transcripts (Attachment A)
- IV. Capital Improvement Projects Update George Velez
- V. Small Streams Maintenance Program Update Robert Podgorny
- VI. Watershed Management Ordinance and Infiltration & Inflow Update Steve Kaszonyi
- VII. Other Business
- VIII. Next Cal-Sag WSPC Meeting
October 29th, 2020 - Thursday
Cal-Sag Watershed Planning Council Meeting
6:00 P.M. – Cal-Sag WSPC Meeting via video conference.

Gerald R. Bennett
President
Mayor, City of Palos Hills

James J. Sexton
Vice President
Mayor, Village of Evergreen Park

Robert S. Straz
Vice President
Mayor, City of Palos Heights

David R. Brady
Treasurer
President, Village of Bedford Park

Victoria A. Smith
Executive Director

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- Village of Alsip
- Village of Bedford Park
- City of Blue Island
- Village of Bridgeview
- City of Burbank
- Village of Chicago Ridge
- Village of Crestwood
- Village of Evergreen Park
- City of Hickory Hills
- City of Hometown
- Village of Justice
- Village of Lemont
- Village of Merrionette Park
- Village of Oak Lawn
- Village of Orland Hills
- Village of Orland Park
- City of Palos Heights
- City of Palos Hills
- Village of Palos Park
- Village of Willow Springs
- Village of Worth

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M E E T I N G

CAL-SAG WATERSHED PLANNING COUNCIL MEETING

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Bedford Park Village Hall
6701 South Archer Road
Bedford Park, Illinois

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Wednesday, January 29, 2020
6:00 o'clock P.M.

M E E T I N G

CAL-SAG WATERSHED PLANNING COUNCIL

METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT

OF GREATER CHICAGO

* * * * *

Held on Wednesday, January 29, 2020, commencing
at the hour of 6:00 o'clock P.M., at 6701 South
Archer Road, Bedford Park, Illinois.

1 PRESENT: (District Personnel)

2 MR. RICHARD FISHER, Principal Civil Engineer

3 MR. ROBERT PODGORNY, Assistant Civil Engineer

4 MR. GEORGE VELEZ, Assistant Civil Engineer

5 MR. BRIAN KAUNELIS, Mechanical Engineer

6 MR. STEVE KASZONYI, Mechanical Engineer

7 MR. DAN WENDT, Public Affairs Representative

8 MS. ANNIE WRIGHT, Public Affairs

9 Representative

10 MR. JOHN FOX, Aide to Commissioner Davis

11 ALSO PRESENT:

12 MS. VICKY MATYAS-SMITH, SCM, Executive Director

13 MS. KELSEY PASSI, SCM

14 MR. GERALD R. BENNETT, City of Palos Hills

15 MS. MARY WERNER, Village of Worth

16 MS. SUSAN LEHR, City of Hickory Hills

17 MR. KEVIN CASEY, City of Homewood

18 MR. KRZYSZLOF WASOWICZ, Village of Justice

19 MR. JOE CEKUS, Village of Justice

20 MR. MATTHEW ZAREBCZAN, Village of Justice

21 MR. TOM SHEPHERD, Village of Robbins

22 MR. GEORGE SCHAFER, Village of Lemont

23 MR. RICH RINCHICH, City of Oak Forest

24 MR. BRIAN O'NEILL, Village of Orland Hills

1 ALSO PRESENT (continued):

2 MR. KEITH PEKAU, Village of Orland Park

3 MR. BILL CUNNINGHAM, Village of Orland Park

4 MR. STAN BARWOCK, Village of Chicago Ridge

5 MR. DANIEL NISAVIC, City of Palos Heights

6 MR. ADAM JASINSKI, City of Palos Heights

7 MR. DAVE BRADY, Village of Bedford Park

8 MR. JAMES SEXTON, Village of Evergreen Park

9 MR. TIMOTHY H. KLASS, Evergreen Park

10 MR. JOHN MAHONEY, Village of Palos Park

11 MR. RICK BOEHM, Village of Palos Park

12 MS. THERESA FLYNN, Village of Crestwood

13 MR. PETER DIRKS, Cook County Department of
14 Transportation and Highways

15 MS. KIMBERLY NOWICKI, Cook County Emergency
16 Management & Regional Security

17 MR. MARCEL BRIGHT, Office of Congressman
18 Bobby Rush

19 MR. MATT DAVIDSON, Farnsworth Group

20 MR. ANDREW PUFUNDT, Christopher Burke
21 Engineering

22 MR. MIKE SPOLAR, Robinson Engineering

23 MR. ERIC FOYTOK, Morris Engineering

24

1 ALSO PRESENT (continued):

2 MR. JOHN HOEFFERLE, Hoeffferle-Butler

3 Engineering

4 MR. GORDON SMITH, CMAP

5 MR. STEVE PAPPAGEORGE, Moraine Valley CC

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Members of the Public

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1 MR. BENNETT: If we can get this meeting
2 of the Cal-Sag Watershed Council. I remind
3 everybody there's a court reporter for the District
4 who when you talk, state your a name, or any
5 conversation you have, state your name prior to it.

6 Roll call, Vic.

7 MS. SMITH: Alsip.

8 (No response.)

9 MS. SMITH: Bedford Park.

10 MR. BRADY: Dave Brady, village president.

11 MS. SMITH: Blue Island.

12 (No response.)

13 MS. SMITH: Bridgeview.

14 (No response.)

15 MS. SMITH: Burbank.

16 (No response.)

17 MS. SMITH: Chicago.

18 (No response.)

19 MS. SMITH: Chicago Ridge.

20 MR. BARWOCK: Stan Barwock, public works
21 director.

22 MS. SMITH: Crestwood.

23 MS. FLYNN: Theresa Flynn, trustee,
24 Crestwood.

1 MS. SMITH: Evergreen Park.

2 MR. SEXTON: Here.

3 MR. BENNETT: Name, Mayor.

4 MR. SEXTON: James Sexton.

5 MS. SMITH: Hickory Hills.

6 MS. LEHR: Sue Lehr, public works.

7 MS. SMITH: Hometown.

8 (No response.)

9 MS. SMITH: Justice.

10 MR. WASOWICZ: Kris Wasowicz, mayor.

11 MS. SMITH: Lemont.

12 MR. SCHAFER: George Schafer,
13 administrator, Lemont.

14 MS. SMITH: Merrionette Park.

15 (No response.)

16 MS. SMITH: Midlothian.

17 (No response.)

18 MS. SMITH: Oak Forest.

19 MR. RINCHICH: Rich Rinchich, public works
20 director.

21 MS. SMITH: Oak Lawn.

22 (No response.)

23 MS. SMITH: Orland Hills.

24 MR. O'NEILL: Brian O'Neill, assistant

1 administrator.

2 MS. SMITH: Orland Park.

3 MR. PEKAU: Keith Pekau, mayor.

4 MS. SMITH: Palos Heights.

5 MR. NISAVIC: Dan Nisavic, city

6 administrator.

7 MS. SMITH: Palos Hills.

8 MR. BENNETT: Jerry Bennett, mayor.

9 MS. SMITH: Palos Park.

10 (No response.)

11 MS. SMITH: Robbins.

12 MR. SHEPHERD: Here.

13 MS. SMITH: State your name, Robbins.

14 MR. SHEPHERD: Tom Shepherd.

15 MS. SMITH: Summit.

16 (No response.)

17 MS. SMITH: Tinley Park.

18 (No response.)

19 MS. SMITH: Willow Springs.

20 (No response.)

21 MS. SMITH: Worth.

22 MS. WERNER: Mary Werner, village

23 president.

24 MS. SMITH: Unincorporated Cook County.

1 (No response.)

2 MS. SMITH: Bremen township.

3 (No response.)

4 MS. SMITH: Calumet Township.

5 (No response.)

6 MS. SMITH: Lemont Township.

7 (No response.)

8 MS. SMITH: Lyons Township.

9 (No response.)

10 MS. SMITH: Orland Township.

11 (No response.)

12 MS. SMITH: Palos Township.

13 (No response.)

14 MS. SMITH: Stickney Township.

15 (No response.)

16 MS. SMITH: Worth Township.

17 (No response.)

18 MR. BENNETT: I think we should talk to
19 the townships about whether they want to be part of
20 the group, but apparently the cities around it are
21 taking care of business.

22 Ladies and gentlemen, we do have a quorum.
23 Before you are the minutes of the October 29th
24 meeting.

1 I'll entertain a motion to accept the
2 minutes.

3 MR. PEKAU: So moved.

4 MR. BRADY: Second.

5 MR. BENNETT: Any questions? If not, all
6 in favor, signify by a vote of aye.

7 (Chorus of ayes.)

8 MR. BENNETT: Motion carries.

9 First item is on the Capital Improvements
10 Projects Update. George.

11 MR. VELEZ: Good evening. My name is
12 George Velez. I am a civil engineer with the
13 Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, and I'll be
14 providing an update on the District's capital
15 improvement projects.

16 This Cook County map shows the locations
17 of all our projects. We have Phase I, Phase II,
18 green infrastructure, space to grow, flood-prone
19 property acquisition projects. We have 133 total
20 projects around.

21 This map shows the projects in this
22 watershed. We have ten Phase I -- I mean ten
23 Phase II, four Phase I, and 16 infrastructure
24 projects.

1 This slide shows our local stormwater
2 partnership opportunities. Applications are out and
3 they are due February 14th, 2020. The link to the
4 website where you can submit it is shown on here.
5 This is formally known as our Phase II program, but
6 really for the same things, shovel-ready or
7 conceptual projects. And we looking for localized
8 storage, upsizing storm sewers, pump stations, and
9 establishing drainageways.

10 Here's completed projects in this
11 watershed. On the left is the stream bank
12 stabilization project on Tinley Creek. This was in
13 Crestwood on the top and Orland Hills the bottom.

14 On the right is a stream bank
15 stabilization project on Oak Lawn Creek, and bottom
16 right shows the local flood control project in
17 Lemont.

18 This is our Melvina Ditch Reservoir
19 improvement project. We have added 195 acre feet
20 storage to the reservoir, and construction is
21 currently ongoing and scheduled to be completed in
22 June of 2021.

23 This is our flood control project at
24 Arrowhead Lake. It added 40 acre feet storage to

1 the Arrowhead Lake, removing 70 structures from the
2 hundred year floodplain. This project is complete,
3 but it's going through the punch list items right
4 now.

5 This is our Palos Heights flood control
6 project. This project will protect three structures
7 from the hundred year storm, and it's in final
8 design right now.

9 This is our Worth 2 project. We'll
10 provide protection to 19 structures from hundred
11 year storm, and the IGA is being finalized right
12 now. That's a picture of our preliminary
13 engineering study.

14 This is our Blue Island project. This is
15 currently still in preliminary engineering.

16 And we have our Bremen Township project.
17 This project we're combining with our Crestwood 2.
18 So we are still evaluating potential solutions to
19 both those problems.

20 And this is the Crestwood 2 one that we're
21 combining with Bremen Township.

22 This is Crestwood 1, and it's in final
23 design, and we are also working on the IGA.

24 And this is the Stony Creek flood control

1 improvement project, and we just -- we already had
2 our kickoff meeting with the village, and we are in
3 preliminary engineering.

4 This is Roberts Road drainage improvement
5 project, and we also had a kickoff meeting and our
6 preliminary engineering.

7 This is our stream bank stabilization
8 project on Melvina Ditch, and we estimating an
9 advertise date of early spring 2020.

10 Now I'll go over the green infrastructure
11 program. We just finished selecting or I guess we
12 did earlier 20 projects from our call for projects.
13 There's two in this watershed: One in Chicago Ridge
14 and one in Blue Island.

15 And here's some completed GI projects. On
16 the top is from Tinley Park. We had pavers in the
17 town square plaza. The bottom is the Blue Island
18 pilot program we did here in 2015. We installed six
19 rain gardens and two permeable pavement parking
20 lots. The bottom shows before and after.

21 This is a Palos Heights Lake Katherine
22 commuter parking lot. We're expecting to start
23 construction in 2020.

24 And this is a Winchester Avenue green

1 infrastructure project, and we are also expecting to
2 start construction in 2020.

3 This is the Barbara Vick outdoor
4 classroom. It's one of the space to grow projects,
5 and it's still in the design stage.

6 Here's a green infrastructure alley
7 improvement project, and we are expecting to start
8 construction in 2020.

9 This is the Chicago Ridge Metra station
10 permeable parking lot. This was one of the ones
11 that was selected in the 2019 call for projects, and
12 we are negotiating the IGA right now.

13 This was the second one chosen, call for
14 projects. It's a Blue Island bioswale and permeable
15 alley project, and we are also negotiating the IGA.

16 This is another initiative related to
17 green infrastructure that we are working on. It's
18 the development of two green guides. One is for
19 homeowners and provides step-by-step instruction on
20 how to manage stormwater on residential properties.
21 The second one is for engineering professionals.
22 And the first one is available on our website. The
23 second one will be available later this year.

24 This is our flood-prone property

1 acquisition program. There's three different, I
2 guess, types of programs. We have the local sponsor
3 assistance program, an MWRD initiated program, and
4 the local government application program.
5 Applications are due February 14th, 2020, and the
6 link is shown on there.

7 MR. BENNETT: George, could you explain a
8 little bit more what's involved in those programs.

9 MR. FISHER: Is it all right if I -- can I
10 add to that? My name is Richard Fisher. I'm with
11 the MWRD.

12 MR. BENNETT: Sure. Go ahead.

13 MR. FISHER: So the three programs that we
14 are talking about, one, our top priority is the
15 communities that have FEMA dollars. FEMA requires a
16 25 percent local match, and we can come in, provide
17 financial support for that local match.

18 And then really the second one up there,
19 MWRD initiated, is if we are working on a project
20 and we identify that actually it's more
21 cost-effective to buy than to do a capital project,
22 that's that one. And then the second one, which is
23 also part of our application now, is if the
24 community doesn't have FEMA dollars but they're

1 still targeting homes that are flood prone that they
2 can -- that they want to acquire.

3 Just a couple of things concerned. Really
4 the primary thing is that the home has to be located
5 within a FEMA flood hazard area or identified in one
6 of our inundation maps. And we also look for a B-C
7 of 1, or benefit-cost ratio of 1 on that. But
8 really the primary part of it is it's really got to
9 be located in a floodplain portion.

10 MR. BENNETT: And there's a local match
11 involved in the --

12 MR. FISHER: So there is. It -- depending
13 on we -- depending on the median household income of
14 the community, for the highest median income
15 communities, like the least that you can get is
16 25 percent. But if the community is at or below,
17 the median household income for Cook County, we can
18 provide up to a hundred percent of the acquisition
19 cost.

20 So our funding can only go to the purchase
21 price. We don't provide funding for legal fees,
22 demolition, or restoration. Our funds can only go
23 to acquisition costs.

24 MR. BENNETT: The town submitted four

1 homes to that program. March is your deadline date
2 or something?

3 MR. FISHER: February 14th. February
4 14th is the deadline for that application.

5 MR. BENNETT: And the announcement is in
6 March?

7 MR. FISHER: Hopefully. Fingers crossed.

8 MR. BENNETT: How are you doing with money
9 this year?

10 MR. FISHER: Well, we got -- I'll tell you
11 this. Every application that we've got where the
12 homes are in the floodplain, we have worked out a
13 acquisition for them. So we're pretty aggressive
14 with buying homes. So far the program, we have
15 acquired 90 homes already through this program.

16 MR. BENNETT: I say this to the mayors.
17 If you have some homes that are constant problems in
18 your community that are in the floodplain or under
19 the FEMA, what would be the FEMA guidelines to
20 designate them, something to consider. They will
21 pick up the entire cost of the acquisition of the
22 home. Your cost will involve the attorney fees,
23 appraisal, the demolition, and then eventually the
24 restoration of the property, which would in

1 perpetuity be open lands area.

2 So something to think about. It is going
3 to cost you some money, but if you've got a -- every
4 town has got some homes that are constantly flooding
5 out. Something to consider. In fact, I'm sure
6 those residents would be more than happy to consider
7 a buyout because it's the fair market value on the
8 appraisal, and there's no way some of these homes
9 can ever reach that market value, technical market
10 value for the shape that they're in.

11 MR. PEKAU: Is it only for residential
12 homes or commercial properties too?

13 MR. FISHER: Our priority is residential.
14 So far in the program we have only bought
15 residential. I can't say we have had applications
16 in for anything other than that.

17 MR. BENNETT: Interesting.

18 George, continue. I'm sorry.

19 MR. VELEZ: This is my last slide. We
20 want to remind you that our questionnaire we send
21 out as part of our stormwater master plan initiative
22 is still open. We are still accepting applications
23 from municipalities. So if you haven't done so, you
24 can do so by following that link.

1 And there's two parts to the survey. One
2 is just a questionnaire asking a bunch of questions
3 about flooding. And second one is an interactive
4 GIS tool.

5 So that's it from my part. If you have
6 any questions.

7 MR. BENNETT: Any questions of George?

8 Again, it's a program that's still
9 available every year to the towns. If you got a
10 project you think would merit consideration for them
11 to take it on, please don't hesitate to contact the
12 District about sitting down and talking about
13 resolving that issue of property.

14 George, thank you. Moving on to Small
15 Streams, Rob.

16 MR. VELEZ: There's someone else coming
17 up.

18 MR. BENNETT: Change in --

19 MS. WRIGHT: Sorry. I have a few quick
20 slides.

21 MR. BENNETT: Well, you can identify
22 yourself.

23 MS. WRIGHT: Sure. I'm Annie Wright. I'm
24 with the Water Rec. too.

1 I've been sending grant updates to the
2 Councils of Government about grants that are
3 available. I'm going to keep doing that. So I'm
4 mostly here to introduce myself and to talk about
5 some grants that are currently open for
6 applications.

7 Two big ones are the Cook County Block
8 Development Grant and Invest in Cook, and they're
9 both due on Friday, March 13th. Invest in Cook is
10 more for infrastructure; and the CBDG, it has to
11 have -- there are financial requirements. It's more
12 for communities in need. So those are ones to look
13 into. If you go to Cook County's website, there's
14 more information.

15 The other one is Sustain Our Great Lakes.
16 The preproposal is due February 11th; and as you
17 can see, it's for green infrastructure type of
18 projects. And the funding range is a hundred
19 thousand to 1 million. They say that matching funds
20 are not required but a one-to-one match is the most
21 competitive.

22 And if you Google Sustain Our Great Lakes,
23 all the information will pop up on that; and there's
24 a webinar too with more information.

1 And here is my contact information. I'm
2 Annie Wright, again. I will keep sending out
3 information as it comes in that I think may be
4 helpful.

5 Okay. Now we go to Small Streams.

6 MR. PODGORNYY: Thanks, Annie.

7 Rob Podgorny. I'm also a civil engineer
8 with the MWRD giving you an update on the Small
9 Streams Maintenance Program which I recently took
10 over January 1st from Brian Levy. A lot of you
11 guys know him. Don't contact Brian anymore. I'll
12 pass out my card at the end, my contact information.

13 MR. BENNETT: Is he still with the
14 District?

15 MR. PODGORNYY: He is. He got promoted.

16 So our program basically began in 2006 to
17 relieve flooding in the urbanized areas through
18 simple remedies. This is going into the streams,
19 pulling out blockages preventing the overland
20 flooding. If we pull everything out and it still
21 floods, then we go into the engineering projects and
22 similar other bigger projects.

23 We just keep the water flowing by removing
24 all obstructions and debris in the small stream and

1 rivers. Not in the ditches in front of your house.
2 This is in the waterways that were surveyed and --

3 MR. BENNETT: Come on. You won't take
4 those calls?

5 MR. PODGORNY: We will. We'll work with
6 you.

7 I do have, I manage a \$5 million contract
8 for two years. We are halfway through that. So
9 there's money out there. And we have a lot of
10 equipment to get into these tight places. Here are
11 some of the things we do, we serve. If it's a small
12 couple-man job, we get the laborers down in there
13 with chainsaws and pull the stuff out by hand. If
14 we need Bobcats, skidsteers, Gradalls.

15 We are getting into the bigger equipment
16 here. We also have a Menzi that kind of -- it can
17 get down into the stream and pull stuff out. We
18 also have trucks and tree chippers that we can get
19 that debris out and chip it all and make compost out
20 of it. Or if you guys want wood chips, we can
21 supply those to you.

22 But we do work with each community, but
23 I'm not out there walking the streams every day. I
24 rely on the public to notify us, and then I go do

1 the inspections and assign the jobs to our
2 contractors.

3 Here are some numbers from the inception
4 of the program. Last year we removed 18,934 cubic
5 yards. That's a lot of material. A big
6 construction dumpster is about 40, 50 yards. We're
7 pulling hundreds of those dumpsters full out of
8 these creeks.

9 Cal-Sag Watershed, last year we did 5,000.
10 Not as much as we did in '18. '18 was a banner year
11 for Cal-Sag. But total over the inception of the
12 program we are at 88,122 cubic yards.

13 We have removed gigantic blockages over
14 the last few years, and now we are kind of in a
15 maintenance program where we really rely on you guys
16 to notify us if something is down and blocked.

17 We do have different ways to notify us.
18 You can call me directly at my office at Stickney or
19 e-mail me. We also have an app that you can either
20 submit odor incident or any incident or a stream
21 blockage directly through the app. Or in our
22 website on the bottom left is the GI tab. You click
23 on that tab, and you can report directly. That will
24 send an e-mail directly to us, and I'll get out

1 there and inspect that right way.

2 That's me removing a dachshund from the
3 river. He was in SEPA 3. Someone had tossed him
4 out. Brian and I were doing an inspection, and we
5 saw him sitting down in there after we drained it.
6 I tried to corral him and chase him around. He
7 jumped in the Cal-Sag, started swimming away from
8 us, and then he came up on that branch, and I went
9 in there and grabbed him. So we found a home for
10 him.

11 MS. SMITH: I was going to say, did you
12 take him home?

13 MR. PODGORNÝ: Brian took him home, but
14 unfortunately his wife wouldn't let him keep him.
15 So his wife's yoga instructor actually took the dog.
16 We found a good home for him.

17 We also have a rain barrel program, and
18 the objective is to collect that stormwater from
19 going into the streams and sewers creating the
20 flooding; so everything you can do to get that water
21 from going into the curbs and gutters and down the
22 sewer. We sell them for \$45.78 a piece.

23 MR. BENNETT: You guys come down \$5 from
24 50 bucks?

1 MR. PODGORNY: They used to be free, but
2 now we're charging. But they will deliver that to
3 your front door. You have to do the installation.
4 It's very simple. You just have to remember to
5 winterize, drain them, pull them, and store them
6 somewhere else for the winter. Otherwise, they'll
7 crack and be useless. Again, through our Public
8 Affairs Department you can request these. Also on
9 our website.

10 So through December 18 we had 132,000
11 distributed. Just got the numbers through '19. We
12 are up to like 141,000.

13 Again through our website or through the
14 Public Affairs office downtown.

15 We also have the Restore the Canopy
16 program. We have an agreement with the state
17 nursery down in Topeka to supply us with saplings.
18 Again the idea is to soak up as much rain water as
19 possible preventing it from going into sewers and
20 streams and to restore the canopy from all the trees
21 we are cutting down and trees that are dying from
22 various ash borers and diseases.

23 They are oak trees, mostly oaks: Burs,
24 pins, reds, and swamps. They come in bare-root

1 bundles of 50. We will plant them in pots in our
2 compost. We have those available starting in April
3 at our sewage treatment plants on Wednesdays from
4 9:00 until noon. You can also call Public Affairs
5 and arrange for -- say if you wanted 50 delivered to
6 your village for you to distribute, we can deliver
7 50 already pot planted or a 50 bare-root bundle if
8 you want a project like Boy Scouts or something like
9 that. They can go out and plant those themselves.
10 All free by the way.

11 Here is my contact information. Again,
12 either through the app or e-mail or a call, and
13 we'll get out there and clear those streams for you.

14 Any questions?

15 MR. BENNETT: Any questions of Rob?

16 Welcome aboard. We look forward to
17 working with you in the future. Its Small Streams
18 Maintenance has a great program from day one with
19 our Cal-Sag group, and I know mayors and the
20 community of public works people are instantly on
21 the phone if you see a blockage, and they are
22 instantly out there. So it's been a great program.
23 Thank you.

24 MR. PODGORNY: Thank you.

1 MR. BENNETT: Thanks. Moving on, the
2 watershed WMO. Steve.

3 MR. KASZONYI: I'm Steve Kaszonyi, the
4 WMO.

5 Permit applicability, we have been getting
6 a lot of questions about that lately; so I'll go
7 over it real quick.

8 Basically development of more than half an
9 acre and development of in a flood protected area
10 and when you're putting in qualified sewers are
11 usually when permits are going to be necessary.

12 Development and maintenance, there's a
13 difference. If you have like a parking lot and
14 you're putting in the same parking lot, you don't
15 need a permit; but if you're changing the water
16 flow, you would.

17 When you're in a flood protected area,
18 always need a permit even if it's less than half an
19 acre. If you're in a floodplain and floodway,
20 permit is needed. Flood protection areas, riparian,
21 wetlands, wetlands areas, you need permits. And
22 indirect wetland impact, if you're like upstream of
23 a wetland, you're going to be affecting it, you
24 would need a permit. And residential buildings

1 within a hundred feet of a floodplain you need a
2 permit also. And projects by the state or federal
3 usually do not need a permit from us. Development
4 greater than half an acre, new buildings, new
5 parking lots.

6 We don't require permit for single-family
7 homes when you're putting in utilities besides
8 qualified sewers and other just utility easements.

9 Maintenance activities we don't need one.
10 Same thing.

11 Qualified sewer, you always need a permit
12 except for residential laterals. Sanitary sewer,
13 storm sewer in a combined sewer area. And when you
14 make any changes to detention facilities. TARP
15 structures, don't really do that. Outfalls to
16 waterways, you need a permit into Lake Michigan.

17 I don't think we have any authorized
18 municipalities here. Maybe Tinley Park. It really
19 doesn't. Multicounty.

20 If you have any questions about if you
21 need a permit or not, contact Justine Skawski. She
22 will help you with that.

23 Any questions about the previously issued
24 WMO permits? He have a web address.

1 We did amend the WMO ordinance first of
2 the year. We are keeping the same .3 cfs for the
3 Cal-Sag. We updated the Bulletin 70. We updated
4 TGM with new design calculators on the website, new
5 HEC-HMS model templates. We got new forms in.

6 We updated the TGM. We are still working
7 on WMO for outside volume control and detention
8 trading program.

9 The Infiltration/Inflow Control Program.
10 The storm reports are due March 1st. It's coming
11 up. If you're not sure if you're in compliance,
12 contact Ann Gray. She has all the information.

13 We still have the program where we were
14 lending out the GPS equipment. Contact Ann Gray if
15 you're interested.

16 This is me.

17 Any questions?

18 MR. BENNETT: Questions of Steve?

19 MR. SEXTON: Mr. President.

20 MR. BENNETT: Sure. Go ahead, Mayor.

21 MR. SEXTON: Jim Sexton, mayor of
22 Evergreen Park.

23 Steve, if somebody was to purchase two
24 lots, vacant lots in a municipality and would like

1 to build two homes, would that count as one home or
2 two homes under your rules?

3 MR. KASZONYI: It would be a subdivision.
4 It was two separate lots?

5 MR. SEXTON: They would be connected.
6 They would be adjacent.

7 MR. KASZONYI: Adjacent?

8 MR. SEXTON: Yes.

9 MR. KASZONYI: And they were already --

10 MR. SEXTON: They were already homes.

11 MR. KASZONYI: That would not need a
12 permit unless it's in a flood protected area.

13 MR. SEXTON: So if they were taken down,
14 demolished, and it's green space now, they could
15 build on that property?

16 MR. KASZONYI: Right.

17 MR. SEXTON: Thank you.

18 MR. BENNETT: As a follow-up to the, if
19 the property is still under a half acre, would it
20 matter?

21 MR. KASZONYI: If it's a residential
22 property and staying residential, we would not
23 require a permit unless there's a qualified sewer
24 that's not connected.

1 MR. BENNETT: I don't know if the mayors
2 since the new regulations have gone into effect or
3 public works, have they been going smoothly with the
4 permitting situation?

5 MR. KASZONYI: They all came in last year.
6 It's been quiet so far this year.

7 MR. BENNETT: So you haven't had any --

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Rushed to get them
9 in.

10 MR. BENNETT: Because it's -- well, one
11 good thing is you kept the cf -- whatever.

12 MR. KASZONYI: Cfs.

13 MR. BENNETT: We fought to make sure that
14 that was going to stay in place because that would
15 have been a dramatic change in required detention
16 and/or retention.

17 Any questions of mayors?

18 Thank you.

19 Moving on to the Cook County Hazard
20 Mitigation Plan, we have Kim with us. Not Gene.

21 MS. NOWICKI: Sorry to disappoint.

22 Good evening. How is everyone doing
23 tonight? My name is Kim Nowicki, and I'm with Cook
24 County Emergency Management and Regional Security.

1 MR. BENNETT: You're the one that sends us
2 all those long e-mails all the time; right?

3 MS. NOWICKI: Yes, that's me actually. I
4 just want to notate the name change. We were
5 formally Cook County Homeland Security and Emergency
6 Management. And I'd like to personally thank,
7 because this is my first time here, I've given some
8 other watershed presentations, but I've actually
9 worked with, I think, all of your communities on
10 that hazard mitigation plan recently. So I want to
11 thank you for all your hard work that everyone put
12 in because I know that was kind of a daunting
13 project and it went pretty quick. So I want to
14 thank everyone for that.

15 So without further ado, so I'm just going
16 to quickly talk about the hazard mitigation plan.
17 We just completed it. We had 121 of 135
18 municipalities in Cook County that did participate.
19 The ones that did not were on the borderline of
20 another county, and they were in their hazard
21 mitigation plan. So we were up, we added six from
22 when it was done in 2014.

23 We have over 95 municipalities, actually
24 we are up to 98 today, have adopted, successfully

1 adopted the plan. The reason why that's important
2 is if anyone was trying to go for grant funding like
3 with MWRD, they would need to make sure that not
4 only they did their hard work on the plan, which
5 everyone has done, but that they successfully
6 adopted the resolution to be eligible for that FEMA
7 grant funding. So that's an important thing.

8 We also worked with partners, MWRD, IEMA,
9 FEMA, we had a steering committee that encompassed
10 the entire county, and we also worked with county
11 agencies such as economic development, building and
12 zoning, and department of transportation and
13 highways; and that was very important to kind of
14 steer some countywide mitigation action items that
15 turned out really well.

16 These are the things we included in the
17 update. We increased our public outreach. We had
18 surveys. We had six meetings. We had meetings for
19 the municipal partners to get them ready to go for
20 this which worked out great. Between all of our
21 municipal partners, they came up with 367 new
22 mitigation action items that can help with hazards
23 in their communities. So it was a great success.

24 And going forward, and I'm only going to

1 touch on this briefly, but we want to make the
2 plan -- we don't want that to be a one and done once
3 every five years and then everyone forgets about the
4 important work everyone did in their communities who
5 are doing the HMP. We want to continue that
6 momentum going forward, give like training programs,
7 give more information -- that's why I give my
8 lengthy e-mails -- because going forward we want to
9 have a biannual meeting. That's the goal. We are
10 still trying to get our program off the ground, and
11 we'll get more information when that happens.

12 But we want to get the mitigation in your
13 communities going forward so you know when MWRD is
14 offering programs, you know when FEMA is offering
15 programs that might give education or might be able
16 to help. So that's our goal, is to keep everyone
17 engaged moving forward and making a consistent
18 effort, not once every five years and nobody --
19 everyone has forgotten all the hard work they did.
20 That's the goal of our program.

21 So the rest of this is going to go very
22 quickly.

23 So these are some of the things that our
24 agency can offer. We have a lot of equipment

1 that -- we have our equipment stored in the county
2 level so not everyone in the community has to spend
3 money to buy their own; kind of like the library.
4 So if you may need some equipment, we may have it.
5 So if you have an event or you have an emergency,
6 you always want to contact your regional
7 coordinator, and they can tell you if they're able
8 to help you because we have a lot of equipment
9 nobody knows about.

10 One of the things we have is these pumps.
11 So if you're having a flooding issue, we have pumps
12 that are small that can move hundreds of gallons of
13 water a minute, and then we have some that can like
14 pretty much refill a lake. I mean, it's very -- we
15 have very large pumps as well. So especially in
16 those instances where you might have potential
17 flooding, you want to get with your regional
18 coordinator and see what they can do to help and
19 what we have that might help your situation.

20 Another thing that we have is we have
21 trailers already set up to move traffic in the event
22 of an emergency. They have Retractable-Cades on the
23 bottom there and all the signage that you may need,
24 and it's all set up in a trailer. So say you have a

1 flood or you have some event that's going on and you
2 need to keep everybody away from the area and you
3 need to move people away from that area, you can
4 call and get one of these trailers or even get just
5 the Retractable-Cades themselves depending on what your
6 situation is. Again, you would contact your
7 regional coordinator, and we also have our duty desk
8 number, and I'll show you that contact information
9 at the end.

10 We also have our signs up there on the
11 right. If there's a situation as well, you can put
12 a message sign out that might be able to assist you.

13 These are some other things that we have
14 available. Just very briefly, that's unified
15 command post. A lot of communities request that if
16 they have large-scale events they know that are
17 going on that might need this support. That's a
18 great thing to have if you have to suddenly
19 coordinate police or fire efforts. A lot of
20 communities have it if they have large-scale events.
21 Like during the summer it's very popular during the
22 fests and stuff like that.

23 It's always emergencies first as far as
24 availability. So if you are requesting something

1 like that, you want to make sure you get your
2 request in right away.

3 And again, the emergencies always take
4 precedent over that. But again, you talk to your
5 regional coordinator.

6 And one of the other things we have done,
7 there is our MSV. That can function as like a
8 mobile office. We actually had a village that used
9 that. They lost their village hall, and they
10 operated out of the MSV as a mobile office.

11 This is our emergency operation center.
12 This is located in Oak Forest, and if you -- say
13 there's an emergency that goes in the county, this
14 is where we would mobilize our county agencies to be
15 able to provide a united front to help your
16 communities or one or more communities in your
17 efforts. And we are there strictly to support you,
18 and this is where we would gather everyone together
19 to see what we would be able to do to help you.

20 This are some other information on mass
21 communication early warning systems or early warning
22 communication that IPAWS needs to be signed up for.
23 We also have our WebEOC which some of you might
24 already be signed up for and already have access to

1 that.

2 Any questions, you can always let me know.
3 I'm going to give you my contact information as
4 well. We also have -- we utilize WebEOC, and we are
5 also working on other emergency mass communication
6 systems such as Everbridge.

7 And there is Chief Ryan, who was supposed
8 to be here, that's his contact information as well
9 as mine. And on the right the regional
10 coordinators. Brian Daliege would be more in this
11 area. Dave Olson is more for the northern region of
12 the county. Then on the bottom is our duty desk
13 number. That number and e-mail is staffed 24 hours
14 a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. If you need
15 anything or have any type of emergency, please feel
16 free to give us a call. I always want to stress
17 that because a lot of times communities, they wait
18 and they don't know what we are capable of doing to
19 help them; and like I said, we are there to support
20 your efforts. And if you give your regional
21 coordinator or give that duty desk number a call
22 when something starts happening, we might be able to
23 help quicker and alleviate the problem so it doesn't
24 get as far out of hand. So I always want to stress

1 that.

2 Does anyone have any questions?

3 MR. BENNETT: Kim, just a couple. So we
4 refer to the regional coordinator. That is, you
5 think, Brian?

6 MS. NOWICKI: The two names on the right,
7 yep.

8 MR. BENNETT: Can you do me a favor. You
9 send out a lot of stuff. Could you send out that
10 one page to all the mayors?

11 MS. NOWICKI: I absolutely will, yes.

12 MR. BENNETT: Because obviously you have a
13 lot of assets to assist us.

14 MS. NOWICKI: Yes. Absolutely.

15 MR. BENNETT: Any questions of the mayors?
16 Obviously first come, first serve during
17 the emergency, right, or you try to coordinate that?

18 MS. NOWICKI: Like I said, we try to
19 coordinate. It's like whoever needs it the most at
20 that moment depending on what your situation is.
21 But we do have a lot of equipment. It's not like we
22 have one of one thing. We have a lot.

23 MR. BENNETT: And all the equipment is
24 located in Oak Forest too?

1 MS. NOWICKI: We have actually two sites,
2 north and south. So we have equipment at both ends
3 of the county.

4 MR. BENNETT: And when you talk about
5 trailers, is it you have to send your public works
6 people there to pick it up?

7 MS. NOWICKI: Majority of the time, yes.

8 MR. BENNETT: Just to clarify.

9 MS. NOWICKI: And the regional coordinator
10 will be available to clarify that if there's any
11 questions.

12 MR. BENNETT: Any other questions?

13 Kim, welcome, and come back any time.

14 MS. NOWICKI: Thank you.

15 MR. BENNETT: You're quicker than Gene.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We appreciate that.

17 MR. BENNETT: Ladies and gentlemen, is
18 there any other business before the Council of the
19 Cal-Sag Watershed?

20 Our next meeting is April and hosted by
21 Evergreen Park. I want to thank Bedford Park for
22 your fine hospitality as usual, Mayor. Thank you.

23 We are going to start our meeting in
24 about -- probably a little bit less than the

1 7:00 o'clock start. So we'll give you about six or
2 seven minutes to take a break.

3 With that in mind, I'll entertain a motion
4 to adjourn.

5 MR. FISHER: Could I --

6 MR. BENNETT: I'm sorry.

7 MR. FISHER: I just want to add one quick
8 thing.

9 MR. BENNETT: Sure. Go ahead.

10 MR. FISHER: My name is Rich Fisher with
11 MWRD.

12 And you saw our capital improvement
13 program and updates on that. One thing we would
14 like to do maybe this year is if -- to kind of add
15 some variety, more information to our presentations,
16 if we have a partner that's interested in giving a
17 presentation on what's it like to work with the
18 District, we thought that might be kind of some good
19 information to have it from a different perspective
20 other than ours. If anyone is a potential partner
21 would be interested, if you can let us know, we
22 would appreciate it.

23 MR. BENNETT: Okay.

24 MR. FISHER: Thank you very much.

1 MR. BENNETT: Yes.

2 MR. RINCHICH: City of Oak Forest
3 volunteers for that. We're currently involved in
4 both the Cal-Sag and the Little Cal, and we'll be
5 willing to participate in both watershed planning
6 commissions' presentations.

7 We're currently working with the Village
8 of Midlothian and the MWRD on Natalie Creek in both
9 towns, and it's moving along quite nicely. It's
10 something that will go on through September of next
11 year. The majority of the work has been completed
12 in Oak Forest. They're still working on hardscape
13 and culvert enlargements downstream in Midlothian.

14 MR. FISHER: Thank you.

15 MR. RINCHICH: I can work with IHC and
16 materials.

17 MR. BENNETT: I'm sure the towns would
18 like to see a best practices example that's going
19 on.

20 Any comments --

21 MR. SEXTON: Motion.

22 MR. BENNETT: Moved by Evergreen Park.

23 Seconded by.

24 MR. BRADY: Second by Mayor Brady.

1 MR. BENNETT: All in favor, signify in the
2 usual manner.

3 (Chorus of ayes.)

4 MR. BENNETT: Motion carries. We will
5 meet in less than ten minutes.

6 (WHEREUPON, at 6:51 o'clock P.M
7 the proceedings were adjourned.)

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License No. 084-004438, do hereby certify that I
stenographically reported the proceedings had at the
meeting, as aforesaid, and that the foregoing
transcript is a true and accurate record of the
proceedings had therein.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I do set my hand at
Chicago, Illinois, this 13th day of February, 2020.



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