Project Description:

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) seeks assistance to develop a stormwater master plan for a specific geographic area (a municipality or multi-jurisdictional area to be determined) within Cook County as part of MWRD’s Stormwater Master Planning Program. The Program assists communities throughout the county with urban (non-riverine) flooding by providing planning assistance based on flood risk and planning needs at the local level. MWRD requests comprehensive planning assistance to accompany and complement MWRD’s development of a stormwater master plan. The resulting plan would follow the outline and minimum requirements developed by the MWRD in an effort to standardize master plans throughout the service area (Cook County).

MWRD envisions a partnership with CMAP where MWRD will analyze and plan for stormwater management in the chosen area by identifying flood problem locations and potential solutions. CMAP’s planning assistance will provide an assessment of existing conditions for land use, transportation, socio-economic conditions and other community planning topics. CMAP will also help MWRD and the community identify economic opportunities that can result from flood reduction, such as relieving economic hardship within economically disconnected areas and community development opportunities.

The plan will develop specific goals, problem statements, target outcomes and incorporate core concepts for each problem area identified. The planning team will develop recommendations for solutions, prioritize recommended alternatives and provide policy and programmatic recommendations. The evaluation of alternatives will include performance metrics in terms of flood reduction and other community benefits, such as economic development, planning-level cost estimates, barriers to implementation, and strategies to overcome these barriers. An action plan will identify priority projects on a community level and provide strategies for implementation, scheduling and funding. An implementation plan will establish the leadership structure, timeline and success criteria for implementation as well as the protocol for future updates.

Project Location: To be determined