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STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Stormwater Management Planning Committee

FROM: Sarah Hunn, P.E., Director-DuPage County Stormwater Management

SUBJECT: Stormwater Program Update May 2025

DATE: May 6, 2025

Watershed Planning Prentiss Creek Watershed Plan:

Data collection and outreach with Prentiss Creek communities and stakeholders has continued through the spring. County staff is researching the accuracy of existing economic data for the watershed, and discussions between staff and our consultant have taken place this month regarding some of the existing watershed conditions. The public flooding questionnaire closed on March 30 to all residents and business owners. The results of the questionnaires are being tabulated by staff, and results will be shared with our consultant. In addition, the existing conditions FEQ model is being updated and results computed for the entire historical series of rainfall events. The first stakeholder meeting is expected to take place later in the spring. The Prentiss Creek Watershed includes portions of Downers Grove, Woodridge, Darien, Lisle, and Unincorporated DuPage County.

Facilities/Operations/ Shared Services Projects Shared Services/Drainage Projects:

The in-house maintenance crew completed final restoration on a drainage project in unincorporated Bloomingdale Township that was substantially completed in 2024. Proposed projects in Downers Grove Township and Bloomingdale Township are now under permit review.

Facilities/Operations:

Staff continues to monitor rainfall forecasts, stream elevations and rainfall gages throughout the County and are prepared to operate our flood control facilities as needed.

Staff is working with two contractors awarded bids for installation of a permanent generator at the Armstrong Park Flood Control Facility. We are waiting on a schedule from the contractors for work associated with each project. The schedule will be dictated based on lead times for equipment, some of which are several months.

At the Elmhurst Quarry, Independent Mechanical Industries completed installation of new check valves and associated piping in the West Lobe. The next phase of work will include painting the new components and preparation for installation of the new pumps, followed by installation of a new motor control center.

Staff also held a preconstruction meeting with the low bid contractor for repairs of the Catwalk in the West Lobe. Work is anticipated to begin in the upcoming months, with completion by Fall 2025.



Water Quality

Work continues on the IL EPA funded Watershed-Based Plan for the north half of the West Branch DuPage River, which includes working with a consultant on an HSPF water quality model. The plan is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2025.

Staff conduct inspections of stormwater outfalls throughout the county to detect illicit discharges. The current schedule includes outfall inspections in one major watershed per year. In 2025, Stormwater Management staff will conduct outfall monitoring of Salt Creek. These inspections consist of a visual screening of storm sewer outfalls followed by chemical field testing as necessary. In the event of a suspected illicit discharge, staff will contact the municipality to cooperate on tracing and enforcement.

Regulatory

Spring has brought a surge in application submittals and reviews, keeping our team actively engaged. Progress also continues on the updated Stormwater Ordinance Guidance Document.

ARPA Projects

Two construction contracts for the St. Joseph Creek Condominiums flood gate and flood wall projects were awarded to Copenhaver Construction, as the low bid contractor for both contracts. A few trees were removed in March, which were necessary for construction. The contractor is expected to be on site in April to begin demolition in anticipation of flood gate installation in May.

IEPA Section 319 Grant Project

As an initiative of the Water Quality program, stormwater management staff applied for and received a Section 319 Water Quality Grant from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). The Winfield Creek/Campus Stream Stabilization Project has been designed, permitted, and bid. The bid opening took place in April, with the lowest responsible bidder identified as Semper Fi Landscaping, Ltd. A notice to proceed is expected to be issued shortly after the bid award at the May Stormwater Committee and County Board meetings. When complete, portions of Winfield Creek that traverses through campus will have rock line streambanks, water quality improvements including native plantings, and stabilized outfalls from nearby storm sewer that discharges into the creek