



**DUPAGE
COUNTY**

Watershed
Management

Water
Quality

Floodplain
Mapping

Regulatory
Services

Flood Operations
& Maintenance

Shared
Services



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Stormwater Management Planning Committee

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

SUBJECT: Stormwater Program Update January 2025

DATE: January 7, 2025

Watershed Planning

Prentiss Creek Watershed Plan:

A kick-off meeting was held with staff from Engineering Resource Associates (ERA) at the beginning of December. Further data collection and outreach with communities has started, and county staff is researching the accuracy of existing economic data for the watershed. The first stakeholder meeting is expected in the early part of 2025. Outreach regarding on-line flooding questionnaires will occur with residents and major stakeholders in the next few weeks. This watershed includes portions of Downers Grove, Woodridge, and Unincorporated DuPage County. The contract with ERA will run through the end of 2026.

Facilities/Operations/Shared Services Projects

Shared Services/Drainage Projects:

A cost share project with Milton Township took place in mid-December, earlier than expected. Located in unincorporated Lombard, this culvert rehabilitation project was completed in 4 days. The project focused on cleaning and lining portions of the culvert that were deteriorating.

Staff also continues to work on several small-scale drainage project designs. Two consultants are assisting staff with ongoing drainage studies. Staff also continues to work on obtaining a permit for a culvert removal project adjacent to County Owned Property in Bloomingdale Township.

Facilities/Operations:

There have been no recent rain events that have triggered operation of the County's major flood control facilities. All stormwater flood control facilities continue to be maintained on a regular basis. 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.

The permanent generator project is underway at the Armstrong Park flood control facility. The generator was bid as a standalone item, and shop drawings for the proposed equipment are still under review. The site construction work associated with installation was awarded in December. Staff is expecting to host a preconstruction meeting with the awarded contractor in January.

Water Quality

Staff continue working with our consultant on the design of the Winfield Creek/Campus Stream Stabilization Project. This project is funded by the IL EPA. Construction is anticipated to begin in early 2025.

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.

The Water Quality Improvement Program Grant application period runs through January 3rd. Eligible projects include stream restoration, detention basin retrofit, shoreline stabilization, native plantings, and green building technologies that reduce or filter stormwater runoff. Both public and private organizations are eligible to apply for financial assistance.

Regulatory

The Regulatory Program concluded a highly active FY2024, reporting year-over-year increases across several key metrics: permit applications reviewed rose by 4%, permits certified increased by 15%, and pre-application meetings grew by 14%. Notably, compared to pre-pandemic levels, pre-application meetings surged by 47%, permit applications reviewed climbed by 28%, and permits certified were up by 9%.

ARPA Projects

All final municipal and township ARPA projects were reimbursed and closed out by the end of November. A total of 25 municipal projects were reimbursed in the amount of approximately \$9 million through the ARPA Intergovernmental Agreements between the County and the selected communities.

Two construction contracts for the St. Joseph Creek Condominiums flood gate and flood wall projects were awarded to Copenhagen Construction, as the low bid contractor for both contracts. Located within the Village of Lisle, these projects will provide flood protection to three condominium buildings through a series of flood walls, flood gates, and associated pump stations and storm sewers. Shop drawings for the flood gates are expected to be approved in the upcoming weeks. Staff will be working with the contractor to determine construction sequencing that allows all construction components to be completed in accordance with environmental regulations while also keeping in mind the lead times for the gates to be manufactured. Tree clearing may begin over the winter, with the bulk of construction commencing early Spring.

Located in unincorporated Lombard, the Luther - High Ridge Stormwater project has met substantial completion. Construction of all storm sewer, concrete curb, and asphalt pavement has been completed. The site will be stabilized over the winter months, with final restoration expected in Spring 2025.

The Main Street Storage Basin project in Lisle has met substantial completion. Additionally, a majority of the plantings have been installed. Remaining work includes addressing all punch list items and planting the remaining required shrubs, which will be completed in 2025.

Country Club Highlands Phase II in unincorporated Elmhurst broke ground earlier this year and has met substantial completion. Staff still continues to work with the contractor and an outside consultant to verify completion of punch list items. Final sign off is expected in late 2025.