

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 31, 2012

To: Planning, Building and Zoning Committee

Finance and Administrative Committee

From: Mike Warner, Executive Director

Kurt Woolford, Chief Engineer

Joseph Hmieleski, Principal Wetland Specialist

Subject SMC Wetland Restoration Fund (WRF) Wetland Credit Purchase – North Branch of the

Chicago River Watershed

ACTION REQUESTED: Emergency Appropriation of Wetland Restoration Funds

- The SMC Wetland Restoration Fund (WRF) collects fees from wetland impacts into a deferred revenue account for each of the four major watersheds in the county.
- Once the fund reaches a threshold value or credits become available within a watershed wetland bank, the WRF policies mandate a financial process, which requires an emergency appropriation to allocate funds for expenditure.
- SMC, on December 1, 2011 approved the expenditure of \$55,520 to purchase 0.694 acre of wetland mitigation credit at the Atkinson Road Wetland Mitigation Bank (North Branch of the Chicago River) in order to replace 0.30-acre of isolated wetlands lost due to development impacts.