

February 25, 2021

TO: Stormwater Management Commission

FR: Kurt Woolford, Interim Director Mike Prusila, Planning Supervisor

RE: Stormwater Capital Improvement Program Funding Update and Timeline

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval of Extension of Timeline for January 2021 Application Review

Funding Program Update: On February 19, 2021, SMC held a virtual roundtable meeting with a number of local officials including Mayors, County Board Members, Township Highway Commissioners and several Illinois State Representatives and State Senators. SMC is leading an effort to direct funding to regional stormwater management projects funded by a \$122 million appropriation in Public Act 101-0368. Projects are scored based on several factors, including overall flood damage or prevention benefit, cost leveraging, and environmental justice considerations. The intent of the program is to fund projects throughout Lake County using a phased approach and spreading the amount of the entire appropriation over several grants in successive fiscal years.

SMC approved an initial list of 9 prioritized projects, which were submitted to the State in 2020. In January of 2021, SMC staff received project proposals for an intended second round of project submittals to the State. The intended timeline for the second round of projects was to bring a scored and reviewed list to SMC in March 2021. Staff's understanding at this time is that due to impacts from COVID, capital funds appropriated in PA 101-0368 have not been released to any projects in Illinois. Based on the discussion at the February 19 roundtable, funding for the initial round of projects may become available in the next 6 months. Funding for the second round of projects would be available some time thereafter.

Action Item: Given the delay in executing the grant for the initial round of projects, staff recommends extending the timeline for scoring, review, and approval of the second round of projects submitted in January 2021 by six months, from March 2021 to September 2021.