



Strategic Initiative	Status/Progress	Department
10 th Annual Deicing Workshops	LCDOT, SMC, and the Lake County Health Department hosted the 10 th annual deicing workshops in October for public and private snow removal operators. Road salt is the most commonly used tool to manage snow and ice removal, but there are best practices to follow and sensible methods and alternatives to use that can be more environmentally friendly and cost-effective.	Transportation
Cedar Lake Road (IL 120 to Nippersink)	LCDOT recently completed the reconstruction of Cedar Lake Road from IL 120 to Nippersink in Round Lake. As part of this project, a bike path was installed along the east side of the road and made a connection to the existing Nippersink Forest Preserve trail system. LCDOT also worked closely with the Lake County Forest Preserve to restore an old RV commercial property back to natural prairie land. This allowed room for the bike path and provided for a net reduction in hard surface area and a reduction in stormwater runoff. The project also included an infiltration ditch to improve water quality and bank stabilization of Squaw Creek to minimize erosion.	Transportation
LED Street Lighting	LCDOT's project to upgrade and install light-emitting diode (LED) street lighting at roundabout street lights and underpass luminaires is nearly complete. Over the past several years, LCDOT retrofitted all existing traffic signals throughout the county with long-lasting LED lamps, and now they are working to upgrade street lighting. LED lights reduce power consumption and keep ongoing maintenance costs low.	Transportation
Enhanced Biological Nutrient Removal (eBNR)	The County's three wastewater plants now utilize Enhanced Nutrient Removal technology which reduces the volume of phosphorus and nitrogen in the treated water. This process reduced the phosphorus levels an average of 70% in discharges to the Des Plaines River, and downstream receptors helping to reduce the risk of algal blooms.	Public Works
Energy Consumption Studies	With the assistance of the County's Sustainability Consultant, the County secured two free energy audits - an estimated value of \$10,000 - through the Illinois EPA and the Illinois Department of Energy at two Wastewater Reclamation Facilities (New Century Town and Mill Creek). The audits evaluated plant equipment to determine opportunities for improved efficiency and energy reductions. The preliminary results found the plants were operating at a high level of energy efficiency. The final reports are due in early 2019 and may provide additional recommendations	Public Works

Construction Debris Diversion Tracking	The Lake County Code requires 75% of construction and demolition (C&D) debris to be recycled for applicable projects in unincorporated areas of Lake County. Recent implementation of a new tracking method has increased accuracy and convenience of measuring diversion rates and compliance. The 75% diversion requirement was exceeded again in 2018. Lake County residents and contractors recycled approximately 88% of C&D debris, and a total of approximately 3,700 tons of waste were diverted from landfills.	PB&D
Updates to the Unified Development Ordinance	Zoning text amendments to the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) were drafted to support the implementation of the Sustainability Chapter of the Regional Framework Plan. The amendments aim to expand opportunities for local food production and promote the use of native plants. PB&D staff recently conducted a public hearing on the proposed amendments held by the Zoning Board of Appeals. Staff will be presenting the ZBA recommendation to PWPT Committee in early 2019 prior to action by the County Board.	PB&D
Solar Energy Task Force	A Solar Energy Task Force will be convened by PBD staff in 2019 to engage area municipalities on the shared development of a best practice-based solar model ordinance. The task force, which includes Lake County staff and representatives from municipalities throughout Lake County, will develop a model ordinance which will serve as a template for both Lake County and municipalities to utilize in the adoption of solar specific codes. Also, in 2019, Lake County will be able to seek a designation through the U.S. Department of Energy's SolSmart certification process.	PB&D
Lake Michigan Watershed-Based Plan	Th planning process for the Lake Michigan Watershed-Based Plan will start with SMC by (a) scheduling natural resource and infrastructure field inventories in January 2019 and (b) developing planning meeting schedules for stakeholder outreach beginning in the first quarter of 2019. The intended goal of the Plan is to reduce the impact of water pollution and flood damage, and restore watershed lakes, streams, and wetlands. This planning effort will be supported by the following grant awards to SMC - \$100,000 grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Coastal Management Program and \$30,000 grant from IEPA -319 program.	SMC
Fiddle Creek Improvements	In an effort to mitigate problems with Fiddle Creek (Lake Barrington) flow blockage – which causes flooding - SMC is working with the Slocum Lake Drainage District and the Village of Lake Barrington to implement a drainage channel clearing project. Based on SMC drone recon, the team was able to identify obstructed areas and develop a scope of work. As of December 2018, two-thirds of obstructions have been cleared using low ground pressure, amphibious equipment, and the last third is planned to be removed in early 2019. Future phases are also planned to continue the work upstream.	SMC
Des Plaines River Watershed-Based Plan	Following the approval of the Des Plaines River Watershed-Based Plan (Plan) by the Illinois EPA in September 2018, SMC is currently in the process of starting community adoption efforts - which is the largest watershed planning effort SMC has undertaken. The Plan will be used as a guide to restore watershed lakes, streams, and wetlands to a healthy condition while reducing the impacts of water pollution and flood	SMC

	damage for residents and businesses. Adoption of the Plan also makes all applicable entities eligible for grant funding to implement projects and programs recommended in the plan.	
Recycling Guidelines Update	SWALCO has updated its recycling guidelines webpage to help residents better understand what materials are and are not recyclable. Round Lake Beach and Waste Management, Inc. will continue the recycling cart tagging program which tags recycling carts with information about improper recycling in residential carts. Prairieland Disposal will tag carts for improper recycling while Advanced Disposal is investigating starting a similar effort. The issue of reducing recycling contamination will continue to be an important effort in 2019.	SWALCO
Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan Update	The five-year update to the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan will be completed and presented to the Lake County Board for its approval in the fall of 2019. SWALCO has selected a consultant to assist with updating the plan by providing a circular economy perspective to the plan and an assessment of SWALCO programs as they relate to reducing greenhouse gases. A citizens advisory committee will be appointed by the SWALCO board in January with work on the plan commencing later in January. Advisory committee meetings are planned in the spring to offer input into the plan prior to its submission to the SWALCO Board and the County Board for approval.	SWALCO