

April 2022

APWA Chicago Metro Chapter

Volume 54, Issue 1

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Letter from the Chapter President

[Marc Grigas](#), Strand Associates, Inc.



Marc Grigas
Chapter President

It is with great pleasure I am able to assure our members that the APWA Chicago Metro Chapter is in a position of strength as we entered 2022. I would like to thank our Past President, Michael Hall (Schaumburg), for his year of leadership through a dynamic time for the Chapter. Public works and our members carry the 2022 PWX theme of "Ready and Resilient." The unprecedented time of the past two years has proven how public works was ready and we can quickly adapt and conquer our challenges. Our resiliency was on full display

as public works continued to not only serve our communities, but to also use this time to learn and improve our daily lives.

The Chapter's 2022 planning commenced at our annual Starved Rock Leadership Retreat in November 2021. Over fifty volunteers including the executive committee, committee members, and branch officers gathered for two days to discuss carrying our strategic plan forward. I was humbled by our volunteer's commitments to the Chapter. The Chapter is extremely fortunate to have so many bright and dedicated volunteers working for APWA. Our plan is to support those who operate, improve and maintain public works and infrastructure through advocacy, education, and member engagement. The plan will continue to be implemented throughout the

year with our various exciting events, interesting media, and educational opportunities all shown on the Chapter's website at chicago.apwa.net.

The new year brings awards season to the Branches and Chapter. After a month of postponements, awards committees had their rescheduled branch luncheons in February and March to honor the outstanding achievements of individuals, communities, and their projects. I would like to personally congratulate all of the worthy winners. The Chapter's achievements regularly receive national attention, and this year is no different. It is with great pleasure I would like to congratulate the Village of Schaumburg and City of Evanston for winning the APWA

(Continued on page 4)

2022 Top Ten PW Leader — Mike Millette

by: [Aaron Grosskopf](#), Director of Public Works, Village of Gilberts

On Tuesday, March 8, 2022, Public Works Director/Village Engineer for South Elgin, Mike Millette, stepped up in front of over a hundred attendees at the Fox Valley Awards Lunch to say a few words. Mike was in front of the crowd accepting the final recognition of the day, the Top Ten Public Works Leaders of the Year Award. He has left his mark on many organizations over his storied public career with over 34 years of public works and municipal engineering experience. Over these years

Mike has been at the forefront of innovation in the industry. From being one of the first individuals to assist in authoring the DuPage County Stormwater Ordinance to implementing Lombard's first pavement management system. Mike's professional accomplishments are too numerous to name in a single article. But it really isn't the improvements he made to the many organizations over the years that Mike seemed most proud of, it's the people.

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Mike and his wife Michelle after Mike accepted his Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year Award.

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Chapter Newsletter

Chicago Metro Newsletter is emailed to Chicago Metro members three times per year.

The December issue is mailed.

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Fox Valley Branch Spring Update! By: Karen Kase, PWS, CPESC

We are so excited to be back in person! After having a record attendance holiday party at Bartlett Hills Golf Club in December, Fox Valley was back in action last week at Two Brothers Roundhouse for our Awards luncheon. I feel all the Branches and Chapter did a great job of being remote, and kept lots of fresh ideas going virtually, but nothing compares to the 3D experience!

This year, the Fox Valley Branch is ready to rock on a very ambitious program of in-person activities! We had hoped for a great turnout for a Chicago Steel Hockey game on March 20 in Geneva. Timing wasn't perfect and the event had low participation. We will reschedule this next winter. The \$10 ticket included a free hot dog and soda. Plan to bring the family next time!

We also have a field trip planned in May to the Vactor

Plant in Streator. Standard Equipment is going to provide a bus for members - this is not an event to miss! Our golf outing is going to be a "Boogie Wonderland" back at Randall Oaks Golf Club on **August 5** - I can't wait!

Our Volunteer Committee is super busy as well, planning events at the Northern Illinois Food Bank and Feed My Starving Children.

One of the most rewarding events we had was the Committee Kick-Off back in February. All the Committee Chairs met to plan this year's events at the non-profit **Aspen Lane Wine Company** in Aurora (<https://www.aspenlanewinecompany.com/>) and were taken with the passion and mission of its founder, Bob Evanovsky. Bob and his wife Sonya Evanovsky have three sons: John and Christopher, who are identical twins, and Jack, who is 26 months younger. All three boys were diagnosed with a fatal genetic



Sonya and Bob Evanovsky, founders of Aspen Lane Wine Company

disease known as metachromatic leukodystrophy (MLD) in early 2005 when John and Christopher were three years old and Jack was one. John passed away in 2016, but his life continues to be celebrated at Aspen Lane.

As an accomplished home wine-maker, Bob Evanovsky had the idea of combining his love of making wine with creating a business that would provide a sustainable source of income to a select group of nonprofit organizations. Driven by the transformational experiences of his own family, Bob wanted to support nonprofits who were

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Chapter President (Cont'd from pg 1)

National Excellence in Snow and Ice Control Award.

In 2018, APWA National selected the Chicago Metro Chapter as the 2024 PWX host. Since then, the PWX committee leaders Jennifer Hughes (Oswego) and Mike Millette (South Elgin), have structured a group of dedicated individuals to bring you this spectacular

event. The quiet organizing of the committee the past few years will begin to make noise and reach out more and more to our industry. One of the first orders of business this year will be to begin fundraising through donations and sponsorships to support our PWX activities. The industry was extremely generous when we last hosted PWX in 2013. I am confident this substantial support will be experienced again.

Lastly, a special thank you must be extended to Jorge Cruz for preparing our newsletters and contributing so much time and energy to the Chapter. He is the sole solicitor of the sponsorships and articles needed to prepare a quarterly newsletter full of valuable content for our members.

I look forward to seeing you at our many events this year! 

Mike Millette (Cont'd from pg 1)

During his acceptance speech, Mike was incredibly focused on a specific aspect of this profession, the people in it. The individuals that he has worked with over the years, the ones that taught and mentored him, and the ones that he was able to pay that knowledge forward to over a long career. Learning from others, and through his own experiences, being able to pass that wisdom, experience, and information to those he could, was a vital part of not only his public works career, but

all aspects of his life.

Currently, Mike is involved in many organizations; The Illinois Terrorism Task Force, Metro West Council of Government, Baker Memorial United Methodist Church, American Red Cross, and of course the APWA serving at both the Chicago Metro Level and National Level while having held virtually every committee position at one point or another. He also devotes time to being a Village Trustee in Campton Hills. Mike has also been involved with the American Society of

Civil Engineers, the National Society of Professional Engineers, and the Institute of Transportation Engineers.

Not only does Mike have a celebrated professional career, but an equally astounding life devoted to other passions outside of the public works field. When he joined the Cub Scouts in 1972, it led to a long and passionate endeavor to devote 26 years to being a boy scout



From left to right: Karen Kase, Mike Millette, Sean O'Dell

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Retirement

The Southwest Branch Rides Again! By: Eric Neubauer, HDR

The Southwest Branch ended 2021 on a high note. First, we held our annual holiday party on December 9th at Silver Lakes Country Club with 456 attendees. As always, it was a good time loaded with tons of prizes, including a Harley-Davidson electric bicycle. I know many of you had fun because I saw you there! Thanks to Don Cassier and his team a volunteers for putting on this great event. Second, the Southwest Branch did a radio jingle thanking all public works staff on Will County Country FM radio station 98.3 WCCQ the week of December 21st thru December 28th.



Special thanks to **Arlan Schattke**, our President for 2021. We had good times, some laughs, a few beers, and you got to take the Harley-Davidson bike for a test ride.

Thanks for guiding our branch through a difficult year with COVID. You did a great job. Our officers for this year include **Owen Dean** as secretary, **Khurshid Hoda** as treasurer, **Alex Alejandro** as vice president, and myself as President.

Starting the new year, we faced some challenges due to the Omicron variant which caused us to postpone our Awards Ceremony. But I have good



2022 Officers (L-R)

Alex Alejandro, Eric Neubauer, Owen Dean, Arlan Schattke, and Khurshid Hoda



2022 Southwest Branch Award Winners

- **Transportation < \$5 Million** – Bridge Carrying Essington Road over Rock Run Creek (Joliet/Hutchison)
- **Transportation \$5 to \$25 Million** – 151st Street Improvements (Orland Park/CBBEL)
- **Structures < \$5 Million** – Romeoville Public Works Fleet Maintenance Building (Romeoville/RJA Architects)
- **Structures \$5 to \$25 Million** – New Lenox Rock Island Train Station (New Lenox/CBBEL)
- **Environment < \$5 Million** – Elwood Water System Improvements (Elwood/Baxter&Woodman)
- **Environment \$5 to \$25 Million** – Channahon's Strategic Master Planning Facilitated Cost-Effective Phased Improvements (Channahon/Strand)
- **Environment \$25 to \$75 Million** – City of Joliet Five Year Water Main Improvement Program (Joliet/Baxter&Woodman)


news. **THE SOUTHWEST BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY WILL BE HELD IN PERSON ON APRIL 6th AT THE PATRICK HALEY MANSION.** In order to give the award winners a chance to share their great projects, we have included a monthly spotlight during the first five minutes of our monthly meeting presentations.

This will continue throughout 2022. Congratulations to all of our award winners listed below.

Paul Thibaudeau of EJ presented on Iron Castings and Fabrication virtually on February 2nd. On March 2nd, Zach Pucel of TranSystems presented a hybrid meeting on Minimizing Issues during Construction. Both events were well attended. The Southwest Branch plans to continue with the hybrid meeting format, which allows for in person lunch and comradery but also allows for remote attendance of the presentation via TEAMS. Can't wait to "see" you at our next meeting, either in person or virtually! We are already planning a May 4th in person educational event with the Fox Valley Branch at Clarke Environmental in St. Charles on Mosquito Larvicide, which will

include a certificate.

A special goal of mine for 2022 is to increase our visibility and number of applications for the Southwest Branch full-time student scholarships. I got my start in the Southwest Branch on the scholarship committee and we have traditionally had issues getting applications for this scholarship. If you know of someone who lives or works in the Southwest Branch region and they have kids attending college in a public works, civil or environmental engineering related field or if you have interns, please send them to the scholarship page on chicago.apwa.net or have them contact Jon Kjellman at jonathan.kjellman@hdrinc.com. At least two \$1,500 scholarships are available and while applications will be accepted year-round, March 31st will be the application deadline for the Fall 2022 Semester and August 31st for the Spring 2023 semester.

We look forward to another successful year and stay safe! 



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Fox Valley Branch Awards

The - Fox Valley Branch announced on Tuesday, March 8th their Individual and Project of the Year Awards. This year there were eight projects from across the Fox Valley region recognized in a special ceremony held at the Two Brothers Roundhouse in Aurora, IL. Many of the branch winners will be presented awards on Friday, March 18th by the Chapter. We wish everyone the best of luck at National as well and we are so proud of the achievements of the Fox Valley Branch. Our Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year was presented to Micheal D. Millette, P.E. of the Village of South Elgin. He was nominated by Sean O'Dell.



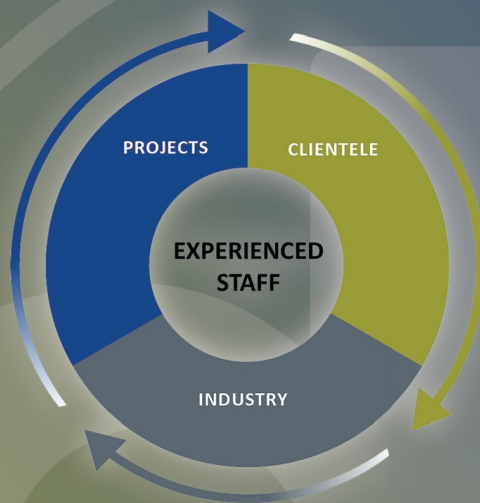
Congratulations to our Award Winners

ENVIRONMENT \$5-\$25mil Downtown Streetscape Wet Utilities – Stage 2 & 3 Village of Algonquin	TOP TEN PUBLIC WORKS LEADERS OF THE YEAR Michael D. Millette, P.E.	ENVIRONMENT \$25-\$75 mil Phase 1B WWTP Biological Improvements Kishwaukee Water Reclamation District
TRANSPORTATION \$5-\$25mil ATC Enhancements and Fox River Pedestrian Bridge City of Aurora	TRANSPORTATION Less \$5mil Great Western Trail Sycamore Park District	ENVIRONMENT Less \$5mil 7 th Street Creek Flood Reduction & Restoration City of St Charles
STRUCTURES \$5-\$25mil Cary Municipal Center Village of Cary	TRANSPORTATION \$5-\$25mil Randall Road Corridor McHenry County Division of Transportation	STRUCTURES Less \$5mil Venue 1012 Village of Oswego

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Making the World a Smaller Place By: Eric Dean, PE, CFM, Technical Manager, Benesch

The APWA City Branch continues with its talks at various City of Chicago Agencies. If you are interested in speaking at one of these events, please contact John Mick at texmick-pefnspe@yahoo.com. Any topic is welcomed as we are all trying to learn and help our Chicago Public Works employees.

This quarter offered a special international opportunity. The APWA International Affairs Committee and the City Branch hosted the Municipal Engineer Foundation (MEF) out of Victoria, Australia in a webinar showcasing public works in Australia. This unique webinar was available to APWA members throughout the country, expanding our footprint outside the Chicagoland area.

Warren Roberts is chairman of MEF and helped to select the Australian speakers. MEF has been operating for 60 years and their mission is to advance the people in public works, very similar to APWA.

Tony McGann spoke on "Asset Management from the View of a Small Rural Council". In Australia, a Financial Plan and an Asset Plan with a 10-year vision is required by law. These two documents must be intertwined. Most communities have a fixed income tax which dictates the Financial Plan. The goal of the Asset Plan is to determine the life and maintenance requirements of the assets, then determine how much money is required to do this. Once these are determined, the community is engaged, which is also required by law. This is a continuous cycle which ensures the infrastructure can be maintained.

Ross Goyne spoke on "Leadership in Asset Manage-

ment". His work experience and international experience has given him a unique perspective on Asset Management. He is currently working on international standards for Asset Management, specifically, new standards for public policy and public involvement. The goal of these to have good leadership that can convey the importance of Asset Management and ensure everyone is aligned.

Lachlan Johnson spoke on "Leadership of Technological Innovation in Local Government". In his experience, the support of innovative and implementation comes down to support from leadership. An example is in Boston, where city officials wanted a smart city and then engaged their community to explain the benefits. Once the public bought in on the benefits of innovation, they had success in rolling out new programs.

In May, Tom Rickert and Dan Kaup will be going to Australia



to learn even more. Additionally, the Australian presenters will all be at PWX Charlotte in the summer, with a hopeful stopover in Chicago. These events and opportunities reiterate how APWA is helping to make the world a smaller place.

By: Eric Dean, PE, CFM, Technical Manager, Benesch EDean@benesch.com

ISO TC251 – Asset Management

- **ISO 55000:** 2014 Asset management – Overview, principles and terminology
- **ISO 55001:** 2014 Asset management – Management Systems – Requirements
- **ISO 55002:** 2018 Asset management – Management systems - Guidelines for the application of ISO 55001
- **ISO 55010:** 2019 Asset management – Guidance on alignment of asset management, finance and accounting
- **ISO CD 55011.2:** Asset management – Guidance for development and application of public policy to enable asset management
- **ISO CD 55012:** Asset management - Guidelines for people involvement and competence



Warren Roberts



Tony McGann



Ross Goyne



Lachlan Johnson

Lake Branch Events By: [Mike Brown](mailto:Mike.Brown@lakezurich.org), Lake Branch Chapter Secretary. Mike.brown@lakezurich.org

Now that we're finally moving back to in person events, the Lake Branch has several great education/social events planned for 2022, and yes... It will be a BIG YEAR for Lake Branch with thirteen events already on the books.

To make it more convenient for members to attend events in 2022, the Lake Branch is making a couple of changes that will provide an opportunity for the overall membership moving forward.

The first change is, adding a social component to the educational events. Let's get to know each other better and form last-

ing bonds while learning about cool things happening in Public Works AND visiting some of the finest breweries throughout Lake County.

The second change is scheduling these events with a later start to what has been customary in the past. The Executive committee felt that having an afternoon start provides the members the opportunity to discuss the educational topics further after the event and end their day networking with their peers opposed to heading back to the office or a meeting after a heavy lunch.

The 2022 events will include stops in Wauconda, Libertyville,



Grayslake, Buffalo Grove, Mundelein, Barrington, Long Grove, and Lake Zurich.... see you there!!!

Please feel free to submit suggestions for hosted sites for future years to your Lake Branch Executive Committee.

Mike Brown

Lake Branch Chapter Secretary.

Mike.brown@lakezurich.org 

See below for the complete list of 2022 events:

March 15 th	Education	Alternative Fuels	Virtual
April 19 th	Administration Assistants	Customer Service	Docks-Wauconda
May 10 th	Education	Drones	First Draft-Grayslake
June 2 nd	Chapter Awards	Presentations/Awards	Mickey Finns-Libertyville
June 16 th	Education	Asset Management	Wild Onion-Barrington
June 21 st	Top 10 Award	Bridget Berger	Sunset Pavilion-Lake Zurich
July 15 th	Golf Outing	Golf	Arboretum Club-Buffalo Grove
August 16 th	Education	Introduction to Survey	Buffalo Creek Brewery-Long Grove
September 20 th	Mundelein PW Facility Tour	Tour/Social	Mundelein PW/Tighthead Brewery-Mundelein
October 11 th	Joint Meeting-Suburban	Updates	Maggianos-Schaumburg
November 15 th	Veterans Event	Veterans Appreciation	McGonigals-Barrington
November 29 th	Education	Lead Services	Virtual
December 20 th	Holiday Party	Best Damn Holiday Event	Mickey Finns-Libertyville.



Early street light maintenance

City of Elgin Makes the Switch to LED by: [Aaron Neal](#), City of Elgin

The City of Elgin has begun its process to update public roadway lighting infrastructure within the corporate boundaries of the 6th largest city within the state of Illinois. With over 6,500 municipally maintained streetlights within its network, Elgin, through its department of Public Works, began their journey in 2018. There was no shortage of work involved which

consumption in line with the city's Strategic Principles and Priorities. The city completed phase I of their conversion project in December of 2021 converting over 3,000 cobra head fixtures.

The LED conversion project, led by Public Works Superintendent Aaron Neal, was first proposed to the City's executive management team during budget deliberations in 2018.

incentive dollars offered by Commonwealth Edison through its Energy Efficiency Program. Elgin is positioned to receive over \$450,000 in total incentive dollars from ComEd over the project scope.

A request for qualifications to find a professional project partner was drafted and published by the city of Elgin in 2019 and received 10 responses from firms that had

Road Type	Total Fixtures	LED Wattage	Legacy Wattage	Energy Decrease	Color Temp
Arterial	477	149	400	63%	4000k
Collector	368	97	250	62%	3000k
Local	2308	71	175	60%	3000k

included, countless hours of planning, community outreach, project development, product specification and organizational buy-in towards the completion of a project that not only updates aging infrastructure, but also serves towards reducing energy

While this conversion to LED provided many infrastructure and maintenance benefits, the project scope also provided the city the ability to reduce carbon emissions, reconcile electric costs through a detailed inventory audit and apply for

unique backgrounds in an array of projects in the lighting industry. Responses included both nationally recognized Energy Service Companies (ESCO's), local engineering

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Switch to LED (Cont'd from pg 11)

consultants and lighting specialists across the nation.

A multi department team of city staff ultimately selected The Will Group, a Wheaton Illinois Company to lead the project. The Will Group has over 35 years of lighting specific projects within their portfolio, were able to offer all of the necessary project deliverables under a semi turnkey model, represent and manufacture General Electric lighting fixtures locally and are a project partner for the city of Chicago Smart Lighting Program which is upgrading over 270,000 legacy fixtures to LED.

In the fall of 2019, the City of Elgin and The Will Group began step one of the project which was a complete inventory of roadway lighting within city limits. The inventory provided the city with a full understanding of lighting within the city which included location details of the 3,400 lights



City of Elgin Public Works Superintendent Aaron Neal, left, highlighting a General Electric Evolve Series light fixture after a 2018 city council presentation with Rod Young, right, Vice President of Business Operations of The Will Group and City Council Member Toby Shaw, center. Photo Courtesy of Daily Herald

owned and maintained by ComEd, and the 6,500 lights owned and maintained by the city of Elgin.

Moving into 2020, the City was prepared to begin design engineering, develop, bid and begin installation work. The onset of the coronavirus

pandemic forced the city of Elgin to shelve a handful of capital projects in anticipation of revenue decline. The LED conversion project was postponed.

While the project was

(Continued on page 14)

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Wine dedicated to John and Christopher, who are identical twins, and Jack, who is 26 months younger.

Fox Valley Branch (Cont'd from pg 2)

serving children and adults with a variety of disabilities. **So far, Aspen Lane Wine Company has donated over \$450,000 to local charities that support people with disabilities.**


Part of those efforts, through the couple's Evanosky Foundation, included expanding newborn screening in Illinois for five fatal childhood diseases. A former airline pilot who turned stay-at-home dad after the children were born, Bob is devoted to working with scientists, legislators and interested charities, including the March of Dimes. Bob got a bill signed into law in November of 2007 making Illinois the first state in the country

to screen for five lysosomal storage disorders and he continues to expand his newborn screening efforts in other states.

The Fox Valley Branch Committee Chairs were collectively blown away by the efforts and results of Bob at Aspen Lane. and we are actively looking for ways to partner with them to support their mission. We absolutely recommend that everyone stops by for a visit at their unassuming Aurora loca-



Fox Valley Branch at Aspen Lane Wine Company

tion, and I'm sure you will be as inspired as we are. 

Karen Kase, PWS, CPESC
Natural Resources Manager
Hampton Lenzini and Renwick Inc.

Mike Millette (Cont'd from pg 4)

leader. Over his career in the scouts, he has gained much recognition for his service including several training awards and Order of the Arrow

Vigil Honor. Mike is also a devoted family man to his wife Michelle and their daughter Bridget. Michelle was able to come and join in on the fun, Tuesday and see her husband accept recognition for his

fantastic achievements.

There is no doubt that Mike has made an impact in our field that will be echoed through the years to come, not only the organizational and professional

(Continued on page 37)






PWX is Coming to Chicago in 2024

Public Works professionals from all over the world will converge on Chicago in 2024 as the Chicago Metro Chapter plays host to PWX, the Public Works Expo. The festivities will take place at McCormick Place from August 18-21, 2024.

Does it seem like this date is far into the future? Sure, but we have much to do to prepare. Drawing on our experience hosting this event in 2013, and the fourteen times before that, we plan to create the “Best Damn PWX Experience in the World”. Whether it is enjoying the Get Acquainted Party, experiencing world-class technical tours, or joining us in afterhours discussions of which sports team is better, we hope that attendees leave having

made new friends and maybe even learning a little.

We are no stranger to this event, as we have hosted it fifteen previous times, most recently in 2013. Back then, we hosted the Get Acquainted Party at Soldier Field, danced the night away to the Blues Brothers, jigged with the Trinity Irish Dancers, and enjoyed fine selections of beverages and food representing various neighborhoods of Chicago. While every PWX is different, the 2024 PWX will be special as we create our own unique take on the event. Already, we have assembled a team of dynamic and creative individuals who will help create the program activities not only for attendees but also for their families.

Our efforts will require a lot of money and a lot of volunteers. We have already begun raising funds and challenge our Chapter to raise the funds necessary to bring first-class talent and experiences to the week. As we get closer to the event, we will bring on more than 400 volunteers who will help make sure our guests have a great experience. Look for more information in future newsletters, emails, and at branch and chapter meetings. 

PWX 2024 – Co-Chairs

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Switch to LED (Cont'd from pg 12)

postponed, there was no internal shortage of work continuing during 2020. The city of Elgin completed additional design work including the refining of photometrics, and long discussions both internally and with the public, regarding kelvin temperatures and their impacts on the environment. A 2016 American Medical Association report was used to help guide Elgin to a strategic lighting temperature conversion model which includes over 85 percent of replacements to 3000k. The remaining 15 percent of the project, which comprises the city's arterial road network are being installed at 4000k.

Community engagement efforts also were rolled out designating three trial lighting areas, the installation of an interactive display at the city hall complex,

and the creation of a webpage for the community.

In 2021, the project was placed back on the books and the department of public works was full steam ahead. The project was bid separately to include installation and material procurement. General Electric Evolve series fixtures had been vetted and were chosen as the sole fixture for Elgin within the project. Lyons View Manufacturing, a Will Group Company, is a licensed assembly arm for GE and over 80 percent of the projects cobra head fixtures were manufactured in Chicago providing needed economic opportunities within a targeted location in Chicago identified by The Will Group.

The phase I installation took just under 4 months to complete and the city has its first installment of incentive monies from ComEd with a second check on

the way. 2022 brings the design engineering of the phase II project scope which will address decorative lighting in the city, reconciling billing of phase I improvements and the close out of a project that the entire community can “see”. Smart City technologies were included in the product specification and will allow future upgrades to further connect residents to the city through the endless options available through smart nodes in the coming years.

The City of Elgin department of public works found that the planning, engagement and conversation regarding energy efficient upgrades to city infrastructure is the key factor in a project of this scale. National and local discussion on sustainability are of heightened interest to community leaders. Fiscal responsibility remains a key component

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LED STREET LIGHTING UPGRADE

- Reduces Carbon Footprint and Cost of Electricity Through Energy Savings
(Now: 149 WATTS, Before: 400 WATTS)
- Reduces Maintenance with Longer Lasting Bulbs
- Directs Light Down and Helps You See Better



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Caption describing picture or graphic.

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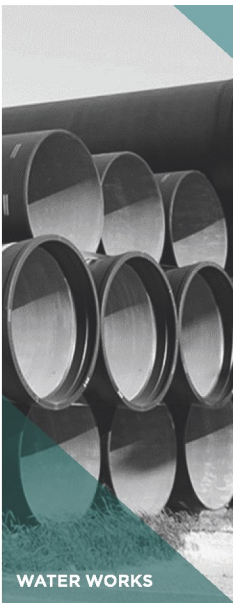
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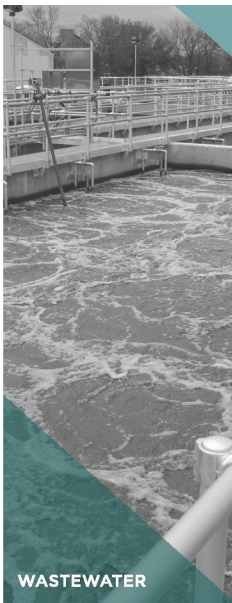
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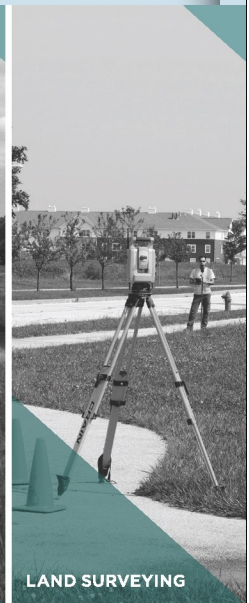
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When Disaster Strikes, Are You Ready?

By: [John Mayer, PE, CFM](#), Engineering Resource Associates, Inc.

On December 10, 2021, a devastating EF4 tornado tore through several midwestern states, primarily hitting the Commonwealth of Kentucky. I had the opportunity to volunteer to help the victims of the tornado. This experience triggered a desire to remind all public works communities about the need to be prepared for unexpected disasters.

The deadliest tornado began at 8:56 pm in Fulton County, KY and extended 167 miles, exiting Muhlenberg County, KY at 11:10 pm. A second parallel tornado extended 123 miles beginning at 10:32 pm to 12:36 pm. In total this tropical storm produced 71 tornados throughout the Midwest. What made this event so unique was the sheer magnitude of the storm system occurring in the month of December. The previous December record was a total of 38 tornadoes. This record was short lived, however, for a subsequent event on December 15, 2021 resulted in 118 tornados throughout the Midwest.

Mayfield, KY received a direct hit and experienced the greatest extent of damage, with 785 structures completely destroyed in Graves County. Several resort communities along the west side of Kentucky Lake were also hit hard, with 356 structures destroyed or uninhabitable in Marshall County according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) preliminary damage assessments. In Hopkins County, KY, which includes the Town of Dawson Springs, an estimated 500 structures were destroyed. Mayfield lost a major water tower and experienced significant damage to the County courthouse and County Jail. The main point is that our changing weather patterns are



County Courthouse: Mayfield, KY

producing severe conditions such as tornadoes that can occur anytime and anywhere.

Federal, State, and local agencies along with utility companies, medical personnel, and non-governmental organizations mobilized immediately to help in the rescue and recovery efforts. My wife and I volunteered with an organization called Eight Days of Hope (EDOH). They began a three-week operation to assist victims of the tornado in Mayfield, Benton, and Kentucky Lake areas. EDOH provided 1,200 volunteers and completed a total of 238 assistance projects during that time. People can volunteer for as many days as they are available. Projects included mucking out damaged homes, clearing debris, and cutting down fallen or damaged trees. Many other volunteer organizations work hand in hand with FEMA to assist in the relief operations. FEMA operations worked continuously at assessing the damage and providing debris removal from along the roadside. Each role is critical for a quick and strong response. Major challenges during the recovery effort included prompt action to restore access, the need to reestablish power, assess unsafe structural conditions, and deal with winter weather conditions.

While being overwhelmed with the incredible amount of work effort, one aspect that is sometimes underestimated is the emotional factor of the workers and the victims. We experienced many residents encouraged by the amount of help from people all over the country coming to help. On one occasion, instead of cutting more trees down, I helped an elderly man replant a tree that been uprooted only to find out that he had lost his wife several weeks before the tornado hit. Others in grief wrote poems of gratitude or just spray painted "thank you" across the front of their damaged home. At a time when negative information more often pervades the news, it is encouraging to hear positive stories that help build unity and hope.

So, as we enter another season with the risk of tornadoes and other natural disasters, are you ready? Are your communication and backup systems ready in case you lose cellular or WiFi service or all your utilities fail? Are you and your staff trained to know what to do and handle the physical and emotional challenges? Do you have a network of colleagues who you can call at a moment's notice to provide the equipment necessary to clear widespread debris and

(Continued on page 28)



Kentucky Lake



**Conditions Before Tornado
Courtesy of Google Earth**



**Conditions After Tornado –
Same location**



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Rolling Meadows Public Works takes time to honor beloved resident and community volunteer Alice Fitzgerald on her 100th birthday!

By: Robert Horne—Village of Rolling Meadows

In Public Works, the mentality is “get the job done”. Regardless of the situation, public works departments across the country are faced with having to manage inflated expectations and reduced resources. Especially in the winter, when all of our attention is on the white fluffy stuff that everyone wants cleared from the roadway as quickly as possible, but believe we should use less salt to save money. At Rolling Meadows, we have those same expectations, those same issues with resources, and those same pressures to do more with less. However, we don’t cut corners when it comes to People. People are at the center of everything we do. They are literally the engine that moves a community forward, and our volunteer residents are the people that are willing to get the job done with us to help move their community forward.

So on January 27, 2022, the Public Works Department, along with other City departments and agencies held a vehicle parade for Alice Fitzgerald in honor of her 100th birthday on Saturday, January 29th. Alice, who is one of the City’s first homeowners, moved to Rolling Meadows in 1955 with her husband after managing to save enough money to put down on their new home - \$10! During her time in the City, she kept busy by devoting her life to her family and to the Rolling Meadows community.

Over the years, she has served her community in many ways, including; as a member of the Rolling Meadows Historical Society, regular assistant in the care of residents at the Rolling Meadows Senior Center, volunteered at the Rolling Meadows Library,

as clerical support to the Police Department, and finally helped the Public Works Department with the same types of work. If that wasn’t enough, she also took the time and interest in participating and graduating from Community Citizen Academy’s, including; the Fire Department, Police Department, and Public Works Department, where she was able to better understand the City she loves.

Alice is such an amazing person who brings smiles to everyone she meets. Having volunteered here in the Public Works Department, well into her ninety’s is as impressive as it is extraordinary. Her knowledge of the community’s history and her understanding of a variety of Department programs made Alice such an asset to our Community. Her understanding of the community didn’t only educate our residents, but helped our staff as well. Alice will always hold a special place in our hearts, and we are honored to be able to take part in a brief act of kindness that can bring Alice such joy as part of her 100th birthday celebration.

In an effort to recognize Alice on this special milestone, many City of Rolling Meadows staff conspired to organize a surprise vehicle parade for Alice to show her how much she meant to all of us. Members of the Rolling Meadows Police Department, Fire Department, Public Works Department, Park District, and Historical Society were all in attendance for the event. What had originally begun as a few vehicles from each department, quickly turned into a sea of vehicles all dawning their lights, sirens, horns, and a large banner to wish Alice a very happy birthday. The employees all de-

livered well wishes as they passed by in admiration of a friend and mentor. The event was well attended by her friends and family, which also received the attention of CBS News. (Link provided at the end of the article) As for the last act of the parade, Alice was presented with ceremonial balloons, flowers, and a proclamation read at the Council meeting earlier that week, signed by the Mayor, declaring Saturday, January 29th as Alice Fitzgerald Day in the City of Rolling Meadows.

Just like many departments, we talk about our values, our mission, our goals, and what it is that we really stand for. We talk about serving others, caring about people, and trying to be Better Every Day. On this day, the men and women of Rolling Meadows Public Works Department (and our partners) showed Alice what she means to us. I could not be prouder of this dedicated group of individuals who came together, and rose to the occasion, to show Alice just how much we care about those that we serve, and those we have served with.

Happy Birthday Alice and best wishes for a great 2022!! 🎉

CBS Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yOs_5sCfZbk

For more content, see the City of Rolling Meadows Public Works Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=rolling%20meadows%20public%20works>

Robert Horne | Director of Public Works/Community Development, horner@cityrm.org

Ryan Rivard, Building and Engineering Inspector: RivardR@cityrm.org



How Hydraulic Modeling Improved the City's LTCP:

By: Owen Dean, P.E. – City of Joliet, David Edgren, P.E. – RJN Group

The City of Joliet's East Side Wastewater Treatment Plan serves a 14-square mile area on both sides of the Des Plaines River. Tributary to the treatment plant is both separate sanitary sewers and combined sewers. The City's combined sewer system currently has (7) seven permitted combined sewer overflow (CSO) locations remaining, which allow discharge to the river and relieve the system during high flow wet weather events.

In 2010, in order to reduce the frequency and impact of CSO activations, the City of Joliet has agreed upon a Long-Term Control Plan (LTCP) with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). One of the goals for the City's LTCP is to meet the City's National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit condition that will be in effect December 31st, 2024. The permit condition states, "The permittee shall have no more than 20 CSO discharges from any specific outfall during any 5-year period of time".

In the LTCP, five phases of work were agreed upon to achieve the required permit condition:

- Phase I – Regulator and Outfall Improvements
- Phase II – New River Crossing Tunnel Under the Des Plaines River and West Side Interceptor
- Phase III – Wet Weather Treatment Facility (WWTF) and River Wall Cleaning
- Phase IV – East Side Relief Sewer and Regulator Improvements
- Phase V – Granite Street Storage

Between 2013 and 2020, the City of Joliet has been diligently working on completing its LTCP. Phase I was completed in 2013 with the completion of the Granite Street CSO control structure improvements. Phase II was completed in 2018 with the completion of the West Side Screening Chamber and a new Des Plaines River crossing with dual 24-inch diameter dry weather siphons and a 60-inch wet weather siphon. Phase III was complete in 2020 by cleaning approximately 1,200 tons of debris out of the West River Wall Sewer and the completion 90 MGD Wet Weather Treatment Facility.

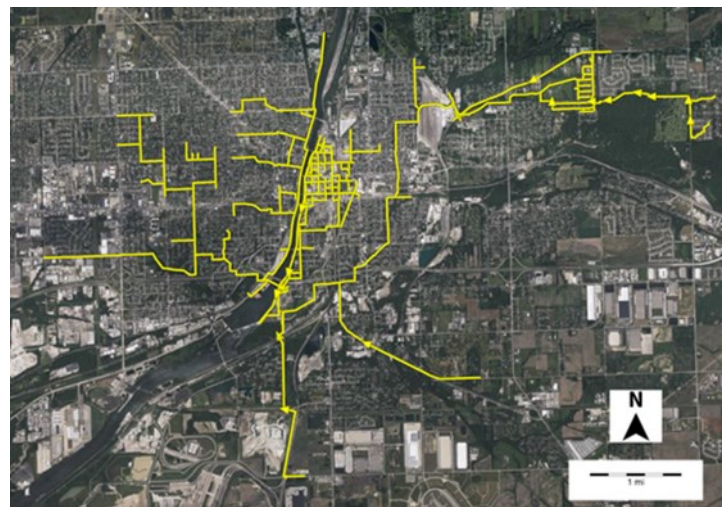
In 2015, the City constructed a skeletal hydraulic model of the sewer system that was tributary to Joliet's East Side Wastewater Treatment that included all sewers that were 24-inches in diameter or greater. The City developed the model network in the SewerGEMS modeling software, representing approximately 150,000 lineal feet of gravity sewer in both separated and combined areas and 5 of the City's lift stations. The construction of the City's hydraulic model included over 1,050 structure

inspections to confirm connectivity and pipe diameters and 30 flow monitoring locations to calibrate the current flow conditions. The City was able to utilize this hydraulic model to assist with sizing and the design of the City's LTCP and to determine if the system will meet the permit condition of less than four CSO discharges per year on average. The hydraulic model also gave the City the capability to look at additional and alternative improvements to meet the City's goals.

One of the City's main hydraulic modeling focuses was looking at Phase IV of the LTCP, specifically the East Side Relief Sewer. The East Side Relief Sewer was proposed as 3,500 liner feet of 54-inch sewer parallel to the existing East Side Interceptor, extending from the Wallace Street CSO control structure to the East Side Wastewater Treatment Plant. The relief sewer would reduce the frequency of the Wallace Street CSO and allow more of the East Side Interceptor capacity to be allocated to other CSO basins. Initial hydraulic modeling indicated

(Continued on page 20)

***“the City’s
hydraulic model
included over
1,050 structure
inspections”***



Hydraulic model network in the SewerGEMS modeling software

Hydraulic Modeling (Cont'd from pg 19)

that the East Side Relief Sewer would need to be extended an additional 2,100 LF to meet the future permit conditions at two additional CSO discharge locations. The estimated cost of the East Side Relief Sewer was approximately \$8.8 million. Due to the significant cost and impact to the City's downtown service area, the City was motivated to look at alternative options for East Side Relief Sewer.

Hydraulic modeling identified four plausible alternatives to comply with NPDES permit requirements were:

1. Construct the East Side Relief Sewer with the planned 2,100 liner feet extension to the Benton Street CSO.
2. Sewer separation by construction of the downtown trunk storm sewer, which involves the construction of 2,750 feet of 60-inch storm sewer.
3. Construct the East Side Relief Sewer and divert a portion of the Benton Street basin to Wallace Street basin, so the 2,100 liner feet extension is not required.
4. Construction of storage near the Benton CSO location and the construction of the East Side Relief Sewer without an extension.

The model indicated that all four alternatives were viable options to comply with NPDES permit requirements but there were strong advantages for the City to consider Option 2 of sewer separation. Namely, the model showed that in this alternative not only would it avoid the need for the East Side Relief Sewer to be extended, it could remove enough flow from the system that the relief sewer would not

be required at all, amounting to a large cost savings.

In general, sewer separation is expensive and typically not the most cost-competitive with other alternatives. However, in the City's case, local separation work had already been completed in several blocks of the City, but the separated storm sewer tied back into the combined sewer system. For this option, the City was just required to construct a large trunkline storm sewer from Des Plaines River through the downtown for a length of 2,750 feet. Not only was sewer separation deemed to be the most cost-effective alternative to meet the goals of the City's LTCP, but it was also estimated that approximately 18.8 MGD of flow would be removed from the combined sewer system during a 4-month storm event that the City was using as a design standard. Therefore, this option moves the City towards its ultimate goal of reducing the number of overflows and removing the excess flow from the combined sewer system.

The City of Joliet quickly imple-



East Side Relief Sewer

mented sewer separation into its LTCP. The Downtown Storm and Sanitary Sewer Improvement Project included approxi-



Setting Pipe in Trench

mately 2,700 linear feet of 60-66-inch truck storm sewer and 3,200 linear feet of smaller diameter storm sewer for additional separation along the trunkline's alignment. The project's total construction cost was approximately \$5.2 million, nearly half the cost of the original planned relief sewer, and the project was completed in 2019, taking approximately one and half years to construct.

Following the completion of the Downtown Storm and Sanitary Improvement Project, the City completed follow up flow monitoring and model calibration to verify the project was successful and the East Side Relief Sewer is no longer required to meet the City's LTCP goals. The post construction flow monitoring and modeling not only verified that the East Side Relief Sewer is no longer required, but it also indicated that approximately 40% more excess flow was removed from the City's combined sewer system than expected. Utilization of the City of Joliet's hydraulic model for planning and design saved the City approximately \$3.6 million and removed approximately 26.2 MGD during a 4-month storm event.

***“total
construction cost
was
approximately
\$5.2 million,
nearly half the
cost of the
original”***

Water Flows Downhill: Flow Paths for Public Engagement

By: Sarah Burgess, P.E., CFM, Civil Engineer IV, Patrick Lach, P.E., CFM, Principal Civil Engineer, Hey and Associates, Inc.

Have you ever been in a situation where you were helping to answer questions from a resident about a flooding concern and wished for a tool or method to help better explain where the water is coming from? We all know that water flows downhill, but have you ever wished for a way to help a resident visualize how this concept relates to the specific situation on his or her property? For the general public, a typical map with topographic contours is not very intuitive to interpret. Flow path mapping provides an effective visualization tool that can be very useful to engage the general public and explain where water comes from and where it is going.

discussions with property owners, the flow path maps often provide validation of the observations and experiences of the residents, but in some cases end up busting myths regarding where the water is really coming from. The flow paths can be useful to explain what opportunities there are for realistic strategies to improve the situation. Planning and siting of landscape and green infrastructure can be improved by utilizing small scale flow path mapping. Another use of the flow path maps is during the permit review process – for example if a property owner submits a permit to construct a new shed, it is helpful to know if the proposed location is in an existing drainage path.

Looking at the flow path maps on a slightly larger neighborhood scale is valuable for stormwater planning and design. The flow path maps can be used for problem screening and detailed design for stormwater capture. Additional analyses can be per-

formed to identify locations where overland flow will occur when the storm sewer is surcharged and locations where water can flow from the right-of-way onto private property.

The flow path maps are also useful at the municipal or regional scale. They provide helpful background information for land use and comprehensive

(Continued on page 22)

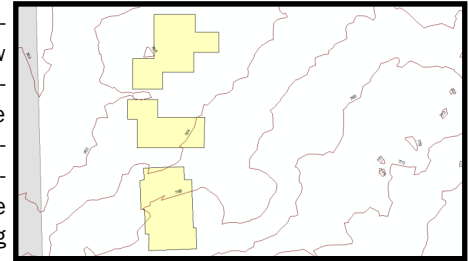


Image A: Topographic Contours

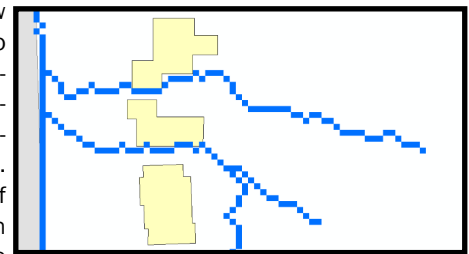


Image B: Flow Path Mapping

Figure 1: Which of these images makes it easier and quicker to visualize the overland flow paths between the houses – the topographic contours or the flow path mapping?

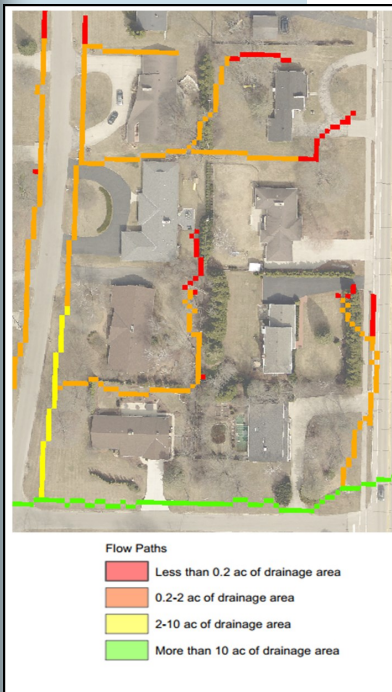


Figure 2: Example showing drainage patterns at the lot scale with break points defined to indicate increasing tributary drainage area. The symbology can be easily customized, depending on the situation.

Flow path mapping is created by using digital elevation LIDAR data and other GIS data sets, and then performing a series of processes to develop a visual representation of how stormwater flows across the ground for a neighborhood or an entire community. With increasing availability of LIDAR elevation data and other relevant GIS data sets, flow path mapping is a tool that can be accessible for a growing number of communities. In addition to the visual flow path representation, the output data can also be used for more in-depth analyses.

On a small scale, one of the biggest uses of the flow path mapping is when interacting with residents to offer an explanation of the drainage patterns and to identify possible causes for issues and potential solutions. In

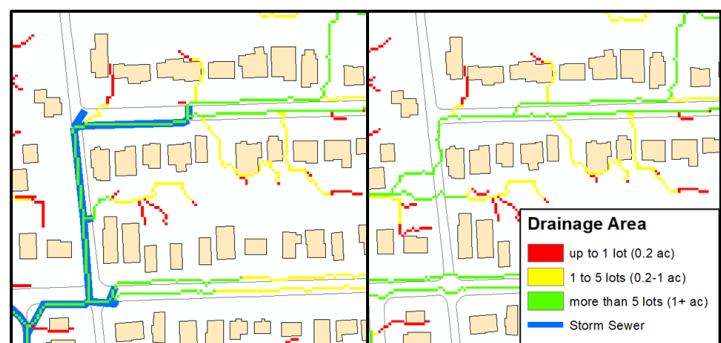


Figure 3: Example comparing results when there is capacity in the storm sewer system and the flow is collected in the sewers (on the left) with when there is overland flow due to lack of capacity in the storm sewer system (on the right).




Figure 4: Example of buffers for conservation zones

Water flows downhill (Cont'd from 21)

planning. Stormwater and sewer shed evaluations can be performed. Based on our experience, areas susceptible to urban flooding can be quickly identified and screened. Additional processing and analysis of the flow path mapping can be efficiently completed for hydrologic and hydraulic model setup and verification. Detailed processing can be performed to estimate sewer capacity. Another application of the flow path maps is to create buffers for conservation zones.


One benefit of flow path mapping is that there are opportunities for customization, depending on the community. It has

already been used in a variety of locations ranging from Illinois and Wisconsin to Hawaii and Texas. The method for processing the flow paths provides flexibility in the development and analysis that opens up a myriad of potential new uses and applications. With flow path mapping, stronger communities can be built through better community engagement, more tools to address problems, and opportunities for green infrastructure to increase sustainability and resilience.

Authors Sarah Burgess and Patrick Lach work for Hey and Associates, Inc. and can be reached via email at sburgess@heyassoc.com and plach@heyassoc.com. 

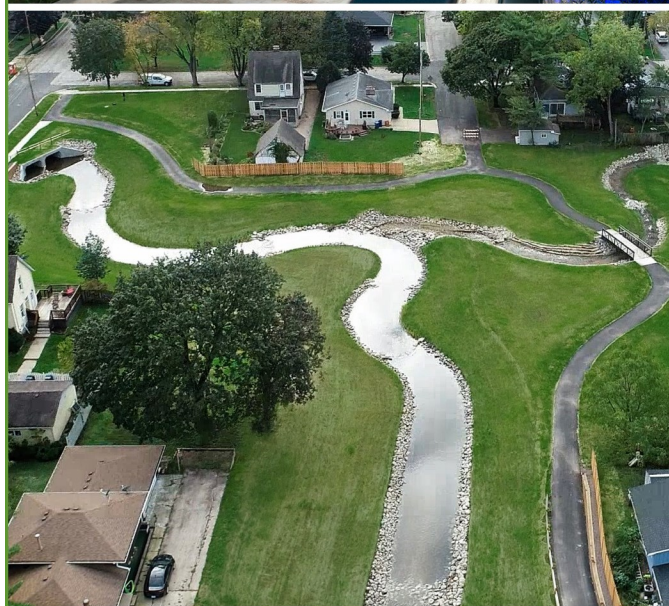
Switch to LED (Cont'd from page 14)

to navigating the use of public funds. This project allowed the City of Elgin the ability to satisfy both of those conversation, provided the Department of Public works a much needed and now unified infrastructure upgrade and the work will help pave the future for like endeavors as the city continues to prioritize sustainable projects.

City of Elgin Public Works Superintendent Aaron Neal can be reached at Neal_a@cityofelgin.org or 847-931-6099 regarding the City of Elgin's switch to LED. 



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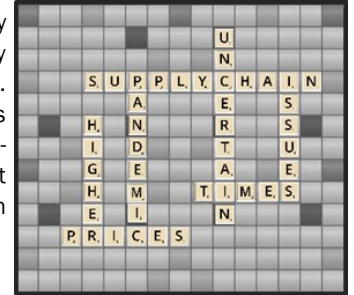
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Social Distancing from the Side-Effects of Pandemic Construction

By: [Erik Morimoto, PE, PTOE, ENV SP](#) – Village of Cary

Long before phrases like “COVID-19 pandemic” and “supply chain issues” dominated our evening news, the Village of Cary began plans to replace its aging police and village hall facility. Studies dating back to 2005 demonstrated that the current building’s unique layout was not ideally suited to meet the needs of Cary’s government operations. Each year, the functional challenges of a building that was not purpose-built as a police station continued to grow as modern law enforcement became more reliant on technology.



VILLAGE HALLS OF CARY'S PAST

THE VILLAGE HALLS OF CARY



OLD TOWN HALL

Crystal Street
1915-1949



THE SCHOOLHOUSE

West Main Street
1949-1978



ENGLISH TUDOR BARN

Stonegate Road
1978-2021

For over 100 years, Cary’s past village halls occupied several unusual structures with unique histories, including an 1888 schoolhouse and an English Tudor Barn from the former Hertz Estate.

HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH TUDOR BARN SITE

In the 1920’s, John Hertz, owner of the Yellow Cab Company, and his wife Fannie purchased their 940-acre Leona Farms estate in Cary. The property featured a mansion that hosted many gala social events for movie stars, politicians, and business tycoons of that era. Fannie Hertz also raised thoroughbred racehorses in the arena barn

on the property, including “Reigh Count,” who won the 1928 Kentucky Derby and sired the 1943 Triple Crown winner “Count Fleet.”



Reigh Count - 1928 Kentucky Derby Winner



Vintage Curtiss Candy Company Advertisement

In 1943, the Hertz family sold the property to Otto Schnering, owner of the Curtiss Candy Company, who was famous for his Baby Ruth and Butterfinger candies. He renamed the property Curtiss Candy Company Farm #711 where prize-winning cows, bulls, and other ani-

(Continued on page 24)

Social Distancing (Continued from page 23)

mals were raised to support the milk and farm products needed for the candy operation

SPACED NEEDS ASSESSMENT

When the Curtiss Candy Company donated the property to the village in 1978, the arena barn was demolished, but the circa 1925 English Tudor portion of the structure was preserved. While the building continued to serve as the village hall and police station until 2021, operational challenges included:

- Disproportionate allocation of functional space (undersized police station)
- Functional areas common to police stations missing or too small
- Insufficient space for accessibility

Favorable interest rates and the early retirement of other construction bonds in 2019 put Cary in a unique position to construct a new facility on another village-owned property without raising taxes.

An updated space needs assessment was initiated with an aggressive goal of completing the project by the end of 2021.

DESIGN IN THE AGE OF ZOOM™

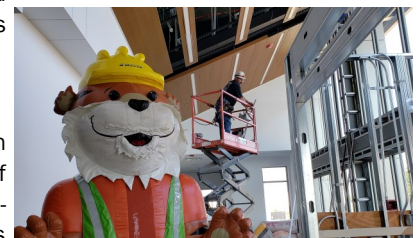
The start of the COVID-19 pandemic during the design phase led to an abrupt transition to virtual meetings and coordination. This process went relatively smoothly as Village staff had already initiated a migration to a cloud-based SharePoint platform before the pandemic and were familiar with Microsoft's Teams video conferencing. Our architect also relied more on their 3d modeling capabilities to produce photo-realistic rendering that were especially helpful during the selection of interior finishes.



Staff also embarked on an ambitious plan to digitize most of the permit files to reduce the volume of paper that had to be moved to the new facility. This minimized inconvenience to the public with fewer days that village offices were closed for business during the move.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT PROJECT DELIVERY METHOD

While virtual meeting platforms ensured solid communication throughout the pandemic, the unprecedented impacts of COVID-19 required high levels of cooperation between a creative team of architects, contractors, and village staff. This was largely possible due to the qualification-based selection process for both the design and construction phases..



Inspection Services provided by PW Paws



Unlike the traditional lowest-bid General Contractor model, Cary's selection of the Construction Manager ("CM") as Constructor with Guaranteed Maximum Price ("GMP") delivery method led to a better balance

(Continued on page 25)

Social Distancing (Continued from page 24)

of risk for all parties, prioritizing collaboration, innovation, and common goals between the architect, contractor, and Village.

The Village was proud to partner with FGM Architects (Designer) and Frederick Quinn Corporation (Construction Manager).

PANDEMIC BUZZWORDS = CHALLENGES

The team's ability to communicate and pivot quickly in response to pandemic buzzwords like "supply chain disruptions" and "pandemic labor shortages" helped complete the project on schedule and under budget.

Worldwide shipping delays required creative solutions to keep hard-to-find items from becoming critical path problems that might jeopardize the targeted occupancy date. Supply chain issues were minimized by prioritizing specific audio/video components to allow basic functionality without being 100% complete, seeking equivalent alternates for items with shorter lead times, and even borrowing a garage door from one of the Village's inactive wellhouses as a temporary solution for the sally port.

PRESERVATION OF THE ENGLISH TUDOR BARN

Finding a user willing to preserve the façade of the English Tudor Barn was another priority for the Village. As a founding member of the McHenry County Municipal Partnering Initiative, Cary has always been a proponent of intergovernmental cooperation, and the Village was pleased to transfer the property to the McHenry County Sheriff's Office in February 2022.

The Sheriff's Office plan to renovate the interior of the building for a new multi-jurisdictional law enforcement training center and the Village's donation of the property to the



Former Village Hall (Present)

(Continued on page 26)



APWA Fox Valley Branch 2022 Project of the Year Award Recipient

(Continued from page 25)

County saves taxpayers millions of dollars by repurposing an existing facility.

"We're proud of our great partnership with McHenry County, and we're proud that our building will continue to be in good hands," Cary Mayor Mark Kownick said. "Having the Sheriff's Office take ownership of the building and repurpose it is a win-win for the community and for the county."


THE NEW CARY MUNICIPAL CENTER

On December 17, 2021, the award-winning Cary Municipal Center opened for business on schedule and under budget, just 63 weeks after breaking ground.

The energy-efficient \$11.2 million and 21,000 square-foot facility now includes functional spaces missing from the previous building, including a modern forensics lab, detainee processing area, covered parking for patrol vehicles, and a multi-purpose training room / board room.



Shared training room and board room

Erik Morimoto (EMorimoto@CaryIllinois.com) currently serves as the Village of Cary's Director of Public Works & Engineering / Assistant Village Administrator. 

**PROGRESS
VIDEO**



SCAN ME



A timelapse video of the construction can be viewed by scanning this QR code or visiting www.CaryIllinois.com

Time Lapse Video

For additional project information, videos, and photos, visit:

<http://www.caryillinois.com/640/Cary-Municipal-Center-Project>

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Stantec recognized for third-consecutive year by Bloomberg Gender-Equality Index for championing inclusion in leadership, culture

By: [Tonya Wells](#), Stantec

For the third-consecutive year, global design firm Stantec was named to the 2022 Bloomberg Gender-Equality Index (GEI), a performance ranking of public companies committed to transparent gender-data reporting and advancing women's equality in the workplace. Based on five separate areas of data disclosure, the index is comprised of 418 companies spanning 45 countries in 11 different business sectors. Recently, Stantec was the first company globally to link its sustainability-linked loan to Bloomberg Gender Equality Index scores.

"Our continued progress on the Gender-Equality Index isn't just a complement to our focus on creating a balanced workplace – it's a genuine scorecard for our company that drives cultural, operational, and financial programs," said Asifa Samji, Stantec Chief Human Resources Officer. "Every organization needs accountability in pursuing equity for its team members, and we're grateful for both the recognition and responsibility we enjoy for being on the index for a third consecutive year."

Companies included in the 2022 GEI voluntarily released their gender equality-related data in the following key areas: female leadership and talent pipeline, equal pay and gender pay parity, inclusive culture, sexual harassment policies, and pro-women brand. Organizations scoring above a globally established threshold are named to the GEI and results are published on the Bloomberg Terminal.

Reflecting Responsibility, Fiscal Alignment
Stantec's participation in the

GEI survey reflects its commitment to gender equity demonstrated in both social and financial commitments. Through agreements established in 2021, Stantec's financing strategy is aligned with its continued commitment towards ESG leadership. Any savings realized on Stantec's Credit Facilities from achieving identified goals will be directed toward activities or organizations that have a positive influence on environmental or social matters. Specifically, The Bloomberg Gender-Equality Index score is linked to certain social pillars around gender equality, pay equity, leadership diversity, and inclusive culture, among others. Stantec is the first company globally to adopt the gender equality index as a sustainability linked loan metric.

Additional areas of firm commitment include the company formally endorsing the Women's Empowerment Principles, a project of the United Nations Global Compact, and active involvement in the Global Compact Network Canada's Target Gender Equality Ambition Accelerator.

Advancing Equality
Stantec's placement on the GEI follows a series of relevant company initiatives, activities, and reports on the organization's culture and workforce:

Representation at Every Level – On average, 34 percent of Stantec employees are female. Within the leadership structure for the organization, 33 percent of Stantec's current board members are female and 38 percent of the C-Suite positions are held by female leaders, including two C-suite women of color.

• **Engaging Culture** – Currently, there are

39 Women@Stantec regional employee resource group chapters, which are company-sponsored grassroots teams associated with company offices to promote gender equality and career development.

- **Industry Reputation** – The GEI is the most recent in a series of industry recognitions for Stantec's attention to gender equity and/or advancing the role of female team members in the workplace. In 2021, Stantec was named to Forbes' list of the [World's Top Female-Friendly Companies](#) following a previous distinction in 2020 on Forbes' list of [America's Best Employers](#) for Women.

More information about Stantec's corporate [Inclusion, Diversity and Equity](#) practices can be found on the company's website.

Tonya Wells works for Stantec and can be reached via email at: tonya.wells@stantec.com



(Continued from page 16)

open access for emergency vehicles? These questions can be overwhelming. Fortunately, the State of Illinois is ahead of most states with the formation of the Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network (IPWMAN). IPWMAN is a network of trained professionals from a variety of communities throughout the state ready to mobilize within days should a disaster occur. IPWMAN is always looking for more members. Learn more on their website at www.ipwman.org.

John Mayer, PE, CFM works for Engineering Resource Associates, Inc. and can be reached at jmayer@eraconsultants.com



Lead Service Replacement Projects - Tools and Strategies for Your Water Utility

By: [Carolyn A. Grieves, PE](#) - Vice President of Business Development - Baxter & Woodman, Inc.

The Illinois Lead Service Line Replacement and Notification Act was signed on August 27, 2021. This new law is designed to replace all lead services lines in the State of Illinois. This act requires all communities to develop a water service material inventory, lead service line replacement plan, and complete all lead service line replacements based on the number of lead services found.

In addition, The Revised Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) was finalized by USEPA on December 22, 2020 and is the first major update to the Lead and Copper Rule in 20 years. The Revised LCR was published in the Federal Register on January 15, 2021 with the new rule effective starting March 16, 2021. The Revised LCR has three major initiatives to reduce risk to drinking water consumers from lead and copper that can enter drinking water as a result of corrosion of plumbing materials: Better Protection of Children, Get The Lead Out and Empower Communities.

Whether to meet the Federal or State rules, communities must get ready to tackle lead on both the public and private side of the service line. Lead service initiatives can be organized in the following categories:

1. Public Education and Communication - One of the most important aspects of a lead service replacement plan is helping the public understand the value of replacing the lead service. Public information can be provided as a flyer, website, newsletter or public information open house. In addition, public surveys can be valuable tools to achieve two goals, educate the public

as well as identify locations of lead services in people's homes. GIS technology, such as ArcGIS online and Survey123, provide simple data gathering apps. Communities can create educational information and instructional videos for residents to perform evaluations of their water service line to identify if it is lead. Survey123 can then be used share and analyze locations where residents believe they have a lead service.

2. Material Inventory - Every community must complete a lead pipe inventory for both the Federal and Illinois rule. Community ordinance reviews, subdivision plat and plan sets, record drawings, and institutional knowledge can help provide a good understanding of lead service locations. House to house investigations, tracking material when completing meter replacements, and pot-holing programs can also help supplement the lead inventory. Tools like ArcGIS online tools, maps and apps help keep track of the lead service inventory and provide a means to share the locations of lead services on a municipal website. Staff can update service line materials in the field, administrators can monitor progress, and the public can be kept informed in near real-time.

3. Lead Service Replacement Plan - All utilities with lead



services must establish a lead service line replacement plan using the final material inventory. The Lead Service Line Replacement Plan should provide a replacement schedule that includes one year, 5 year, 10 year, 15 year, 20 year, and 30 year goals. The replacement plan shall priori-



Lead service line replacement

tize high-risk areas, such as hospitals, clinics, daycares, etc. The Lead Service Line Replacement Plan should also evaluate the costs and methods of funding the lead service line replacements.

4. Funding - The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) has provided loans that direct-

(Continued on page 37)

Naperville Gets to the Point with BRIEF

By: Dick Dublinski Director of Public Works, The City of Naperville

Shorter meetings. Fewer interruptions during the workday. Well written e-mails that are easy to read. Time valued. Money saved. Does this sound like the way typical government departments work? How great would it be if everyone in your Public Works department communicated thoughtfully and efficiently?

What if all city departments embraced a “less is more” approach to how they communicate?

The Naperville Public Works leadership did that. We recognize that we often over communicate and over complicate, so we decided to take a different approach and set a goal to communicate as effectively as possible- and we were ready to learn how.

The PROBLEM:

Government is notoriously inefficient. Wasted time means higher taxes. Most cities add people/staff because they are buried in an ever-increasing workload. If we add more people, we are assuming that everything we are doing is highly efficient, but the problem is we don't communicate nearly as effectively or efficiently as we can.

Naperville Public Works started by asking ‘how can we be more efficient with the same number of people?’ Since city governments are the stewards of the taxpayers’ money, how can we explore lean communication as a big way for us to save time and money?

Consider this: there are approximately 2,000 work hours in a year. If even 20 percent of that is wasted with ineffective communication, that is more than 400 hours- per person- per year.

If we could train just five people to communicate more efficiently, that would equate to hiring another person, without raising taxes!

Looking for ways to lead by example, we wanted to show our people that there was a better way to communicate. The ultimate goal was to work better for our citizens and understand that getting to the point is a better way of working.

We found an enormous opportunity to really start becoming a more lean/BRIEF operation.

THE SOLUTION and RESULTS:

To achieve these lofty goals, a team from The BRIEF Lab traveled to Naperville to teach us their BRIEF methodology. This communication program was developed for elite Special Operations units and is so effective that it has spread across Fortune 500 companies. Their facilitators provided experiential learning opportunities with BRIEF tools and techniques to help us identify areas where we could improve our communication.

We learned four key ways to be BRIEF:

Better Meetings:

- We learned how to design agendas to cut time stuck in long, unproductive meetings. Our weekly meetings went from 1 hour down to 35 minutes. (Imagine the time savings for all those attendees – multiply that across a year of meetings and revel in the time savings!)

Tighter e-mails:

- We learned best practices for writing concise emails. Now, when I send out emails to

other departments, (winter storms/ complaints, etc.), I get comments on how concise and easy my emails are to read. They are opening them. They are reading them. They are responding to them.

Clearer updates:

- We learned better ways to update each other. By focusing on what our audience needs to know, putting our main point up front and focusing on the big questions of what, why, and so what, our message is more concise, delivered via a well-prepared executive summary. Again, think time savings!

Concise overviews:

- We learned ways of providing executive summaries with impact, both within our department and between other departments, to lead programs that touch all of parts of city government, minimizing confusion for all.

This isn't just about time savings. There are many hidden costs in re-work and repetitive communication. When communication is confusing it's not only inefficient, but people also may have the same conversation multiple times with different people. When messages are long and confusing, it is like the telephone game. They have to call you back; they have to meet again; they have to send you another e-mail. There are redundancies built in that are based on how inexact and inefficient they regularly communicate with each other.

SO WHAT:

Municipal leaders need to con-

(Continued on page 37)



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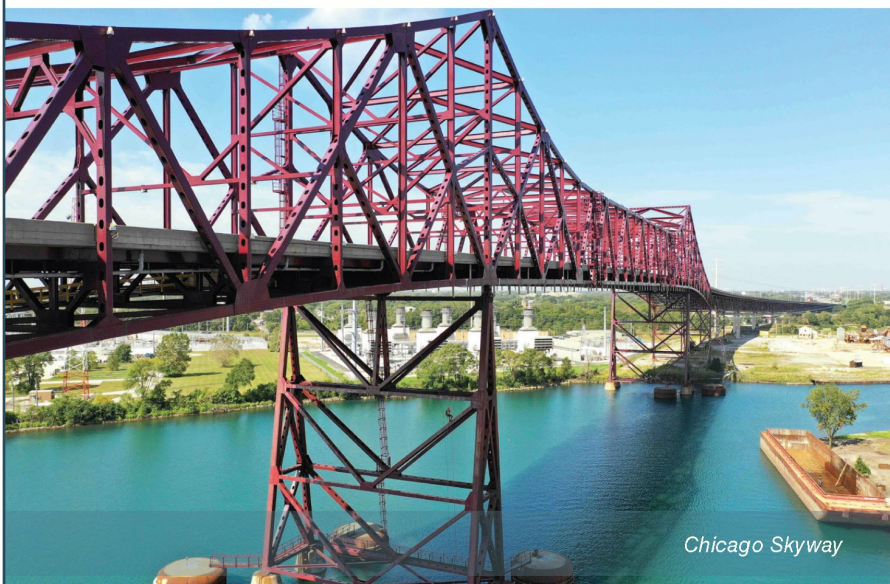
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Chicago Skyway



59th Street Station Parking Lot



Jane Byrne, Adams and Jackson Bridges



New Rules for Recruiting and Retaining Talent

By: [Heidi Voorhees](#), President, GovHRUSA

The Great Resignation is hitting local government particularly hard. Filling public works positions at all levels is very challenging. It is a candidates' market and local government employers are competing with the private sector for talent to run critical infrastructure.

1. **Review Job Descriptions** – Does the person really need a bachelor's degree or 5-10 years' experience in local government to effectively perform the duties? Must they have a P.E.? Using words like "preferred" or "ideally" can open up your candidate pool to those with transferrable skills. Take a close look at your job description before you advertise for the position to ensure you are as flexible as you can be. And, if you have a residency requirement, you need to remove it.
2. **Advertise** – Organizations try to save money by cutting back on advertising. This is a mistake – using social media sites like LinkedIn can improve your candidate pool. LinkedIn captures candidates who are not actively looking for a position but might be interested in your job. Be sure and use your community's social media to announce positions. If you are interested in diversifying your candidate pool, place your job announcements on NFBPA.org, LGHN.org, LeagueofWomeninGovernment.org, ELGL.org (Emerging Local Government Leaders), etc. Click [here](#) for Engineering specific [Diversity Websites](#). For entry level positions, reach out to local community colleges and consider advertising on Handshake and other sites focused on early career job seekers. Expect to spend approximately \$2500


for higher level executive recruitment advertising.

3. **Regional Restrictions on Candidate Pool:** Our clients often prefer candidates from their state or region. Understandably, they do not want to incur relocation costs and want the candidate to have familiarity with the state laws. Local governments no longer have this luxury. The competition for key positions in public works and engineering is fierce. By only advertising locally you could miss the candidate who wants to come home. Potential candidates now more than ever are reevaluating where they want to live and are often choosing to be closer to family. Using video interviewing technology can reduce interview costs until the very end of the process. A one-time expenditure for some or all moving and packing expenses can be less expensive than hiring temporary or contract help while you try to find a local candidate.
4. **Failure to Advertise a Competitive Salary Range:** This is a critical misstep. Making candidates contact you for the salary range is unnecessary. You could miss out on the person who is happy where they are and yet intrigued by your position – they will get back to work on Monday and may never get around to calling you. Also, Candidates who are concerned with confidentiality will not likely call your human resources department for salary or other important information. Salary information is public information – include a competitive salary range you are willing to pay in the job announcement.
5. **Complicated and/or Delayed Application Processes:** Hope-

fully, every local government has at least a basic electronic applicant tracking system for candidates to use when applying for positions. A community's outward facing technology will be noticed by potential applicants. Acknowledging their application and advising them of the conclusion of the process is important. If they have a positive experience with your process (even if they do not get the position) they may feel encouraged to apply again.

6. **Grow Your Own Talent:** Organizations that invest in the professional development of their employees and have a supportive, positive organizational culture have the best chance of retaining their employees. Furthermore, these organizations will be known as an "Employer of Choice." Your best marketing tool for new employees is what your current employees say about you as an employer. Consider encouraging your public works and/or utility employees to sit for certification exams – have study groups and training sessions in the workplace. Recognize those that show leadership potential by providing additional training and mentoring.

To successfully compete for talent, local governments need to put their best foot forward, look for transferrable skills and be open to candidates who may have not had a "traditional" career path in the employer's view. These candidates can bring new perspectives and important skills to your organization. Good luck!

Heidi Voorhees, President,
GovHRUSA H.Voorhees@GovHRUSA.com 

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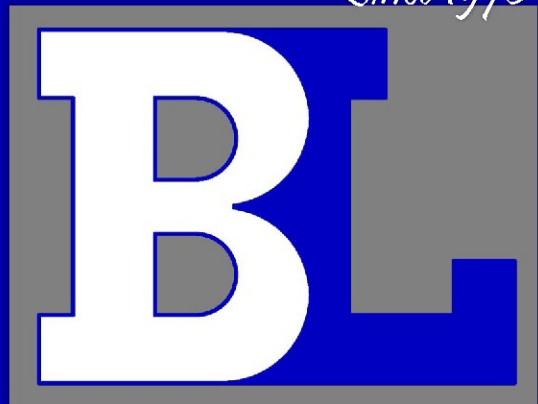
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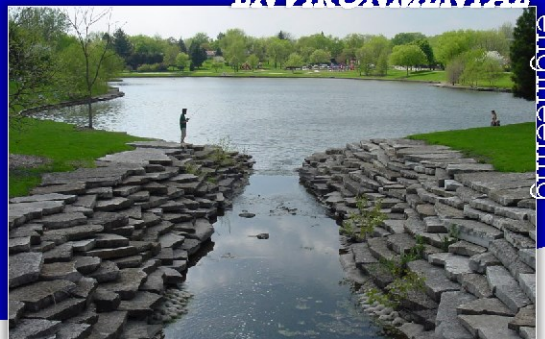
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Steps to Take to Secure Infrastructure Bill Funding

By: [Russ Loebe](#), Vice President, HR Green

Government agencies and municipalities are planning on how best to apply infrastructure bill funding in their communities. By following the steps outlined below, you can begin to strategically prepare your application and boost its likelihood of funding approval.

Identify community infrastructure needs

The first step all agencies should take is to create new or review existing capital improvement plans and long-standing needs lists. You may find that the needs you prioritized in the past may not match program requirements, so it is best to have a project pool to choose from.

As this internal work is completed, good governance policy dictates that a deliberate, open, and transparent process of gathering input from citizens and other stakeholders in identifying and prioritizing infrastructure projects should be used. Seeking input from the community through public engagement and sharing funding needs with your congressional representatives all help build community support while improving your chances for project funding.

Prioritizing infrastructure projects that could be pursued jointly with other jurisdictions may increase the appeal of a project and improve your odds of funding success. Joint projects tend to score better because agencies that review grant applications often see multi-jurisdictional projects as providing a more impactful return on funding. Now is an opportune time to identify and connect with adjacent agencies that might benefit from working collaboratively to do the most

good for the larger population.

Align priorities with potential infrastructure bill funding

Once your priorities have been developed, you should align your list of infrastructure project candidates with grants and programs identified in the legislation. It is becoming apparent that many of the traditional federal grant funding programs are being used to distribute funds. Should you have a transportation project priority, now is a good time to start thinking about matching and preparing your project for application through federal and state-administered programs.

In addition to traditional projects such as roadways, water, and sewer work, consider infrastructure needs that have evolved out of the pandemic. This includes work in support of digital and disaster-resilient infrastructure and broadband accessibility. The federal government has prioritized the need for high-speed broadband access as a strategic national initiative. Now is the time to consider your local needs for this vital infrastructure.


Understanding the specific program's financial requirements—such as local funding matches, for example—will help you to better position your request. For many grant programs, having projects included in your CIP or annual budget is required to document local agency funding commitment necessary to receive grant funding.

Consider your available resources

Having these details in place increases the likelihood of securing infrastructure bill funding for your projects. It's also im-

portant to understand that many of these grant programs require detailed application submittals as well as thorough regulatory compliance and reporting, subject to federal government oversight and auditing. To avoid potential problems and bottlenecks, take time to review your organization's internal controls and processes. Given the volume and complexity of the work to come, it's best to assess now whether your current staff has the capacity to adequately apply for, manage, and administer the work needed to see a project through from start to finish. An honest assessment will give your organization time to either increase staffing or identify a consulting partner that can provide the critical support needed to successfully drive an infrastructure project through from application to completion.

Secure support your constituents can count on

Taking the time now to secure critical funding for your community's needs is the very definition of serving your constituents. Planning today to address long-standing infrastructure needs is a step closer to improving the quality of life for citizens in your community. HR Green can provide support, contact [Russ Loebe](mailto:rloebe@hrgreen.com), Vice President, HR Green, rloebe@hrgreen.com with any questions. 

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TranSystems Continues to Grow

By: [Grace Dysico](#), TranSystems

TranSystems acquisition of OMEGA and new office opening coming in Geneva

TranSystems recently acquired OMEGA & Associates, Inc. Established in 2002, OMEGA specializes in construction engineering and program management services working on projects that range from large-scale expressway and tollway projects to multi-million-dollar roadway, bridges, and water/utility construction projects.

Many of the bridges are structurally and functionally obsolete and need to be reconstructed. The interchange accommodates more than 400,000 vehicles a day, of which 33,000 are trucks.

As part of a joint-venture team, TranSystems delivered the planning and design for the interchange, which impacted 22 existing bridges ranging from two spans to multi-span curved ramps. The largest bridge is a new tri-level northbound to westbound flyover structure. It is

- Ramp NE connecting NB I-90/94 to EB Ida B. Wells Dr
- Ramp SE connecting SB I-90/94 to EB Ida B. Wells Dr
- Ramp WS connecting WB Ida B. Wells Dr to SB I-90/94
- Ramp WN connecting WB Ida B. Wells Dr to NB I-90/94
- Taylor St Bypass Ramp from SB I-90/94 to Taylor St exit
- EB I-290 bridge over I-90/94
- WB mainline I-290 pavement between I-90/94 and Racine Ave

The tight geometry of the interchange, location of the project, and large traffic volumes along with an aggressive schedule makes this a complex and important project for Chicago, and one that both TranSystems and OMEGA take pride in working on together.

TranSystems has continued to grow its presence in the greater Chicago region through quality client service and offering a range of services. This is only enhanced further with the addition of OMEGA and the office expansion in Geneva.



This partnership will now bring more than 200 employees across four offices in the Chicagoland area, including downtown Chicago, Schaumburg, Lisle, and Oak Brook, with a fifth office opening later this year in Geneva.

A Partnership in the Making

While this partnership is new, TranSystems and OMEGA have been working together for years, both providing services on many Chicago-based projects, including the massive Jane Byrne Interchange.

The Jane Byrne (formerly Circle) Interchange functions as the hub of the Chicago expressway system and was built in the early 1960s. It has been rated one of the most congested highway freight bottlenecks in the nation based on a study completed by the American Transportation Research Institute and FHWA.

over 2,000-feet long, consisting of 13 spans of curved steel and flared girders. It spans over major interstates, existing and future CTA transit tunnels, abandoned and active water tunnels, and several major utilities. The Peoria Street bridge also is unique because it is the first precast deck bridge with UHPC joints in Illinois. The project also includes over 50 retaining walls, ranging from conventional concrete walls to secant types.

As part of this project, OMEGA provided or is currently providing construction engineering services for the following construction contracts:

- I-90 at I-290/Jane Byrne Interchange
- I-90/94 NB Roosevelt Rd to Lake/Madison St
- NW Flyover Ramp connecting NB I-90/94 to WB I-290



New Geneva office

The Geneva location will be led by TranSystems Principal Todd Bright, along with Matt Baldwin and Jesse Vuorenmaa. The new office, located on 3rd Street in Historic Downtown Geneva, will expand offerings with a focus on serving clients in the western

(Continued on page 37)



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Lead Service Replacement (Cont'd from page 29)

ly support lead replacement projects in cities across the US. In Fiscal Year 2019 the USEPA provided a total of \$1.126 billion dollars for lead service replacement projects. Infrastructure replacement, corrosion control optimization, lead testing and education projects are all eligible under the SRF program. In addition, \$15 billion of direct funding over 5 years from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is dedicated for lead service replacement and will be allocated through the state SRF programs.

5. Construction - Partial lead service replacements are prohibited in the State of Illinois. Water utilities must be


prepared to request a resident's permission to complete a full lead service replacement when doing a water main construction job that may impact lead services.

Case Study:

City of Joliet - Lead Service Line Replacement

The City of Joliet and Baxter & Woodman have created a Lead Service Inventory map within ArcGIS that allows the City to track the public and private lead service line materials throughout the City. The map is also made publically available on the City's website for residents to search what service material is currently at their properties. The use of ArcGIS tools allows the City to collect water service line material data in near real-time

as new data is made available.


With the use of the City's Lead Service Line Replacement Plan and Lead Service Line Inventory, the City has completed multiple phases of lead service line replacements for approximately 1,350 service replacements within the past two years. The projects have been fully funded through the IEPA SRF loan program with forgiveness, therefore the replacements are occurring at no cost to the property owners. Additionally, the City of Joliet has been proactive in replacing the lead service lines encountered during annual water main replacement projects. All lead service line replacements are tracked through a tool within ArcGIS to monitor the progress of each project and the total number of replacements. 

Naperville (Cont'd from page 30)

stantly seek innovative advantages to run daily operations. This training with The BRIEF Lab clearly was an opportunity to pinpoint wasteful practices that affect all stakeholders and to take practical steps to eliminate them.


We learned to lead by example. We can communicate briefly at all levels and teach our people the tools and techniques to do the same. They expect efficient communication from us, and we now expect it of them. And when we do, the city runs better, and we all can focus our time on what's really important. It is a better way of working.

BRIEF communication clearly makes everyone's life better.


Dick Dublinski is the Director of Public Works for The City of Naperville and can be reached at DublinskiD@naperville.il.us 

TranSystems (Cont'd from page 35)

part of the greater Chicago-region. This coupled with renewed energy around infrastructure spending, will propel TranSystems into the future to continue to serve its clients, grow, and continue to improve transportation infrastructure.

Grace Dysico works for TranSystems and can be reached via email at: gdysico@transystems.com. 

Mike Millette (Cont'd from page 13)

achievements he has performed, but through the many people that he has connected with over the years. Mike is sure to be a force in the industry for many more years to come. There is no doubt that he deserves the honor of receiving the Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year Award. Congratulations! 

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Upcoming 2022 events

Apr 19, City Branch April IN PERSON JEP Talk
Apr 19, Lake Branch April 2022 Administrative Professionals Day!
Apr 28, Suburban Branch - Permeable Pavement Symposium
Apr 24-29, 2022 Illinois Public Service Institute (IPSI)

May 4, SW Branch and FV Branch May Educational Event, An Overview of Integrated Mosquito Control
May 10, Vactor Manufacturing Tour (Streator, IL)
May 10, Lake Branch Education Session on Drones
May 9-13, Illinois Roads Scholar Program
May 18, Expo Extra by Suburban Branch
May 18-19, Expo & Roadeo

June 6, Lake Branch Awards

<http://chicago.apwa.net/>

A scenic photograph of a golf course with lush green grass, trees, and a small pond in the foreground.



ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

SAVE THE DATE

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For Questions and More Information Contact:

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Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd.
jheinz@cbbel.com