

Heading off Crisis

Northeastern Illinois Water Supply Forum

Thursday, May 12, 2016

Heading off Crisis: Northeastern Illinois Water Supply Forum

Agenda

- 9 a.m. *Registration and coffee*
- 9:30 **Welcome**
Carolyn Schofield, McHenry County Board and Northwest Water Planning Alliance
- 9:40 **Setting the stage**
Mayor Tom Weisner, City of Aurora
- 10 **Our water supply issues—Yes, we have some.**
Groundwater desaturation: **Walt Kelly**, Illinois State Water Survey
Water pollution: **Kyla Jacobsen**, City of Elgin
Crumbling infrastructure: **Paul May**, Northwest Suburban Municipal Joint Action Water Agency
- 11 **Big picture needs**
moderator **Edith Makra**, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus
Regional coordination: **Josh Ellis**, Metropolitan Planning Council
Water pricing: **Margaret Schneemann**, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant Program
Community engagement: **Bill Christiansen**, Alliance for Water Efficiency
- 11:40 **Break**
- Noon **Luncheon & Keynote**
introduction **MarySue Barrett**, Metropolitan Planning Council
Pat Mulroy, Brookings Institution
- 1:20 p.m. **Short break**

Partners



Agenda (cont'd)

- 1:30 p.m. **We're all in this together**
moderator **Peter Wallers**, representing the Northwest Water Planning Alliance
Village President Matthew Brolley, Village of Montgomery
Bart Olson, United City of Yorkville
Jennifer Hughes, Village of Oswego
- 2:10 **Treating water like the asset it is**
moderator **Josh Ellis**, Metropolitan Planning Council
Mayor Tom Weisner, City of Aurora
Mayor Elizabeth Tisdahl, City of Evanston
Mayor Barrett Pedersen, Village of Franklin Park
- 3:30 **Now's the time for action**
Danielle Gallet, Metropolitan Planning Council
Peter Wallers, representing the Northwest Water Planning Alliance
Mayor Tom Weisner, City of Aurora
- 4 **Happy hour**
Event ticket includes appetizers and non-alcoholic drinks. A cash bar will be available.

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Luncheon sponsor

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Northwest Water Planning Alliance

The Northwest Water Planning Alliance (NWPA) was formed in September 2010 through an intergovernmental agreement between five councils of government, including approximately 80 municipalities and five counties: DeKalb, Kane, Kendall, Lake and McHenry. The goal of the NWPA is to provide a sustainable water supply to the groundwater and inland surface water-dependent communities that is both economically and environmentally sound through the advancement of water policies and planning. The NWPA's Executive Committee is the governing group, consisting of elected municipal representatives and county board chairmen, while the Technical Advisory Committee is made up of municipal and county water and planning professionals who provide technical expertise and input.

The NWPA provides resources including a municipal outdoor lawn watering ordinance, public education brochures and a streamlined water reporting tool.

To find all of the resources available and learn more about the NWPA, visit www.nwpa.us.

To participate in the planning process, please attend our Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings on the fourth Tuesday of each month. TAC meetings are held at The Centre of Elgin, at 10 a.m., and are open to all members of the NWPA. The next TAC meeting will be May 28, 2016.

Metropolitan Planning Council

Since 1934, the Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC) has made the Chicago region a better place to live and work by partnering with businesses, communities and governments to address the area's toughest planning and development challenges.

While our region has considerable water assets, we risk mismanaging these assets and jeopardizing community and economic growth. For more than 10 years, MPC has worked closely with a range of partners to assist local communities and regional and state decision-makers in making the most productive use of our water through sensible planning and policies.

MPC is committed to continuing its support for communities and their water utilities through helpful research, opportunities for ongoing regional dialogue and collaboration, and advocacy for the use of best management practices to ensure sustainable water service for Northeastern Illinois now and into the future.

More information about MPC's water work can be found at www.metroplanning.org/water.



Speakers

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Welcome

Carolyn Schofield

Member
McHenry County Board

Carolyn Schofield is a member of the McHenry County Board and previously served on the Crystal Lake City Council. Schofield also is vice chairman of the Northwest Water Planning Alliance Executive Board and chairman of the McHenry County Stormwater Commission. She is the McHenry County representative on the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning Board and County Board liaison to the McHenry County Conservation District. Previously, Schofield was a loss control engineer specializing in commercial fire protection and product liability. Schofield earned her bachelor's degree in general engineering with specialization in environmental quality from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Outside of civic service, Schofield enjoys spending time with her family and within her community. She is on the McHenry County Youth Sports Association Board of Directors and has served in numerous roles for her local parent-teacher organizations.



Setting the stage

Mayor Tom Weisner

City of Aurora
@CityofAuroraLL

Mayor Tom Weisner is currently serving the last year of his third and final term as mayor of Aurora, Ill., the state's second-largest city, with a population of more than 200,000. Mayor Weisner is the founding chairman of the Northwest Water Planning Alliance, one of only two regional water planning organizations in Illinois, which includes municipalities and counties in a five-county area of the Chicago suburbs. In addition, Mayor Weisner is also currently serving as the Kane/Kendall representative to the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, is an executive board member of the Illinois Municipal League and recently served as the chairman of the Chicago Metropolitan Mayors Caucus.



Our water supply issues—Yes, we have some.

Walt Kelly

Head, Groundwater Science Section
Illinois State Water Survey
@watersurvey

Walt Kelly is a groundwater geochemist who has been at the Illinois State Water Survey of the Prairie Research Institute at the University of Illinois since 1992. He has been the head of the Groundwater Science Section since 2013. He is an adjunct professor in the Dept. of Geology and Geography at Illinois State University. He has a master's degree in geological sciences from Case Western Reserve University and a Ph.D. in environmental sciences from the University of Virginia. His research interests are primarily related to groundwater quality, and he is an author on more than 80 reports and peer-reviewed papers.



Kyla Jacobsen

Utility Director
City of Elgin
@ElginIL

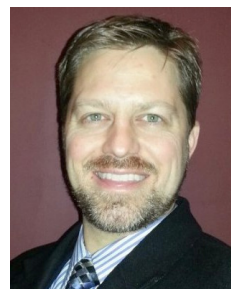
Kyla Jacobsen is the utility director for the City of Elgin, formerly the chief chemist in charge of water quality. She has served the Elgin community for 30 years and is very involved with the community, serving on several boards: Friends of the Fox River (treasurer), Elgin Community Network (treasurer), Fox River Study Group (secretary), Tyler Creek Watershed Coalition (secretary), St. John's Lutheran Church Leadership Council (chair) and American Water Works Association (various positions both state and national level). Jacobsen received her bachelor's degree in chemistry from Southern Illinois University, master's degree in biochemistry from Northern Illinois University, and master's degree in environmental engineering from Illinois Institute of Technology.



Paul May

Assistant Executive Director
Northwest Suburban Municipal Joint Action Water Agency

Paul May is currently the assistant executive director for the Northwest Suburban Municipal Joint Action Water Agency (NSMJAWA), which serves water to 500,000 consumers in the northwest suburbs of Chicago. May is a licensed professional engineer and certified water operator, and has spent his career as a civil engineer and public works director before joining NSMJAWA in 2015. May has a passion for water resources and has been honored to be a part of several advisory groups which have assisted in defining the direction for the future of water use in our region. Currently, May is overseeing a \$73 million relocation of water infrastructure in advance of the Illinois Tollway's Jane Adams Expressway (I-90) expansion.



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Big picture needs

Edith Makra

Director of Environmental Initiatives
Metropolitan Mayors Caucus
@MayorsCaucus

Edith Makra directs environmental initiatives for the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, where she advises 275 mayors on important issues that can be addressed by local governments, yet have regional impact. She synthesized local and regional environmental priorities to craft the Greenest Region Compact 2, a consensus sustainability plan for communities. She served on former Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley's staff, helping to shape the City's environmental priorities. Makra has extensive experience engaging communities in environmental stewardship through her past work with the Morton Arboretum and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. She has a bachelor's degree in forestry from the University of Illinois.



Josh Ellis

Director
Metropolitan Planning Council
@MPCJosh

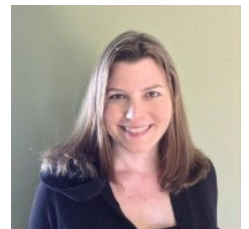
Josh Ellis has been with the Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC) since 2006. He directs MPC's sustainability initiatives, most notably in the fields of stormwater management and water supply management. Through on-the-ground initiatives like the Milwaukee Avenue Green Development Corridor, technical assistance to the Northwest Water Planning Alliance and facilitation of diverse stakeholder groups—such as the Calumet Stormwater Collaborative—he leads MPC's multiple strategies to sustainably manage Illinois' finite water resources and reduce the harmful impacts of stormwater. Ellis is a member of the Midwest Leadership Council of the National Parks Conservation Association and the Cook County Sustainability Advisory Council.



Margaret Schneemann

Water Resource Economist
Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant program
@MSCHNEEMANN

Margaret Schneemann is a resource economist with 20 years' experience providing research, higher education and outreach. She currently works with the Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant (IISG) program, leading projects to create resilient communities and economies in the Great Lakes region.



Big picture needs (cont'd)

Bill Christiansen

Program Manager
Alliance for Water Efficiency
@A4WE

Bill Christiansen has worked for the Alliance for Water Efficiency since 2007. The Alliance is a North American nonprofit organization dedicated to the efficient and sustainable use of water. Prior to joining the Alliance for Water Efficiency, Christiansen worked for PMCL, a consulting firm that specialized in water resource management.



Luncheon keynote

MarySue Barrett

President
Metropolitan Planning Council
@MarySueMPC

MarySue Barrett is president of the Metropolitan Planning Council, which has been dedicated to shaping a more sustainable and prosperous Chicago region since 1934. As MPC's president since 1996, Barrett has strengthened relationships with employers and elected officials, helped resolve local development challenges, and spearheaded regional policy solutions. Prior to joining MPC, Barrett held various positions in former Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley's administration, including as chief of policy. Barrett is a steering committee member of World Business Chicago's Plan for Economic Growth & Jobs. She serves on the board of directors of IFF and Current, and the Advisory Board of the Chicago Infrastructure Trust and Illinois Issues magazine.



Pat Mulroy

Senior Fellow
Brookings Institution
@BrookingsInst

Pat Mulroy serves as a senior fellow for Climate Adaptation and Environmental Policy for Brookings Institution and also as a practitioner in residence for the Saltman Center for Conflict Resolution at the UNLV William S. Boyd School of Law. She also holds a faculty position at the Desert Research Institute, where she serves as the Maki Distinguished Faculty Associate. Mulroy also serves on the Wynn Resorts, Limited, Board of Directors. Between 1989 and early 2014, Mulroy served as general manager of both the Las Vegas Valley Water District and the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA). Mulroy was a principal architect of the SNWA, helping to guide southern Nevada through one of the worst droughts in the history of the Colorado River. At UNLV's Boyd School of Law and DRI, Mulroy's focus is on helping communities in water-stressed areas throughout both the American Southwest and the world develop strategies to address increased water resource volatility and identify solutions that balance the needs of all stakeholders.



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We're all in this together

Peter Wallers

President
Engineering Enterprises, Inc.

Peter G. Wallers, P.E., CFM, is president of Engineering Enterprises, Inc., a consulting engineering firm. He holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Marquette University. Wallers has more than 30 years of consulting experience and has worked with numerous communities on the planning, design and implementation of water works system improvements. He is a registered professional engineer and certified floodplain manager. Wallers serves as a technical advisor to the Metro West Council of Government (MWCOCG) on water supply planning, served as a delegate on the Regional Water Supply Planning Group representing municipalities and municipal water suppliers, and is currently the chairman of the Technical Advisory Committee for the Northwest Water Planning Alliance (NWPA).



Village President Matthew Brolley

Village of Montgomery
@MontgomeryIL

Matthew T. Brolley, P.E., CFM has 11 years of professional experience in civil engineering, working for public and private sector clients in the fields of site development, environmental, water and natural resources. He just returned from a week in Honduras working on one of the final legs of a multi-year Engineers without Borders project that will provide drinking water to the village of Armenta. Brolley stated, "Access to drinking water (affordable, sustainable and safe) is one of the core functions that our governments can and should provide. This trip solidified this view for me." Brolley is currently in his third year as president of the Village of Montgomery and is the current president of the Metro West Council of Government.



Bart Olson

City Administrator
United City of Yorkville
@CityofYorkville

Bart Olson has been the city administrator for Yorkville since 2009, has worked for the City for more than 12 years in various positions and grew up in Yorkville. He has a master's degree in public administration from Northern Illinois University. He serves on the Yorkville Area Chamber of Commerce Board as treasurer.



We're all in this together (cont'd)

Jennifer Hughes

Public Works Director/Village Engineer
Village of Oswego
@OswegoIL60543



Jennifer Hughes is the public works director/village engineer for the Village of Oswego. She is a registered professional engineer in Illinois and Michigan and is a certified floodplain manager. She previously served the Village of Lincolnshire as both the public works director and village engineer. Awards include Floodplain Manager of the Year from the Illinois Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Management and Professional Manager of the Year, Water Resources from the Chicago Metro Chapter of the American Public Works Association. She currently serves as the president of the Chicago Metro Chapter of the American Public Works Association. Hughes graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering.

Treating water like the asset it is

Josh Ellis

Director
Metropolitan Planning Council
see page 6 for bio

Mayor Tom Weisner

City of Aurora
see page 4 for bio

Mayor Elizabeth Tisdahl

City of Evanston
@EvanstonMayor
@CityofEvanston

Mayor Elizabeth Tisdahl was elected Mayor of Evanston in April 2009 and re-elected in April 2013. From 2003 to 2009 she served as the 7th ward alderman. She has participated in a broad array of political and community projects and many times has been recognized for her service. She was elected the 2014-2015 president of the Northwest Municipal Conference. Mayor Tisdahl's many honors include the Park School certificate of recognition, Fleetwood Jourdain Community Center Salute to Women in Human Services Appreciation Award, Chessmen Club community service award, Democratic Party of Evanston community service award and Health Innovator Award from Erie Family Health.



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Treating water like the asset it is (cont'd)

Mayor Barrett Pedersen

Village of Franklin Park

Franklin Park Mayor Barrett Pedersen is committed to innovative sustainability practices. While he has been mayor, the Village has built a LEED Gold-certified police station, replaced outdated vehicles with energy efficient electric vehicles and installed charging stations at Village Hall and the Metra train station. Residents were encouraged to utilize a community-wide recycling program which increased the amount of recycling per household from 8.2 to 10.9 pounds per week. Police vehicles are restricted from idling on area streets, eliminating the release of 27,818 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere annually. Franklin Park has won numerous awards for sustainable landscaping practices and is the proud winner of the Governor's Sustainability Award. Mayor Pedersen hopes to serve as a regional example for sustainable design to other communities.



Now's the time for action

Danielle Gallet

Manager
Metropolitan Planning Council
@DGalletH2O

Danielle Gallet is a water resource strategist and urban planner with more than 15 years of project and business management experience. She is a manager at the Metropolitan Planning Council, where she oversees the agency's stormwater and water supply programs. She also facilitates the Calumet Stormwater Collaborative and the Northwest Water Planning Alliance. Her work involves researching and implementing creative and viable strategies that address issues related to water resource planning, management, financing and infrastructure. Before her work in water services and planning, Danielle worked in the private equity field for seven years, which provides her with a unique perspective on the relationship between financial markets, the built environment and natural resource management. Gallet is a member of the American Water Works Association where she sits on its national Water Loss Control Committee and serves as chair of the Water Efficiency Committee for the Illinois Section.



Peter Wallers

President
Engineering Enterprises, Inc.
see page 8 for bio

Mayor Tom Weisner

City of Aurora
see page 4 for bio



Notes

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