



# Addison Creek Reservoir and Channel Improvements

## Project Overview

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago's (MWRD's) Addison Creek Reservoir and Channel Improvements will provide flood relief in Chicago's western suburbs. These critical stormwater management projects will reduce flooding to approximately 2,200 properties along Addison Creek.

The Addison Creek Reservoir is located at 2795 Washington Blvd. in Bellwood, Illinois. The MWRD constructed a 600-acre-foot reservoir, which includes a control structure, inlet structure, spillway and pumping station.

The Addison Creek Channel Improvements will be constructed through Northlake, Stone Park, Melrose Park, Bellwood, Westchester and Broadview. The channel improvements project will include a mix of natural design, gabion baskets, soldier pile walls, concrete, riprap, articulated concrete blocks, vegetation clearing and removal of three bridges.

## Background

In 2011, the MWRD completed the Lower Des Plaines River Detailed Watershed Plan (DWP) to identify stormwater related problems and develop alternative solutions to regional flooding issues. Several alternatives were developed for the Addison Creek subwatershed. The Addison Creek Reservoir and Channel Improvements were the most beneficial and cost-effective solutions to address overbank flooding along Addison Creek.

## Intergovernmental Collaboration

### Partners:

#### Addison Creek Reservoir

- The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD)
- Village of Bellwood
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- Cook County

#### Addison Creek Channel Improvements

- MWRD
- City of Northlake
- Village of Bellwood
- Village of Broadview
- Village of Melrose Park
- Village of Stone Park
- Village of Westchester
- Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security (IEMA)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Several entities were involved during the planning of the project. The MWRD worked closely on the design of the reservoir and channel improvements with Northlake, Melrose Park, Stone Park, Bellwood, Westchester, Broadview, the Illinois Department of Transportation, various railroads and several utility companies. The MWRD was required to obtain permits and approvals from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, the United States



The Addison Creek Reservoir provides 195 million gallons of storage capacity and connects with the Addison Creek Channel (at bottom). Photo taken October 2022.

Army Corps of Engineers, Soil and Water Conservation District and Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. The MWRD and Bellwood have an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) for the construction and perpetual maintenance of the Addison Creek Reservoir. The IGA stipulates that the MWRD was to design and construct the reservoir, and the Village of Bellwood and MWRD will share the maintenance responsibilities of the reservoir.

The MWRD has also entered into IGAs for the construction and perpetual maintenance for the Addison Creek Channel Improvements. The IGAs stipulate that MWRD will design and construct the channel improvements, and the six benefiting communities will be responsible for the long-term maintenance of the channel improvements within their communities.

## Benefits

Of the 2,200 properties that will benefit from reduced overbank flooding, it is estimated that 1,700 properties will be removed from the floodplain, and the projects will provide approximately \$116 million in flood benefits. When the channel improvements project is completed, the MWRD will submit a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) to the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Upon approval of the LOMR, some property owners may be eligible to obtain lower cost premiums on their annual flood insurance policies.

### Benefiting Communities

- Northlake
- Stone Park
- Melrose Park
- Bellwood
- Westchester
- Broadview

### Benefits

- Reduces flooding for approximately 2,200 properties
- Removes approximately 1,700 properties from floodplain
- Provides \$116 million in flood benefits
- Adds more than 195 million gallons of reservoir storage

### Completion Dates

- Addison Creek Reservoir 2023
- Addison Creek Channel Improvements 2026

# Addison Creek Reservoir and Channel Improvements, cont.

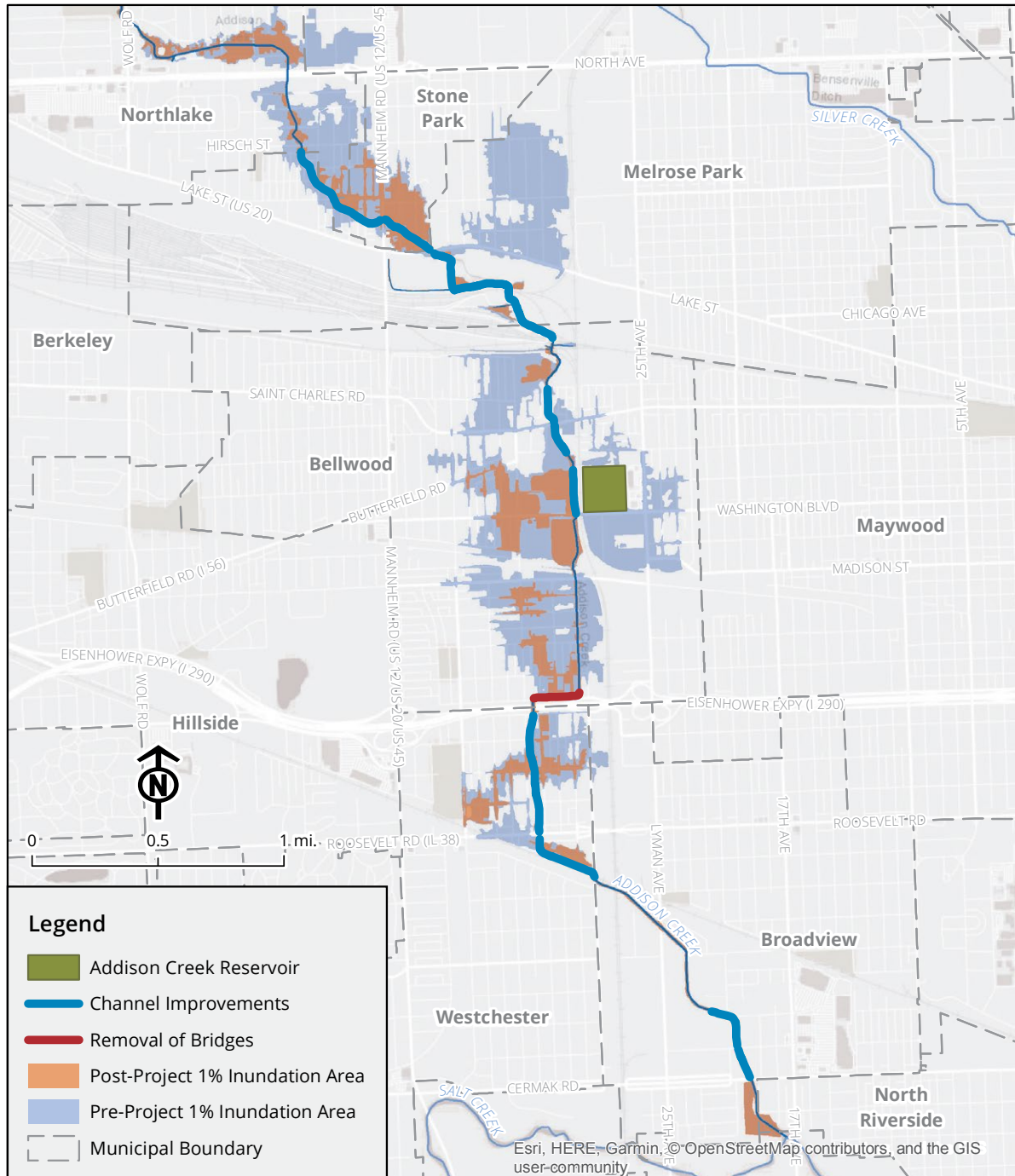
## Construction and Status

Construction of the Addison Creek Reservoir started in 2019 and was completed in 2023. The construction for the Addison Creek Channel improvements began in summer of 2023, with anticipated completion in summer 2026. Flood reduction benefits will be fully achieved when both projects are completed.

The MWRD was able to advance these projects thanks to critical funding from several partners. The reservoir received \$5 million

in Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development via Cook County. The channel improvements received a \$9.9 million grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency Hazard Mitigation Grant Program through the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security.

## Addison Creek Reservoir and Channel Improvements Map



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