



# Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

## Reducing Excessive Infiltration / Inflow in Local Sanitary Sewer Systems

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## Introduction

- Concerns expressed over direction of the I/I program
- Onerous regulation is not intended
- Basic intent is to make sure systems are maintained, appropriate investment is made
- Communities create their own plan



## Goals for removal of excessive I/I

- Eliminate basement backups
- Reduce public health hazards
- Eliminate waterway pollution through sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs)



## Achieving I/I control

IEPA statement and consensus of ATP:

- Communities must take care of their infrastructure
- Maintenance programs in all communities
- Long Term Plans – 20 to 30 years
- Short Term Aspects – 3 to 5 years



## Short term goal: 3 to 5 years

- Cost effective inventory of public and private I/I
- Minimum long term maintenance plan
- Address low hanging fruit
- Cross connections, illegal connections
- Smoke testing
- Develop private I/I strategy
- Develop funding strategy



## Long term O&M plan Minimum requirements

- Accurate sewer atlas – GIS
- Sewer cleaning
- Risk based analysis
- Asset management / capital reinvestment
- Commitment to rehabilitation
- Guidelines on reinvestment (target)
- Plan for funding necessary O&M
- Flexibility for community



## Long term O&M plan Minimum requirements

- Maintenance plan – reactive and proactive
- Customer service and work order tracking system
- Flow monitoring
- Annual reporting requirements
- Rehab and maintenance work
- SSOs and basement backups



## Long term O&M plan: 20 to 30 years

- Communities develop and implement capital improvement program (CIP)
- Prioritize and complete projects – cleaning, inspection and rehabilitation
- Reduce basement backups and SSOs





## Funding possibilities

- State Revolving Fund – IEPA
- Local Sewer System Loan – District
- Community funding via sewer service fees
- Private Property I/I Reduction Program similar to Milwaukee's program (will require legislative changes and funding)



## Next steps

- Form work groups to draft targeted sections of new ordinance language between meetings
- Revise Article 6.5 of Manual of Procedures
- Share draft sections with full ATP and finalize



## Draft Ordinance Sections - Schedule

August: Scope and Goals

September: Short Term Objectives and Long Term Plan

October: Minimum requirements (compliance),  
annual reporting, funding possibilities

November: System Analysis and Enforcement

December: Finalize, feedback & comments

January: Present to Board of Commissioners

Questions?

METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT

