



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District *of* Greater Chicago

Press Release

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Groundbreaking on Melvina Ditch Reservoir expansion will provide stormwater protection for Burbank and Oak Lawn

WHO: The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD), Village of Burbank and Village of Oak Lawn

WHAT: Officials will mark the beginning of construction on the Melvina Ditch Reservoir expansion to alleviate flooding concerns for residents of Burbank and Oak Lawn

WHERE: Melvina Ditch Reservoir, 6500 W. 87th Street, Burbank, Ill.

WHEN: Monday, April 2, 2018, 10 a.m.

After a lengthy public process that relied on input from Burbank and Oak Lawn neighbors and various stakeholders to address flooding concerns, the MWRD is prepared to break ground on the anticipated expansion of the Melvina Ditch Reservoir that will provide much needed protection from area flooding. The groundbreaking ceremony will be held at 6500 W. 87th Street, Burbank, IL at 10 a.m.

The project more than doubles the existing Melvina Ditch Reservoir storage capacity of the reservoir to alleviate flooding concerns for residents of Burbank and Oak Lawn.

The expansion project is a culmination of a lengthy public process that accepted input from Burbank and

Oak Lawn neighbors and stakeholders. The existing Melvina Ditch Reservoir will be expanded by 195 acre-feet, or by 64 million gallons, the pumping station will be modified to accommodate the reservoir expansion, and a new emergency overflow weir to reduce the likelihood of reservoir overtopping will be installed.

Through public meetings, consensus was met to expand the reservoir within the existing reservoir footprint on MWRD property and through acquiring nearby properties around the perimeter of the reservoir. A portion of the \$20 million project will be funded through a grant from the state of Illinois through its Build Illinois Bond Fund.

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Established in 1889, the MWRD (www.mwrdd.org) is an award winning, special purpose government agency responsible for used water treatment and stormwater management in Cook County, Illinois.