

James Wadsworth Elementary School
AFTER



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
of Greater Chicago

2018 Budget in Brief

BUILDING A RESILIENT COOK COUNTY



James Wadsworth Elementary School
BEFORE

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The first stage of the McCook Reservoir was unveiled on December 4, 2017, providing 3.5 billion gallons of storage capacity. The final stage of the TARP system is scheduled to be completed in 2029.



2018 Budget in Brief

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

This 2018 Budget in Brief serves as an addendum to the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago's (District) formal budget book and provides an overview of the organization's core mission, operations, and budget appropriations. The annual budget is the principal planning device for carrying out the mission of the District and accomplishing our operational goals. As a key communication tool, the budget shows how resources are acquired and allocated for current operations, long-range planning, and financing.

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Building a Resilient Cook County

January 2, 2018

To Residents of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District,

The 2018 Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago Budget continues to be guided by the vision statement, *Recovering Resources, Transforming Water*, and highlights our commitment to address local flooding issues by building a resilient Cook County. On December 4, 2017, the first stage of the McCook Reservoir with a storage capacity of 3.5 billion gallons was formally unveiled, initiating the final phase of the historic Tunnel and Reservoir Plan (TARP).

I am pleased to present the 2018 Budget, which represents a comprehensive plan to meet the Strategic Business Plan's goals in a fiscally responsible manner. We will continue to implement strategies to meet our goals and long-term vision. During 2018, the District will continue to evaluate processes and design treatment processes to optimize energy efficiency in order to reach our goal of energy neutrality by 2023.

The Stormwater Management Program is aggressively working to minimize flooding damage. Through flood-prone property acquisition, community partnerships, and cost-sharing agreements for local stormwater projects, the District is leveraging tax dollars and investing in both green infrastructure projects and large capital projects. The 2018 Stormwater Management Fund budget increased \$19.8 million over the 2017 appropriation to further our investment in flood control projects and support local stormwater issues.

The District continues to operate as a fiscally sound organization by maintaining a AAA bond rating with Fitch Ratings and a AA+ bond rating from Standard & Poor's. The District's funding policies for both the Retirement Fund and Other Postemployment Benefits Trust demonstrate the District's commitment to long-term fiscal management and contribute to strong credit ratings. The 2018 Corporate Fund budget remains virtually flat to the 2017 appropriation, increasing by 0.3 percent, as we continue to prioritize spending while controlling cost increases.

This Budget in Brief is a summary of our budget and describes how the 2018 funding priorities align with our Strategic Business Plan. For the complete budget document and Strategic Business Plan, please visit mwrdr.org.

The challenges are many. Our role is clear. We are committed as an agency to continue providing the excellent service expected of the District. In 2018, we will continue to implement our Strategic Business Plan as we build a resilient Cook County.

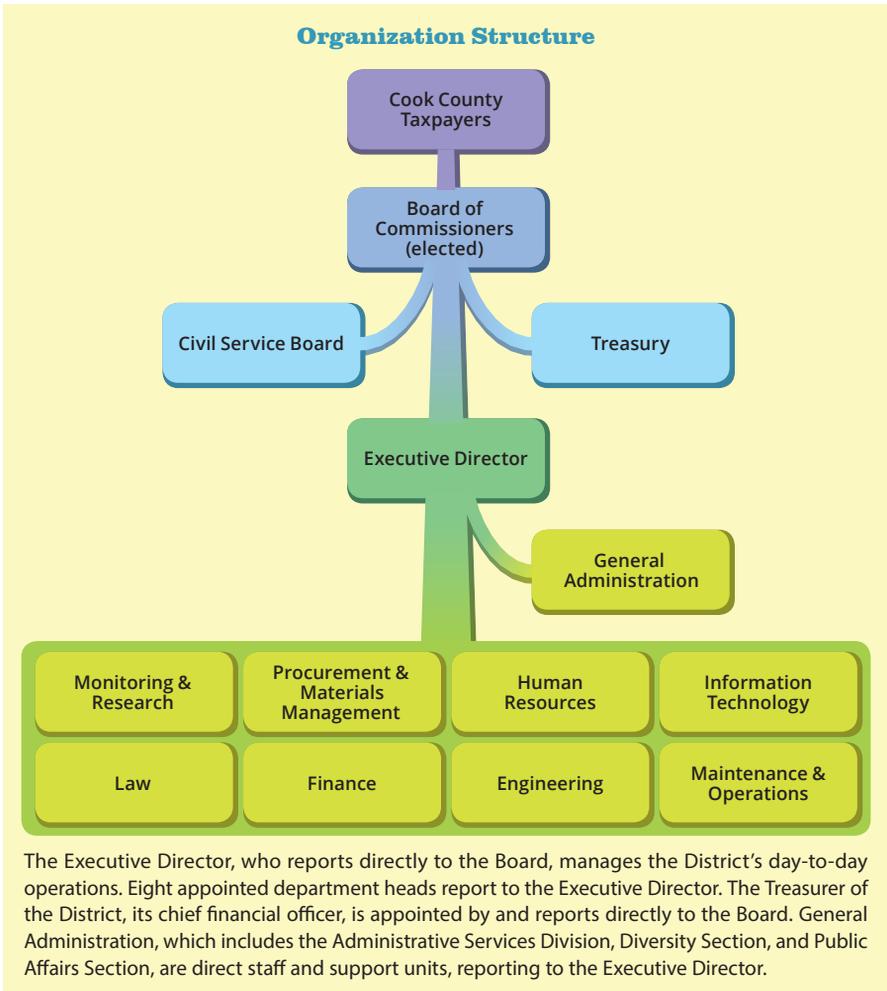
Respectfully submitted,



Mariyana T. Spyropoulos, *President*

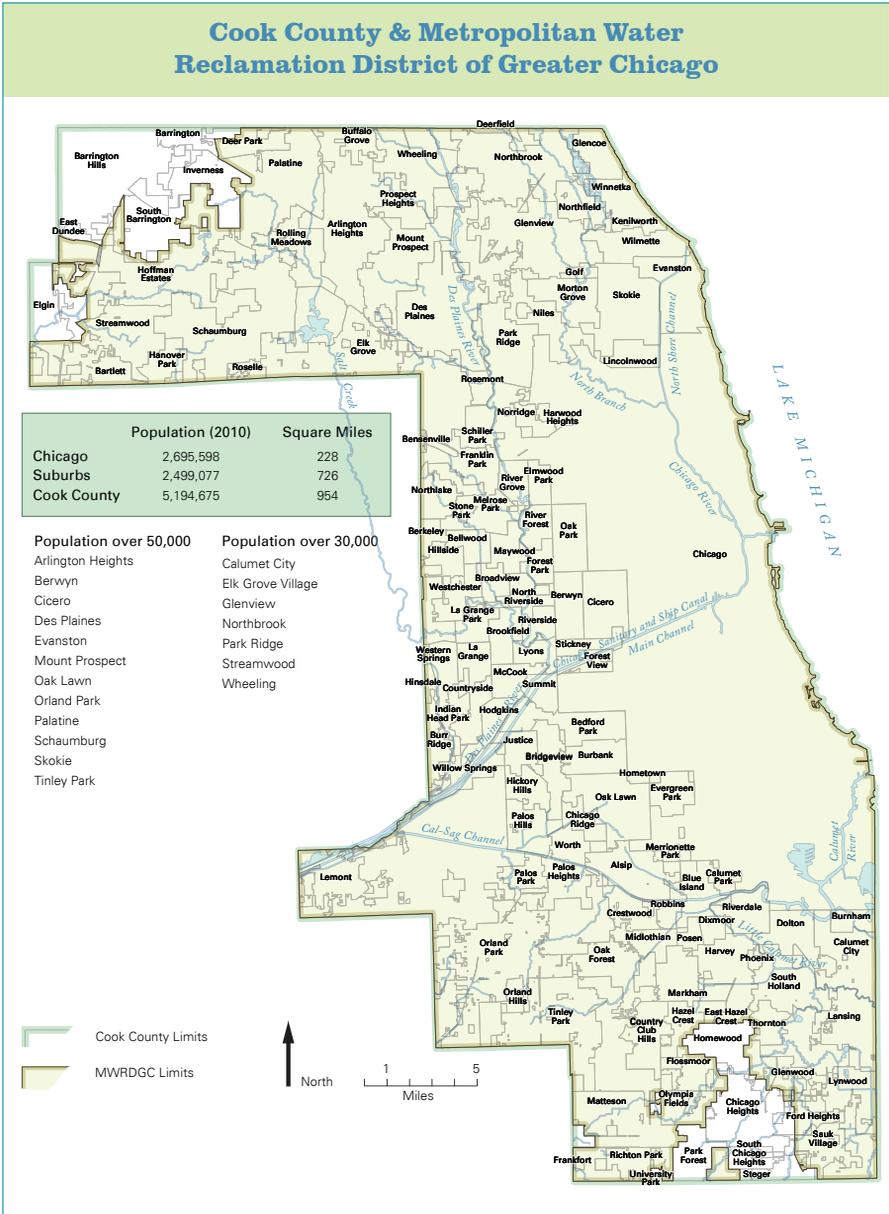
Mission & Governance

The District is governed by a nine-member Board of Commissioners (Board). Each commissioner is elected at large and serves on a salaried basis. Three Commissioners are elected every two years for six-year terms. The Board biannually elects from its membership a President, Vice President, and Chairman of the Committee on Finance. The District is an independent government and taxing body operating primarily within the boundaries of Cook County, Illinois. The agency serves an area of 882.1 square miles, including the City of Chicago and 128 surrounding communities. Wastewater is collected from municipalities by the District and conveyed to one of seven reclamation plants for full treatment. Clean water is then discharged to local waterways. The District is also responsible for stormwater management for all of Cook County, including areas outside of its corporate boundaries. The District's commitment to the environmental quality of the region involves protecting Lake Michigan from pollution, maintaining public health and safety, protecting homes and businesses from flooding, and managing water as a vital resource.



Service Area—District Map

The District is responsible for stormwater management for all of Cook County, including areas that currently lie outside the District’s boundaries.



District Fast Facts

The District:

- ✓ Serves an equivalent population of 10.35 million people: 5.25 million individuals, a commercial and industrial equivalent of 4.5 million people, and a combined sewer overflow equivalent of 0.6 million people.
- ✓ Treats an average of 1.3 billion gallons of wastewater per day with a wastewater treatment capacity of over 2.0 billion gallons per day.
- ✓ Performs nearly 600,000 laboratory analyses per year to assure operations meet mandated standards of environmental quality, to enforce industrial standards, and to monitor water quality in waterways.
- ✓ Captures and treats an annual average of 113.1 million pounds of various pollutants found in combined sewer overflows through the Tunnel & Reservoir Plan system.
- ✓ Owns and operates seven modern and effective water reclamation plants, 560 miles of intercepting sewers and force mains, 23 pumping stations, and 34 stormwater detention reservoirs, and 3 TARP reservoirs.
- ✓ Controls 76.1 miles of navigable waterways, which connect the Great Lakes with the Gulf of Mexico.
- ✓ Unveiled the first stage of the McCook Reservoir with a storage capacity of 3.5 billion gallons on December 4, 2017, initiating the final phase of the historic Tunnel and Reservoir Plan (TARP).



U.S. Senator Dick Durbin and MWRD President Mariyana Spyropoulos hold the large scissors used to officially inaugurate McCook Reservoir Stage 1. They are surrounded by (L-R) MWRD Vice President Barbara McGowan, IL EPA Director Alec Messina, Commissioner Josina Morita, Col. Aaron Reisinger, Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Chicago District, and MWRD Chairman of Finance Frank Avila.

Sources of Revenue

Tax Sources

All District funds, with the exception of the Capital Improvements Bond Fund, derive their revenues primarily from property taxes. Approximately 68.8 percent of the 2018 appropriation is supported by property taxes. Taxes levied in one year are collected in the next year, and Working Cash Funds for the Corporate, Construction, and Stormwater Management Funds provide temporary financing while awaiting property tax receipts.

A personal property replacement tax provides tax revenue from corporations, partnerships, and the invested capital of public utilities to replace the personal property taxes that were once received from these sources. Revenue from this source is estimated at \$38.1 million for 2018, an increase of \$1.2 million from the 2017 Adjusted Budget. These revenues, received directly from the State of Illinois, typically trend with the economy.

Funding Capital Projects: Bonds, Grants, & Loans

The District's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is financed primarily with State Revolving Fund (SRF) loans and general obligation bond sale proceeds. State law provides authority to issue debt, but also limits the amount that the District can borrow.

Currently, the District's statutory debt limit is estimated at \$8.1 billion. Actual net outstanding debt applicable to the debt limit totals \$2.8 billion. The debt margin, the difference between issued debt applicable to the debt limit and the statutory limit, is \$5.3 billion, or 65.4 percent of the limit. The District does not plan on new bond sales until 2020, but anticipates \$150 million in low interest SRF loans based on the current capitalization level of state funds and repayment trends. In 2018, \$11.3 million in Federal Build America Bond subsidy is also budgeted.

The 2018 appropriation for bond redemption and interest payments totals \$256.3 million, an increase of \$27.5 million, or 12.0 percent, from the 2017 Adjusted Budget. The increase is due to a \$28.4 million pre-payment on seven SRF loans that will result in \$9.6 million in interest savings. Appropriations and tax levies are adjusted for new bond sales or SRF loans. Debt service for outstanding bonds consists of six refunding bonds, ten capital improvements bonds, and 61 SRF loans.

User Charges, Property, Services, & Miscellaneous

A major revenue source for the District is the user charge system, which imposes a surcharge above property tax payments for commercial, industrial, and tax-exempt users of the sewerage systems. Estimated user charge revenues in 2018 are \$46.0 million. Land rentals, investment income, sewer permit fees, connection impact fees, grants, and other revenues will provide an estimated \$46.0 million in 2018. A \$4.2 million equity transfer from the Capital Improvements Bond Fund's accumulated interest income will be used to supplement the Corporate Fund.

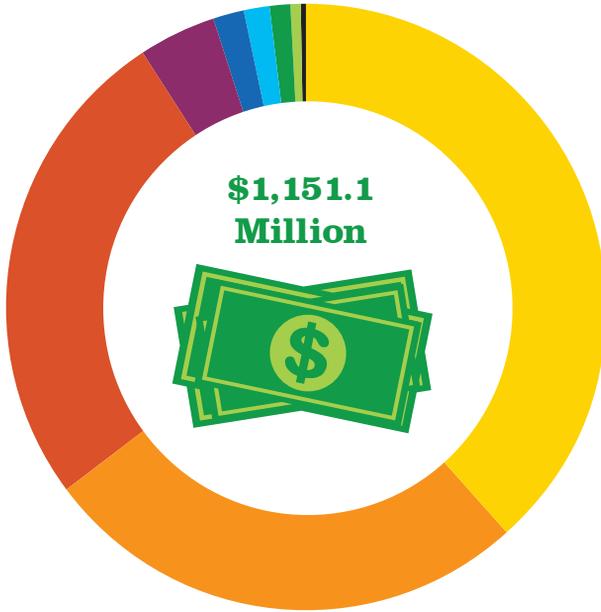
Tax Levy

The overall 2018 tax levy is \$621.3 million, an increase of \$22.0 million, or 3.7 percent, from the 2017 adjusted levy.

Tax Rate

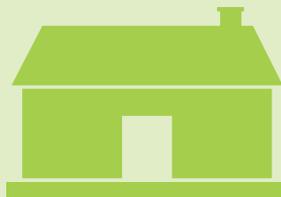
The overall tax rate for 2018, based on the most recent equalized assessed valuation, totals 41.58 cents per \$100 of assessed property value, a 0.25 cent increase from the 2017 adjusted rate.

Where District Money Comes From



\$443.7 M	38.5%	● Net Assets Appropriated
\$303.8 M	26.4%	● Net Tax Sources
\$300.2 M	26.1%	● State Revolving Fund Loans & Future Bond Sales
\$46.0 M	4.0%	● User Charge Income
\$21.5 M	1.8%	● Land Rentals
\$17.0 M	1.5%	● Miscellaneous
\$11.3 M	1.0%	● Grants
\$6.7 M	0.6%	● Investment Income
\$0.9 M	0.1%	● Sewer Permit Fees
\$1,151.1 M	100.0%	TOTAL

**For a \$100,000 home,
the 2018 estimated
District tax is \$116.56.**



Description of Funds

The District uses the following funds to control its financial activities:

CORPORATE FUND: Used for the operations and payments of general expenditures of the District not specifically chargeable to other funds.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS BOND FUND: Accounts for bond sale proceeds authorized by the Illinois General Assembly, government grants, and other revenues used for improvements, replacements, and additions to designated environmental improvement projects.

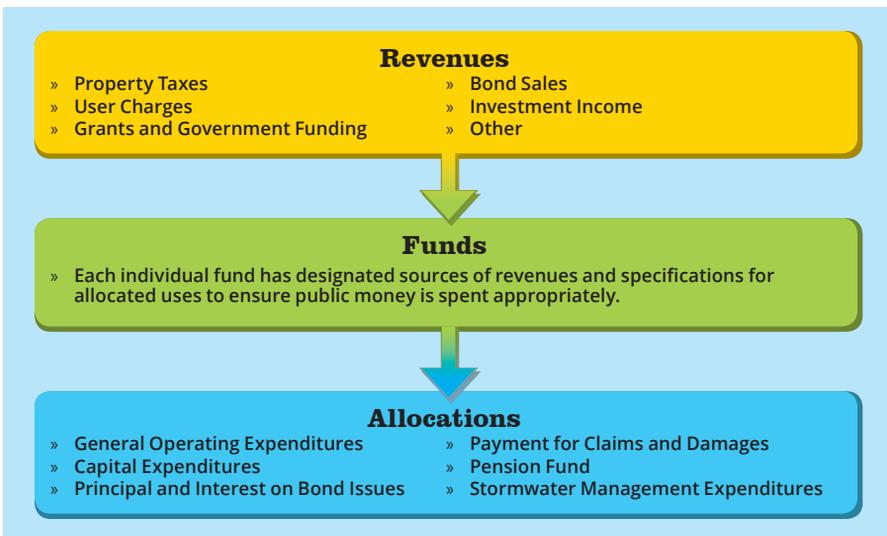
CONSTRUCTION FUND: Accounts for a specific property tax levy and other revenues used as a pay-as-you-go capital fund for the construction or replacement of long-term assets used in the principal functions of the District.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT FUND: Accounts for property tax levies and other revenues, such as interest on investments and permit fees, for planning, implementing, and financing stormwater management activities throughout all of Cook County, including stream maintenance in areas that currently lie outside the district's boundaries.

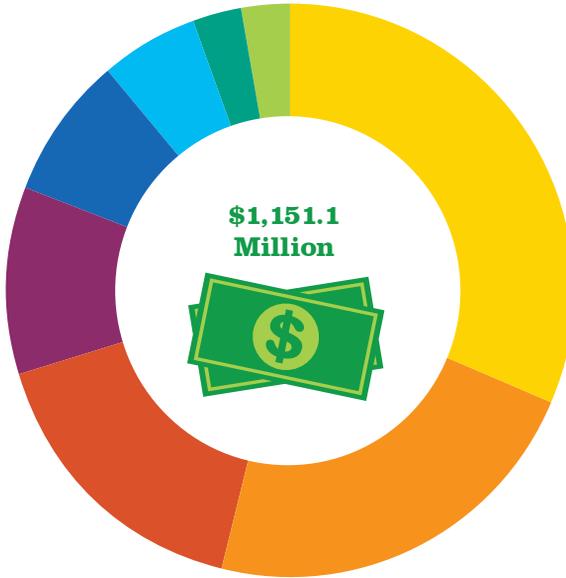
RETIREMENT FUND: Accounts for a specific property tax levy to fund pension costs in accordance with statutory provisions. The taxes are collected by the District and paid to the MWRD Retirement Fund, a pension trust fund.

BOND REDEMPTION & INTEREST FUND: Accounts for property tax levies and interest on investments for the payment of principal and interest of general obligation bond issues. A subfund is created for each bond issue.

RESERVE CLAIM FUND: Accounts for a specific property tax levy and other revenues and pays for claims, awards, losses, or liabilities that might be imposed against the District and for the replacement or repair of damaged property. The accounts of the Reserve Claim Fund are included in the General Corporate Fund for financial reporting purposes.



Where District Money Goes



\$364.0 M	31.6%	● Construction & Design
\$256.3 M	22.3%	● Bond Redemption & Interest Fund
\$191.2 M	16.6%	● Plant Operation & Maintenance
\$122.2 M	10.6%	● Staff Services
\$89.6 M	7.8%	● MWRD Retirement Fund
\$65.6 M	5.7%	● Stormwater Management
\$31.9 M	2.8%	● Monitoring & Research
\$30.3 M	2.6%	● Claims & Judgments
\$1,151.1 M	100.0%	TOTAL



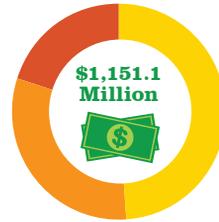
Wadsworth playground, before and after Space to Grow transformation and use of green infrastructure.

2018 Appropriations

Overall appropriations for 2018 total \$1,151.1 million, an increase of \$8.3 million, or 0.7 percent, from the 2017 Adjusted Budget. Appropriations are allocated to seven separate funds. Each fund maintains a self-balancing set of accounts that are reported separately in their own financial statements. The funds are created to account for the different types of activities and legal restrictions associated with a particular function. In 2018, there are increases of \$27.5 million in the Bond Redemption & Interest Fund, which includes a \$28.4 million prepayment that will save \$9.6 million in interest, \$19.8 million in the Stormwater Management Fund, \$10.1 million in the Retirement Fund and \$1.3 million in the Corporate Fund offset by decreases of \$41.6 million in the Capital Improvements Bond Fund and \$8.4 million in the Construction Fund and \$0.3 million in the Reserve Claim Fund.

2018 Character of Expenditure

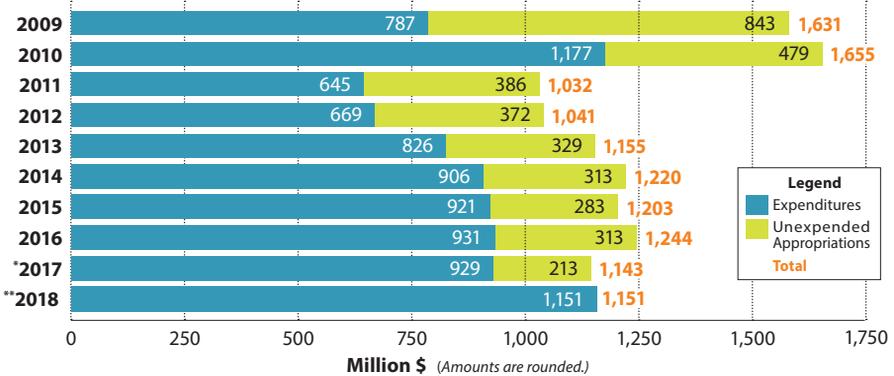
(Percentages are rounded.)



\$551.0 M	48%	●	Current Expense
\$343.8 M	30%	●	Capital Outlay
\$256.3 M	22%	●	Debt Retirement
\$1,151.1 M	100%		TOTAL

Appropriations & Expenditures, 2009–2018

(*Adjusted **Estimated)



Summary by Fund	2018 Budget	2017 Adjusted Budget	Dollar Increase (Decrease)	Percent Change
Corporate Fund	\$370,209,200	\$368,925,800	\$1,283,400	0.3%
Construction Fund	26,080,600	34,450,400	(8,369,800)	(24.3)%
Capital Improvements Bond Fund	312,982,900	354,625,600	(41,642,700)	(11.7)%
Stormwater Management Fund	65,581,000	45,800,100	19,780,900	43.2%
Retirement Fund	89,604,000	79,505,000	10,099,000	12.7%
Reserve Claim Fund	30,289,500	30,617,100	(327,600)	(1.1)%
Bond Redemption & Interest Fund	256,304,186	228,825,813	27,478,373	12.0%
TOTAL	\$1,151,051,386	\$1,142,749,813	\$8,301,573	0.7%

Estimated Taxes for a \$100,000 Home

2018 Budgeted	2017 Adjusted	Increase	Percent change
\$116.56	\$115.86	\$0.70	0.60%

Appropriations by Operational Objective

To comply with the Illinois Compiled Statutes, it is necessary to prepare budget estimates and appropriate funds according to programs, organizational units, performance principles, and unit cost data. The graph below displays the allocation of the 2018 appropriation and the personnel assigned to each operational objective across all funds. The District's mission is achieved daily through six main operational functions:

Collection \$106,673,907 • 309 Personnel

Operation and maintenance of pumping stations, force mains, and intercepting sewers.

Treatment \$150,946,255 • 454 Personnel

Treatment of influent at water reclamation plants.

Solids Processing \$79,054,980 • 250 Personnel

Processing of primary, secondary, and tertiary sludge.

Flood & Pollution Control \$276,602,265 • 423 Personnel

Programs for the design and construction of flood and pollution control projects and waterways control.

Solids Utilization \$30,536,700 • 41 Personnel

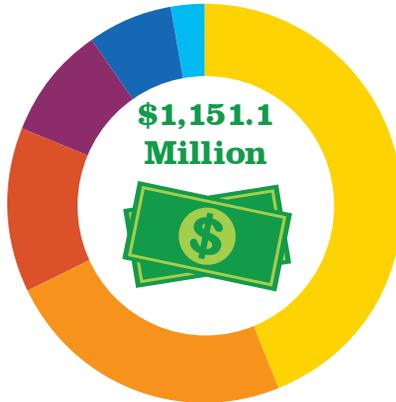
Drying and beneficial utilization of secondary and tertiary solids from the treatment process.

General Support (Debt Service, Retirement, & Reserve Funds, Support Departments) \$507,237,279 • 489 Personnel

Indirect costs essential for achieving operational goals.

In 2018, a total of 1,966 positions are budgeted across all operational objectives.

2018 Appropriations by Operational Objective



\$507,237,279	44.1%	● General Support
\$276,602,265	24.0%	● Flood & Pollution Control
\$150,946,255	13.1%	● Treatment
\$106,673,907	9.3%	● Collection
\$79,054,980	6.9%	● Solids Processing
\$30,536,700	2.7%	● Solids Utilization
\$1,151,051,386	100.0%	TOTAL

Operational Objective: Collection & Treatment

The District treats an average of 1.3 billion gallons of wastewater per day, with a total capacity of over 2.0 billion gallons per day. In 2018, the District expects to collect and treat approximately 503.7 billion gallons of wastewater at its seven water reclamation plants. The District's reclaimed wastewater, along with runoff from rainfall, is returned to the Chicago Area Waterway System, which includes local canals, rivers, and streams that serve as headwaters of the Illinois River System.

The District provides outstanding reclamation for residential and industrial wastewater, meeting permitted discharge limits virtually at all times. The water reclamation process is protected by a pre-treatment program to guard against hazardous substances and toxic chemicals. These are strictly regulated by federal and state requirements. The District routinely monitors all industry and non-residential sources to assure that those wastes are disposed of in an environmentally responsible and lawful manner.

The collection and treatment processes are performed in compliance with discharge permits issued by the Environmental Protection Agency, which regulates the quality of the effluent as it leaves the treatment plants. To enhance its treatment process and increase its level of compliance, the District implemented a disinfection facility at the Calumet WRP in 2015 and an ultraviolet radiation disinfection system at the O'Brien WRP in 2016. The District's high level of compliance produces consistently excellent results. The District's overall 2016 (latest year for which figures are available) compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge and Elimination System requirements is 99.97 percent.



In 2017, the Calumet WRP received the NACWA Platinum Award for 25 consecutive years of 100 percent discharge permit compliance.

Operational Objective: Biosolids Processing & Utilization

The District’s biosolids production is the largest of its kind in the country. The water reclamation processes produce approximately 220,000 dry tons of biosolids annually. In 2018, the District will remove and process approximately 188,500 dry tons of concentrated sewage through three biosolids handling facilities and produce an estimated 100,000 dry tons of biosolids for beneficial utilization: 70,000 in the Stickney Service Area, 29,000 in the Calumet Service Area and 1,000 in the North Service Area.

Utilization of District Biosolids, 2007–2016
(in Dry Tons)



771,053	55.9%	● Farmland Application
308,335	22.4%	● MBM Pelletizing Facility
163,239	11.8%	● Landfill Applications
98,300	7.1%	● Controlled Solids Distribution
23,974	1.7%	● Unsuitables
8,106	0.6%	● Farmland Application—Injection
6,172	0.5%	● MWRD Land
1,379,179	100.0%	TOTAL

In 2018, the District will continue its innovative program for the beneficial utilization of biosolids. A key objective of the program is to make use of biosolids’ superior nutrient qualities and soil-like characteristics in an environmentally safe manner. Land-applied biosolids can enhance crop production while reducing the need for topsoil and fertilizers. In addition to farmland applications, the program provides biosolids for park development, golf courses, recreational fields, turf rejuvenation, and final cover for municipal solids waste landfills.

Under the program, the District recycles all of its biosolids through a farm land application program in nearby counties and local use of Exceptional Quality biosolids and composite biosolids in the Chicago Metropolitan area.

The District continues to make significant progress towards development of long-term stable markets for biosolids, resulting in significant reductions of inventory. This aggressive management places the District’s biosolids utilization program among the most cost-effective in the world.

Operational Objective: Flood & Pollution Control

Tunnel and Reservoir Plan

The District's Tunnel & Reservoir Plan (TARP) is one of the country's largest public works projects for pollution and flood control. TARP has been successful in preventing flooding and pollution caused by combined sewer overflows, by capturing and storing combined stormwater and sewage that would otherwise overflow into waterways in rainy weather. TARP consists of four systems totaling 109.4 miles of tunnels, 8 to 33 feet in diameter and 150 to 300 feet underground. TARP has been extremely successful in preventing flooding and pollution caused by combined sewer overflows and will be more effective when the larger reservoirs are online.

Phase I, completed in 2006, provides crucial protection and can capture up to 2.3 billion gallons of the first flush of sewage contaminated stormwater from combined sewers that previously flowed into area waterways.

Phase II, the reservoir component, provides additional storage of combined sewer overflows for flood damage reduction and additional pollution control. The Gloria A. Majewski Reservoir, located in Elk Grove Village, was built by the Army Corps of Engineers and finished in 1998. It provides 350 million gallons of storage. Constructed for \$45 million, it has, since its completion, yielded over \$380 million in flood damage reduction benefits to the three communities it serves. The Thornton Composite Reservoir was completed in 2015. It provides 7.9 billion gallons of storage and since its completion has captured more than 11.0 billion gallons. It is projected to provide more than \$40 million per year in benefits to the residents of the 14 communities it serves.

Phase II continues with the construction and opening of the final component of the TARP system, the McCook Reservoir. Comprised of two stages, the first stage was unveiled on December 4, 2017 and provides an estimated 3.5 billion gallons of storage. The second stage, expected to be completed in 2029, will provide an estimated 6.5 billion gallons of storage. The



Construction at the confluence of the McCook Reservoir Connecting Tunnel (left) and Mainstream Tunnel (right).

McCook Reservoir is projected to bring \$143 million per year in flood control benefits to the 3.1 million residents of the 37 communities it serves.

Industrial Waste Monitoring & Pollution Control

The District effectively eliminates offensive or dangerous discharges into the public sewer system through the administration of the Sewage and Waste Control Ordinance. It specifies limits on the quantity and quality of wastes discharged by industrial users as required by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The discharges, unless properly controlled and treated, could interfere with the District's treatment processes and adversely impact waterways. Industries and non-residential sources are routinely monitored by the District to ensure wastes are disposed of in an environmentally responsible and lawful manner. The District also operates a user charge system, which imposes a surcharge above property tax payments for commercial, industrial, and tax-exempt users of the sewerage systems.

The District is designated by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency as an official response unit for chemical and hazardous waste spills in Cook County and in that capacity is expected to respond to 162 emergency calls in 2018 from fire and police officials, citizens, and other federal and state agencies. In addition, boat patrols are routinely conducted to locate pollution sources and monitor lakefront recreational events to prevent pollution from entering Lake Michigan.

As water quality continues to improve, recreational activities are growing. During 2017, the District introduced a mapping tool to help the public understand the health of the Chicago Area Waterway System, making monitoring data available to the public. The application can be found at gispub.mwr.org/awqa and covers water quality, fish monitoring, and continuous dissolved oxygen and pinpoints the data to a map of sampling stations. The Citizen Incident Reporting Application, found on the District's website or via a mobile application, allows citizens to report incidents of odors, stream blockages, and other environmental-related issues. Dispatchers monitor both the online reporting system and a telephone hotline 24 hours per day.



Recreational use of local waterways is growing. The District's new interactive mapping tool keeps users informed of local water quality.

Building a Resilient Cook County: Stormwater Management

The Stormwater Management Program is aggressively working to minimize flooding damage caused by historic rain patterns consisting of intense, short bursts that overwhelm community systems. Through flood-prone property acquisition, community partnerships and cost-sharing agreements for local stormwater projects, the District is leveraging tax dollars and investing in both green infrastructure projects and large capital projects. To reduce overbank flooding that impacts structures along Addison Creek from Northlake to Broadview, the District is constructing a 600 acre-foot flood control reservoir in Bellwood expected to be completed in 2020.

Building a resilient Cook County includes not only building traditional flood control measures, but also incorporating Green Infrastructure (GI) into regional planning. The 2018 Budget includes \$26.3 million in the Stormwater Management Fund for Intergovernmental Agreements that include GI projects and other stormwater improvements.

The District continues the successful Space to Grow Program with the Chicago Department of Water Management, Chicago Public Schools, the Healthy Schools Campaign, and Openlands, transforming schoolyards with Green Infrastructure. Five schools were completed in 2015 and 2016 with a retention capacity of 753,152 gallons per rain event. Construction is planned to begin on six additional schools beginning in 2018.

The District has partnered with the Village of Robbins to develop a plan for stormwater improvements to address flooding along Midlothian Creek impacting approximately 140 acres and over 100 homes. Since flooding issues were identified as a significant barrier to economic opportunities in the Village, a holistic approach to stormwater management has been developed to serve as a catalyst for positive socioeconomic change.

In 2017, the District received 47 project applications for new Green Infrastructure projects. After review, 20 of the projects were selected for partnership with the District. The projects will utilize various GI technologies to reduce flooding impacts in the project areas, including rain gardens, permeable pavement, bioswales, and other similar GI measures which capture and infiltrate stormwater where it falls. These GI projects will be started in 2018, with funding assistance from the District.



Streambank stabilization along Tinley Creek in Crestwood.

Building the Future: Capital Funds & Projects

Capital improvements preserve the useful life or increase the capacity or efficiency of District facilities. Capital projects involve the acquisition, improvement, replacement, remodeling, completion, alteration, construction, and enlargement of District facilities.

Funding for the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) consists of the sale of capital improvements bonds, general property tax revenues, SRF loans, and federal and state grants. The appropriation for the 2018 CIP, which spans the Capital Improvements Bond and Construction Funds, is \$339,063,500. A total of 170 projects funded by the Capital Improvements Bond or Construction Funds will be in the planning, design, or construction phases in 2018. Through proper operation, maintenance, repair, and replacement, the District ensures continued efficient and reliable service and protection of its investment and infrastructure, while meeting necessary permit requirements.

The District’s overall CIP includes 2018 project awards, land, support, future projects, and projects under construction, with a total cost of approximately \$953.3 million, as displayed in the graph below.

Overall Capital Improvement Program



\$325.1 M	34.1%	Projects Under Construction
\$289.8 M	30.4%	2018 Project Awards
\$288.6 M	30.3%	Future Project Awards
\$49.8 M	5.2%	Support & Land Acquisition
\$953.3 M	100%	TOTAL

BUILDING A RESILIENT COOK COUNTY

Flooding continues to be a major issue in Cook County, and since 2011 the District's stormwater management program has been aggressively working to minimize flooding damage by helping communities with local flooding issues, acquiring flood-prone properties, and partnering with municipalities and other local governments on large capital and green infrastructure projects.

Heritage Park, Wheeling

Completed in 2015, the Heritage Park Flood Control Facility in Wheeling provides compensatory storage for the Army Corps of Engineers' Levee 37, which protects over 600 homes and businesses along the Des Plaines River. The facility also provides local stormwater detention and was completed in coordination with the Wheeling Park District's master plan for recreational improvements.



Green Infrastructure, Blue Island

In 2014 and 2015, the District designed and constructed green infrastructure improvements in Blue Island to address urban flooding. These improvements included the construction of six rain gardens and two permeable parking areas.

Wescott Park, Northbrook

The District funded a control system for a 7.5 million gallon underground detention vault constructed at Wescott Park by the Village of Northbrook. The control system enables the use of stored stormwater to irrigate the park instead of entering the local sewer system. The project was completed in 2016.



Streambank Stabilization, Crestwood

To increase the conveyance capacity and stabilize eroded streambanks of Tinley Creek in Crestwood, in 2017 the District completed construction of a flood control and streambank stabilization project which will protect 173 structures, an existing bike path, a commercial building, two pedestrian bridges, and a potable water structure.

Addison Creek Reservoir, Bellwood

To reduce overbank flooding that impacts thousands of structures along Addison Creek from Northlake to Broadview, the District is constructing a 600 acre-foot reservoir which will include control and inlet structures, a spillway, and pump station. This project will be completed in 2020.



Albany Park Tunnel, Chicago

A partnership with the City of Chicago, the Albany Park Tunnel project includes an inlet structure on the North Branch of the Chicago River, an 18 foot diameter rock tunnel, and an outlet on the North Shore Channel. This project, which will reduce overbank flooding that impacts 336 structures, will be completed in 2018.



**Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
of Greater Chicago**

100 East Erie Street • Chicago, IL 60611-3154



mwrdd.org

Front cover: James Wadsworth Elementary School's parking lot was transformed using green infrastructure elements through the Space to Grow partnership with the Chicago Public Schools, Chicago Department of Water Management, Healthy Schools Campaign, and Openlands.