



## Addison Creek Reservoir and Channel Improvement Projects

### Project Overview

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

The Addison Creek Reservoir Project will be constructed at 2795 Washington Blvd. in Bellwood. The project will create a 600 acre-foot reservoir which includes a control structure, inlet structure, spillway and pumping station.

The Addison Creek Channel Improvement Project will be constructed through Northlake, Stone Park, Melrose Park, Bellwood, Westchester and Broadview. The channel improvement 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 alternative solutions were developed for the Addison Creek subwatershed. The Addison Creek Reservoir and Channel Improvement Projects were the most beneficial and cost-effective solutions to address overbank flooding along Addison Creek.

### Intergovernmental Collaboration

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. To construct projects of this nature and magnitude, the MWRD is required to obtain permits and approvals from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Office of Water Resources, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Soil and Water Conservation District and Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. The MWRD is currently in the process of obtaining the necessary permits and approval for the Addison Creek Channel Improvement Project.

The MWRD and Bellwood have an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) for the construction and perpetual maintenance responsibilities of the Addison Creek Reservoir Project. The IGA stipulates that the MWRD will design and construct the reservoir, and the village of Bellwood and MWRD will share the maintenance responsibilities of the reservoir.



Photo taken 6/21/21

Excavation work progresses on the Addison Creek Reservoir to make room for stormwater that formerly flooded the banks of the Addison Creek.

Excavation work progresses on the Addison Creek Reservoir to make room for stormwater that formerly flooded the banks of the Addison Creek. The MWRD has also entered into IGAs for the construction and perpetual maintenance for the Addison Creek Channel Improvements Project. The IGAs stipulate that MWRD will design and construct the channel improvements, and the six benefiting communities (Northlake, Melrose Park, Stone Park, Bellwood, Westchester and Broadview) will be responsible for the long-term maintenance of the channel improvements within their communities.

### Benefits

Of the approximate 2,200 structures that will benefit from reduced overbank flooding, it is estimated that approximately 1,700 structures will be removed from the floodplain, and the projects will provide approximately \$116 million in flood benefits. When the two projects are 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 will be eligible to obtain lower cost premiums on their annual flood insurance policies.

In addition to mitigating flooding, the two projects will improve quality of life further by enhancing green space, including new walking paths and other recreation improvements being coordinated with the local communities. *(continued)*

#### Benefiting Communities

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

#### Benefits

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

#### Completion Dates

- Reservoir and channel improvements completion dates: 2024

## Construction and Status

Construction on the Addison Creek Reservoir started in early 2019 with anticipated completion by late 2022. The construction for the Addison Creek Channel Improvements began in 2021, with anticipated completion in 2024. Flood reduction benefits will be fully achieved when both of these projects are completed.

## Addison Creek Reservoir and Channel Improvement Project Map

