CHAPTER 6

WATERSHED PLANNING

Acronyms used in Chapter 6:

AA_B	Average Annual Benefits
AA_C	Average Annual Costs
AA_D	Average Annual Damages
ABM	Articulated Block Mat
BC	Benefit-to-Cost
CCSMP	Cook County Stormwater Management Plan
CDSA	Critical Duration Storm Analysis
CIP	Capital Improvement Program
CMAP	Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
CUDD	Calumet Union Drainage District
DTM	Digital Terrain Model
DWP	Detailed Watershed Plan
FDA	Flood Damage Assessment
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
HEC	Hydrologic Engineering Center
H&H	Hydrologic and Hydraulic
HSPF	Hydrologic Simulation Program-Fortran
IDNR-OWR	Illinois Department of Natural Resources - Office of Water Resources
IDNR-SWS	Illinois Department of Natural Resources – State Water Survey
IDOT	Illinois Department of Transportation
IEMA	Illinois Emergency Management Agency
IEPA	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
LCSMC	Lake County Stormwater Management Commission
NB	Net Benefits
NCDC	National Climactic Data Center
NRCS	Natural Resource Conservation Service
NWI	National Wetland Inventory
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
PV	Present Value
PV_B	Present Value of Benefits
PV_C	Present Value of Costs
RAS	River Analysis System
SCS	Soil Conservation Service
UAA	User Attainability Analysis
UDV	Unit Day Value
UNET	Unsteady NETwork Model
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USGS	United States Geological Survey
WPC	Watershed Planning Council

CHAPTER 6

WATERSHED PLANNING

6.1 Introduction

A standardized approach to watershed planning is required throughout Cook County to coordinate the District's efforts to implement its Cook County Stormwater Management Plan (CCSMP). Detailed Watershed Plans (DWPs) will be developed for all major watersheds and will serve as standardized documents to help guide the District as it develops a Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Previous planning efforts have been conducted by various organizations, and will be used in the development of DWPs where applicable. This chapter provides guidance for merging findings from previous flood remediation efforts in Cook County with new data and evaluations done to develop effective and consistent DWPs.

6.2 Status of Watershed Planning in Cook County

Local, state, and federal agencies have conducted comprehensive stormwater planning (Table 6.1) efforts as a part of their watershed planning programs for the following watersheds within Cook County: the North Branch of the Chicago River, Lower Des Plaines Tributaries, Calumet-Sag Channel, Little Calumet River, Poplar Creek and Upper Salt Creek. Where possible, previous planning information should be included and built upon in developing DWPs to take advantage of earlier efforts.

6.3 Planning Methodology

6.3.1 Organization of Detailed Watershed Plans

DWPs will serve as the supporting documentation to the District's Stormwater Management CIP. The watershed planning methodologies and standards described herein will be used to develop a DWP for each major watershed in Cook County. The objective is to supply the District with information on existing conditions, stormwater problems, alternative improvements considered to address stormwater problems, and other relevant information necessary to prioritize projects on a countywide level. Table 6.2 is a standard outline of the content to be provided within DWPs.

6.3.2 Data Collection and Review

The initial step in DWP development is the collection and review of existing data. Data that will be collected and reviewed include stormwater problem data, existing watershed studies and models, monitoring data, geographic information systems (GIS) data and other sources of useful watershed mapping.

6.3.3 Use of Existing Data for Detailed Watershed Studies

The DWP report will include a summary of existing watershed data and information. As a part of DWP development, the District will collect and review watershed data from member communities, Watershed Planning Councils (WPCs), applicable state and federal agencies, available complaint records, and other relevant watershed stakeholders. Relevant stormwater data will be compiled within the DWP report. The following subsections provide means of summarizing data regarding stormwater problems (detailed in Section 6.3.3.1) and available studies that have compiled some of the existing stormwater data (detailed in Section 6.3.3.2).

Table 6.1 Summary of Watershed Planning In Cook County

Agency	Description of Watershed Planning
Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Water Resources (IDNR-OWR)	At the request of local governments, IDNR-OWR performs flood control studies to identify flooding problems, analyze alternative solutions, and determine the economic feasibility of those solutions. Plans developed by IDNR-OWR focus on structural flood control measures, but nonstructural flood mitigation alternatives are also examined. IDNR-OWR administers other funding assistance. It has a small-projects program that is often used to address local drainage problems and can fund flood related improvements up to $100,000. A less rigorous quantification of benefits is allowed under this program. Its flood mitigation program administers funds for the acquisition of flood-prone structures and flood mitigation planning. IDNR-OWR is involved in assisting FEMA with the map modernization for Cook County, as explained further in Section 2.5.1.
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA)	IEPA collects water quality and biological data on streams and lakes throughout the state. The data are reported in the biannual *Illinois Water Quality Report,* which documents the level to which water bodies are supporting their designated uses (such as swimming, aquatic life). IEPA also maintains the Illinois Water Quality Management Plan, which offers recommendations for stormwater, soil erosion and sediment control, and stream and wetland best management practices (BMPs). IEPA also provides grants annually for implementation of nonpoint source control plans and demonstration projects. These projects can include BMPs to curtail urban runoff and also instream activities to reduce erosion, sedimentation, and degradation of water quality, as detailed in Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. On the preventive side, activities such as ordinance implementation and workshops on stormwater BMPs have been funded by IEPA. The IEPA Illinois Clean Lakes Program provides annual grants for lake remediation projects where there is a realistic opportunity for restoration and protection for high quality lakes. IEPA encourages a watershed approach in addressing lake remediation and protection.
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	FEMA has several flood hazard mitigation funding programs, administered by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and described in Section 2.5.8. Some FEMA regulatory floodplain maps for Cook County are inadequate. They do not include water surface elevations or they are out of date because of significant land use and other topographic changes. FEMA has initiated a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Modernization Program, which compiles hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) modeling data for selected map panels in Cook County. IDNR-OWR serves as a local sponsor for this project. The data will be included in a countywide modernization of floodplain maps.
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)	CMAP has historically performed watershed planning, including the Area Wide Water Quality Management Plan developed for all the major watersheds in northeastern Illinois under Section 208 of the Clean Water Act. CMAP assists local governments in developing watershed planning. CMAP has produced a watershed inventory (http://www.nipc.org/environment/sustainable/water/watershed/) that includes a list of watershed plans from various sources and active watershed groups.
IDNR, State Water Survey (IDNR-SWS)	IDNR-SWS runs research centers that gather and maintain scientific data resources used in watershed planning. IDNR-SWS is also involved in planning activities for FEMA map modernization.
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)	USACE administers a program for cost-sharing funding for the study, design, and construction of flood control projects. These projects generally are limited to structural flood control measures. If a reconnaissance level study shows that a project is likely to be cost-effective, USACE proceeds with a project analysis, which must be funded locally by 50% matching funds. For approved projects, USACE funds up to

Table 6.1 Summary of Watershed Planning In Cook County

Agency	Description of Watershed Planning
	65% of design and construction costs; the remaining costs are funded by a local or nonfederal sponsor. Sponsors must furnish all required lands, easements, rights-of-way and utility relocations, and also operate and maintain the completed project in perpetuity. Cost-sharing agreements must be negotiated individually with USACE on a project-by-project basis. USACE also provides design services for floodproofing of residences as part of an overall flood control project. This work and most USACE studies are performed with in-house staff.
U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)	NRCS has planned, designed, and constructed flood control facilities to address overbank flooding in the Chicago metropolitan region with local sponsors, including the District. It also has performed floodplain management studies and updated floodplain mapping for local governments. In an effort partially funded by Section 319 of the Clean Water Act under the IEPA's direction, NRCS developed the *Illinois Urban Manual,* a technical reference for developers, planners, engineers, government officials and others involved in land use planning, building site development, and natural resource conservation. Applicable in rural, urban, and developing areas, the manual includes BMPs for soil erosion and sediment control, stormwater management, and special area protection. The manual was updated in 2002.
The District	The District designed and constructed the Tunnel And Reservoir Plan to address combined sewer overflow in the combined sewer areas of Cook County. The District has also been involved in many federal and state flood control projects, serving as the local sponsor or providing other forms of cost-sharing.
Municipalities and Townships	Most stormwater planning within a municipality is performed by the municipality itself or completed under its direction. Planning assistance on larger waterways may be initiated by state and federal agencies. Capital improvement projects that address local drainage problems are typically implemented by municipalities. Many communities within Cook County have ongoing stormwater planning efforts that could contribute to the development of DWPs.
Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD)	Cook County has two Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs); the North Cook County Soil and Water Conservation District and the Will-South Cook Soil and Water Conservation District. The purpose of the SWCDs is to provide information, education and guidance on the conservation and wise use of natural resources.
Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (LCSMC)	SMC conducted a watershed assessment in conjunction with the Friends of the Chicago River. The watershed assessment pertains to the North Branch of the Chicago River within Cook County.
U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)	Through a cooperative program, in which the District participates, the USGS (Illinois Water Science Center) maintains a stream gauging network and publishes an annual report containing daily streamflow data and water quality information for selected sites around the state. The USGS administers funding for site-specific hydrologic and water quality data collection and analysis. Additionally, the USGS provides streamflow, stream elevations, and precipitation data in real-time at http://il.water.usgs.gov/nwis-w/IL/. Some mapping efforts may be fundable through the USGS. USGS funds up to 50% of a project's in-house labor and expenses. On this reimbursable basis, USGS provides technical assistance in developing watershed models and other hydrologic and water quality related assistance. In the past, the USGS has researched and completed studies on emerging technologies in the water resources field.
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)	USEPA provides grants for water quality related planning and demonstration projects under Section 319(h) and 104(b)(3) of the Clean Water Act, as discussed under IEPA's roles and resources in Section 2.5.7. USEPA routinely holds national conferences on stormwater-related topics.

Table 6.2 DWP Standard Outline

1.	Executive Summary
2.	Introduction
2.1	Scope and Approach
2.2	Goals and Objectives
2.3	Jurisdictional Responsibilities
2.4	Organization of Detailed Watershed Study
2.5	Summary of Problem Areas
2.6	Coordination with Watershed Planning Councils
3.	Watershed Characteristics
3.1	General Watershed Description
3.2	Sources of Data
3.2.1	Previous Studies
3.2.2	Floodplain Mapping
3.2.3	Wetland and Riparian Areas Data
3.2.3.1	Wetland Areas
3.2.3.2	Riparian Areas
3.2.4	Water Quality Data
3.2.4.1	Monitoring Data
3.2.4.2	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permits
3.2.4.3	Impaired Waterways
3.2.4.4	Nonpoint-Source Pollution
3.2.4.5	Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDLs)
3.2.5	Stormwater Problem Data
3.2.5.1	Problem Data
3.2.5.2	Watershed Planning Council Coordination
3.2.6	Watershed Analysis Data
3.2.6.1	Monitoring Data
3.2.6.2	Sub-watershed Delineation
3.2.6.3	Drainage Network
3.2.6.4	Topography and Benchmarks
3.2.6.5	Soil Classifications
3.2.6.6	Land use
3.2.6.7	Anticipated Development
3.2.7	Model Selection
4.	Watershed Analysis
4.1	Hydrologic Model Development
4.1.1	Sub-area Delineation
4.1.2	Hydrologic Parameter Measurements and Calibration
4.1.3	Model Setup and Unit Numbering
4.2	Hydraulic Model Development
4.2.1	Field Data, Investigation and Existing Modeling Data
4.2.2	Physical Modeling Assumptions and Computational Settings
4.2.3	Model Setup and Unit Numbering
4.3	Calibration and Verification
4.3.1	Gauge Data
4.3.2	Modifications to Model Input Data
4.3.3	Calibration Results
4.4	Existing Conditions Evaluation
4.4.1	Floodplain Delineation
4.4.2	Hydraulic Profiles

Table 6.2 DWP Standard Outline

	4.5	Future Conditions Evaluation
5.	Development and Evaluation of Alternatives	
	5.1	Problem Definition and Damage Assessment
		5.1.1 Flood Damage Curves
		5.1.2 Erosion Damage Curves
	5.2	Technology Screening
	5.3	Alternative Development
		5.3.1 Flood Control Alternatives
		5.3.2 Erosion Control Alternatives
		5.3.3 Water Quality Improvement Alternatives
		5.3.4 Natural Resources and Environment Improvement Alternatives
		5.3.5 Alternative Cost Development Data
	5.4	Alternative Evaluation and Selection
		5.4.1 Data Required for Countywide Prioritization of Watershed Projects
6.	Action Plan	
	6.1	Recommended Improvements
	6.2	Implementation Plan
7.	Summary and Conclusions	

6.3.3.1 Stormwater Problem Data

DWPs will include a comprehensive summary of stormwater problem data within a standardized table. Table 6.3 summarizes the typical fields required within the DWP watershed problem summary table. The watershed problem summary table will include relevant stormwater problem data compiled as part of DWP development, and recommendations on the use of stormwater problem data. Table 6.4 provides descriptions of standard problem categories to be used as a part of the watershed problem summary table. Additional problem categories may arise and will be considered by the District as necessary during the watershed planning process, however problem categories will generally be consistent with those listed in Table 6.4.

Table 6.3 Structure of Watershed Problem Summary Table for DWPs

Table Field	Description
Problem Category	*Refer to Table 6.4 for list of categories.*
Source of Information	Sources of problem information such as member communities, published reports, state and federal agencies, watershed stakeholders, complaints.
Date	Date upon which data were compiled or published.
Project Planned or Underway	In some cases, efforts are planned or underway to address the problem. Identify this in the table as a consideration on the path forward.
Resolution or Action Required	Describe how the data will be acted upon. Describe resolution or planned resolution of problem.

Table 6.4 Problem Category Description

Problem Category	Description
Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Flooding problems that affect more than one community.
Intracommunity (local) flooding	Flooding problems within a community that affect only part of a single community.
Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	Streambank erosion along regional waterways that threatens a structure or human health and safety.
Streambank erosion on intracommunity (local) waterways	Streambank erosion along local waterways that threatens a structure or human health and safety.
Stream maintenance problems	Debris jams, system failure, restrictions on waterways, etc.
Water quality problems	Observed water quality problems such as odor, spill-related pollution, aesthetically objectionable debris (such as toilet waste), etc.
Environmental degradation issues	Wetland or riparian impacts observed by watershed stakeholders.

6.3.3.2 Existing Watershed Studies

Several local, state, and federal agencies have completed watershed studies and modeling for watersheds within Cook County. Studies and the models used to support them may contain data useful to the development of DWPs. Table 6.5 summarizes some known watershed studies developed by agencies such as IDNR-OWR, USACE, IEPA, or the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). These studies and others will be reviewed as a part of DWP development.

Watershed modeling has been performed for many of the studies listed in Table 6.5. The models may be useful for the development of DWPs or other watershed planning activities to be coordinated by watershed stakeholder groups. Table 6.6 summarizes some of the existing models that were identified for watersheds within Cook County.

IDNR-OWR and IDNR-SWS personnel have identified several other models that have been developed for Cook County watersheds. Many of the models include data that are not fully documented to allow for a complete evaluation of their applicability to DWP development. As a part of developing each DWP, the District will review and discuss the usefulness of existing watershed models for supporting the definition of problem areas, the development and evaluation of improvement projects and possible floodplain mapping revisions. Table 6.7 lists key criteria to be considered in defining the scope of DWP modeling activities.

Table 6.5 Existing Watershed Studies Identified

Watershed	Subwatershed	Title of Study	Agencies	Date	Summary
Calumet-Sag	Stony Creek	Stony Creek, Oak Lawn, Illinois Detailed Project Report	USACE	October 2001	Completed USACE's planning process for a project to reduce overbank flooding along Stony Creek in Oak Lawn. The recommended plan consists of flow diversion, removal of a small weir, and channel clearing downstream.
Calumet-Sag	(Report addresses tributaries)	Calumet-Sag Watershed Floodwater Management Plan Environmental Assessment	The District, NRCS, IDOT (Division of Water Resources)	June 1979	The study estimates floodwater damage in the watershed due to urbanization. It addresses erosion problems, lack of open space and recreational facilities, wetlands, and channel maintenance. Although somewhat dated, the report may be most useful in providing relevant background information.
Chicago River	Chicago River and Waterway System	Draft Use Attainability Analysis (UAA)	IEPA	November 2004	The UAA will help the IEPA understand the changing circumstances of the Chicago River and Waterway System in order to better set water quality standards for the system.
Des Plaines River	Upper Des Plaines River	Final Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement	USACE	June 1999	Evaluated feasibility of, and federal interest in, implementation of a flood damage reduction plan for the Upper Des Plaines watershed located within Lake and Cook Counties. Recommended a plan consisting of the construction of two levee units, expansion of two reservoirs, construction of one lateral storage area, and modification of one earthen dam to add flood storage.
Des Plaines River	Salt Creek TMDLs	Total Maximum Daily Loads for Salt Creek, Illinois	IEPA	October 2004	Describes methods and procedures used to develop chloride and dissolved oxygen TMDLs for Salt Creek. The focus of the report is on water quality, but it contains rainfall, hydrologic, hydraulic, and stream flow information. Salt Creek and its watershed span both Cook and DuPage counties.
Des Plaines River	Farmers/Prairie Creek	Farmers/Prairie Creek Preliminary Strategic Planning Study	IDNR-OWR	October 2005	Studied alternatives for relieving flooding on Farmers/Prairie Creek, a tributary to the Des Plaines River with a watershed in areas of Des Plaines, Park Ridge, Niles, Glenview, and unincorporated Maine Township.
Des Plaines River	Addison Creek	Addison Creek Flood Control Study	IDOT (Division of Water Resources)	1993	Studied existing conditions and alternatives for relieving flooding on Addison Creek, a tributary of Lower Salt Creek. The affected area for the study includes Bellwood, Bensenville, Broadview, Elmhurst, Hillside, Maywood, Melrose Park, North Lake, North Riverside, Stone Park, and Westchester.

Table 6.5 Existing Watershed Studies Identified

Watershed	Subwatershed	Title of Study	Agencies	Date	Summary
Des Plaines River	(Report addresses tributaries)	Des Plaines River Watershed Floodwater Management Plan Environmental Assessment	The District, NRCS, IDOT (Division of Water Resources)	January 1976	The purpose of the study was to reduce flood damage, reduce erosion and sedimentation, protect wildlife habitat, improve water quality, enhance fisheries, provide additional recreation sites and open space. The study includes Lower Salt Creek, located primarily in DuPage County. Recommended flood control facilities, some of which have since been built, are described, as are anticipated impacts. The report contains useful background information.
Little Calumet River	(Report addresses tributaries)	Little Calumet River Watershed Floodwater Management Plan and Environmental Assessment	The District, NRCS, U.S. Forest Service, Illinois Department of Conservation	May 1975	The purpose of the study was to reduce flood damages, provide increased water based recreation, and provide watershed protection and environmental enhancement. Background information may be useful.
Little Calumet River	(Report addresses tributaries)	Little Calumet River Watershed Plan and Environmental Impact Statement	The District, Will-South Cook SWCD, Calumet-Union Drainage District (CUDD), Cook County Board of Commissioners, Villages, Park Districts, IDNR-OWR, NRCS, U.S. Forest Service	November 1978	This study was developed to achieve goals similar to those of the May 1975 study. Planned projects and their impacts are described. Some of the projects have been implemented. Discussion of project impacts is included. Background information is potentially useful.
Lower Des Plaines Tributaries	(Report addresses tributaries)	Lower Des Plaines Tributaries Final Watershed Plan – EIS	The District, SWCDs, NRCS, U.S. Forest Service, Municipalities	September 1987	The purpose of the study was to solve flooding and associated erosion and sedimentation problems, and to address the shortage of water-based recreation. Structural and nonstructural improvement measures are recommended, several of which have been built. Background information may be useful.
North Branch Chicago River	(Report addresses tributaries)	North Branch Chicago River Floodwater Management Plan	The District, NRCS, IDNR-OWR	October 1974	The purpose of the study was to reduce flood damages, provide increased recreational uses, and provide watershed protection and environmental enhancement. The southern limit of the study is Touhy Ave. Alternatives are suggested, including construction of flood control reservoirs that have now been built. The report may be most useful in providing relevant background information.

Table 6.5 Existing Watershed Studies Identified

Watershed	Subwatershed	Title of Study	Agencies	Date	Summary
North Branch Chicago River	(Report addresses tributaries)	North Branch Chicago River Open Space (Green Infrastructure) Plan	LCSMC, Friends of the Chicago River, IDNR-OWR	June 2005	Identifies high quality natural resources recommended for preservation, and open lands suitable for watershed improvement projects. Study is based on analysis of individual parcels. Includes listing of funding sources for land preservation and restoration.
Poplar Creek	(Report addresses tributaries)	Poplar Creek Watershed Floodwater Management Plan Environmental Assessment	The District, NRCS, IDOT (Division of Water Resources)	May 1976	The study estimates floodwater damage in the watershed due to urbanization. It addresses erosion problems, lack of open space and recreational facilities, wetlands, and channel maintenance. Some flood control measures are recommended. Although somewhat dated, the report may be most useful in providing relevant background information.
Upper Salt Creek	(Report addresses tributaries)	Upper Salt Creek Watershed Floodwater Management Plan	The District, North Cook SWCD, Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Villages, Park Districts, IDOT (Division of Water Resources)	May 1973	The purpose of the study was to reduce flood damages and create water related recreation facilities. Five flood control facilities, one multipurpose facility, and channel improvements were recommended and have been implemented. The report contains useful background information.

Table 6.6 Existing Modeling Data For Watersheds Within Cook County

Watershed	Subwatershed	Model Description
Chicago River	Chicago River and Chicago Waterway System	Unsteady flow and water quality model of entire 76-mile navigable waterway system, developed by Marquette University. More information is available at http://www.chicagoareawaterways.org/ Unsteady NETwork Model (UNET) and Hydrologic Simulation Program-Fortran (HSPF) model developed by the USACE.
Des Plaines River	Des Plaines River	Hydrologic Engineering Center-1 (HEC) and HEC-River Analysis System (RAS)
Des Plaines River	Farmers/Prairie Creek	HEC-1 and HEC-RAS
Chicago River	North Branch	HEC-1 and HEC-2
Chicago River	Middle Fork and West Fork	HEC-1 and HEC-2
Little Calumet River	Little Calumet River	HEC-1 and Unsteady-RAS; Illinois Department of Natural Resources-State Water Survey (IDNR-SWS) is updating
Little Calumet River	Stony Creek	HEC-1 and UNET

Table 6.7 Existing Model Use Criteria for DWPs

Category	Criteria for Use in DWPs
Date developed	Model must have been developed reflecting current conditions or have been updated to reflect current conditions unless otherwise accepted by the District to be used for DWPs.
Regulatory acceptance	Model must be the current regulatory model for watershed or otherwise accepted by the District to be used as a part of DWPs.
Data development requirements	Documentation of H&H model data are available and show that the data were developed to be consistent with District and IDNR-OWR minimum standards.
Calibration requirements	Must have been calibrated to a network of rainfall and stream monitoring gauges. Calibration must be documented and show that minimum District standards were met. Alternatively, radar derived precipitation could be used as approved by the District. Exceptions to the calibration requirement must be approved by the District.
Consistency with District modeling application requirements	Must have been developed using a modeling application that meets the District's minimum requirements, or is otherwise approved by the District.

Existing Monitoring Data. Rainfall, stream flow (and stage), and water quality data are available for all the major watersheds within Cook County. Some of the data may be used to support DWP modeling evaluations. Table 6.8 summarizes sources of existing monitoring data. In addition to the data listed, the District collects monitoring data that will be reviewed and utilized as appropriate as a part of DWP development.

Descriptions of USGS stream flowmeters and National Climactic Data Center (NCDC) rain gauge data are provided in Appendixes C and D, respectively.

Geographic Information Systems Data. Several sources of GIS data exist and are available to support watershed planning activities that will occur as a part of DWP development. One primary source of GIS data is Cook County. GIS data from Cook County will be obtained and used as appropriate as a part of DWP development. Section 6.4 identifies several Cook County GIS data sets to be used in DWP development.

Table 6.8 Sources of Existing Monitoring Data

Data	Owning Agency	Description
USGS Stream Flow Data	USGS	USGS stream flow data are available at http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/sw. Appendix C contains a comprehensive list of gauge locations.
IDNR-OWR Stage Data	IDNR-OWR	The IDNR-OWR maintains a network of stage gauges that may have data useful for model calibration.
Rain Gauge Data	IDNR-SWS, NCDC, and USGS	The Cook County Precipitation Network is a dense rain gauge network that the IDNR-SWS has operated in Cook County since the fall of 1989 to provide accurate precipitation data for use in simulating runoff for Lake Michigan diversion accounting. The network consists of 25 rain gauges throughout Cook County, approximately every 5 to 7 miles and representative of the various watersheds within the county. The data are available in digital format at hourly increments from 1989 through 2000, and at 10-minute increments from 2001 to the present. There are 74 locations of rainfall gauges for which data are available within Cook County through the NCDC. Some gauges are no longer active, but past data are available. The time increments of the data vary from gauge to gauge. Table B-1 in Appendix D lists all gauges and information related to the type of data available. Information about obtaining data from all these gauges and associated fees can be found at the NCDC website: http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov. The USGS operates and publishes data from approximately 42 rain gauges in northeastern Illinois, of which 6 are located in Cook County. This data, almost all available in real-time, together with data from other agency rain gauges can be found at http://il.waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/current/?type=precip&group-key=NONE.
Water Quality Monitoring Data	IEPA	Available from the IEPA Ambient Water Quality Monitoring Network of 213 monitoring sites. More information is available at: http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/surface-water/river-stream-mon.html

6.4 Watershed Data Development

New data developed for DWPs must meet the District standards and specifications described in Table 6.9.

Table 6.9 Watershed Data Development Standards And Specifications

Data Type	Standards Documentation	Summary
GIS Data	District GIS Data Development Standards	Data developed to support DWPs will be consistent with latest available District GIS Standards and Specifications.
Survey Data	District Vertical Datum	Survey data will be developed using the NAD 1983 coordinate system with the Chicago City Datum (CCD) for vertical coordinates (579.48 feet above 1925 mean sea level). DWPs will contain a survey standards document subject to District review prior to initiating any field surveys. If necessary, the District may allow changes to these standards in order to be consistent with unique conditions in watersheds such as those that have upstream or downstream boundary condition models that have been developed in a different coordinate system.
Survey Data	FEMA Guidelines	Survey standards will be consistent with FEMA's *Guidelines and Specifications for Flood Hazard Mapping Partners, Appendix A, "Guidance for Aerial Mapping and Surveying*," available at WWW.FEMA.GOV/FHM/DL_CGS.SHTML
DWP Data	Cook County Stormwater Management Plan	All data developed to support DWPs will be consistent with standards provided as a part of this document, or other scoping documents provided by the District.

6.4.1 Watershed Analysis and Floodplain Mapping

The District has developed the following goals for watershed analysis and floodplain mapping that will be applied to the development of DWPs. It is understood that meeting some of these goals may not be possible as a part of DWP development. These goals will be considered and applied wherever the District deems applicable:

- H&H analyses must be consistent with IDNR-OWR and FEMA map revision requirements.
- Hydrology for watershed plans will be determined by a hydrologic model that, where necessary, considers online and offline storage, infiltration, interflow, depressional storage, overland flow, nonuniform rainfall distribution, evapotranspiration, and soil moisture. The output from the hydrologic model must be compatible with the hydraulic model.
- Hydrologic analyses may require cooperative plans for water bodies that cross the District's corporate boundaries, such as the North Branch Chicago River, Little Calumet River, Des Plaines River, Poplar Creek, and Upper Salt Creek.
- Hydraulic conditions for the major watershed plans will be determined by a model that can, at a minimum, analyze the effects of floodplain encroachment, online and offline storage, diversions, channel improvements, bridges, culverts, dams, weirs, and other impediments to flow. The input to the hydraulic model will be compatible with the output from the hydrologic model. Fully dynamic models will be used when channel conditions are extremely flat (for example, slope is less than 5 feet per 1,000) and subject to backwater conditions that make it difficult to approximate storage accurately.

6.4.2 Watershed Modeling

The object of a DWP is to support the development and documentation of a countywide CIP. Understanding stormwater problems and evaluating scenarios to correct them requires the use of models and other watershed analysis tools. The following includes standards for application selection, data development, and calibration of H&H models.

Several steps are involved in applying models to the development of DWPs. First, a model of existing conditions is developed to support calibration and an understanding of existing problems. Second, a baseline conditions model is developed to reflect the conditions expected to be current when the District begins to implement the countywide CIP. This may include modifications to the existing conditions model that reflect projects that are under way and near completion. Finally, the model is modified to evaluate the effectiveness of alternative improvement projects. The guidance provided in Section 6.4.2 applies to all these steps.

6.4.2.1 Screening Considerations

Several H&H modeling applications in the public and private domain are accepted by FEMA and IDNR-OWR to determine floodplain and floodway areas for the National Flood Insurance Program. The applications are summarized in Tables 6.10 and 6.11. Table 6.12 summarizes considerations in the selection of H&H modeling applications. For DWPs, the District will specify the most appropriate H&H modeling application based on the considerations listed in Table 6.12 and specific watershed modeling requirements. In some cases, it may be acceptable to use two or more separate H&H modeling applications within the same DWP.

6.4.2.2 Hydrologic Model Data Development

Hydrologic model data developed as a part of a DWP will be consistent with minimum District standards. District standards have been developed to be consistent with the countywide stormwater management program needs and wherever possible with IDNR-OWR preferences.

Subarea Delineations. Subarea Delineations will be performed using the best available topographic mapping to a level necessary to accurately simulate hydrologic conditions within the watershed. The best available topographic data are those developed by Cook County. Cook County GIS photogrammetry data includes a digital, geospatial GIS file that depicts (through the use of a digital terrain model (DTM), and modeled by a triangulated irregular network) a general surface description for Cook County with a 300-foot buffer beyond the county boundary. The data have been made available to the District and will be used to support Subarea Delineations.

Table 6.10 Hydrologic Models Accepted by FEMA for the National Flood Insurance Program

Type	Program	Developer	Public Domain?
Single event	HEC-1 4.0.1 and upa (May 1991)	USACE	Yes
	HEC-HMS 1.1 and up (March 1998)	USACE	Yes
	MIKE 11 UHM	DHI Water and Environment	No
	PondPack v.8	Haestad Methods, Inc.	No
	SWMM (RUNOFF) 4.30 (May 1994), and 4.31 (January 1997)	USEPA and Oregon State University	Yes

Table 6.10 Hydrologic Models Accepted by FEMA for the National Flood Insurance Program

Type	Program	Developer	Public Domain?
	SWMM 5 Version 5.0.005 (May 2005)	USEPA	Yes
	TR-20 (February 1992)	USDA NRCS	Yes
	TR-20 Win 1.00.002 (Jan. 2005)	USDA NRCS	Yes
	TR-55 (June 1986)	USDA NRCS	Yes
	WinTR-55 1.0.08, (Jan. 2005)	USDA NRCS	Yes
	XP-SWMM 8.52 and up	XP Software	No
Continuous event	DR3M	USGS	Yes
	HSPF 10.10 and up	USEPA, USGS	Yes
	MIKE 11 RR	DHI Water and Environment	No
	PRMS Version 2.1	USGS	Yes
Interior drainage	HEC-IFH 1.03 and up	USACE	Yes

[a]Enhancement of these programs in editing and graphical presentation can be obtained from several private companies.

Note: FEMA periodically updates its list of approved hydrologic models.

Table 6.11 Hydraulic Modeling Applications Accepted by FEMA for the National Flood Insurance Program

Type	Program	Developer	Public Domain?
One-dimensional steady flow models	Culvert Master v.2.0	Haestad Methods, Inc.	No
	HEC-2 4.6.2a(May 1991)	USACE	Yes
	HEC-RAS 3.1.1 and up	USACE	Yes
	HY8 4.1 and up (November 1992)	U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration	Yes
	PondPack v.8	Haestad Methods, Inc.	No
	QUICK-2 1.0 and up (January 1995)	FEMA	Yes
	StormCAD v.4 and v.5	Haestad Methods, Inc.	No
	WSPGW 12.96 (October 2000)	Los Angeles Flood Control District and Joseph E. Bonadiman & Associates, Inc.	No
	WSPRO (June 1988 and up)	USGS, Federal Highway Administration	Yes
	XP-SWMM 8.52 and up	XP Software	No

Table 6.11 Hydraulic Modeling Applications Accepted by FEMA for the National Flood Insurance Program

Type	Program	Developer	Public Domain?
One-dimensional unsteady flow models	FEQ 9.98 and FEQUTL 5.46 (2005, both), FEQ 8.92 and FEQUTL 4.68 (1999, both)	Delbert D. Franz of Linsley, Kraeger Associates; and Charles S. Melching, USGS	Yes
	FLDWAV (November 1998)	National Weather Service	Yes
	FLO-2D v. 2003.6 (July 2003) and 2004.10 (November 2004)	Jimmy S. O'Brien	No
	HEC-RAS 3.1.1 and up	USACE	Yes
	ICPR 2.20 (October 2000) and 3.02 (November 2002)	Streamline Technologies, Inc.	No
	MIKE 11 HD	DHI Water and Environment	No
	Storm Water Management Model (SWMM) 4.30 and 4.31	USEPA and Oregon State University	Yes
	SWMM 5.0.005 (May 2005)	USEPA	Yes
	UNET 4.0	USACE	Yes
	XP-SWMM 8.52 and up	XP Software	No
Two-dimensional steady/unsteady flow models	FESWMS 2DH 1.1 and up	USGS	Yes
	FLO-2D v. 2003.6 (July 2003) and 2004.10 (November 2004)	Jimmy S. O'Brien	No
	MIKE Flood HD 2002 D and 2004	DHI Water and Environment	No
	TABS RMA2 v.4.3 RMA4 v4.5	USACE	Yes
Floodway analysis	PSUPRO	Pennsylvania State University/USACE/FEMA	Yes
	SFD	USACE/FEMA	Yes

[a] Enhancement of these programs in editing and graphical presentation can be obtained from several private companies.

Note: FEMA periodically updates its list of approved hydraulic models.

Table 6.12 H&H Modeling Application Selection Considerations

Consideration	Description
Familiarity to regulatory community	FEMA requirements for modeling to support regulatory floodplain mapping do not exclude the use of many models, but it is clear that many are more acceptable to regulatory review staff than others. The familiarity of regulatory staff at IDNR-OWR and FEMA will be considered as a part of specific H&H modeling application selection.
User base for consistent type of projects	It is common for modelers to look to a broader community of users for advice and support as a part of modeling projects. For example, a SWMM users' e-mail group is commonly used to troubleshoot problems with the application and draw upon the experience of a broad group of users. SWMM users commonly are focused on the application of SWMM to sewer system evaluations. Similar user groups exist for Hydrologic Engineering Center (HEC) modeling applications. Local, regional, and national training seminars and conferences focus on some applications more than others. The existence of an active user base will be considered in the selection of a modeling application.
History of use on floodplain mapping projects	This will be considered as part of the modeling application selection to project ease of permitting for any regulatory activities. The use of an application for projects similar to those faced by the District likely will lead to tools and support programs developed by others that will benefit the District. HEC is the most commonly used national tool for supporting flood control programs similar to the District.
Number of options for simulating open channel hydraulics	Having several options for modeling open channel hydraulics allows for a more accurate representation of field conditions. HEC applications have extensive bridge and culvert crossing options that allow users to develop confidence in results through the application of alternative hydraulic simulation approaches.
Consistency with data developed for existing regulatory models	It may be important to integrate new modeling with existing models. The ability of model output to be used between models may be important. Conversations with IDNR-OWR and experience in the area confirms that HEC software is the most commonly applied modeling application for flood control projects and regulatory floodplain mapping. This is an important consideration in the selection of any modeling application for the District's Stormwater Management Program.
Ability to perform fully dynamic unsteady flow analysis	This may be an important feature that could affect the model results and magnitude of flood control projects identified as a part of this program. Because of the flat terrain of Cook County and surrounding areas, the regulatory floodplains and floodways contain significant storage volumes. Traditional modeling applications use approaches that simulate this storage in a simplified and typically conservative manner. Fully dynamic unsteady flow modeling applications allow for a more explicit simulation of this storage that often leads to results showing more accurate lower floodway elevations.
Availability of vendor provided proprietary interface applications that enhance usability of product	Some models include proprietary modules to increase the functionality of the model. This may be useful as modeling exercises become more complex.
GIS interface capabilities	An important component of watershed modeling will be to integrate the application with GIS software. Most modeling applications listed in Tables 6.10 and 6.11 have GIS interfaces that have been developed to support data development and visualization.

Subarea boundaries will be developed as closed polygons with attribute data that at a minimum include their watershed designation, model name, total area and source of data used for delineation and any other fields specified by the District. Subarea delineation data will be in a format compatible with the District's stormwater GIS. The overall watershed delineation developed as a part of DWPs will be used as the District's official watershed delineation for administrative as well as technical purposes.

Rainfall Data. Observed and design event rainfall data may be used to support H&H modeling performed as a part of a DWP. Observed rainfall data are used as a part of hydrologic model data calibration. Two approaches are typically used to define observed rainfall data. These are the use of rain gauge data or rainfall data developed using radar technology. Both approaches are acceptable and will be used where appropriate as a part of DWPs developed by the District. Table 6.13 specifies how observed rainfall data will be used. Design event rainfall data are used to define flood damages, evaluate alternative improvement projects, and recommend capital improvements. Observed and design event rainfall data developed and used as a part of a DWP will be organized in a database format. Fields required in the table where rainfall data are stored will include year, month, day, hour, minute, and depth (inches).

GIS applications will be used to determine influence areas for rainfall data. For rain gauges, GIS applications will be used to develop Theissen polygon areas that can be intersected with subarea delineations to assign rainfall data for hydrologic modeling. Theissen polygon areas will be created in a GIS format consistent with District standards. If radar derived rainfall data are used, influence areas of rainfall data sets will be provided to the District in a GIS format consistent with District standards.

Table 6.13 Observed Rainfall Data Utilization Criteria

Source of Observed Rainfall Data	Criteria for Application
Rain gauges	Rain gauges that log rainfall data on a 10- to 15-minute increment will be used to support hydrologic model data calibration during storms where spatial distribution of rainfall appears to be adequately captured by the rain gauge network in place. The Cook County Precipitation Network operated by IDNR-SWS records data at 10-minute increments at 25 rain gauges (see Table 6.8). Research was developed to determine the appropriate minimum spacing and coverage requirements, which determined the locations of the rain gauges.
Radar-derived rainfall data	Radar derived rainfall data may be used in large watersheds where the rain gauge network in place is unlikely to sufficiently define the spatial distribution of rainfall occurring over the watershed. The District will review the existing and proposed rain gauge network and historic spatial rainfall distribution patterns to provide justification for the use of radar derived rainfall data.

Design Event Rainfall Data. Design event rainfall data are used as a part of the H&H modeling that is performed to support the identification of flooding problem areas, flood damage curves and the development and evaluation of alternative improvement projects. The standard source of rainfall depth and distribution data for H&H model evaluations will be the sectional frequency distribution of rainfall for given recurrence intervals as listed in Bulletin 70 or Bulletin 71 with Huff Distribution or the data most recently adopted by IDNR-OWR for use in hydrologic modeling. Bulletin 71 provides guidance on which Huff distribution will be used (1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th quartiles) with storms of various durations.

To determine the critical or most extreme duration storm for each recurrence interval storm considered as a part of DWP development, a critical duration analysis will be conducted. To be consistent with IDNR-OWR requirements, the critical duration analysis must include at least the simulations of 1-, 3-, 6-, 12- and 24-hour duration storms.

Infiltration Rates and Capacities. The most common method used to determine loss rates and runoff volumes in Cook County has been the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) Curve Number method. The method is acceptable for the hydrologic modeling that is performed as part of a DWP. Other methods may be used when appropriate at the discretion of the District. When using the SCS Curve Number method, the modeler will follow guidance contained in Urban Hydrology for Small Watersheds (USDA NRCS, TR-55, June 1986) or as approved by the District.

Runoff and Overland Flow Parameters (Existing and Future). Impervious area coverage, aerial photography, topographic mapping, soils groups mapping and other soils data, land use mapping, and other land use data all will be used to determine watershed areas, flow paths, slopes, lengths, time of concentration, and any other parameters necessary to support developing stormwater runoff hydrographs consistent with the guidance within USDA NRCS TR-55 or as approved by the District.

Unit Hydrograph/Routing. Unit hydrographs acceptable for routing runoff include SCS dimensionless, Clark, or Snyder. A user-specified unit hydrograph may be used for a watershed if enough quality data are available for it to be properly derived from observed rainfall and runoff.

6.4.2.3 Hydraulic Model Data Development

Channel Cross Section Data. Channel cross sections used within hydraulic modeling applications will be obtained through field surveys that meet survey standards described in Table 6.9. Field survey efforts will include the determination of the appropriate Manning's roughness parameters based on observations of characteristics that include surface roughness, vegetation, channel size, channel shape, channel alignment, and obstructions. If observed water surface profile information is available in the form of gauge data, calibration of Manning's "n" values is possible and desirable.

Open Channel Hydraulics by V. T. Chow (McGraw-Hill 1959; reissued 1988) contains excellent guidance for determining Manning's "n" values for a wide range of rivers and streams. The USGS Illinois Water Science Center has computed Manning's "n" values at many representative urban and rural sites in Illinois, available at http://il.water.usgs.gov/proj/nvalues/. Figure E-1 in Appendix E is an example of the type of form to be used to document Manning's "n" values in the field. Separate Manning's "n" values are generally appropriate to be used for the channel and the overbanks. The typical channel cross section template form in Figure E-2 in Appendix E is an example of the type of form that will be used to gather cross-sectional data during a survey.

Bridge and Culvert Crossings. Bridges and culverts generally will be modeled as existing. For the baseline conditions model, bridge or culvert replacement projects that are under construction or in the late stages of the planning process and unlikely to be revised may be modeled as proposed. The model must account for bridge deck, piers, abutments, and embankment side slopes.

Storage Areas. Storage areas that are simulated as a part of hydraulic modeling will be represented with stage-area or stage-volume relationships developed from best available topographic information and discharge rating curves developed according to hydraulic properties of the controlling device.

Downstream Boundary Conditions. Downstream boundary conditions for hydraulic analysis will be based on known water surface elevations when available. If the water surface elevation is unknown at the downstream end of the study reach, normal depth will be used at a location further downstream so as not to have influence on the profile. To test whether the starting cross section is sufficiently downstream for a given discharge, the distance is varied until the water elevation at the project boundary does not change appreciably, which indicates that the profile will not be affected by the starting elevation.

6.4.2.4 Steady State vs. Unsteady Flow Analysis

If there is reason to believe that a steady-state model would inadequately represent actual hydraulic conditions, such as extremely flat slopes (Froude number < 0.1) or flow restrictions that may cause significant storage within the channel or situations with reverse flow, then unsteady-state modeling will be considered and used where necessary.

6.4.2.5 Critical Duration Storm Analysis

A critical duration storm analysis (CDSA) will be performed and documented as a part of design event simulations performed to develop flood damage curves. A CDSA is performed for each problem area to identify the duration storm that produces the critical water surface elevation and level of damage. CDSA involves running a range of duration storm events for a given recurrence interval to determine which duration storm is critical. Generally, this duration is somewhere near the time of concentration of the watershed tributary to a given point. The IDNR-OWR generally requires a CDSA as a part of the regulatory map revision process.

6.4.2.6 Model Calibration and Verification

Calibration must be performed in developing defensible H&H models representative of actual conditions. High water marks, historic floods, or other stream gauge data will be used to compare with model results and adjust model parameters, typically the roughness coefficients. The final calibrated model must not contain model parameters outside their "reasonable" bounds, although it may be permitted when performing model sensitivity analyses. If enough data exist, the model will be validated by comparing calibrated model results to a set of data that was not included in the calibration.

H&H model data will be calibrated to a point where the runoff volume and stream flow rates are within roughly 30 percent of the data recorded at stream gauges. Water surface elevations will match within 6 inches. In some cases, where rain gauge data are used to support calibration, it is not possible to adjust H&H model data with confidence when the spatial distribution of rainfall appears to be inadequately captured and reflected in the model.

6.4.3 Floodplain Mapping

To ensure that H&H modeling performed as a part of a DWP can be utilized for future FEMA FIRM remapping efforts, the District will require that all modeling performed be consistent with current IDNR-OWR and FEMA standards. Both agencies have published standards that will be followed: *Floodplain Map Revision Manual* (March 1996) published by IDNR-OWR and *Guidelines and Specifications for Flood Hazard Mapping Partners* published by FEMA, available at http://www.fema.gov/fhm/gs_main.shtm. It is not a specific goal of the DWPs to replace or revise the current FEMA FIRM maps. However, if a substantial error in the current regulatory maps is identified during a DWP, the District may consider requesting a map revision from FEMA. As the CIP progresses, a decision will be made as to whether the District or the benefiting local government entity will pursue map revisions necessary to reflect the implementation of future flood control projects.

6.5 Problem Area Identification

Stormwater problem areas will be identified through stakeholder involvement, such as WPC meetings, discussion with other agencies, and logs of complaints. They will also be identified and confirmed as a part of the DWP. DWP reports will summarize relevant and known stormwater problem areas and also watershed analyses to confirm the magnitude of flooding problems.

6.5.1 Flooding Problem Areas

Flooding problems are defined as flooding of residential, commercial, industrial and public buildings, or transportation facilities that are critical to the economy and emergency services. H&H models will be the primary method for evaluating flooding problem areas. H&H models will be used to define water surface elevations for the 2-, 5-, 10-, 25-, 50-, 100-, and 500-year recurrence interval design storms. These elevations will be compared with top of foundation and first floor elevations for properties within the floodplain to develop flood damage curves. The methodology for developing flood damage curves and data required to support them are described in Section 6.6.

In some instances flooding may result from non-riverine sources, such as depressions in the ground surface that are inundated by the water table. The majority of such depressional flooding instances are expected to be confined to a single community, and therefore will not be addressed in a DWP. However, cases where depressional inundation results in inter-community flooding will be addressed with the DWP, in conjunction with the District, on a case by case basis.

6.5.2 Erosion Problem Areas

Erosion problems are defined as streambank erosion along waterways that could result in property damage or a risk to human health and safety. As part of a DWP, the District will require an evaluation of streambank conditions to generally identify areas where erosion appears to meet these criteria. Special attention will be paid to areas where the District or other stakeholders have received complaints about erosion problems that are threatening structures or posing a risk to human health and safety. The District will visit the erosion problem areas identified and document existing conditions to support the evaluation of alternatives. Site visits will include the collection of survey data that is necessary to prepare conceptual level plans and cost estimates for alternative improvement scenarios.

6.5.3 Maintenance Problem Areas

Maintenance problems are defined as restrictions on drainage caused by accumulation of debris. They will be identified through field visits by District staff or through stakeholder identification. Further information on maintenance can be found in Section 5.4. Efforts to identify the agencies responsible for maintenance within the watershed will be undertaken in the DWPs.

6.5.4 Water Quality Problem Areas

Water quality problem areas are identified in the IEPA's 303d Report. As discussed in Chapter 4, the report provides a comprehensive summary of waterways within the state of Illinois where water quality standards or listing criteria are not met. Water quality benefits provided by projects planned as a part of DWPs will be shown in qualitative terms as a part of the documentation of improvement projects identified. During development of the draft CCSMP, the District went to great lengths to identify methods accepted by other agencies, such as the USACE and the IDNR-OWR, for determining the economic value of ecosystem impacts and water quality improvement to no avail. Therefore, until an acceptable method is identified and approved by the District, the water quality improvement and ecosystem impact facets of a project will be considered as non-economic factors.

6.5.5 Wetlands, Floodplains, and Riparian Environment at Risk

Wetland, floodplain, and riparian areas will be identified as a part of a DWP. Wetland areas are identified on National Wetland Inventory (NWI) mapping. GIS data for NWI mapping are available on the Web (http://www.fws.gov/nwi/) for download and incorporation into DWPs. Floodplain areas are delineated for many of the Cook County regional waterways and will be summarized as a part of a DWP.

Riparian zones generally are not delineated for Cook County waterways and will be defined as a part of a DWP. Wherever possible, a desktop evaluation of aerial photography or other available field data will be the method for identifying riparian zones. Riparian zones generally are defined as the interfaces between terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. For the purpose of DWP development, riparian areas will be defined as any vegetated area adjacent to a waterbody that is occasionally inundated by floodwaters resulting in periodic hydric soil conditions. The frequency of inundation impacts the nutrient loads of riparian areas, as well as the soil conditions and plant community composition. The 10-yr delineated floodplain will be used to characterize inundation. For stream reaches where flood frequency data is not available, riparian delineation will attempt to capture the functional relationship between periodic inundation and species diversity in the floodplain.

6.6 Estimates of Existing Damage

Estimating existing damages is the first step in defining the extent of problem areas. Damage estimates defined as a part of a DWP will focus on the economic damages caused by flooding and streambank erosion. Economic damages are estimated by summing damages from four categories:

- Property damage resulting from flooding (residential and commercial)
- Streambank erosion damage
- Transportation damage
- Recreation damage

The following subsections provide guidance on the economic valuation of damages and benefits that will be included as a part of DWP development.

6.6.1 Property Damage

Property damage caused by flooding includes structural damage to buildings (residential, commercial, industrial, and public) and loss of building contents (equipment, furnishings, raw materials, and inventory). The extent of property damage depends on the severity of the flood. For riverine flooding typical of Cook County, severity is dictated primarily by flooding levels and by high flow velocities and the duration of flooding. A floodplain inventory is necessary to understand the assets that are at risk. H&H modeling is used to define water surface elevations for several storm events of varying probability of occurrence and to understand the impact on properties within the floodplain.

Table 6.14 summarizes data requirements for this analysis and suggested data sources. Several public domain applications are available to support the development of average annual damages (AA_D) curves using the data listed in Table 6.14 and consistent with the USACE's National Economic Development (NED) methodology.

Table 6.14 Property Damage Calculations

Data Requirement	Source
Flood stage elevations for 2-, 5-, 10-, 25-, 50-, and 100-year storms.	H&H modeling based on guidance contained in Section 6.4. For DWPs, flood stage elevation (floodplain boundaries) will be developed consistent with GIS standards and specifications provided by the District.
Surveyed property and structure Locations	Based on surveys performed during DWP development or acceptable estimates based on topographic data and visual inspections.
Zero-damage elevations for each structure	Based on surveys performed during DWP development or acceptable estimates based on topographic data and visual inspections.
Assessed value of each asset	Cook County tax parcel data.
Valuation of contents of structures	Recommended assumptions: For residential structures, contents are 50% of the replacement value of the structure. For commercial, industrial, or public facilities, contents are 90% of the replacement value of the structure. More specific information can be substituted, if it can be easily obtained through interviews or additional data gathering.

In general, based on the flood stage calculated using H&H models, damages are calculated for six storm events: 2-, 5-, 10-, 25-, 50-, and 100-year. Once the damages are calculated, a damage curve is developed by plotting the value of damages versus the exceedance probability. The AA_D value, which can be determined by calculating the area under the damage curve, is essentially the sum of all the damages weighted by their probability of occurrence.

Appendix F contains a more detailed description of the NED methodology for determining property damages including the development of damage curves and performing benefit-to-cost (BC) analysis.

6.6.2 Streambank Erosion Damage

Streambank erosion damage will be calculated in a manner similar to property damage calculations. Surveys performed by the District will determine where streambank erosion is likely to cause property damage. In such cases, the valuation of the structure and the contents of structures deemed to be at imminent risk will be included. Therefore, frequency determinations are unnecessary, and evaluations will focus on effectiveness for the full range of expected flows, particularly bank full-flow ranges. Only actual property damage to structures will be included in the damage calculation. Loss of land will not be considered.

6.6.3 Transportation Damage

The following damages in the transportation category will be quantified for the purposes of damage assessment:

- Physical damages to roads, bridges, traffic signal installations, and sewers
- Emergency response costs
- Traffic delay or disruption

Transportation damages will be calculated using the following tiered approach:

Tier 1—If avoided transportation damages are not expected to be a significant component of the project, then a 15 percent markup of total property damage should be used to account for indirect damages. This methodology is consistent with the IDNR-OWR's common approach to damage assessment, which includes physical damages, emergency response costs, and traffic delays or disruptions, and is intended to cover such costs as public works staff time, lost wages for residents, and other associated damages.

Tier 2—If the traffic delay component of the project is expected to be more significant, then a more detailed traffic delay analysis will be performed and included as an addition to the 15 percent markup. The methodology used for this analysis will be site-specific and will be approved by the District.

Tier 3—If historic information obtained during DWP preparation shows that flooding in the area has been known to cause significant transportation damage, then project-specific transportation damage curves will be developed in place of the 15 percent markup. An example of this may be that bridges in a particular project area are of high value and vulnerable to flood damages; therefore, the 15 percent markup would not be high enough to account for the damage expected to these bridges. These project-specific damages will be calculated using the formula

$$D_x = F_x Q_x$$

where:

D_x = the monetary damages derived from a particular flood event; e.g., damages for a 2-year flood
F_x = multiplication factor incorporating cost; e.g., cost of project-specific bridge replacement
Q_x = the quantity of the particular facility affected by the flood event; e.g., number of bridges affected by the flood

Specific cost factors and inputs to be used to calculate damages for each transportation cost component will be developed using historic information. As with property damages, transportation damages will be calculated for each flooding event, developed into a damage curve, and then converted into an AA_D. The AA_D is determined by calculating the area under the damage curve. Appendix F contains a detailed explanation of this procedure.

6.6.4 Recreation Damages and Benefits

Recreation damages are incurred through the loss of the use of parks, forest preserves, or other recreational facilities. Recreation benefits can accrue from damages avoided and by the creation of recreation areas as part of a flood control project. Several methods have been developed to calculate recreational damage/benefit. The unit day value (UDV) method will be used for recreational damage or benefit calculation as a part of DWPs. The UDV method relies on annually published studies by the USACE that estimate dollar damages per day ($ person-day) that are accrued based on a point rating. The point rating system includes five criteria related to: available activities, facilities, relative scarcity, ease of access, and aesthetics. Appendix G contains USACE's 2006 published study, which is updated annually. The general formula for calculating damages is:

$$D_x = F_x V_x L_x$$

where:

D_x = the monetary damages derived from a particular flood
F_x = multiplication factor incorporating the UDV
V_x = the average number of daily visitors to a recreational facility
L_x = Length of impact in days

Unless site-specific information can be readily developed, the values contained in Appendix H (Table H-1) will be used to calculate recreational damages or benefits. This table will be evaluated annually to determine if updates are required.

Similar to property and transportation damages, recreation damages must be calculated for each flood event, developed into a damage curve, and then converted into an AA_D for recreation facilities. The AA_D can be determined by calculating the area under the damage curve. Appendix F contains a detailed explanation of the procedure.

6.6.5 Final Calculation

Once damages are calculated for each flood event, a damage curve will be developed for the sum of all damages from each category, and then converted into an overall AA_D. The AA_D can be determined by calculating the area under the damage curve. Appendix F contains a more detailed explanation of this procedure. Table 6.15 summarizes the valuation of damages and benefits proposed in the sections above.

Table 6.15 Summary Recommendation for Economic Valuation

Type of Damage and Benefit	Description	Valuation Method
Property Damage from Flooding		
Residential property —structural damage	Avoided structural damage to residences.	Follow USACE NED guidance. Use HEC-Flood Damage Assessment (FDA) or IDNR-OWR's damages model. Property valuation will be based on assessed value obtained from Cook County tax records.
Residential property—contents	Avoided damage to contents within residences.	Assume 50% of structural damage to account for residential contents.
Industrial commercial property—structural damage	Avoided structural damage to industrial/commercial property.	Follow USACE NED guidance. Use HEC-FDA software or IDNR-OWR's damages. Research individual building types through interviews and other data collection.
Industrial/ commercial property—contents	Avoided damage to contents within industrial/commercial property.	Assume 90% of structural damage unless information can be obtained through interviews and other data collection.

Table 6.15 Summary Recommendation for Economic Valuation

Type of Damage and Benefit	Description	Valuation Method
Streambank Erosion Damage		
Erosion damage	Damages from erosion.	Similar to structural damage, except include damage in areas where erosion is the cause of structural damage rather than flooding. Only structural damage will be included in the valuation, loss of land will not be considered.
Transportation Damage		
Transportation—physical damage and emergency response costs	Physical damage to roads, bridges, and utilities, as well as damages resulting from police, fire and emergency rescue costs.	Assume 15% of property damages (structural plus contents) for indirect transportation damages (this includes both physical damage and emergency response costs).
Transportation damage—operation and delay costs	Damage from additional vehicle operation, and loss of productivity.	Operational delay is considered when the flood elevation reaches 0.5 foot above the low roadway elevation. If significant, estimate damages based on estimated cost of delay.
Transportation damage—vehicles	Damage to vehicles.	Not included for District transportation damage calculations. Assume most vehicles will be removed from flooded areas before damage can occur.
Other damages—income loss	Damage from lost wages of workers that cannot be transferred out of a flooded area.	Not included. Assume that work can be transferred out of the flooded area. (*Note:* The likelihood of an event extreme enough to cause income loss is small.)
Other damages — relocation costs	Damages from additional living expenses of residences required to temporarily relocate.	Not included for District transportation damage calculations. Assume that living expenses are small relative to property damage.
Recreation Damage and Benefit		
Parks and forest preserves	Damage incurred from the loss of use of parks, forest preserves, or other recreation areas. Benefits accrued from the development of new recreation areas created by an alternative will be valued (see Section 6.6.4)	USACE Economics Guidance Memorandum, 07-03 dated November 20, 2006, unit day values for recreation, fiscal year 2007, which estimates $/person-recreation day. This calculation can be used to calculate damages in recreation areas as well as benefit from recreation area created.
Wetland and Riparian Areas		
Wetlands and riparian habitat	Existing damage to wetlands and riparian habitats will not be included in the baseline damages valuation. Damage caused by an alternative will be mitigated and included in the overall cost of an alternative. Benefit from additional wetlands or riparian habitat created by an alternative will be valued (see Section 6.7.3.1).	Not included in damage calculation. For benefit calculations use the market rate of wetlands and riparian habitat from a wetland bank in the appropriate watershed.
Water Quality		
Water quality	Damages from impaired water quality, both ecological and regulatory.	Not included until an acceptable method is developed.

6.7 Alternative Development and Evaluation

Once problem areas are defined (Section 6.5) and damages quantified (Section 6.6), then alternatives to reduce the damages associated with the problems will be developed and evaluated. Several alternatives will be developed and evaluated for each problem area. For flooding problem areas, alternatives will provide a varying level of protection. In other words, some alternatives will address lower recurrence interval storms such as the 15-year storm, and others will address higher recurrence interval storms such as the 100-year storm. Once alternatives are developed, they will be evaluated based on their BC ratio or net benefit.

The enacting legislation, Public Act 93-1049, in which authority was granted to the District for the responsibilities of stormwater management for Cook County, stipulates that BC analysis is required during deliberations for capital project selection. However, the District's Board of Commissioners is not required to select projects solely on BC analysis. They may also decide to consider noneconomic criteria in the selection of alternatives for each problem areas. Information about noneconomic criteria will be summarized for each project so that it can be included as a consideration in the countywide prioritization of stormwater improvement projects. The ultimate decision for funding of any capital project is at the discretion of the District's Board of Commissioners.

Section 6.7 is generally organized according to the steps to be followed as a part of alternative development and evaluation. Alternative development and evaluation will be performed as a part of DWPs. Table 6.16 summarizes the general steps for development and evaluation of alternatives.

Table 6.16 Summary of Alternative Development Sections

CCSMP Section Number	Alternative Development and Evaluation Step	General Overview
6.5	Define problem areas	Use guidance in Section 6.5 to identify and define the magnitude of problem areas.
6.7.1	Identify alternatives	Use technology guidance provided in Section 6.7.1 and information on watershed to identify alternatives that can help resolve problems in problem areas.
6.7.2	Evaluate alternatives	Evaluate alternatives for effectiveness addressing problem areas. This will primarily focus on the evaluation of the effectiveness of flood control alternatives using H&H modeling consistent with protocol established in Section 6.4. Streambank erosion control alternatives will focus on bank-full conditions.
6.7.3	Estimate conceptual cost of alternatives	Use unit costs, markups, and other guidance provided by the District to estimate the conceptual cost of alternatives.
6.7.3	Evaluate cost-effectiveness of alternatives	Use the damages defined in Section 6.6 and the conceptual cost estimates to determine the BC ratio for each alternative. Use the BC ratio to determine whether alternatives address problem areas cost-effectively.
6.8	Summarize recommended projects for each problem area and define noneconomic criteria	Develop lists of projects recommended throughout the watershed for each problem area. Alternatives that have the highest BC ratio (net benefit) generally will be recommended for each problem area. Also summarize noneconomic data for each problem area to be used as a part of District's countywide prioritization of improvement projects.

6.7.1 Technology Guidance and Alternative Identification

Many acceptable technologies can be used alone or in combination to form project alternatives to remediate existing stormwater problems. Where opportunities exist, projects funded by the District will incorporate BMPs that provide secondary water quality benefits. Section 6.7.1 provides guidance on the use of technologies in developing alternatives to remediate flooding and erosion problems.

6.7.1.1 Flood Control Technologies

As described in Section 6.5, flooding problems occur when flood waters reach structures, transportation facilities, utilities, critical facilities, or recreation areas. Damages arise from the effects on the facilities and their contents, as well as the consequences of loss of service. Table 6.17 contains descriptions of technologies that can remediate flooding problems and also general guidance on their use for the development of alternatives. The technologies will be used as appropriate for the development of flood control alternatives as a part of a DWP.

Technologies listed in Table 6.17 are summarized in terms of their ability to remediate flooding problems. It is assumed that these technologies would be implemented along with a regulatory program that requires measures to prevent future flooding problems. Without measures to prevent future flooding problems, such as site discharge restrictions, the technologies may not prove as effective in the future as when they originally were designed and implemented.

Table 6.17 Summary of Flood Control Options

Flood Control Option	Description
Detention/Retention	
Detention facilities	Impoundments to temporarily store stormwater. This centralized technology includes wet basins, stormwater wetlands, regional facilities, and flood control reservoirs.
Retention facilities (Wet basins)	Impoundments to permanently store stormwater and remove it through infiltration and evaporation. Retention facilities generally have an outfall to the receiving waterway that is located at an elevation above the permanent pool.
Underground detention	A specialized form of storage where stormwater is detained in underground facilities such as vaults or tunnels.
Bioretention	Decentralized microbasins distributed throughout a site or watershed to control runoff close to where it is generated. Runoff is detained in the bioretention facilities and infiltrated into the soil and removed through evapotranspiration.
Conveyance Improvement	
Culvert/bridge re-placement	Enhancement of the hydraulic capacity of culverts or bridges serving as stream crossings through size increase, roughness reduction, and removal of obstacles (for example, piers).
Channel improvement	Enhancement of the hydraulic capacity of channels by enlarging cross sections (for example, floodplain enhancement), reducing roughness (for example, lining), or channel realignment.
Flood Barriers	
Levees	Earth embankments built along rivers and streams to keep flood waters within the channel.
Floodwalls	Vertical walls typically made of concrete or other hard materials built along rivers and streams to keep flood waters within the channel.
Relocation	
Buyouts	Acquisition and demolition of properties in the floodplain to eliminate flood damages.
Building relocation	Relocation of buildings (typically houses) to higher ground to remove them from the floodplain. This technology requires purchasing new land and transporting buildings to new locations.
Elevation	Modification of a structure's foundation to elevate the building above a given flood level. Typically applied to houses.
Floodproofing	
Dry floodproofing	Installation of impermeable barriers and flood gates along the perimeter of a building to keep flood waters out. Typically deployed around commercial and industrial build-ings that cannot be elevated or relocated.
Wet floodproofing	Implementation of measures that do not prevent water from entering a building but minimize damages; for example, utility relocation and installation of water resistant materials.

Note that sometimes applications of flood control technologies to address problems in one location may aggravate problems in another location (for example, conveyance improve-ments reduce flooding upstream but may worsen conditions downstream). Therefore, the potential applications of flood control technologies to address problems will not be analyzed in isolation. No alternative recommended as a part of a DWP may create negative impacts within the watershed or outside of the watershed, including areas lying outside of Cook County.

6.7.1.2 Erosion Control Technologies

As described in Section 6.5, streambank erosion can result in property damage or a risk to human health and safety. Damages arise from the effects on the facilities and their contents, as well as the consequences of loss of service. A description of appropriate technologies that can remediate existing streambank erosion problems and general guidance on their utilization for the development of alternatives, is presented in Table 6.18.

Table 6.18 Streambank Erosion Control Options

Control Option	Description
Natural (vegetated or bioengineered) stabilization	The stabilization and protection of eroding overland flow areas or streambanks with selected vegetation using bioengineering techniques. The practice applies to natural or excavated channels where the streambanks are susceptible to erosion from the action of water, ice, or debris and the problem can be solved using vegetation. Vegetative stabilization is generally applicable where bankfull flow velocity does not exceed 5 ft/sec and soils are more erosion resistant, such as clayey soils. Combinations of the stabilization methods listed below and others may be used.
Vegetating by sodding, seeding or planting	Establishing permanent vegetative cover to stabilize disturbed or exposed areas. Required in open areas to prevent erosion and provide runoff control. This stabilization method often includes the use of geotextile materials to provide stability until the vegetation is established and able to resist scour and shear forces.
Vegetated armoring (joint planting)	The insertion of live stakes, trees, shrubs and other vegetation in the openings or joints between rocks in a riprap or articulated block mat (ABM). The object is to reinforce riprap or ABM by establishing roots into the soil. Drainage may also be improved through extracting soil moisture.
Vegetated cellular grid (erosion blanket)	Lattice-like network of structural material installed with planted vegetation to facilitate the establishment of the vegetation, but not strong enough to armor the slope. Typically involves the use of coconut or plastic mesh fiber (erosion blanket) that may disintegrate over time after the vegetation is established.
Reinforced grass systems	Similar to the vegetated cellular grid, but the structural coverage is designed to be permanent. The technology can include the use of mats, meshes, interlocking concrete blocks, or the use of geocells containing fill material.
Live cribwall	Installation of a regular framework of logs, timbers, rock, and woody cuttings to protect an eroding channel bank with structural components consisting of live wood.
Structural stabilization	Stabilization of eroding streambanks or other areas by use of designed structural measures. Structural stabilization is generally applicable where flow velocities exceed 5 ft/sec or where vegetative streambank protection is inappropriate.
Riprap	A section of rock placed in the channel or on the channel banks to prevent erosion. Riprap typically is underlain by a sand and geotextile base to provide a foundation for the rock, and to prevent scour behind the rock.
Interlocking concrete	Interlocking concrete may include A-Jacks®, ABM, or similar structural controls that form a grid or matrix to protect the channel from erosion. A-Jacks armor units may be assembled into a continuous, flexible matrix that provides channel toe protection against high velocity flow. The matrix of A-Jacks can be backfilled with topsoil and vegetated to increase system stability and to provide in-stream habitat. ABM can be used with or without joint planting with vegetation. ABM is available in several sizes and configurations from several manufacturers. The size and configuration of the ABM is determined by the shear forces and site conditions of the channel.

Table 6.18 Streambank Erosion Control Options

Control Option	Description
Gabions	Gabions are wire mesh baskets filled with river stone of specific size to meet the shear forces in a channel. The gabions are used more often in urban areas where space is not available for other stabilization techniques. Gabions can provide stability when designed and installed correctly.
Grade Control	Grade control measures may be used to prevent stream incision into the channel bed or upstream nickpoint migration. Grade control measures involve some means of stabilizing the channel bed at a desired elevation with natural materials such as rocks or logs, or in some situations concrete. Rock vortex weirs, rock cross vanes, and log drops are means of grade control that impede channel incision and often result in scour pools developing downstream of the grade control measure.
Concrete channels	A constructed concrete channel designed to convey flow at a high velocity (greater than 5 ft/sec) where other stabilization methods cannot be used. May be suitable in situations where downstream areas can handle the increase in peak flows and there is limited space available for conveyance.
Outlet stabilization	Prevent streambank erosion from excessive discharge velocities where stormwater flows out of a pipe. Outlet stabilization may include any method discussed above.

USDA NRCS and IEPA. *Illinois Urban Manual.* 2002

Sometimes applications of streambank erosion control technologies to address problems in one location may aggravate problems in another location (for example, lining a channel in one location may exacerbate streambank erosion at another location). Therefore, application of streambank erosion or grade control technologies to address problems must not be analyzed in isolation. As stated previously, no alternative recommended as a part of a DWP may create negative impacts in the watershed or outside of the watershed including areas outside of Cook County.

Bioengineering techniques for stabilizing water body shorelines provide more natural solutions than hard armoring. Hard armoring, which protects the bank with concrete, riprap, or other nonnatural materials, is sometimes necessary when a bioengineered solution will not provide the necessary level of protection or cannot withstand flow velocities. In preparing a DWP, consideration will be made to allow only the minimum necessary amount of hard armoring. The DWP will consider the use of bioengineering techniques where appropriate. A combination of treatments will likely be suggested to maximize durability.

6.7.2 Alternative Evaluation

Alternatives developed to address flooding will be evaluated using H&H modeling consistent with methodologies described in Section 6.4. Modeling will determine the avoided damages or benefit for each alternative. The avoided damage or benefit will be used to calculate the BC ratio for each alternative.

Frequency determinations are unnecessary in evaluating alternatives developed to address erosions problems. Evaluations will focus on effectiveness for the full range of expected flows, particularly the bank full flow ranges. Costs will be considered, but not using the multistorm approach applied for flood damages.

6.7.3 Evaluating Cost Effectiveness of Alternatives

BC ratio is determined by calculating the benefit of a project in terms of avoided damages or benefit added, and the construction and operation and maintenance (O&M) costs associated with a project. Section 6.6 provides a description of the process to be followed to determine the benefit or damages for problem areas. Benefits are then divided by the cost to obtain an indicator of the cost effectiveness of each project. Net benefit can also be calculated by subtracting the cost from the benefit.

6.7.3.1 Benefit Calculation

In economic terms, benefit is the dollar value of the damages avoided because of implementation of an alternative (flood control project, soil stabilization project, buyouts). Benefits are calculated by determining damages without a project minus damages with a project; that is, damages avoided. Benefits can include the added value of recreation facilities, wetlands, or riparian areas. As explained in Appendix F, benefits can be expressed as a present value, PV_B, or can be annualized to obtain the average annual benefits AA_B.

Recreation Areas. If the project creates recreation areas, the value will be included as a benefit to the project using the economic valuation method described in Section 6.6.4. Recreation benefit, once created, can be assumed to accrue annually over the life of the project.

Wetlands and Riparian Areas. If the project creates wetlands or riparian areas, their value will be included as an economic benefit of the project. The value of wetlands and riparian areas is calculated based on the market rate of wetlands in the watershed. Appendix H provides the 2006 market rate for wetlands by watershed (Table H-2). The values are variable and will be confirmed annually.

6.7.3.2 Costing Assumptions

Project costs involve all expenditures necessary for implementation. For traditional flood control projects such as levees or reservoirs, they include study, design, land acquisition, construction, and O&M costs. For a residential buyout, there is a one-time cost to purchase structures in the floodplain, including demolition of the structures, restoration of the land, relocation and closing costs. Floodproofing costs may be represented by one-time costs of utility relocation and the occasional complete replacement of flood shields.

Flood protection projects provide benefits throughout a defined period of time that depends on the useful life of a project. A levee may have a useful life of 50 years, whereas relocation of a house outside the floodplain is a permanent solution. Every year that the project performs its functions, it provides benefits and, in principle, requires some expenditure, although most of the cost is incurred during construction. Therefore, the concept of annualizing is applied to compare these unevenly distributed benefits and costs.

Annualizing benefits and costs is a basic concept of engineering economics that accounts for the time value of money. To calculate the annual payment, benefits accrued and the costs incurred every year are discounted using compound interest procedures. The typical discount rate is set by the federal government and is also used by IDNR-OWR. Recently it has varied between 3 and 7 percent. In 2005, the value used by IDNR-OWR for discounting was 5.375 percent. The District will validate the discount rate annually. If the life expectancy of facilities is less than the period for which benefits are calculated, then replacement costs must be incorporated to account for the total cost of facilities for the entire time period.

Standard engineering economics textbooks provide formulas for converting a present value or a future value into a uniform series of "payments." For example, a capital expenditure can be converted into an annual payment using the formula

$$AAc = PV \frac{i(1+i)^n}{(1+i)^n - 1}$$

where:

AAc = annual cost
n = useful life of the project in years
PV = total cost or benefit in the present
i = discount rate

To calculate costs accurately, it is necessary to have an assumption of the life expectancy of a project. Table 6.19 lists the standard assumptions to be used to estimate project life for purposes of alternative evaluation.

Table 6.19 Life Expectancy and O&M Requirements for Alternative Evaluation

Project	Life Expectancy (yr)	Inspection and Routine O&M (yr)	Additional O&M (YR)
Flood Control Projects			
Detention pond	50	Every 2-3	Every 10
Underground detention	50	Every 2-3	Every 5
Levee with detention	100	Every 3	Every 15
Channel enlargement with detention	50	Every 2-3	Every 5
Floodproofing	20	Every 1	Every 2
Buyouts	Permanent		
Detention pond	50	Every 2-3	Every 10
Underground detention	50	Every 2-3	Every 5
Soil Stabilization Projects			
Natural stabilization	30	Every 1	Every 2
Riprap	30	Every 2-3	Every 5
Reno gabions	30	Every 1	Every 5
Basket gabions	30	Every 1	Every 5
Sloped vertical concrete wall	30	Every 2-3	Every 5
Rectangular concrete channel	50	Every 2-3	Every 5
Trapezoidal concrete channel	50	Every 2-3	Every 5

6.7.3.3 Unit Costs for Alternative Development

The District will develop a current list of unit costs to use as part of alternative cost estimation. Unit cost items will be developed by the District and evaluated annually to determine if updates are required. In addition to the list of unit costs, the District will also establish consistent markups for items such as mobilization, engineering, and contingencies. Unless a customized or site-specific approach to include these costs is approved by the District, standard unit cost items and markups will be used for DWP alternative development to provide for consistency during the countywide prioritization of projects.

6.7.3.4 Calculating Benefit-to-Cost Ratio

Once the average annual benefits (AA_B) and average annual cost (AA_C) have been estimated, the BC ratio is computed using the formula:

$$BC = \frac{AA_B}{AA_C}$$

where:

AA_B = the average annual benefit
AA_C = the average annual costs

Note that the BC ratio can also be computed using benefits and costs expressed as present values:

$$BC = \frac{PV_B}{PV_C}$$

where:

PV_B = the present value of the benefits
PV_C = the present value of the costs

The BC ratio will be used to evaluate whether a project is cost-effective. If the BC ratio is greater than one, the project benefits exceed the costs and the project can be considered cost-effective. Other factors may be considered that would favor a project that did not have a BC ratio greater than one.

Similarly, the net benefits of the project are equal to:

$$NB = PV_B - PV_C$$

If the net benefits are positive, the project is cost-effective and the BC ratio greater than one.

6.7.4 Alternative Selection for Problem Area

As stated previously, the District is required to consider the BC ratio when selecting projects for implementation. In addition the District will consider noneconomic criteria in selecting alternatives. All projects which meet the District's absolute requirements for capital project funding will be prioritized on a countywide basis, with final decision for funding made at the discretion of the District's Board of Commissioners.

6.8 Summary of Recommended Alternatives

Recommended projects will be summarized to describe the economic and noneconomic data to be used as a part of the District's countywide prioritization of improvements. The economic data will focus on the BC ratio defined for each problem area, consistent with the documentation provided in Sections 6.6 and 6.7. Noneconomic data to be developed for each project are summarized in Section 6.8.1.

Exhibit 6.1 depicts the documentation that will be prepared as a part of each DWP to support the countywide prioritization of projects. Only alternatives that meet the District's minimum criteria for funding (see Chapter 1) will be developed and evaluated. For each project that meets the minimum criteria, a BC analysis will be developed, as will information on the development of noneconomic data. That information will be summarized in a manner consistent with what is shown in Exhibit 6.1 for incorporation into the District's countywide prioritization of improvement projects. Note that all costs and net benefits shown in Exhibit 6.1 shall be expressed as present values.

6.8.1 Other Noneconomic Evaluation Criteria

In addition to the BC ratio, the following information will be compiled for the District to use as a part of the countywide prioritization of projects:

- Total cost to the District
- Area (in acres) removed from the floodplain
- Number of structures protected
- Probability that funding will be provided by outside agencies (identify funding source, and percent of project to be funded, if known)
- Implementation time (in months)
- Water quality benefit, based on the qualitative scale described in Section 6.8.2
- Cook County communities involved
- Wetland or riparian area protected (ac)

6.8.2 Water Quality Benefit

To determine the water quality benefit of a flood control or erosion control project, the following questions must be addressed:

- Does the project contribute to the implementation of a TMDL established for the watershed?
- Does the project improve water quality concerns identified as a part of an NPDES Phase II Stormwater Permit?
- Does the project improve water quality related to a pollutant or pollution identified in the state's 303(d) Report?
- Does the project have an effect on habitat?

Once these questions are addressed, water quality benefit will be evaluated qualitatively using the scale in Table 6.20.

Table 6.20 Water Quality Benefit Evaluation Scale

Rating	Description
No Impact	No notable impact on water quality.
Slightly Positive	Project partly addresses or affects an NPDES Phase II Stormwater Permit, a TMDL established for the watershed, violations in water quality standards or listing criteria, or habitat.
Positive	Project fully addresses or impacts an NPDES Phase II Stormwater Permit, a TMDL established for the watershed, violations in water quality standards or listing criteria, or habitat.

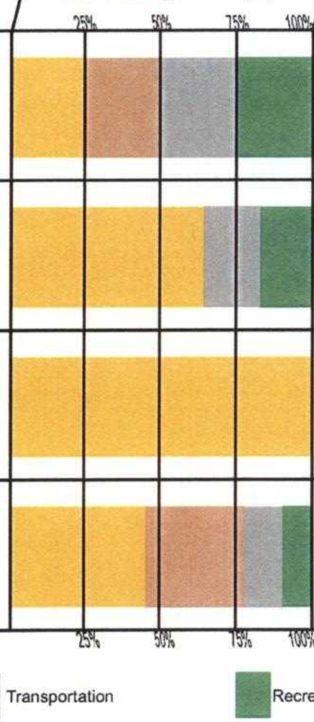
6.9 Implementation Plan

Each DWP will include an implementation plan that identifies issues critical to implementation of watershed recommendations. The recommendations will include stormwater improvement projects to address watershed problems, data management needs and responsibilities, special coordination requirements identified as a part of DWP development, scheduled updates to DWPs, and any other issues identified as critical to the District.

Exhibit 6-1 Example CIP Prioritization Matrix

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago
Example Prioritization Matrix

	B/C Ratio	Total Benefits ($)	Total Project Cost ($)	Total Cost To MWRDGC ($)	Relative Damage Averted (%)	Area Removed from Floodplain (ac)	Wetland or Riparian Area Protected (ac)	Number of Structures Protected	Possibility of Funding Provided by Outside Agencies	Implementation Time (months)	Water Quality Benefit	Communities Involved
Project A	1.25	5.0 M	4.0 M	3.2 M		5.0	40	6	Very Likely	6	Positive	Oak Park Berwyn Cicero
Project B	2.5	7.5 M	3.0 M	3.0 M		2.6	8	10	Not Likely	28	Slightly Positive	Park Ridge Des Plaines Mount Prospect
Project C	1.2	12.0 M	10.0 M	7.8 M		13.0	0	50	Somewhat Likely	3	No Impact	Oak Lawn Chicago Ridge
Project D	1.0	15.0 M	15.0 M	14.0 M		3.9	15	25	Not Likely	24	Slightly Postive	Buffalo Grove Wheeling Des Plaines Mount Prospect Prospect Heights



Note: This prioritization matrix may be expanded to include additional non-economic criteria. All values are hypothetical and for demonstration purposes only.