

green
town

**Funding and
Resources for
Climate, Equity and
Sustainability**
City of Chicago Conference
of Mayors

**Debra Kutska, Cook County
Chris Meister, Illinois Finance
Authority**



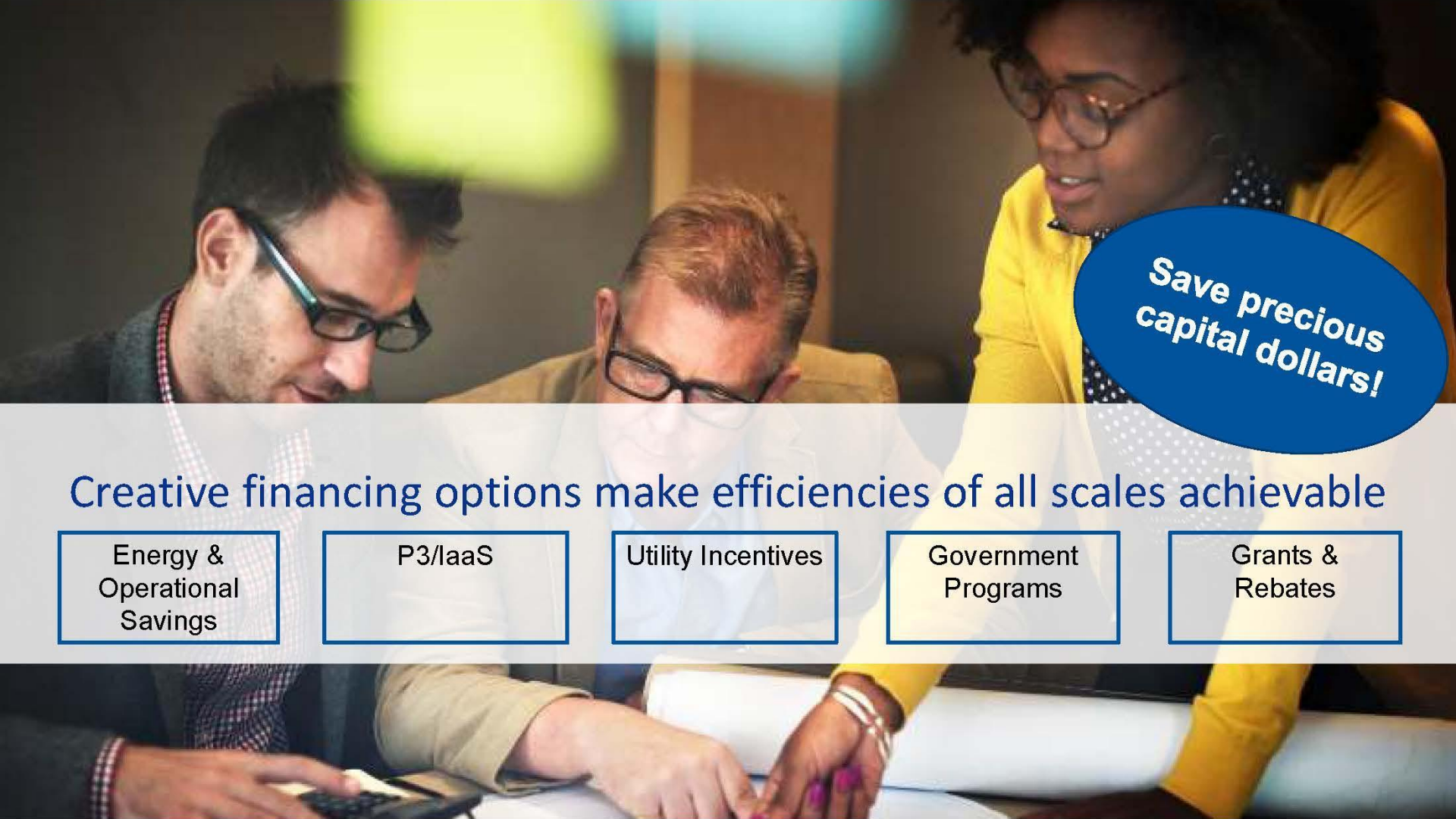
Funding Opportunities

Jason Myers

Business Development- Sustainable Infrastructure

The power behind **your** mission





Save precious capital dollars!

Creative financing options make efficiencies of all scales achievable

Energy & Operational Savings

P3/laaS

Utility Incentives

Government Programs

Grants & Rebates

Major Federal Packages

Package	CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, & Economic Security Act)	CRRSAA (COVID Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act)	ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act)	Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (The Infrastructure Bill)	Inflation Reduction Act of 2022
Issue Date	March 27, 2020	December 27, 2020	March 11, 2021	November 15, 2021	August 16, 2022
Spending Due Date	Depends on fund. Some as late as September 2022	Depends on fund. Some as late as September 2023	Depends on Fund (SLFRF funding is not required to be obligated until December 31, 2024 and expended as late as December 2026)	Most appropriations are available until used with deadline of FY2026/2027	Depends on fund.
Total Amount	~\$2.2 trillion	~\$900 billion	~\$1.9 trillion	~\$1.2 trillion (\$550 billion in new investments)	~\$433 billion in investments (~\$69B for Energy Security and Climate Change)
Dollars Related to Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K-12 \$13B • Higher Education \$14B • Additional Education Funds \$3B • State, Local, Tribal & Territorial Governments \$150B 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K-12 \$54B • Higher Education \$22B • Additional Education Funds \$4B • Transportation (Airports) \$2B 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K-12 \$125B • Higher Education \$40B • State, Local, Tribal & Territorial Governments \$350B + \$10B • Airports \$9B • Rural Hospitals \$8.5B • + Others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$73B Energy Infrastructure • \$25B Airports • \$17B Port Infrastructure • \$110B Roads, bridges, major projects • \$66B Passenger and freight rail • \$39B Public transit • \$7.5B Electric vehicles • \$65B Broadband • \$55B Clean drinking water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heat Pumps • 25% Non-Business Energy Tax Credit - Tax Credits For The Installation of High-efficiency HVAC And Other Appliances • High-Efficiency Electric Home Rebate Program • 1700 Commercial Buildings Energy Efficiency Tax Deduction • Public Housing Energy Efficiency Funding • Federal Buildings Energy Efficiency Funding • Clean Energy Tax Credits • Energy Efficiency Contractor Training Grants • Energy Codes Implementation Funding • Green Bank Activity And GHG Reduction Fund For Zero Emission Technology Adoption

Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)

- \$370-390 Billion of climate and energy spending and tax breaks directed toward the following projects:
 - Electricity generation or use
 - Transportation
 - Wind
 - Solar
 - Geothermal
 - Open-loop biomass
 - Combined heat and power, waste recovery energy,
 - Landfill gas, etc. etc.
 - Fossil fuel resources
 - Buildings and energy efficiency
 - Manufacturing
 - Environment and climate justice initiatives

*Treasury, IRS to Create
Registry to Monetize Energy
Tax Credits...will be launched
"late this year"*

Section 48:

Investment Tax Credit Rate Determination

	ITC Value	Total ITC	Comments
Base ITC rate is 6%.	6%	6%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects solar, geothermal, biogas, fuel cells, waste energy recovery, combined heat and power, small wind property, and microturbine and microgrid property for projects
Meeting the Prevailing Wage/Apprenticeship requirements adds another 24% to the ITC rate, bringing it to 30%	24%	30%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects must pay prevailing wages during construction and the first five years (in the case of the ITC) and 10 years (in the case of the PTC) of operation, while also meeting registered apprenticeship requirements. Projects under 1Mw ac in size are exempt from the prevailing wage requirements and earn 30% ITC, as are any projects starting construction in 2022 and/or before January 29, 2023..
Meeting the Domestic Content hurdle of 40% or more, will add another 10% ITC bonus, bringing the ITC to 40%	10%	40%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To satisfy the domestic content requirement a project must use 100% U.S. steel and iron, and an “adjusted percentage” of the total costs of its manufactured components with products that are mined, produced or manufactured in the U.S. The applicable percentage for projects other than for offshore wind facilities initially is set at 40%, increasing to 45% in 2025, 50% in 2026, and 55% in 2027.
A project can earn an additional 10% ITC bonus if it is built in an energy community, bringing the total ITC value to 50%	10%	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An energy community is defined as (a) a brownfield site (as defined under CERCLA), (b) an area that has or had significant employment related to the coal, oil, or gas industry and has an unemployment rate at or above the national average, or (c) a census tract or adjoining tract in which a coal mine closed after December 31, 1999, or a coal-fired electric power plant was retired after December 31, 2009.
Up to 20% ITC bonus, is available for solar and wind projects where the project is located in, bringing the total ITC value to 70%	20%	70%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The environmental justice bonus is limited to a maximum of 1.8 gigawatts of solar and wind capacity in each of calendar years 2023 and 2024, for which a project must receive an allocation from the U.S. Treasury Secretary.

Rebuild Illinois

Key Points

Encompasses infrastructure improvements from transportation and water to state facilities and schools.

Key Focus Areas:

- Horizontal Infrastructure (Transportation)
- Vertical Infrastructure (specific focus on gambling/gaming, among others)
- New funds to finance projects: Rebuild Illinois Capital Financing Program Act of 2019
- Specifically identified projects statewide: including projects for transportation, schools, higher education, state facilities, broadband, water infrastructure, parks, non-governmental organizations, and many others.

Capital and Transportation Funding

Key Points

- The Fiscal Year 2024 capital budget represents a continuation of the historic Rebuild Illinois program and other ongoing capital initiatives.
 - Supports IJA programming, as the State anticipates receiving at least \$18.0 billion over five years through federal formula funding; over \$7.2 billion in infrastructure funding has been announced for Illinois investments since IJA's passage
 - \$4.6 billion for the FY24 Road Program.
 - \$300 million for I-290 Blue Line Modernization Project
 - \$100 million at DCEO for broadband expansion
 - IJA lead service line replacement loans at \$230.2 million, as well as \$10 million in new IEPA funding to provide lead service line inventory and planning grants to communities around the state.
 - \$86 million for orphaned well plugging
 - \$18 million increase to RTA Operating Assistance Grants
 - Additional \$1.5 million for RTA reduced fares
 - Additional \$5 million for Amtrak operating assistance for state supported routes

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)

Key Points

Over \$15.957 billion in road, bridge, and transit focused funding.

- \$9.802 billion in road and bridge formula funding, including two new programs
- \$1.4 billion in new Bridge Replacement, Rehabilitation, Preservation, Protection, and Construction Formula Program
- \$149 million in new National Electric Vehicle Formula Program
- \$3.99 billion in transit formula funding
- \$616 million to fund improvements to Illinois airports

Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA)

CEJA aims to phase out carbon emissions from the energy and transportation sectors.

- Electric Vehicle Rebates:
 - Beginning July 1, 2022, a \$4,000 rebate for the purchase of an electric vehicle.
 - Beginning July 1, 2026, a \$2,000 rebate for the purchase of an electric vehicle.
 - Beginning July 1, 2028, a \$1,500 rebate for the purchase of an electric vehicle.
 - Beginning July 1, 2022, a \$1,500 rebate for the purchase of an electric motorcycle.
- Charging Incentive Program:
 - Funding provided to install and maintain Level 2 or Level 3 charging stations.
 - Up to 80% of the cost of the installation of charging stations may be funded.
- Electric Generating Units (EGUs) and Large Greenhouse Gas-Emitting Units (LGUs)
 - Those that are not public GHG-emitting units are required to permanently reduce all CO₂e and co-pollutant emissions to zero according to a statutory schedule based upon the NO_x and SO₂ emissions of the unit and the unit's geographic location.

EPA Clean School Bus Program

Key Points

EPA anticipates awarding ~\$400 million in competitive grants to:

- Local or State governmental entities
- Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, and tribally controlled
- Public charter school districts
- Eligible contractors
- Nonprofit transportation associations

Closing Thoughts...

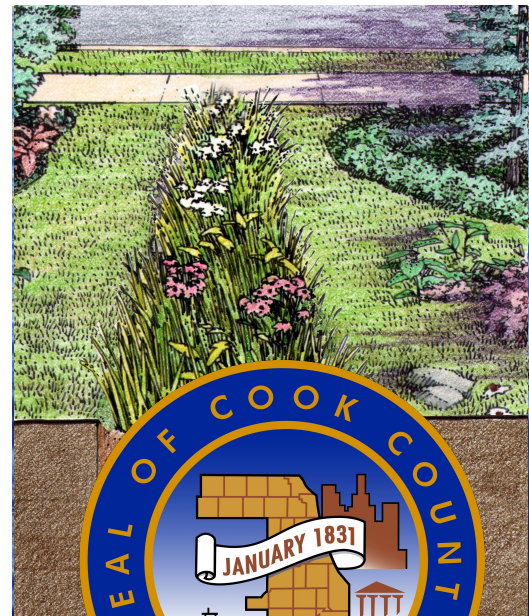
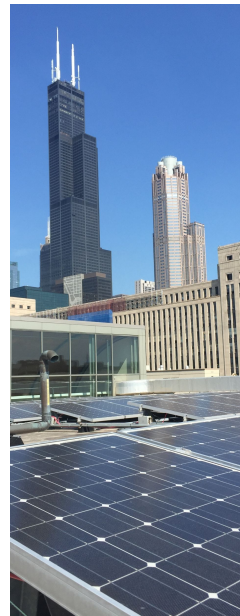
- Leverage multiple funding options
 - Blend, Braid, Stack- know what funds you can mix and match
- Get help applying!
- Dream, Research, Prioritize, Plan
 - Prioritize based on funds and timing
 - Other goals to incorporate? Net Zero, LEED, etc.
 - Interest, Inflation, and Labor shortages
- Look for mutually beneficial programs (PACE and others)
- Get creative but follow the rules. Check with your auditors and legal
- Save your capital dollars!

Where to Apply or Research?

- DCEO
- Illinois Commerce Commission
- Illinois Power Agency
- Illinois EPA
- Illinois Economic Policy Institute
- Illinois Department of Energy-EECBG
- Grants.gov

Supporting Climate + Equity in Cook County through ARPA Funds

Debra Kutska
Assistant Deputy Chief Administrative
Officer
Cook County, IL



American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding

- In 2021, Cook County received \$1 billion from the federal government to help with COVID-19 recovery and beyond.
- With participation from residents, stakeholders, community groups and elected officials, we have prioritized this important funding to address the most pressing needs and to have transformative, lasting impact.
- Many eligible uses, including:



Support Public Health
Response



Address Negative
Economic Impacts



Premium Pay for
Essential Workers



Replace Public Sector
Revenue Loss



Water and Sewer
Infrastructure

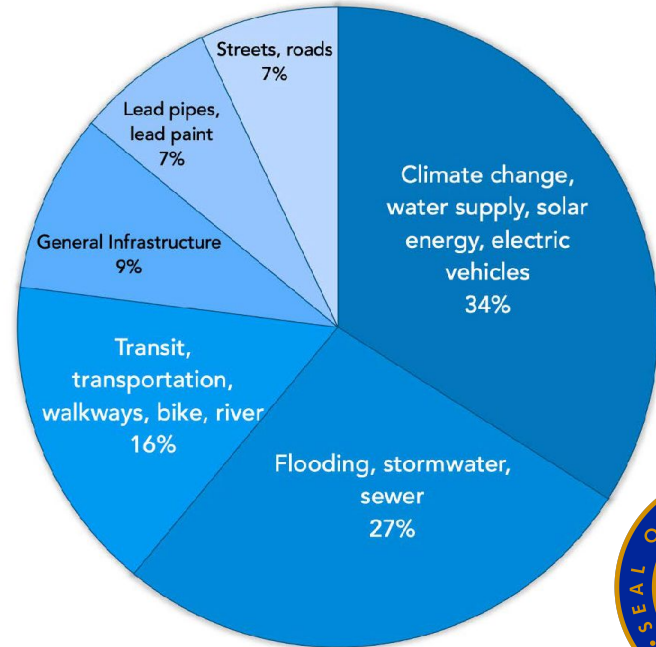


Broadband Infrastructure

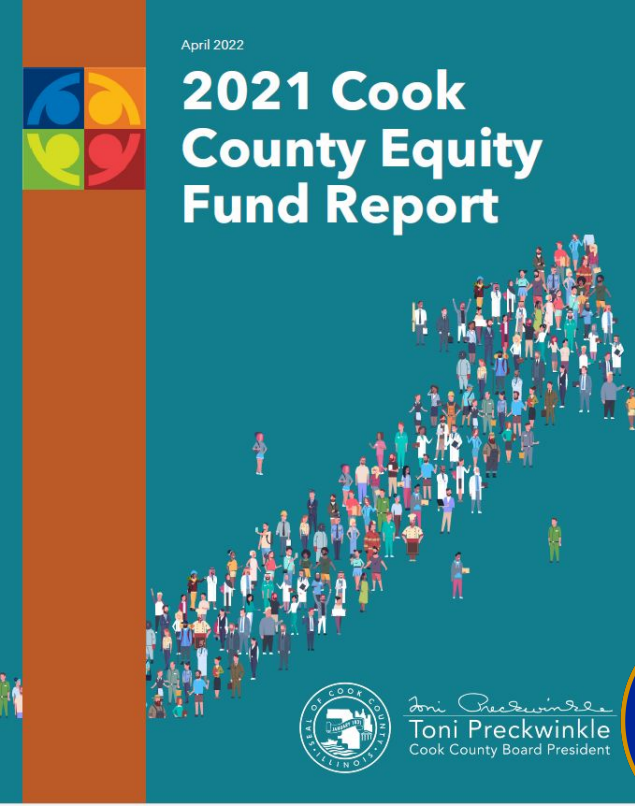
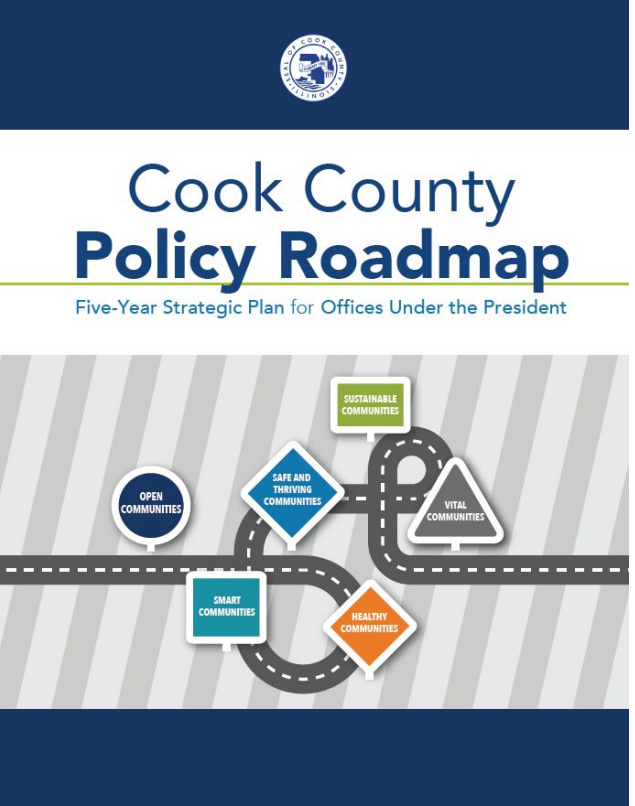


Project Identification and Selection

- Series of community town halls and surveys, over 30,000 responses
- Looking at comments in community surveys participants specifically associated infrastructure with Climate Change issues.



Guiding Documents, www.engagecookcounty.com



Equity Fund Task Force Report: Sustainable Communities Recommendations

5.1 Invest in climate-resilient infrastructure to address decades of disinvestment in Black and Latine communities.

5.2 Establish a Cook County Environmental Justice Policy to incorporate environmental and equity impacts in policy and program decision-making.

5.3 Support actions that improve both public health and environmental health for the overall well-being of residents, particularly in Black, Latine, and low-income communities.



Over \$130M in ARPA Investments in Sustainability

Cook County continues to use an equity lens to guide its allocations to **promote racial equity and sustainable impacts** across the county.

- Invest in Cook Expansion
- Electric Vehicle Charging Stations
- Lead Pipe Removal at Vera Yates Homes and Richard Flowers Homes (Housing Authority of Cook County)
- Lead, Leaking and Obsolete Service Line Replacement Pilot Program
- RainReady Plan Implementation
- Stormwater Management Project



Smart
Communities

- Lead Poisoning Prevention Fund
- Capacity-Building Investments in Food Access Sites
- Good Food Purchasing Program (Cook County Department of Public Health)
- Urban Farming Initiative Gap Analysis



Healthy
Communities



Safe and Thriving
Communities

Emergency Operations Planning



Sustainable
Communities

- Neighborhood Revitalization Brownfield Remediation
- South Suburban Hazardous Household Waste Facility and Satellite Collection Locations
- Businesses Reducing Impact on the Environment (BRITE) Fund
- Healthy Homes for Healthy Families
- Implementing the Southeast Cook County Land Acquisition Plan (Forest Preserve District of Cook County)
- Riparian Restoration (Forest Preserve District of Cook County)
- Climate Resiliency Planning for Communities Program
- Resilience Hubs
- Cook County Sun and Save



Vital
Communities

- The Cook County Water Affordability Program
- Community Conservation Corps (Forest Preserve District of Cook County)



Climate Resiliency Planning for Communities

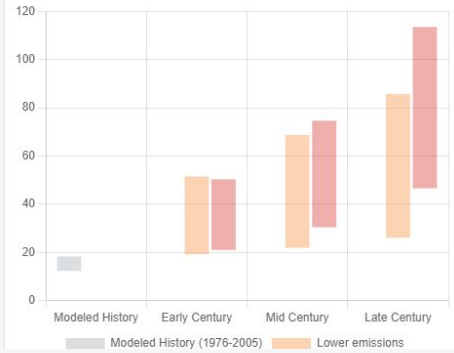
Goal: Support 5 suburban communities to develop community-centered Climate Resiliency Plans; provide funding to implement plans that will set communities up to withstand increased climate threats and thrive in a changing climate.

Why: Many suburban communities do not have the resources to complete plans and implement solutions due to high up-front costs.

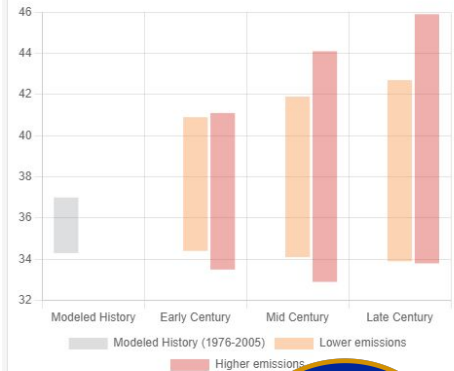
Participation/Eligibility:

- Suburban community without Climate Resiliency Plan
- Demonstrated need for technical assistance, staff resources, or financial support
- Commitment and willingness to work with the County and designated partners to actively participate
- Priority to communities in areas rated higher on the [Environmental Justice Index](#) (CDC tool)

Annual days with maximum temperature > 90°F



Average annual total precipitation



RainReady Plan Implementation

Goal: Improve community health and resiliency, address inequities from flooding, impact on housing values, and ability to build wealth through green infrastructure improvements in Calumet Corridor.

Why: Flooding is a major threat to health, safety, and economic well-being in this region. From 2007 to 2011, over 16,000 flood-related insurance claims filed and \$41.4 million in damages were paid out to these six communities.

Eligibility/Participation: Open to Blue Island, Calumet City, Calumet Park, Dolton, Riverdale, Robbins

Partnerships:

- Original plans by Center for Neighborhood Technology (CNT), funding from County CDBG funds
- CNT Subrecipient, contracted with GreenPrint Partners (project management) and OAI, Inc. (maintenance)



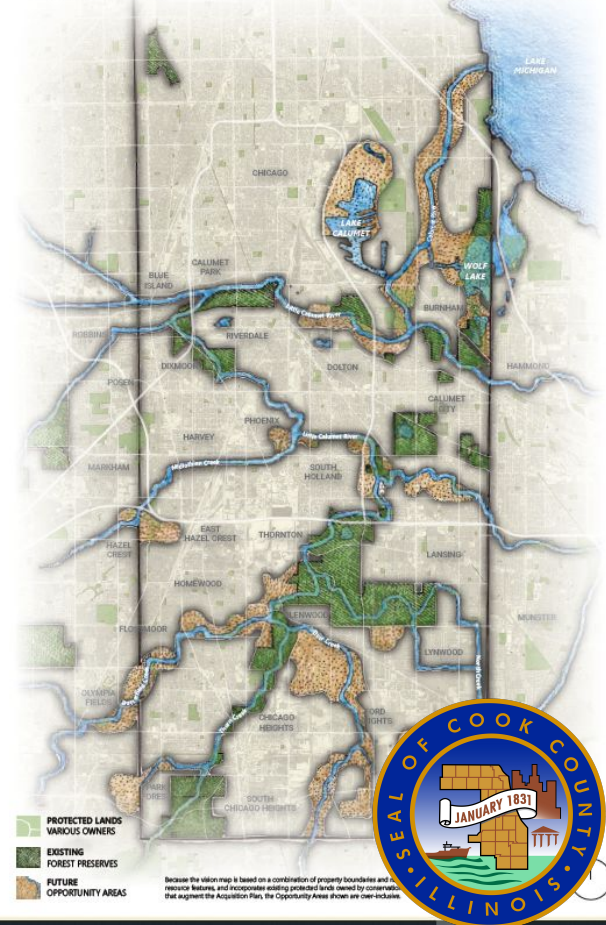
Implementing the Southeast Land Acquisition Plan and Riparian Restoration (FPCC)

Southeast Land Acquisition Goal: Acquire up to 350 acres in Southeast Cook County, protect and restore natural areas to expand access of historically disinvested communities to forest preserve system, and sequester carbon.

Riparian Restoration Program Goal: To reduce flooding and improve air/water quality by completing ecological restoration of 400 acres around Thorn and Tinley Creeks and develop Hydrologic Restoration plans to identify repairs and reduce soil erosion.

Why: Only 9% of African Americans and 10% of Latinos participate in outdoor recreation. Cook County's trees provide the \$197 million worth of benefits, annually and an additional \$550 million in carbon sequestration.

FOREST PRESERVES OF COOK COUNTY
VISION MAP FOR SOUTHEAST COOK COUNTY



EV Charging Stations

Goal: Install up to 75 public charging stations including a mix of dual port Level 2 charging stations (5 within the Forest Preserves), DC Fast Chargers and Level 2 dual port Streetlight chargers in charging deserts in suburban Cook County

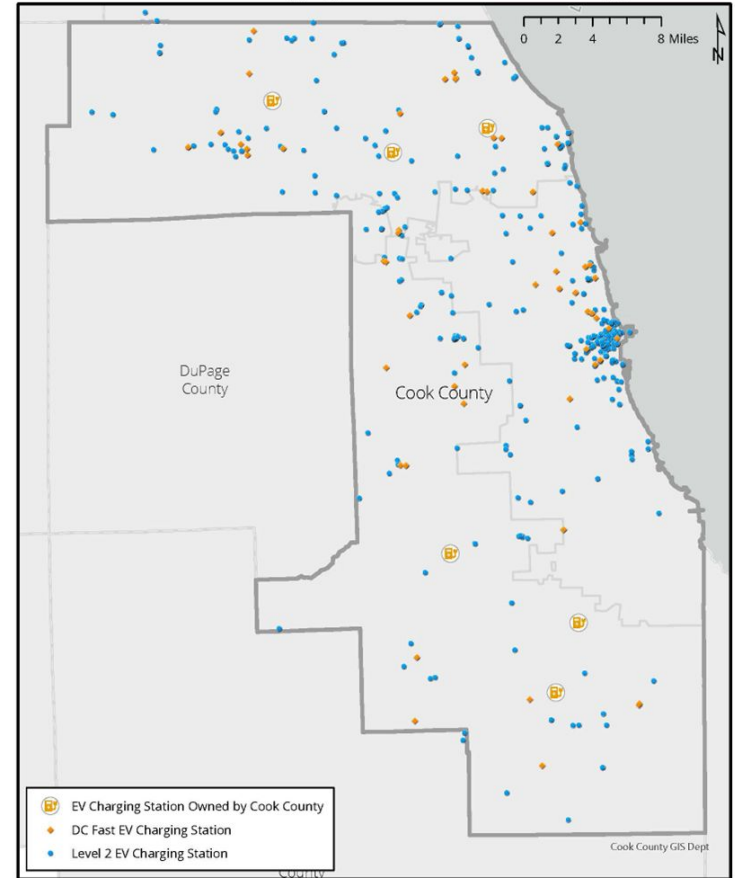
Why: Charging access is an area of growing inequity; people won't consider an EV if there is no place to charge. From 1/21 to 1/22, 40% more EVs have been registered in Cook County; EVs are cheaper than a gas-powered vehicle over lifetime of the vehicle

Priority Communities: Areas with few or no public EV charging stations; Under-resourced communities; Areas with higher prevalence of multifamily dwelling units where there is no garage or off-street parking for charging; COVID-19 Impacted areas that can benefit the most from air quality improvements

Timeline:

- Work with ComEd on assessment, choosing site locations in Summer 2023
- RFQ for construction/installation of stations Summer 2023

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in Cook County, 2022



Map prepared on Sept. 22, 2022, Department of Geographic Information Systems, Cook County Bureau of Technology, cook_EVCS_2022.pdf, ©2022 Cook County Government
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Healthy Homes for Healthy Families

Goal: To create healthier, safer, more efficient homes for residents most in need through whole-home assessments and upgrades to remove and remediate hazards, improve air quality, energy efficiency, water conservation, and reduce utility bills when feasible.

Why:

- 90% of time is spent indoors (can be even higher for individuals with cardiovascular or respiratory issues)
- Black households spend 43% more of their income on energy costs than white
- Low-income households spend three times more of their income on energy costs
- Surveys cite the following concerns for households: Indoor air quality (44%), water quality (38%), and harmful materials and chemicals (20%)

Participation/Eligibility: Participation based on referral by healthcare providers for children with elevated blood lead levels in households under 120% AMI; only in suburban Cook County

Partnerships: Cook County Department of Public Health (building on existing lead poisoning prevention program), Bureau of Economic Development, Elevate (Subrecipient)



Cook County Sun and Save

Goal: Provide residential solar installations for income-qualified Cook County residents to reduce utility costs burden and increase clean energy within Cook County

Why:

- Low-income households spend three times more of their income on energy costs
- Existing renewable subsidy programs only serve homes up to 80% AMI, substantial up-front installation costs prevent many other residents from participation

Eligibility: Residents with income between 80-120% AMI throughout all of Cook County (including city of Chicago)

Timeline:

- SEDAC (program subrecipient) is currently looking for qualified installers for the program. Reach out to sunandsave@sedac.org for more info
- Details on resident participation to come. Hopeful for program launch in August 2023



Businesses Reducing Impact on the Environment (BRITE)

Goal: Reduce pollution from business through free technical assessments to 1) identify pollution reduction opportunities and 2) determine implementation costs and savings. Provide grant funding for implementation to qualified businesses.

Why: Black Americans are 75% more likely than White Americans to live in communities negatively impacted by industry emissions. Non-Hispanic Black Americans are 40% more likely to have asthma than non-Hispanic White Americans.

Participation/Eligibility: Initial focus on select industries in socially vulnerable areas of Suburbs - dry cleaners, auto body shops, metal finishers and food and beverage manufacturers. Select industries can be sources of pollutants contributing to health issues (respiratory irritants, reproductive issues, neurological effects, etc.).

Timeline:

- Partners include BED, U of I, ComEd, Nicor, Illinois Green Business Association, Green Business Engagement Network, Illinois Dry Cleaner Association
- Registration for technical assessments is open (available in [English](#), [Spanish](#), and [Korean](#))
- Grant applications open Fall 2023



Municipal Recycling & Household Hazardous Waste

Goals: Address recycling needs in South Suburbs.

Why: Many municipalities in Southland offer no recycling; nearest Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) recycling/disposal facility is located on Division St. in Chicago, approximately 19 miles from the south suburbs.

Eligibility: Open to all County residents; targeted to low-recycling communities below County median income.

Status & Timeline:

- Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHaRM Center) opened April 22, 2023 with partner South Suburban College (SSC)
- Will accept electronics, styrofoam, clothing/textiles as well as general recycling – expect over 100 tons/year
- County is funding a Sustainability Coordinator at SSC to manage the center, involve students, and provide technical assistance to municipalities in waste contracting
- Permanent HHW facility scheduled to open Fall 2025 in S. Suburbs.



Neighborhood Revitalization Brownfield Remediation

Goal: Assess and remediate brownfield sites throughout suburban Cook County, including removal of asbestos and demolition of abandoned/unwanted structures

Why: To decrease risk to residents posed by contaminants at brownfield sites and promote economic growth and investment through redevelopment of new businesses, open green space, parks, and flood/stormwater retention



Participation/Eligibility: Open to all municipalities and private entities, with focus on south suburbs

Timeline: Currently accepting site recommendations.

Further information and to submit a site for consideration available at

<https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/brownfield-redevelopment>



Questions?

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