



River Ecology & Governance Task Force

March 14, 2023 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Agenda

- I. Task Force Goals
- II. Natural Solutions Tool Demo
- III. Small Group Discussion: What are you working on this year?
- IV. What do you want to hear/learn more about?
- V. Upcoming Meetings + Adjourn

Task Force Objectives

Transforming Chicago's unique waterway system into a **thriving and ecologically integrated natural asset**, capable of accommodating the needs of people, requires **coordinated planning**, investment and management

Aspire to, and realize no later than 2040, inland waterways in Chicago that are **inviting, productive and living**, that **support wildlife in-stream and on their banks**, and that **contribute to our city's resiliency**

Short-Term Goals: 2021 - 2022

1. Create principles for a system-wide and neighborhood focused approach to Chicago's waterways
 - a. Adoption of principles by government partners participating on Steering Committee
2. Review current policies and create recommendations to strengthen them

Short-Term Goals: 2021 - 2022

3. Inform near-term planning opportunities to advance collective priorities
 - a. We Will Chicago
 - b. CDOT Access Study
 - c. USACE PAS Restoration Framework Plan
 - d. Industrial Corridor Modernization Process
4. Develop criteria to prioritize projects for identified funding opportunities
5. Standardize process for reviewing riverfront development projects

Short-Term Goals: 2021 - 2022

Goal 1: Create principles for a system-wide and neighborhood focused approach to Chicago's waterways

- a. Adoption of principles by government partners participating on Steering Committee

Progress: Broader themes and principles developed and finalized by the System Plans Working Group in November 2021.

Short-Term Goals: 2021 - 2022

Goal 2: Review current policies and create recommendations to strengthen them

Progress: Reviewed and provided recommendations on the following in 2022:

- Sustainable Development Policy
- Chicago River Design Guidelines – related to opportunity sites along the South Branch of the Chicago River

Short-Term Goals: 2021 - 2022

Goal 3: Inform near-term planning opportunities to advance collective priorities:

- We Will Chicago
- CDOT Access Study
- USACE PAS Restoration Framework Plan
- Industrial Corridor Modernization Process

Progress: Task Force members participated in the following:

- Workshops on the We Will Chicago citywide plan with recommendations provided
- USACE PAS Workshops informing the location and description of Opportunity Sites for the Framework Plan
- Focus Group participation for Southwest Industrial Corridor Study
- Update on South Branch Parks Access Study

Short-Term Goals: 2021 - 2022

Goal 4: Develop criteria to prioritize projects for identified funding opportunities

Progress: USACE provided updates on potential next steps for funding projects identified as Opportunity Sites as part of the PAS Restoration Framework Plan

Short-Term Goals: 2021 - 2022

Goal 5: Standardize process for reviewing riverfront development projects

Progress: Created a standard process for reviewing development projects on the Chicago and Calumet rivers and providing feedback to developers. 11 projects were reviewed since 2021. There is also a Development Review Working Group page on the City's website, providing information about the group, developer presentations, and feedback letters.

Natural Solutions Tool Demo for Riverfront Projects

**What are you working on
this year?**

Discussion Activity Directions

Map Activity

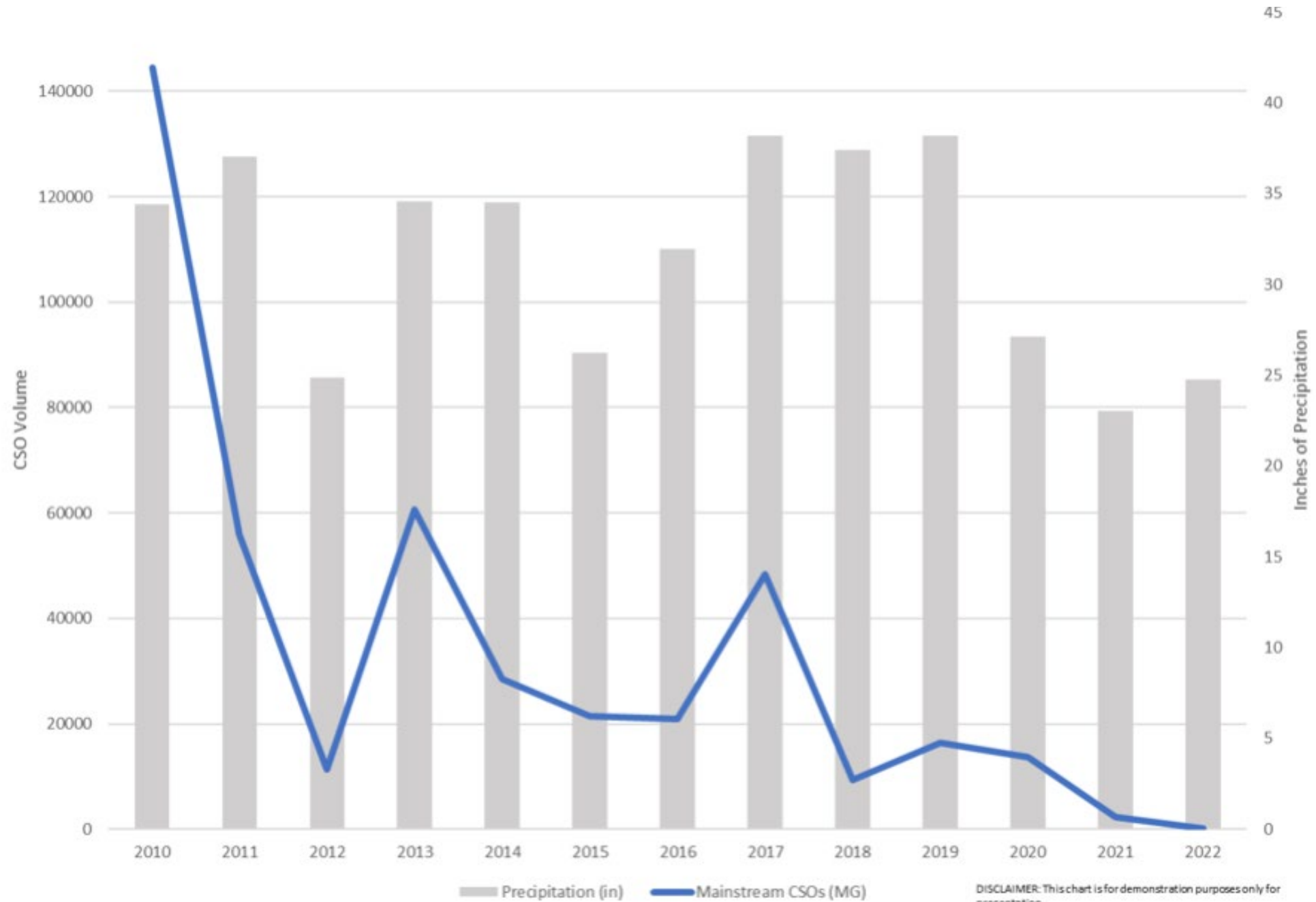
- Put a post-it on the map representing your initiative location. If the work is being done in a broad geography, choose a location that is representative of the initiative. Provide the following on the post-it:
 - Location (Address), if appropriate
 - Name of Initiative
 - Brief Description (two sentences)

Discussion Activity

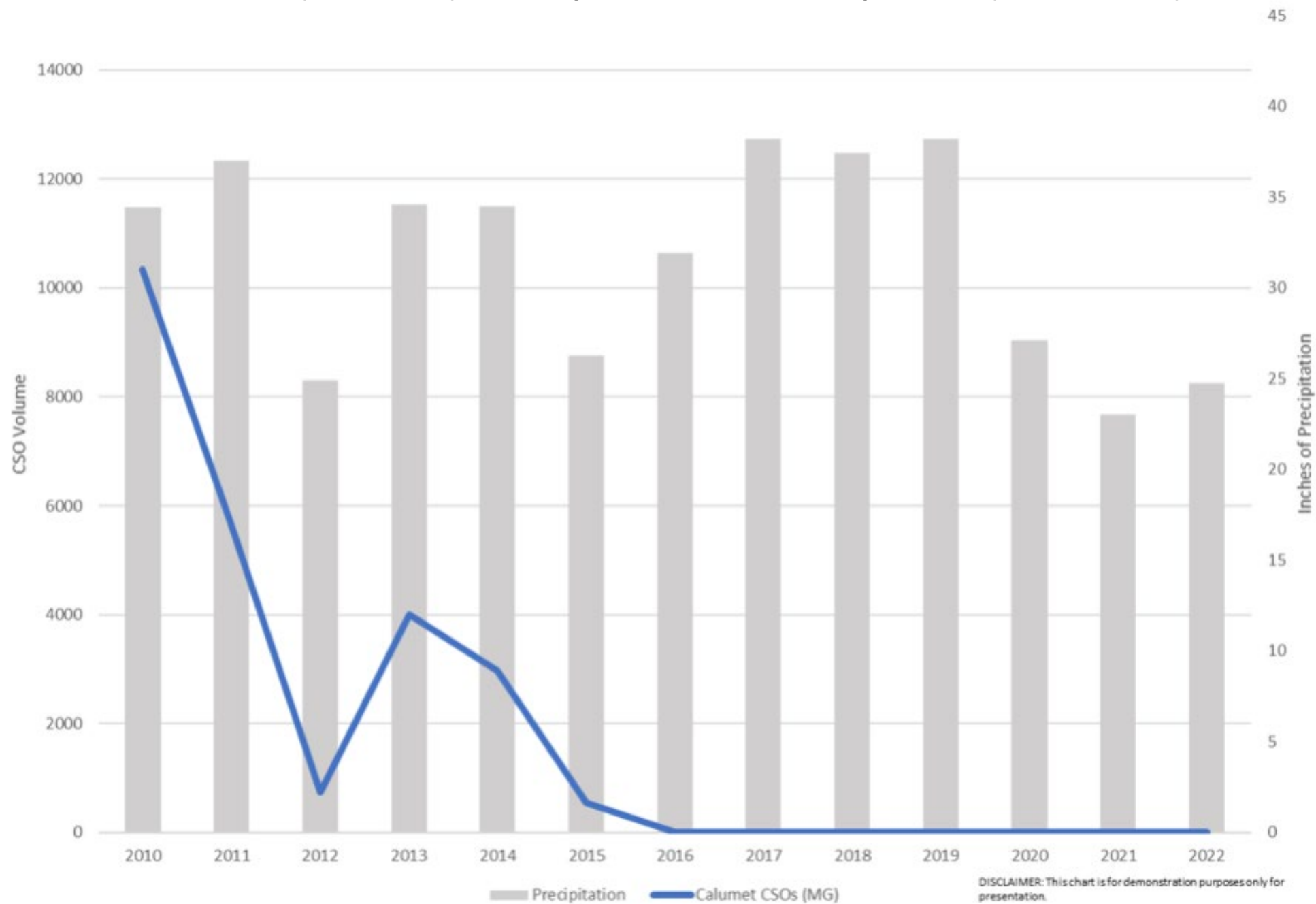
- Share information about your work. Highlight the following as part of your discussion:
 - Milestones and Activities
 - Collaborative Partners

Progress Update on CSO's and Water Quality

MAINSTREAM / DES PLAINES (McCook) TARP System CSOs & Precipitation (2010 - 2022)



CALUMET (Thornton) TARP System CSOs & Precipitation (2010 - 2022)



DISCLAIMER: This chart is for demonstration purposes only for presentation.

**What do you want to
hear/learn more about?**

2023 Meeting Dates + Adjourn

2023 Upcoming Task Force Meeting Dates

- System Plans Working Group:
 - April 19, 2023: noon – 1 pm
- Development Review Working Group:
 - April 4, 2023: 6 pm – 7:30 pm
- Task Force Meeting
 - June 6, 2023: 3 pm – 4:30 pm