City of Chicago Department of Water Management

City of Chicago

Stormwater Management Plan

General NPDES Permit for Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems

May 2025

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1 PURPOSE

The City of Chicago's Department of Water Management (DWM) has prepared this Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP) for its Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) as required under the general National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit ILR40 from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). The SWMP and related documentation describe the extent of separate storm sewer systems within the City of Chicago (City) jurisdiction, the receiving waters to which these sewers discharge, the City departments responsible for implementation and coordination of stormwater management programs, and the Best Management Practices (BMPs) in use and/or planned for implementation to reduce the impacts of separate storm sewer discharges on the quality of area receiving waters.

2 ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AIS	Chicago Department of Assets, Information and Services
BMP	Best Management Practice
CDA	Chicago Department of Aviation
DOE	Department of Environment
CDOT	Chicago Department of Transportation
City	City of Chicago
CNT	Center of Neighborhood Technology
CPS	Chicago Public Schools
DOB	Chicago Department of Buildings
DPD	Chicago Department of Planning and Development
DPH	Chicago Department of Public Health
DSS	Chicago Department of Streets and Sanitation
DWM	Chicago Department of Water Management
GIS	Geographic Information System
IEPA	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
MWRDGC	Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
O&M	Operation and Maintenance Plan
O'Hare	Chicago O'Hare International Airport
PCB	Polychlorinated Biphenyls
SPCC	Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure
SWMP	Stormwater Management Plan
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
WHMP	Wildlife Hazard Management Plan

3 OVERVIEW

3.1 Background

With construction of the sewer system beginning in 1857, the City has one of the oldest sewer networks in the country. The City of Chicago includes a service area that spans approximately 230 square miles and serves 2.7 million residents. The City's system is primarily a combined sanitary and storm sewer network, but also consists of manholes, catch basins, and sewer mains that transport strictly stormwater. The City strives to reduce the quantity of pollutants that enter the sewer system as outlined in the Six Minimum Controls: Public Education and Outreach, Public Participation and Involvement, Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination, Construction Site Runoff Control, Post-Construction Runoff Control, Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping.

3.2 MS4 Drainage Areas

As over 95% of the City's sewer system is comprised of combined sewage infrastructure, the MS4 drainage areas cover a limited portion of the City's total service area. With MS4 areas comprising a minimal portion of the 230 square mile service area, the corresponding sewers generally consist of short segments draining street inlets from a small area near a receiving stream. More significant areas served by separate storm sewers are limited to a handful of major roadways (primarily Lake Shore Drive) and non-industrial discharges at Chicago O'Hare International Airport (O'Hare). Stormwater discharges from industrial areas of O'Hare are regulated by the IEPA under an individual NPDES permit (Permit No. IL0002283) and are not addressed as part of this SWMP. Additionally, the City is only responsible for regulating activities in the City's right-of-way. Thus, areas in the City that are drained by separate storm sewers and are owned by the Chicago Park District, the Illinois Department of Transportation, Chicago Skyway, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRDGC), and others are not addressed in this SWMP.

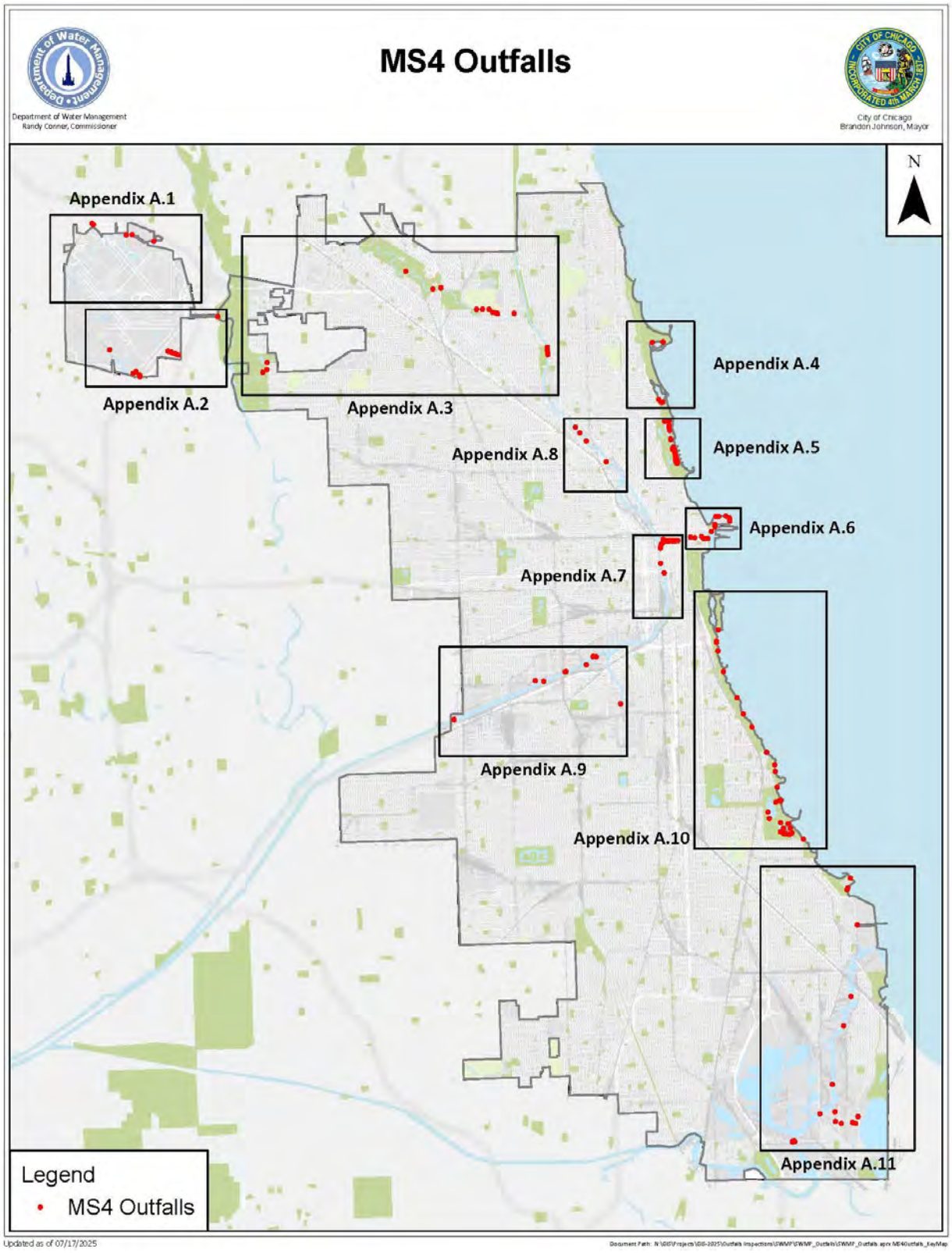
3.3 Receiving Waters

The following waterbodies receive stormwater discharge from the City's MS4 outfalls:

- Bensenville Ditch
- Calumet River
- Chicago River
- Crystal Creek
- Des Plaines River
- Higgins Creek
- Indian Creek
- Lake Michigan
- North Branch of the Chicago River
- Sanitary and Ship Canal
- South Branch of the Chicago River
- Willow Creek
- Willow-Higgins Creek

See **Figure 1** for the locations of the MS4 outfalls and **Appendix A** for zoomed in maps of the MS4 locations relative to City waterbodies.

Figure 1: MS4 Outfalls and Waterbodies



3.4 Total Maximum Daily Loads

As of 2025, the four locations in the City's jurisdiction that receive stormwater discharges and have an approved Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) are Lake Michigan Beaches for E. coli, Lake Michigan Nearshore for Mercury and Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB), Higgins Creek for Chloride and Fecal Coliform, and North Branch of the Chicago River for Chloride and Fecal Coliform. The remaining 10 waterbodies within the City do not have approved TMDLs.

3.4.1 Lake Michigan Beaches

The City determined that the approved TMDL for E. coli is applicable to the City's MS4 system. The City is in the process of reviewing the drainage area to Lake Michigan to determine if the stormwater discharges contain any presence of the approved TMDLs.

3.4.2 Lake Michigan Nearshore

The City is determining whether the approved TMDLs for Mercury and PCB are applicable to the City's MS4 system. The City is in the process of reviewing the drainage area to Lake Michigan to determine if the stormwater discharges contain any presence of the approved TMDLs.

3.4.3 Higgins Creek

The City determined that the approved TMDLs for Chloride and Fecal Coliform are applicable to the City's MS4 system and the specified pollutants are likely to be found in stormwater discharge from the City's MS4 outfalls. The City has drafted a sampling plan in order to evaluate whether City's existing BMPs are adequately meeting the waste load allocation required by these TMDL reports.

3.4.4 North Branch Chicago River

The City determined that the approved TMDL for Chloride and Fecal Coliform are applicable to the City's MS4 system and the specified pollutants are likely to be found in stormwater discharge from the City's MS4 outfalls. The City is conducting inspections to verify the stormwater drainage extents to the specified segments of the North Branch Chicago River. The City is also in the process of developing an implementation and monitoring plan to track, document and manage the City's progress in TMDL Waste Load Allocation attainment for the North Branch Chicago River. The city is also in the process of developing an implementation and monitoring plan to track, document and manage the City's progress in TMDL Waste Allocation attainment for the North Branch of the Chicago River.

3.5 City Departments Responsibilities

The City has overall responsibility for complying with the terms and conditions of the NPDES MS4 permit and regulations. DWM has taken the lead with organizing efforts and assembling documentation across the various City departments, who have specific obligations in the SWMP. These departments include the Department of Assets, Information and Services (AIS), Department of Aviation (CDA), Department of Transportation (CDOT), Department of Buildings (DOB), Department of Planning and Development (DPD), Department of Public Health (DPH), Department of Environment (DOE) and Department of Streets and Sanitation (DSS). Specific responsibilities for each department are laid out in the next section.

3.6 Qualifying Local Programs

The City is actively taking part in efforts to improve water quality of local waterways. As such, the City became a member of the Chicago Area Waterways Chloride Workgroup, whose main objective is to coordinate chloride reduction and reporting efforts for the Time Limited Water Quality Standard for Chloride. Alongside other stakeholders (e.g., other municipalities, wastewater treatment plant operators, transportation entities, industrial dischargers), the City is making proactive efforts to control and diminish its chloride output through actions such as training its staff, following specific BMPs, etc.

4 SIX MINIMUM CONTROLS

To meet the Six Minimum Controls, the City has instituted BMPs that focus on the reduction of pollutant loading in stormwater discharges to area waterways. Key features of the City's SWMP are summarized in the following sections according to each of the Six Minimum Controls as defined by the NPDES Phase II Stormwater Program under the General NPDES Permit ILR40. A copy of the ILR40 Permit can be found in **Appendix B** (Link).

4.1 Public Education and Outreach

The City's plan to meet the Public Education and Outreach requirements of the NPDES Phase II Stormwater Program is through the development/procurement of specialized educational materials and dissemination of these materials to the public using the City's network of public information outlets. The City recognizes that Public Education and Outreach is an important aspect of the SWMP and has developed programs to educate its residents on what they can do to protect the City's water resources. The City also plans to evaluate the effectiveness of Public Education and Outreach.

4.1.1 Speaking Engagement

To be proactive in educating engineers, architects, planners, developers, and the general public about stormwater requirements in the City, DOB develops, organizes, and runs technical seminars on the City's Stormwater Ordinance requirements. The technical seminars are intended to educate current and prospective stakeholders involved with stormwater management in the City to keep them abreast of the latest Stormwater Ordinance specifics. Properly informing the involved parties prior to the design and submission of stormwater management plans to the City helps streamline the process of DOB reviewing and examining these submittals. The city will participate in public speaking events to discuss stormwater BMPs, water quality, pollution prevention and green infrastructure initiatives.

4.1.2 Public Service Announcement

The City utilizes public service announcements throughout the year to provide information on stormwater management that is relevant to the general public without requiring a technical background. DWM utilizes its social media accounts to educate the public on water conservation, flood and pollution prevention, and green infrastructure. Social media post topics include awareness of floatable plastics pollution in waterways, seasonal stormwater and snow melt management tips, alerts for Overflow Action days encouraging water use reduction, a guide to downspout disconnection, and announcing ribbon cutting ceremonies for completed Space to Grow schoolyard renovation projects. DWM also provides Aldermen with informative briefs on stormwater management to share with their constituents that include recommendations to decrease neighborhood flooding.

4.1.3 Classroom Education Material

As part of the Space to Grow program, DWM is assisting with the transformation of Chicago Public Schools (CPS) schoolyards from mainly impervious surfaces into green spaces through a joint partnership with Healthy Schools Campaign, Openlands, CPS, and MWRDGC. Starting in 2014, Space to Grow targets CPS locations that are in an area with a high risk of flooding and have at least 30,000 square feet available for a new schoolyard. Through the installation of green infrastructure like rain gardens the new schoolyards help reduce neighborhood flooding and remove pollutants from stormwater runoff.

As part of the Space to Grow program, workshops are held with teachers and administrators of the corresponding schools to educate them on stormwater management and water conservation. Educational materials and activities are provided to the participants, which the educators then use as part of work plans and lessons for children in the schools. Students not only receive informative materials in the classroom, but also get to interact directly with installed green infrastructure to help further their education.

The current listing of Space to Grow schools can be found on the Space to Grow website at https://www.spacetogrowchicago.org/about/school-profiles/.

4.1.4 Other Public Education

The City provides educational resources on stormwater management for the public. Held on DWM's Water Conservation page (https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/water/supp_info/conservation.html), brochures and pamphlets are available that include information on stormwater management BMPs for private residences and businesses. Specific topics include:

- Green Design
- Bio infiltration Systems – Rain Gardens
- Green Roofs
- Drainage Swales
- Natural Landscaping
- Downspouts, Rain Barrels, and Cisterns
- Filter Strips
- Naturalized Detention Basins
- Downspout Disconnection

When information becomes available, relevant MS4 documents will be uploaded to the MS4 page on the DWM website (City of Chicago :: MS4 - Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer System). Additionally, the Water Conservation section will continually be updated with any applicable materials.

Additionally, brief messages are displayed on city-owned billboards throughout the city that will raise awareness about relevant programs, reducing pollution, and other seasonal topics.

4.2 Public Participation and Involvement

The City's strategy to meet the Public Participation and Involvement requirements of the permit is to conduct public gatherings and meetings where stormwater management issues can be discussed. Similar to the first of the minimum controls, Public Education and Outreach, the city recognizes the importance of working with the public on these topics and puts together strategies to get citizens involved.

4.2.1 Stakeholder Meetings

During the course of community outreach, City staff members attend meetings throughout the City to discuss a wide range of topics that pertain to water and sewer activities. As part of these meetings, City representatives talk about stormwater management related issues and practices. These gatherings provide an opportunity for the public to ask precise questions on topics like basement flooding, downspout disconnection, and green infrastructure that relates specifically to them. See below for a listing of typical types of community meetings that City staff attend throughout the year:

- Aldermanic Meetings – put together by the local Alderman to address general community concerns and topics
- Space to Grow Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies – put together by Space to Grow and CPS once new schoolyard reconstruction is completed to increase visibility of local green infrastructure projects
- Annual Conferences – hosted by various professional associations to provide education on stormwater management topics
- Construction Projects/Specific Topics Meetings – developed to educate a community about an upcoming or ongoing project or initiative
    - Though the primary focus of these meetings is about the specific topic, discussions routinely involve stormwater management issues and practices.
- Residential Fairs – directed at specific communities or organizations in a neighborhood
- Neighborhood Association Meeting – provides information about community events and town halls

Besides community meetings, the City also provides Aldermen with statements to share with constituents, via newsletters or other format, regarding stormwater management tips.

4.2.2 Program Involvement

As previously discussed in Section 4.1.3, DWM assists with the transformation of CPS schoolyards through the Space to Grow program. Started in 2014, this program not only provides educational materials to students but also offers a chance to work with neighborhood residents as part of community workshops. A key goal of the schoolyard transformation is to create a space that the community can use as well. Once constructed, Space to Grow holds hands-on workshops and informative meetings about stormwater management and green infrastructure for the neighborhood residents. During these gatherings, the program provides the opportunity to discuss how some of the installed measures in the schoolyards could be implemented at private residences as well. This includes technologies like rain barrels, rain gardens, and downspout disconnection.

Additionally, CDOT improves the environmental quality of neighborhoods by implementing roadway projects as part of its Streetscape and Sustainable Design Program. The community is engaged early on in the design process, whenever possible, and is fundamentally involved in the decision-making efforts. This partnership results in unique community branding, and the personal involvement leads to improved community consensus and satisfaction.

4.2.3 Other Public Involvement

To assist communities that are concerned about basement flooding, the City is working with the MWRDGC to provide communities with neighborhood-specific flooding risk assessments as well as guidance on

financing and implementation of solutions. In a joint effort, DWM, CDOT, and MWRDGC are evaluating a pilot study within the Chatham neighborhood of the City.

DWM also directs concerned residents to the City's 311 system. The City's existing 311 system acts as a hotline for any residential issue and has numerous stormwater related ticket types ex (illicit discharge/illegal dumping) that can be created and directed to the responsible department to address.

4.3 Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

The City's plan to meet the Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination requirements of the permit is through continual verification of the MS4 system's inventory and condition. The City will also ensure the correct regulations are in place, so that illicit connections and illegal discharges can be prevented and addressed.

4.3.1 Sewer Map Preparation

To aid in tracking and managing the MS4 sewer network and the corresponding Six Minimum Controls, the City recognizes the importance of having an up-to-date and accurate MS4 system in Geographic Information System (GIS). With continual changes to the sewer system from construction and redevelopment efforts, DWM routinely updates the MS4 network to reflect alterations from activities and investigations by DWM, other City departments, and outside agencies. Regular updates to the mapped features in GIS applications assist field personnel in managing MS4 assets. In addition to editing attributes of assets upstream of the MS4 outfalls, updates consist of adding new and abandoning existing storm outfalls in GIS. Because of these changes, the total of MS4 outfalls changes periodically. As of 2025 the City maintains 162 MS4 outfalls.

Through the ongoing process of maintaining the storm sewer GIS network, the City will continue completing the following tasks:

- DWM perform desktop analysis to compare the GIS mapping of MS4 outfalls and their corresponding upstream pipes with the atlas page mapping to ensure storm system is properly mapped.
- Using inspection information that is obtained per Section 4.3.3, DWM update GIS to reflect the estimated locations and attributes of the MS4 outfalls and their corresponding upstream pipes.
- CDA perform office and field verification of MS4 outfalls and their corresponding upstream pipes on O'Hare Airport. CDA coordinate results with DWM so the master GIS database can be updated.
- DWM coordinate with CDOT to confirm MS4 outfalls affected by road construction are relayed on to DWM for updates to the master GIS database.
- DOB map out private MS4 outfall locations from the project review log for DWM to use for informational purposes.
- DWM work with the Chicago Park District to examine the status of MS4 outfalls on their property.
- When applicable, DWM continue to add new and abandon existing MS4 outfalls in GIS.

4.3.2 Regulatory Control Program

As part of Municipal Code of Chicago Chapter 11-16 – Public Sewers and Drains, the City regulates illicit connections and illegal discharges. Specifically stated in the 2016 Regulations for Sewer Construction and Stormwater Management, illicit connections and illegal discharges are prohibited in the City. See below for an excerpt from the 2024 Regulations:

Pursuant to the City's NPDES permit for stormwater discharges, the construction, use, maintenance, or continued existence of illicit connections to any storm sewer system is prohibited. This prohibition expressly includes, without limitation, illicit connections made in the past, without regard to whether the connection was permissible under law or practices applicable or prevailing at the time of connection.

An illicit connection is any drain or conveyance, whether on the surface or subsurface, that allows an illegal discharge to enter a storm sewer system. Illicit connections include, but are not limited to, any conveyances that allow any non-stormwater discharge, including sewage, process wastewater, or wash water, to enter a storm sewer system or any connections to a storm sewer system from indoor drains and sinks, without regard to whether said drain or connection had been previously allowed, permitted, or approved by a government agency. Illicit connections include, without limitation, any drain or conveyance connected from a commercial or industrial land use to a storm sewer system that has not been documented in plans, maps, or equivalent records and approved by the City.

Unless otherwise approved by a NPDES permit, an illegal discharge is any direct or indirect non-stormwater discharge to a storm sewer system that is not water line flushing, fire hydrant flushing, landscape irrigation water, rising ground water, ground water infiltration, pumped ground water, discharge from a potable water source, foundation drains, air conditioning condensate, irrigation water (except for wastewater irrigation), springs, water from crawl space pumps, footing drains, storm sewer cleaning water, water from individual residential car washing, routine external building wash-down that does not use detergents, flows from riparian habitats and wetlands, dechlorinated pH neutral swimming pool discharges, residual street wash water, discharges or flows from firefighting activities, dechlorinated water reservoir discharges, and pavement wash waters where spills or leaks of toxic or hazardous materials have not occurred (unless all spilled material has been removed). Any discharge other than those permitted under these regulations is deemed to be a discharge of waste.

The DWM may require, by written notice, that a person responsible for an illicit connection to a storm sewer system comply with the requirements of this Article to eliminate or secure approval for the connection by a specified date, without regard to whether the connection or discharges to it had been established or approved prior to the effective date of these Regulations. If, subsequent to eliminating a connection found to be in violation of these Regulations, the responsible person can demonstrate to DWM that an illegal discharge will no longer occur, said person may request City approval to reconnect. The reconnection or reinstallation of the connection shall be at the responsible person's expense.

The DWM may require, by written notice, that a person who is responsible for an illegal discharge, immediately, or by a specified date, discontinue the discharge and, as necessary, take measures to eliminate the source of the discharge to prevent the occurrence of future illegal discharges.

Additionally, as part of the review process for regulated developments, DOB evaluates plans for each project to ensure that no illicit connections are planned. This review process helps eliminate mistakenly planned connections. DWM's mason inspectors evaluate and confirm new connections during construction to ensure no sanitary flow is connected to a storm sewer.

The full stormwater management Municipal Code and Regulations can be seen in **Appendix C** (Attached) and D (Link).

4.3.3 Program Evaluation and Assessment

In an ongoing effort to properly inventory the condition of the MS4 infrastructure, the City commits to inspecting all identified MS4 outfalls during each permit cycle with DWM and CDA inspecting a portion each year. During these inspections, the condition of the outfall will be documented, and photographs will be taken. Per the results of the inspections, necessary actions will be taken, which include updating the GIS system per Section 4.3.1. Also, all public notification signs are inspected to make sure they are appropriately installed and well maintained, as necessary.

4.3.4 Visual Dry Weather Screening

In coordination with the inspection efforts in Section 4.3.3, the City commits to performing dry weather screening for all MS4 outfalls during each permit cycle. While evaluating the condition of each structure, DWM and CDA staff will also verify there is no dry weather flow from the outfall. If dry weather flow is observed, City staff will follow the established dry weather flow protocol to fully investigate the cause and develop a solution. Any evidence of past illegal discharges will be documented as well and dealt with accordingly.

4.3.5 Public Notification

To aid in the public's knowledge of MS4 infrastructure, DWM updated their construction standards so collection structures installed upstream of storm outfalls must have a "No Dumping" message cast in the lid. All circular storm catch basins that are rehabilitated or installed in capital projects are required to use this updated lid design, and grates are labeled with a standard stencil with a "No Dumping" message.

Education material will continue to be distributed annually at public events. The city will continue to utilize the 311 system to document stormwater related issues.

4.3.6 Other Illicit Discharge Controls

To assist in tracking and maintaining all of the MS4 information that is being developed through the various City departments, the City has created central locations to consolidate this information. Using the inspection data obtained from Sections 4.3.3 and 4.3.4, DWM has created a master inspection database that holds all of the information and analysis linked to GIS. DWM has provided DOB with access to digital versions of the City's sewer utility drawings via a web-based mapping application, allowing DOB to reference the City's sewer records as part of their project review process. Additionally, DWM worked with AIS to develop a central data repository that each of the City departments have access to for secured sharing of MS4 documents and tracking compliance. The city provides contact numbers that the public can use to submit storm water and illicit discharge related complaints.

4.4 Construction Site Runoff Control

The City strives to regulate and control stormwater runoff from construction locations throughout the City through coordination by DOB, CDA, DWM, and DPH. By controlling runoff at the construction sites, sediment and pollutant transfer is significantly reduced, which greatly benefits the adjacent waterbodies.

4.4.1 Regulatory Control Program

A key component of the City's strategy to control construction site runoff is through DOB's stormwater management review process for all regulated projects. Per the Municipal Code of Chicago Chapter 11-18 – Stormwater Management, any construction activity, excavation, or grading that "disturbs a land area or substantially contiguous land areas of 15,000 or more square feet in the aggregate", "creates an at-grade impervious surface of 7,500 or more substantially contiguous square feet", or "results in any discharges of stormwater into any waters or separate sewer system" shall be considered a Regulated Development and must submit documents through the stormwater management review process.

After the Regulated Development submits their stormwater management documents to the City, DOB reviews the submittal for compliance with the City's Stormwater Ordinance. Further details about the review process and regulatory program, including processes for post-construction runoff control, will be discussed in Sections 4.4.2, 4.4.4, 4.5.2, 4.5.3, 4.5.4, and 4.5.5. Construction cannot proceed on Regulated Developments until DOB gives permission.

Additionally, as a significant portion of O'Hare is in a non-industrial MS4 drainage area, CDA ensures that the applicable projects adhere to the appropriate stormwater management regulations including obtaining and maintaining coverage under IEPA General NPDES Permit No. ILR10. For all sites over one acre or part of a larger development pursuant to sections Part I.B.1 and Part IV. of General Permit ILR10, stormwater pollution prevention plans (SWPPP) are developed for each construction site as part of the ILR10 permit coordination. ILR10 permits are obtained directly by CDA for continuity purposes.

4.4.2 Erosion and Sediment Control BMPs

The City works to ensure that proper erosion and sediment control BMPs are being followed during construction. As part of the Regulatory Control Program discussed in Section 4.4.1, DOB and DWM review and update the Regulations for Sewer Construction and Stormwater Management and the Stormwater Management Ordinance Manual, which can be seen in **Appendix E** (Link). These documents are what contractors, engineers, and owners are required to follow as part of their submittal process for Regulated Developments. Additionally, to ensure that DWM field personnel and mason inspectors are up to date about the latest regulations, DOB stormwater reviewers hold office and field trainings for DWM staff.

For Regulated Development submittals, DOB reviews erosion and sediment control plans to verify compliance with the Stormwater Ordinance. Once plans have been confirmed to contain the proper controls, DOB requires the permittee to sign a soil erosion and sediment control affidavit to ensure proper measures are followed during construction.

Through DPH's routine examinations of construction sites, locations are inspected for cleanliness per Municipal Code of Chicago Chapter 13-32 – Building Permits. Sites are examined to ensure that mud and dust trackout is not occurring outside of the designated construction area. When applicable, DPH issues tickets for construction site cleanliness violations per ordinance number 11- 4 - 765.

For each applicable project at O'Hare, CDA ensures erosion and sediment control BMPs and practices comply with the Illinois Urban Manual, in addition to the City Stormwater Ordinance.

4.4.3 Other Waste Control Program

To encourage sustainability design, the City developed the Chicago Sustainable Development Policy. Implemented in 2004 and most recently updated in 2024, the program requires projects to enhance their

sustainable performance to receive City assistance, which can include financial support or specific approvals from the City.

In order to receive City assistance on a given project, the design must be judged to have met numerous sustainability measures. The requirements are broken down into the following categories: Health, Energy, Stormwater Management, Landscapes, Green Roofs, Water, Transportation, Solid Waste, Workforce, and Wildlife. Each measure that is met is given a score that adds up to the overall design score. If the design exceeds the necessary threshold, then the project can receive City assistance.

Specific to the Stormwater Management category, the Chicago Sustainable Development Policy provides six possible measures to obtain points: Exceed Stormwater Ordinance by 25%, Exceed Stormwater Ordinance by 50%, 100% Stormwater Infiltration, Sump Pump Capture and Reuse, 100-year Detention for Lot-to-Lot Buildings, and 100-year Detention for Bypass. For the first three options, only one measure can be obtained as they overlap each other.

A copy of the Chicago Sustainability Development Policy matrix can be found in **Appendix F** (Link).

4.4.4 Site Plan Review Procedures

As part of the Regulatory Control Program discussed in Section 4.4.1, DOB reviews site plans submitted by Regulated Developments for compliance with the City's Stormwater Ordinance. Before construction can begin, DOB must approve site plan designs to ensure proper construction site runoff control measures will be implemented. This also includes construction at O'Hare, where as-built drawings are submitted following the completion of construction and final site surveys.

4.4.5 Site Inspection and Enforcement Procedures

Throughout construction at O'Hare, inspections are performed by the Contractor/Construction Manager on a weekly basis and following a precipitation event greater than 0.5 inches to ensure erosion and sediment control measures have been installed and are operating correctly. Additionally, the North Cook County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) inspects ongoing projects on a bi-weekly basis to confirm compliance with applicable plans/permit conditions. The CDA can withhold payment to a Contractor for non-compliance until the Contractor takes corrective action.

4.4.6 Other Construction Site Runoff Controls

Although debris should be retained on site during construction efforts, DWM requests contractors to cover adjacent catch basins to prevent debris from entering the sewer system. With a mesh cover installed on the catch basins during construction operations, miscellaneous particles are prevented from inflowing while stormwater can still flow into the system.

4.5 Post-Construction Runoff Control

To meet the Post-Construction Runoff Control portion of the Six Minimum Controls, the City promotes, regulates, and installs green infrastructure BMPs to retain stormwater on-site. By limiting the amount of stormwater leaving a redeveloped area, less flow is conveyed to the sewer system, which leads to a reduction of pollutant transfer to the sewers and ultimately to the adjacent waterbodies.

4.5.1 Community Control Strategy

Concurrently with the ongoing construction efforts throughout the City, City departments have installed green infrastructure to control runoff after the project has been constructed. The following list provides examples of types of projects and their corresponding green infrastructure installations that the City has completed or has planned:

- Road Reconstruction – bioswales, infiltration trenches, rain gardens
- Streetscape and Traffic Calming –planter boxes, rain gardens
- Schoolyard Restoration – rain gardens
- Parking Lot Transformation – green landscaping
- Sewer and Water Replacement
- Green Roof – rain gardens
- Resilient Corridor – green landscaping, rain gardens, planter boxes
- Green Alley
- Permeable Pavement

4.5.2 Regulatory Control Program

As part of the Regulatory Control Program discussed in Section 4.4.1, DOB and DWM review and update the Regulations for Sewer Construction and Stormwater Management and the Stormwater Management Ordinance Manual. Post-construction runoff control measures in these documents are reviewed each year to ensure the proper standards are being mandated.

4.5.3 Long Term O&M Procedures

To ensure site runoff is controlled long term after construction is completed, the City requires Regulated Developments to produce and follow Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Plans. The O&M Plans describe the procedures for installed stormwater BMPs, such as green roofs, biofiltration systems, detention systems, restrictors, etc. Through the stormwater management submittal process, DOB verifies that O&M Plans are developed prior to the beginning of construction and confirms through post-construction inspections that the O&M Plan is being followed.

4.5.4 Pre-Construction Review of BMP Designs

As part of the Regulatory Control Program discussed in Section 4.4.1, DOB reviews site plans submitted by Regulated Developments for BMP design compliance with the City's Stormwater Ordinance. To help control post-construction runoff, the City's Stormwater Ordinance mandates BMP designs are installed to manage the peak rate of discharge from a development.

4.5.5 Post-Construction Inspections

Following substantial completion of all Regulated Developments, DOB performs site inspections to ensure post-construction runoff controls are in compliance with the City's Stormwater Ordinance. Performed by a licensed professional engineer, developments are also evaluated for conformity with site plans, approvals, and permit conditions. For detention basins, inspections are completed routinely until permanent soil stabilization is established.

4.6 Pollution Prevention/ Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations

The last piece of the City's approach to comply with NPDES Permit ILR40 requirements is through pollution prevention and good housekeeping measures. Through trainings, sewer maintenance and rehabilitation, waste collection and disposal, salt runoff control measures, pollution prevention plans, and site management BMPs, the City reduces the quantity of contaminants that reach the Chicago area waterbodies from stormwater runoff.

4.6.1 Employee Training Program

A strategy that the City employs to reduce pollution from stormwater runoff from City activities is through the training of employees and contractors. AIS, CDA, CDOT, DOB, DSS, and DWM utilize training materials and sessions about stormwater management and pollution prevention BMPs as well as the design, installation, maintenance, and repair of green infrastructure, that are specific to the individual departments and the employee's role. Some of the topics included in these trainings are listed below:

- City's Sustainable Operations plan
- Updates to Chicago's Stormwater Requirements
- Spill control and response
- Salt application and storage
- Street sweeping debris collection and disposal
- Street sweeping protocols for green alleys
- Design and installation requirements of various green infrastructure technologies
- Inspection, maintenance, and repair activities of various green infrastructure technologies

4.6.2 Inspection and Maintenance Program

The City has instituted robust sewer cleaning, rehabilitation, and replacement programs that remove debris buildup from the sewer system, repairs aging or deteriorated assets, and upsizes hydraulic deficient sewers. Through methodical cleaning efforts and responses to customer service complaints, DWM's maintenance crews' clean sewers and structures throughout the City, including approximately 15,000 catch basins each year.

To maintain and improve the performance levels of the system, DWM lines and replaces sewers and structures. As part of the Sewer Lining Program, DWM lined 630 miles of sewer from 2012 through 2024 and plans to line approximately 42 miles in 2025. In addition to lining sewers, DWM lined over 103,770 structures from 2012 through 2023 and plans to line around 8,000 structures in 2024. Through the Sewer Main Improvement Program, DWM replaced approximately 221 miles of sewer from 2012 through 2024 and plans to replace around 22 miles in 2025.

4.6.3 Municipal Operations Stormwater Control

To prevent medium to large sized debris from entering catch basins at the surface, DWM has switched the standard catch basin lid to have smaller slots for runoff collection. For catch basins that are part of a Capital Improvement Plan project, or are rehabbed or replaced as a separate task, new catch basins lids are installed to minimize the quantity of debris entering the system. These narrow slot lids are also better suited for wheelchairs and bicycles as it is less likely that a wheel or tire will slip through the slots.

4.6.4 Municipal Operations Waste Disposal

As part of the City's plan to prevent pollutants from contaminating area waterbodies through stormwater runoff, DSS, CDA, and AIS perform routine street sweeping and waste disposal.

During the sweeping season of April through November, DSS deploys a street sweeper every working day for each of the 50 wards in the City. DSS averages sweeping 200,000 miles of streets 2,000 alleys, and collecting 150,000 cubic yards of waste per year. Collected debris from the street sweeping efforts is disposed of per standardized waste disposal procedures.

When appropriate throughout the year, CDA collects and disposes of excess waste from airfield pavement before it can enter the downstream MS4 sewer system. Utilizing a waste collection contractor, municipal operations debris is collected from airfield pavement and taken off-site to a municipal landfill.

Due to the Riverwalk's significant pedestrian traffic and proximity to the Chicago River, AIS operates one to two trash collecting skimmer boats along the Riverwalk during the warm weather months. With direct access to the water for pedestrians and sheet flow runoff locations along the Riverwalk, waste can enter the Chicago River from pollution, so the skimmer boats collect waste that could have traversed down the Chicago River.

4.6.5 Flood Management/Assess Guidelines

To maintain the integrity of the City's floodplain, DOB performs floodplain reviews for all regulated projects within or adjacent to the mapped floodplain. Reviews are completed by professional engineers and certified floodplain managers and ensure that proper floodplain controls are performed.

4.6.6 Other Municipal Operations Controls

In addition to the measures mentioned in Sections 4.6.1 through 4.6.5, the City performs additional miscellaneous actions to prevent pollution of the adjacent waterbodies.

To reduce excess salt runoff from deicing operations, DSS instituted numerous BMPs in the storage and application of salt. Through the use of indoor or covered storage locations, impervious pads, runoff containment, level loading areas, and good housekeeping control, DSS controls salt runoff from storage facilities. For application operations, DSS performs the following practices: pre-wetting, anti-icing, variable application rates, calibration of equipment, proper operational techniques that are reinforced through supervisor oversight and yearly updates on BMPs, grip of road measurements, and tracking of customer complaints to identify areas of improvement.

As part of the management of the City's vehicles and facilities, AIS follows specific BMPs that prevent pollution. For fleet management, AIS has measures to adhere to during fueling, vehicle and equipment maintenance, outdoor vehicle and equipment storage, vehicle washing, painting, and liquid storage. For facilities management, AIS follows pollution prevention procedures during the storage, handling, and processing of materials, as well as spill response and containment actions.

During operations at the City's airports, CDA ensures compliance with applicable pollution prevention plans. This includes SWPPPs, Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) rules, and Wildlife Hazard Management Plan (WHMP). When required, CDA updates the pollution prevention plans. CDA also implements BMPs to reduce excess salt runoff from salt storage and deicing operations, including salt storage in structures that minimize contact with stormwater and pre-wetting road salt before or during

application to reduce the amount of salt used. For wildlife management, CDA implements a WHMP to reduce wildlife-aircraft collision. Management techniques primarily act to reduce the health and safety risks associated with wildlife strikes, but also limit the pollutants left on airport property by wildlife. The O'Hare Airport WHMP is kept up to date and was last revised in November 2024.

CDOT enforces the environmental terms and conditions throughout the design, construction, maintenance, and management of public way infrastructure. For projects permitted through Army Corps of Engineers and IEPA, CDOT follows the applicable water quality and pollution prevention measures.

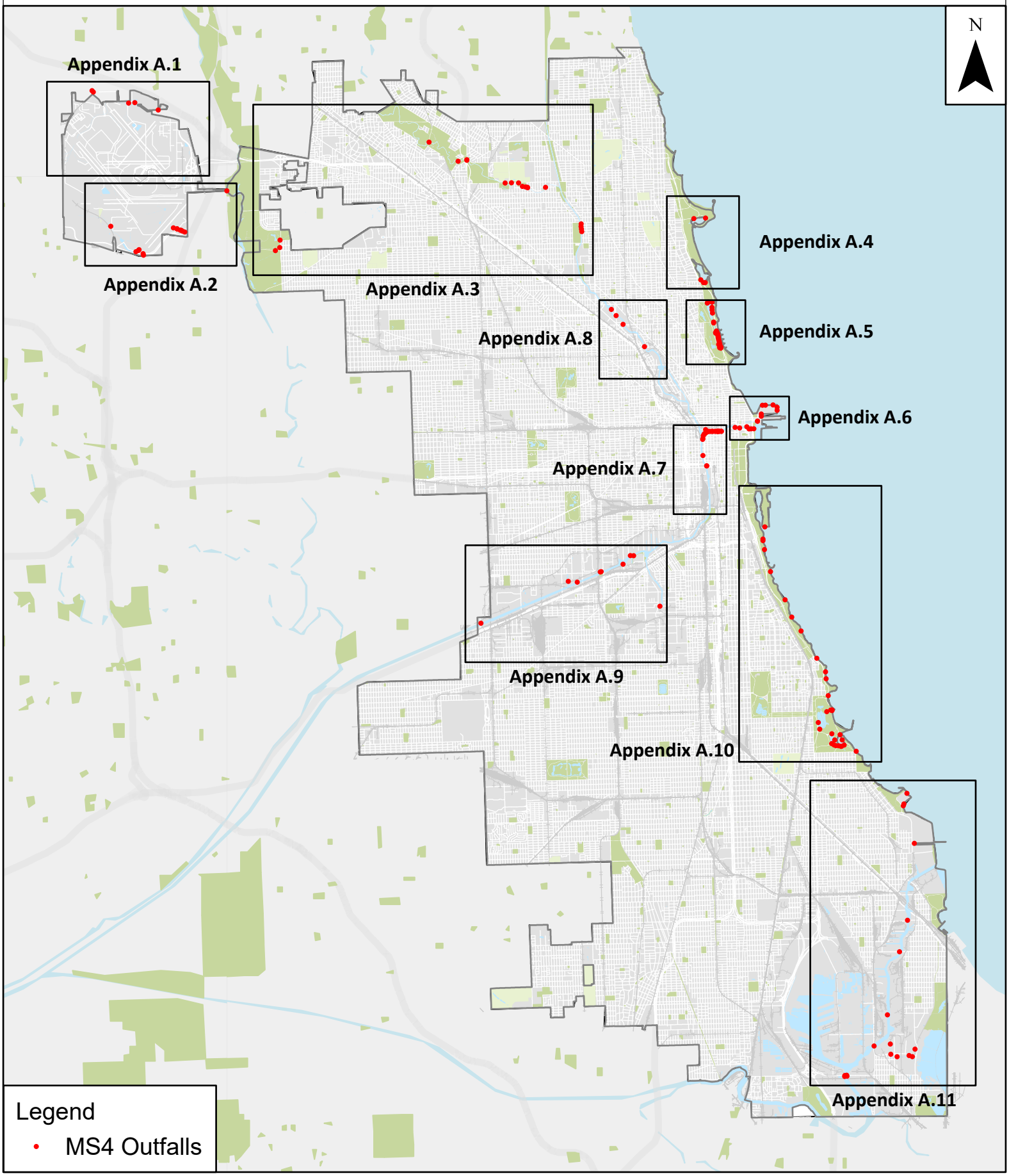
Appendix A

MS4 Outfalls and Waterbodies Maps

MS4 Outfalls

Department of Water Management
Randy Conner, Commissioner

City of Chicago
Brandon Johnson, Mayor



Updated as of 07/17/2025

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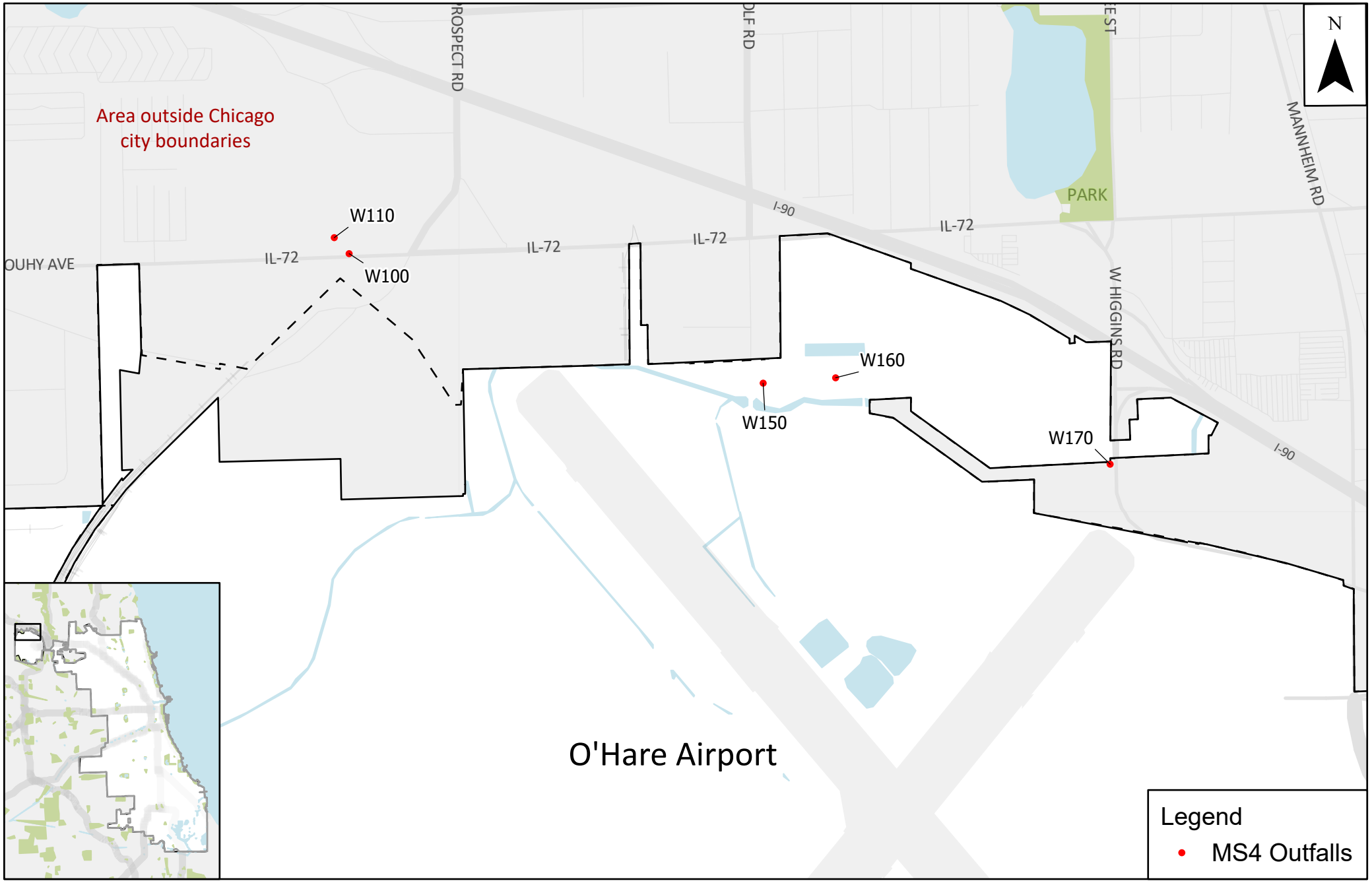
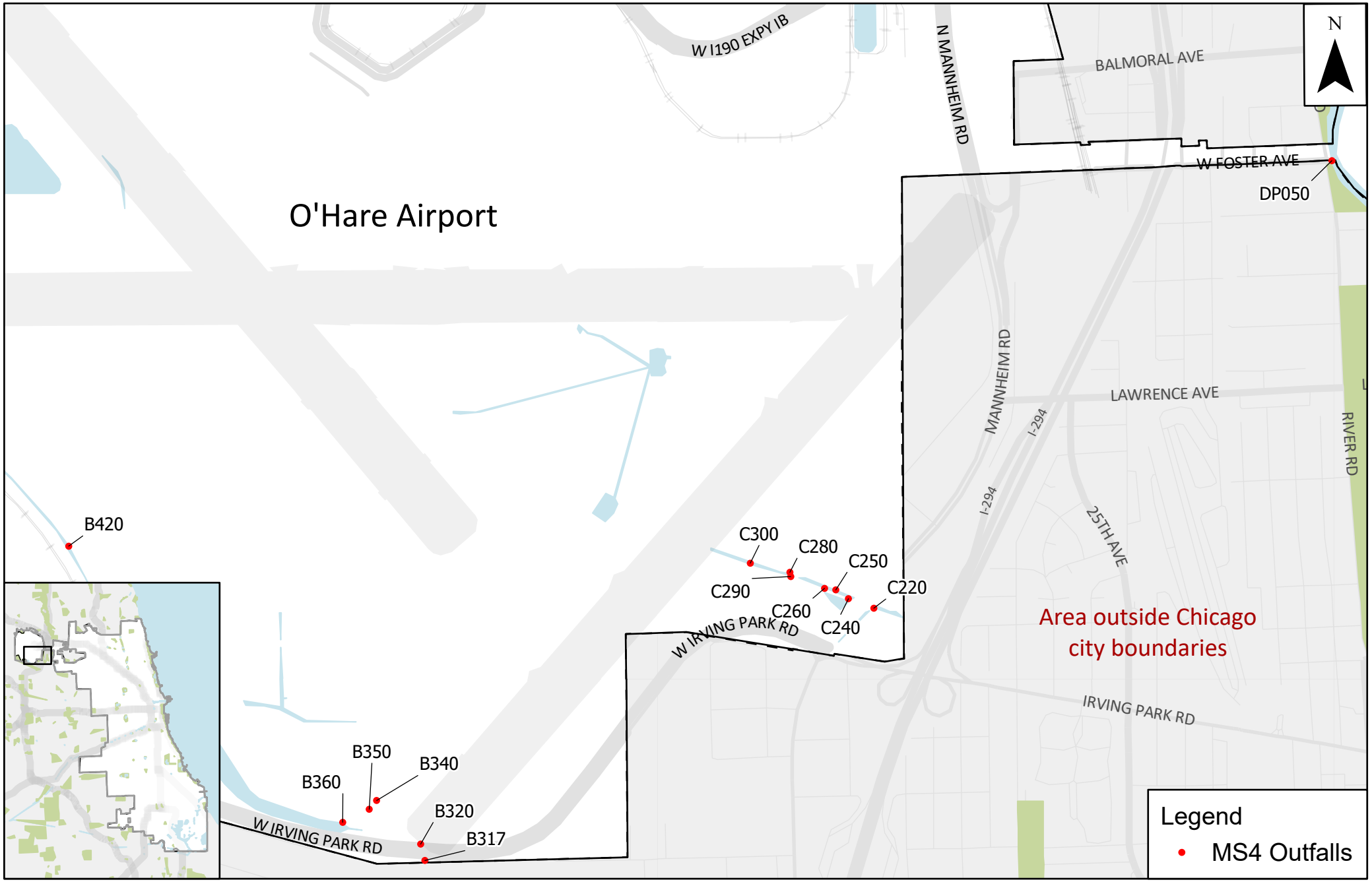


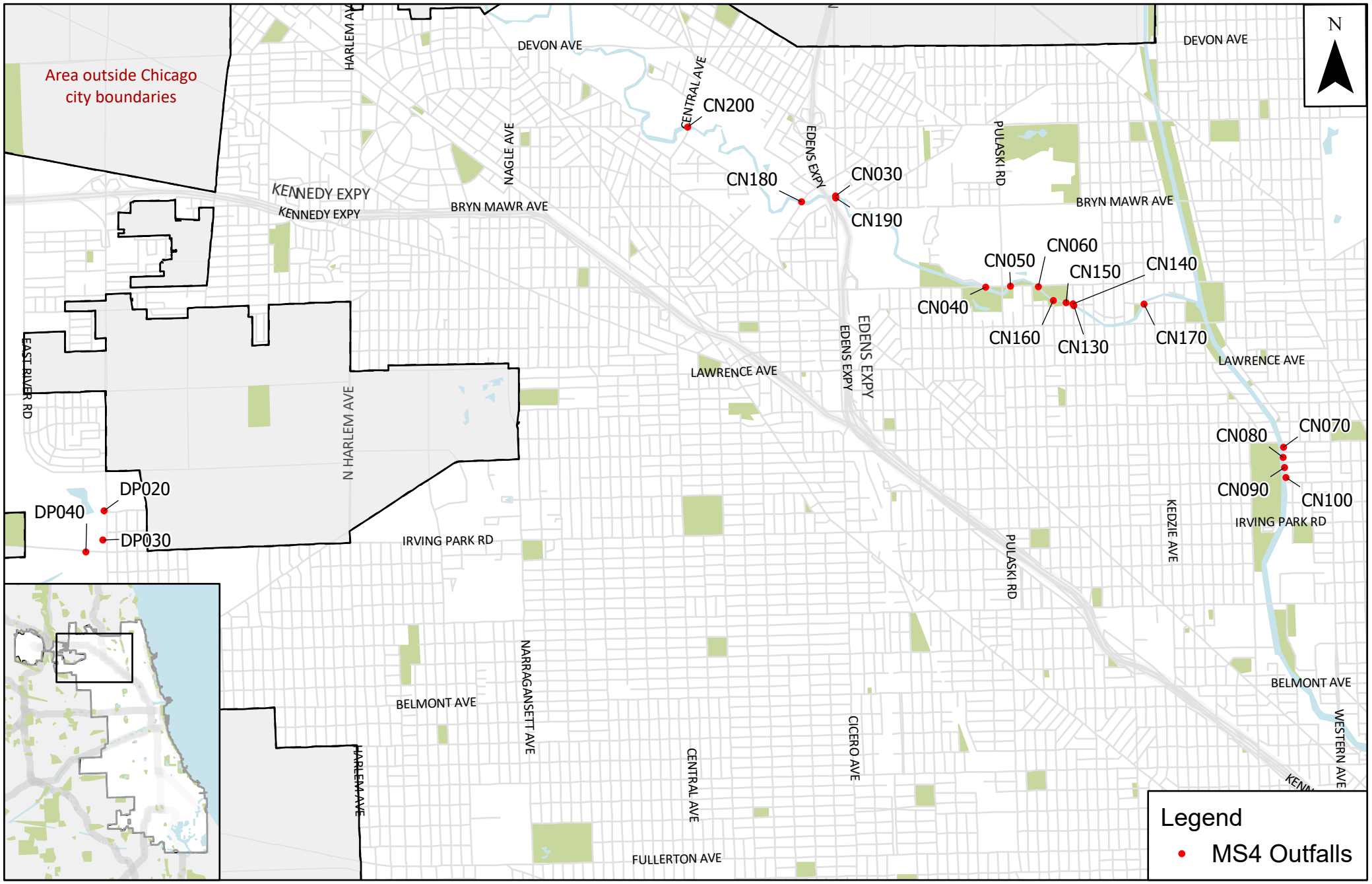
City of Chicago
Department of Water Management

MS4 Outfall Locations
Appendix A.1



City of Chicago
Department of Water Management

MS4 Outfall Locations
Appendix A.2



City of Chicago
Department of Water Management

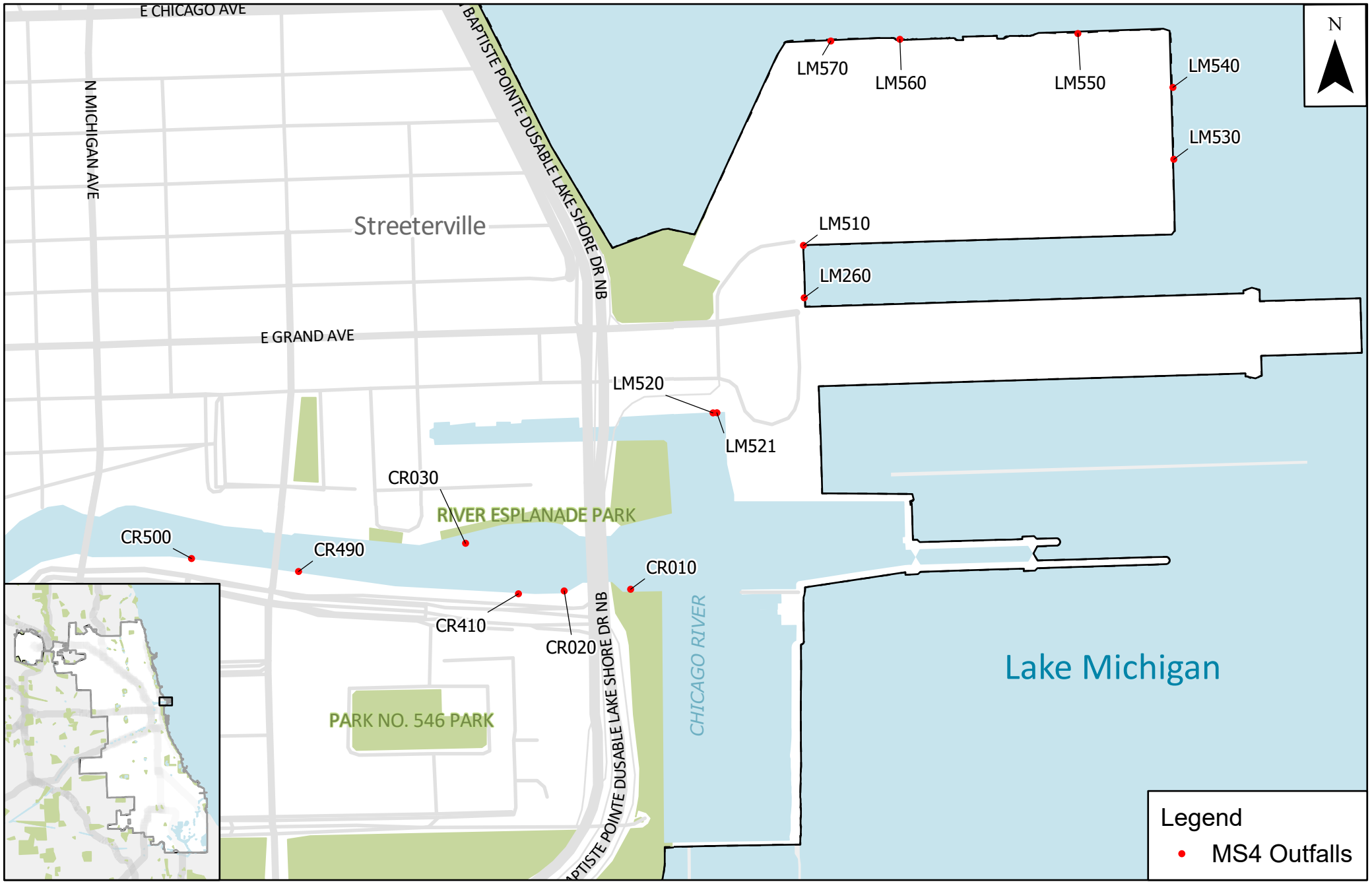
MS4 Outfall Locations
Appendix A.3

City of Chicago
Department of Water Management

MS4 Outfall Locations
Appendix A.4

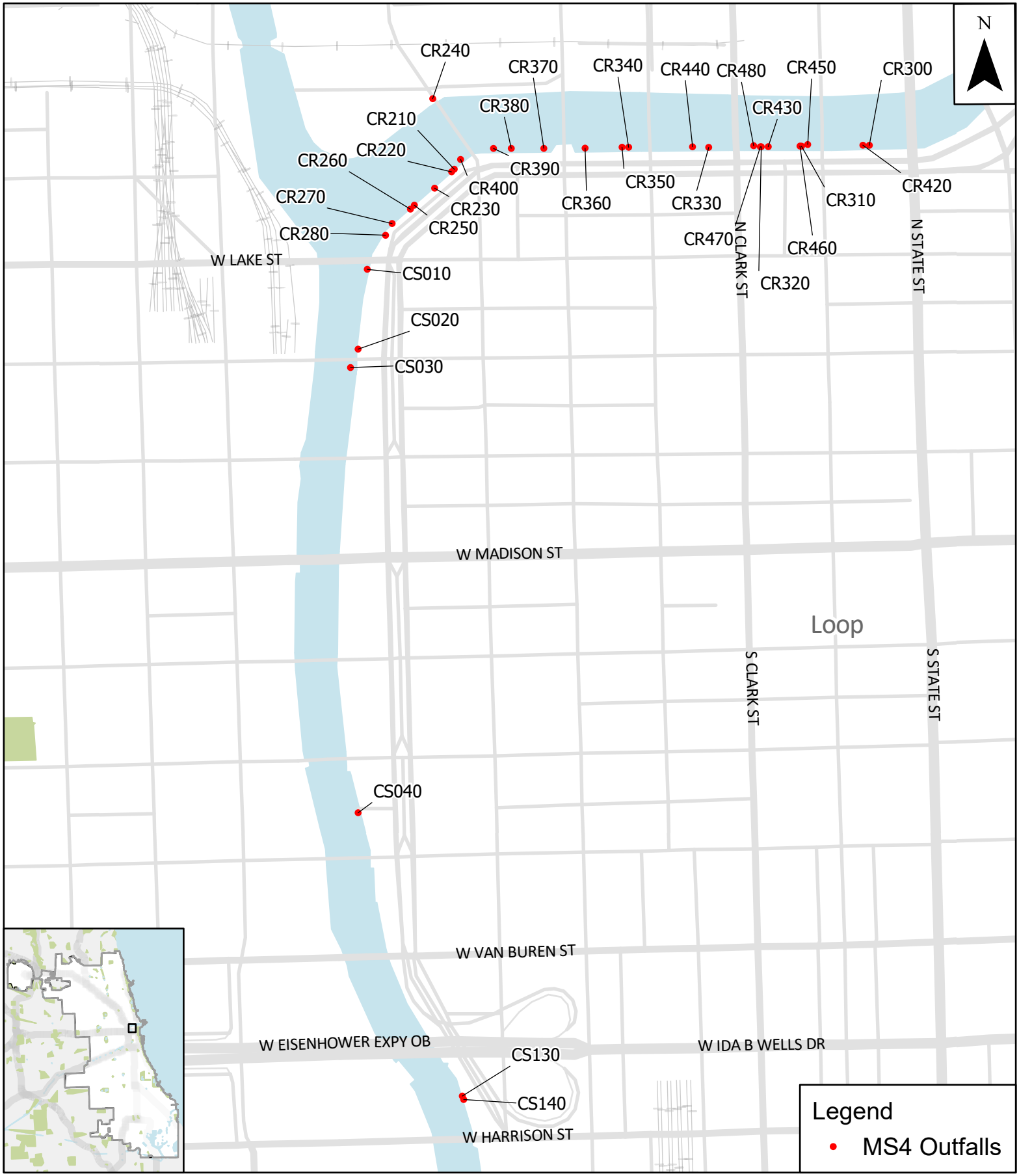
City of Chicago
Department of Water Management

MS4 Outfall Locations
Appendix A.5



City of Chicago
Department of Water Management

MS4 Outfall Locations
Appendix A.6

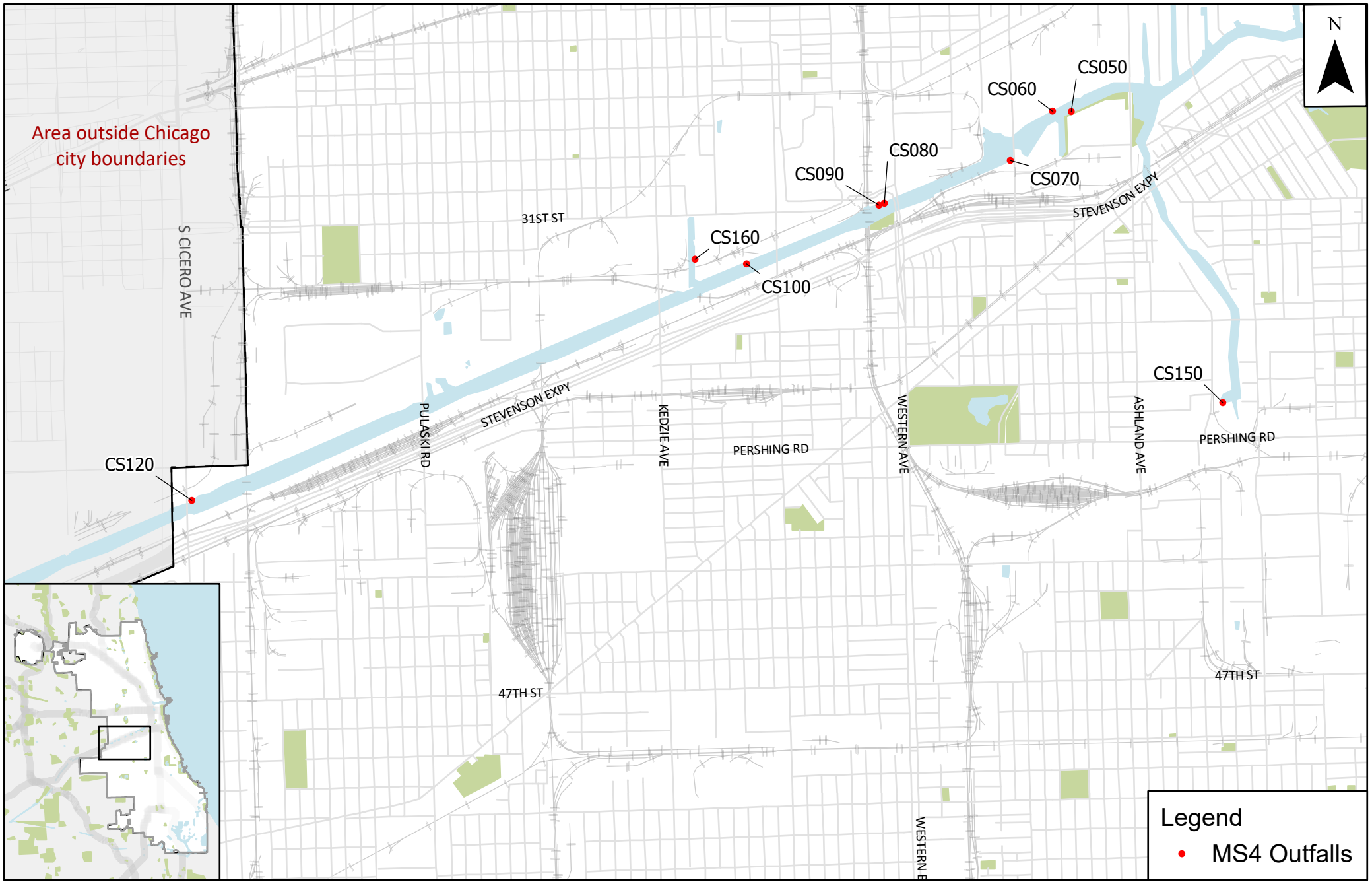


City of Chicago
Department of Water Management

MS4 Outfall Locations
Appendix A.7

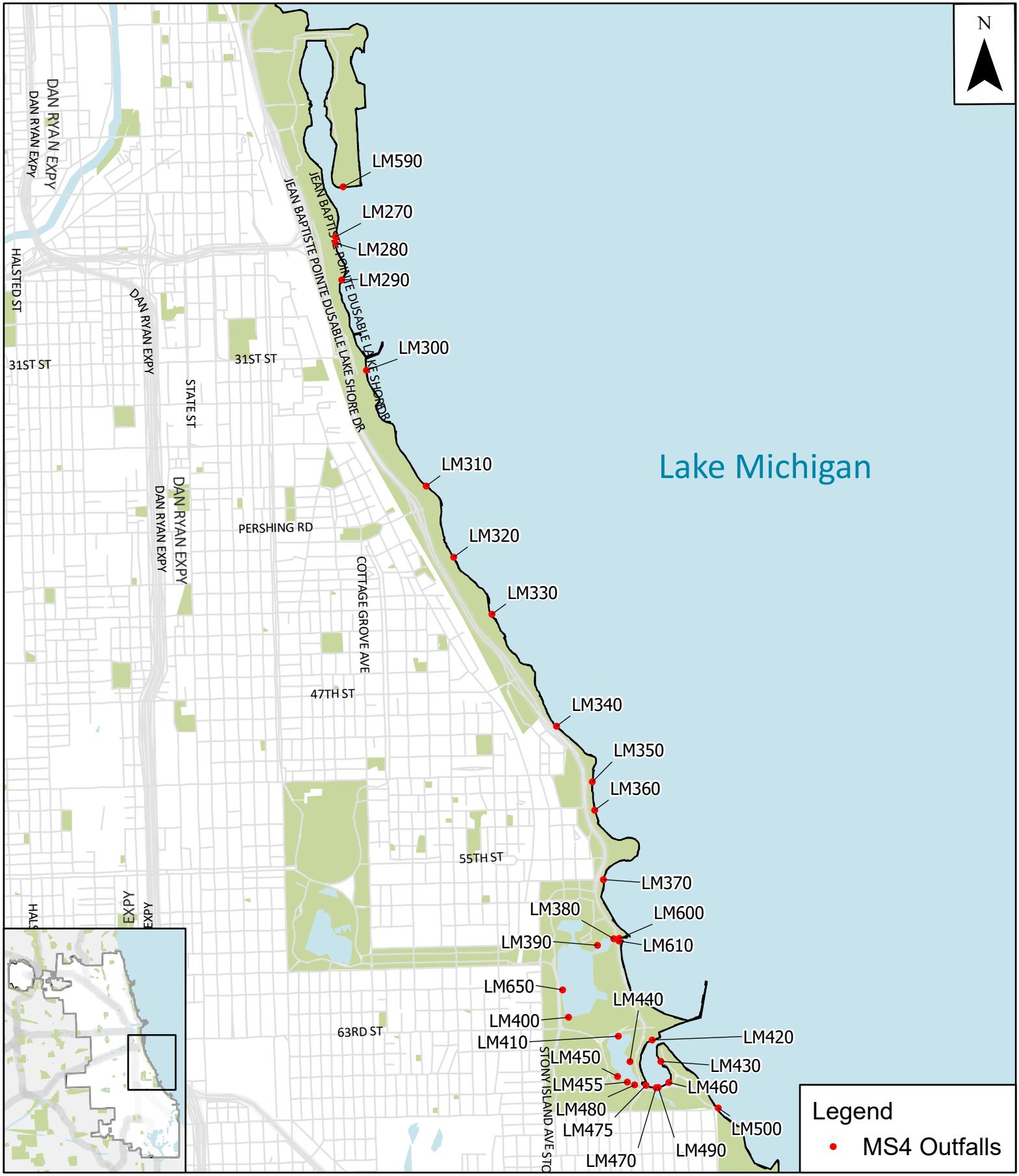
City of Chicago
Department of Water Management

MS4 Outfall Locations
Appendix A.8



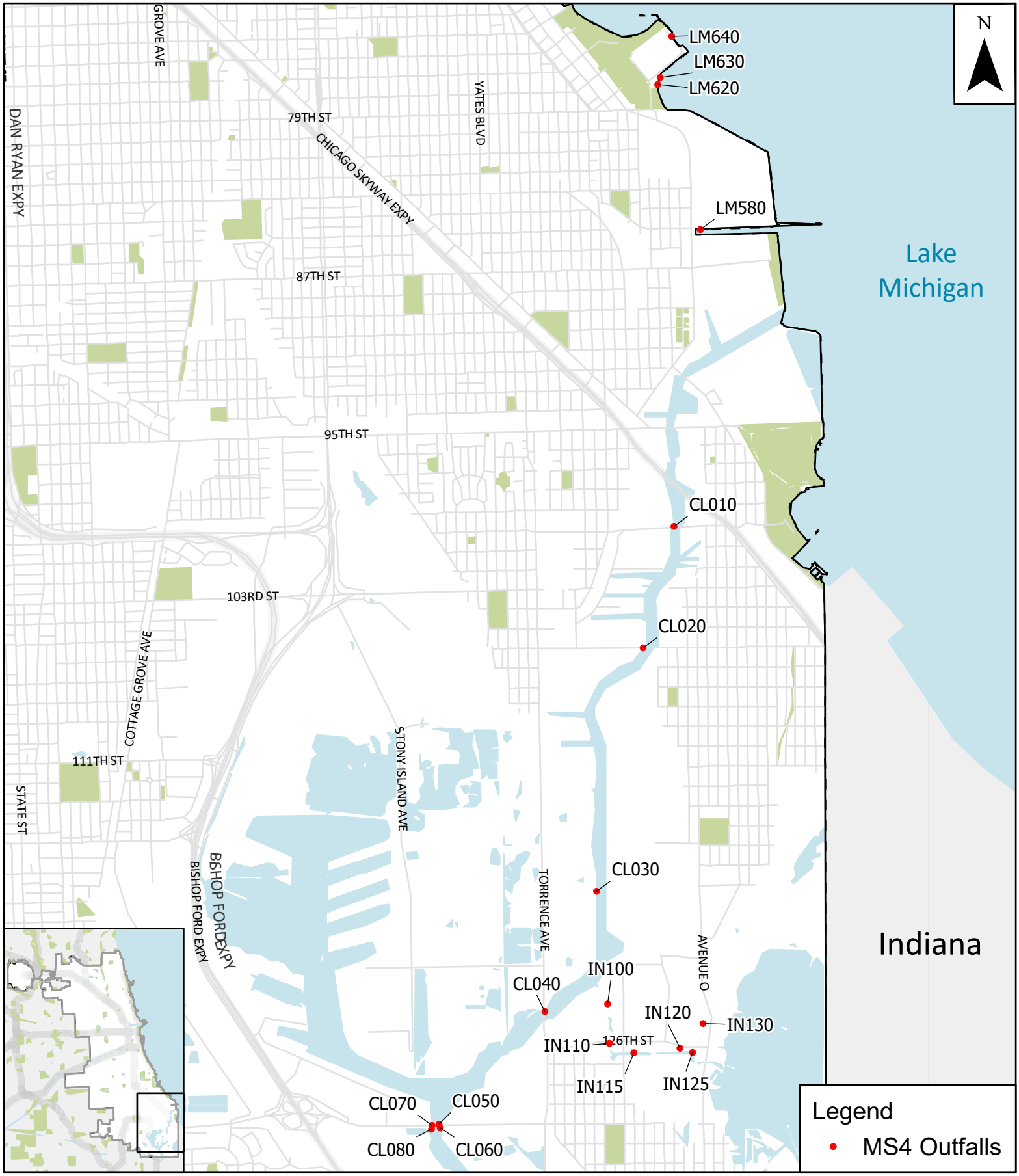
City of Chicago
Department of Water Management

MS4 Outfall Locations
Appendix A.9



City of Chicago
Department of Water Management

MS4 Outfall Locations
Appendix A.10



City of Chicago
Department of Water Management

MS4 Outfall Locations
Appendix A.11

Appendix C

Stormwater Management Municipal Code

CHAPTER 11-18

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

11-18-010 Title and purpose.

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Chicago Stormwater Management Ordinance". It is hereby declared to be the policy of the City to promote programs that minimize the negative stormwater impacts of new development and redevelopment.

(Added Coun. J. 12-13-06, p. 95586, § 1)

11-18-020 Definitions.

For the purposes of this chapter, unless the context requires otherwise, the following terms, regardless of whether or not they are capitalized, shall have the definitions set forth below:

Applicant. A person applying for a Stormwater Management Plan approval or an amendment thereto or variance therefrom. An Applicant must be the Owner or Developer of the Regulated Development specified in the Plan.

Average Dry-Weather Flow. Non-stormwater flow that consists of either (a) sanitary flow as quantified in 35 Ill. Admin. Code, Subtitle C, Chapter II, Part 370, Appendix B ("Table Number 2 – Commonly Used Quantities of Sewage Flows From Miscellaneous Type Facilities"), as amended, or (b) industrial process water flow as quantified by determining the cubic feet per second released during the average of seven consecutive 24-hour periods.

Best Management Practice (BMP). A measure approved by the commissioner and used to control the adverse stormwater-related effects of development.

Building commissioner. The commissioner of buildings or his designee.

Commissioner. The commissioner of water management or his designee.

Developer. Any person who manages, organizes, oversees, plans or supervises the creation of a Regulated Development.

Drainage Area. Any location from which or through which stormwater moves to a drainage system.

Existing Conditions. The condition of a site in the ten years prior to the date of a Plan submission, as shown on historical aerial photographs or other verifiable documentation. If a site has been demolished and/or cleared within such ten-year period, its conditions prior to such demolition and/or clearing may be used as a basis for existing conditions.

Impervious Surface. A surface which substantially precludes the infiltration of water, such as concrete, asphalt, tile or compacted gravel.

Infiltration. The passage, movement or percolation of water into and through soil surfaces, including soil surfaces on roofs and in landscaped areas.

Owner. The owner, manager, agent or other person in charge, possession or control of a Regulated Development or any part thereof.

Plan. The Stormwater Management Plan required by this chapter.

Regulated Development or *Development.* Any construction activity, excavation or grading, commencing on or after January 1, 2008, that:

(a) disturbs a land area or substantially contiguous land areas of 15,000 or more square feet in the aggregate. Land areas separated by public right-of- way at the conclusion of development shall not be deemed "substantially contiguous" to each other for purposes of this definition. For purposes of calculating square footage pursuant to this paragraph (a), "land area" shall include twenty-five percent of the square footage of the sidewalls of a building that directly connects to the sewer system via side gutters, and shall also include any average dry-weather flow based on a conversion rate of 1.0 cfs (cubic feet per second) into one acre (43,560 square feet), or

(b) creates an at-grade impervious surface of 7,500 or more substantially contiguous square feet, or

(c) results in any discharges of stormwater into any waters or separate sewer system.

For purposes of this definition, square footage shall be calculated based upon the project as a whole, regardless of whether construction proceeds in phases. A Regulated Development shall not include projects located entirely within the public right-of-way at the conclusion of development. With respect to a project located both on the public right-of-way and on private property at the conclusion of development, that portion of the project located on the public right-of-way will not be included in calculating the square footage thresholds of subparagraphs (a) and (b) of this definition. If a project includes Residential Development, the Residential Development will not be included in calculating the square footage thresholds of subparagraphs (a) and (b) of this definition.

Residential Development. A Regulated Development, or portion thereof, which upon completion will result in the subdivision of land into detached single-family or two-family dwellings.

Runoff. The water derived from precipitation falling onto a Regulated Development which is in excess of the infiltration capacity of the soils of that Development, which flows over the surface of the ground or is collected in any watercourse.

Stormwater. Water derived from any form of precipitation.

Stormwater Drainage System. Any and all natural and artificial means used in combination to conduct stormwater to, through, or from a Drainage Area to the point of infiltration or final outlet from a Regulated Development. A Stormwater Drainage System includes, but is not limited to, any of the following: conduits and appurtenance features, canals, channels, ditches, streams, culverts, streets, storm sewers, detention basins, swales, vegetated areas and pumping stations.

Stormwater Management Plan. A detailed formulation of a program of action which describes a proposed or existing Stormwater Drainage System and environmental features applicable to a Regulated Development. The Plan shall include programs for grading and drainage, operations and maintenance, and soil, sediment and erosion control. These programs shall consist of written documentation, scaled maps and drawings with supporting engineering calculations.

Watercourse. Any channel, natural or artificial, lined or unlined, through which water flows or may flow.

Waters. All watercourses and all lakes, ponds, wetlands and other bodies of water, whether natural or artificial, that are located wholly or partly within or adjoining the territorial boundaries of the City.

(Added Coun. J. 12-13-06, p. 95586, § 1; Amend Coun. J. 11-8-12, p. 38872, § 208)

11-18-030 Stormwater management plan – Required.

Every Regulated Development shall at all times have in place a Plan approved by the City. In addition to such other requirements as the commissioner may set forth by regulation, the Plan shall include the following:

(a) Provisions for Stormwater Management:

(1) *Rate Control.* Stormwater Drainage Systems shall manage the peak rate of discharge from the Regulated Development, incorporating the maximum permissible release rate. Provided, however, that Developments that create an at-grade impervious surface of less than 7,500 substantially contiguous square feet and that directly discharge to waters shall not be subject to the rate control requirements of this subparagraph (a)(1).

(2) *Volume Control.* Stormwater drainage systems shall reduce the volume of runoff from a Regulated Development by one of the following measures:

(A) capture one-half inch of runoff from all impervious surfaces in accordance with volume control BMPs; or

(B) for Developments that do not directly discharge to waters or to a municipal separate storm sewer system, achieve a fifteen percent reduction in impervious surfaces from existing conditions.

(b) Provisions for sediment and erosion control.

(c) Provisions for operations and maintenance.

(Added Coun. J. 12-13-06, p. 95586, § 1)

11-18-040 Stormwater management plan – Exceptions.

(a) A Plan shall not be required for Residential Development.

(b) The volume control requirements of a Plan shall not apply to the following:

(1) Developments that do not directly discharge to waters or to a municipal separate storm sewer system and that will upon

completion of development have less than fifteen percent impervious surfaces.

(2) Developments consisting of surfaces at an airport that are intended for aircraft operation.

(3) Developments taking place at any facility that is operating under a permit issued pursuant to the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System, 40 C.F.R. Part 122, as amended, for industrial or municipal discharges.

(Added Coun. J. 12-13-06, p. 95586, § 1)

11-18-050 Stormwater management plan – Submission, approval and compliance.

(a) The submission of the Plan required by this chapter shall be made by the Applicant to the building commissioner in such form(s) and format(s) as the commissioner may require. As part of the Plan submission, the Applicant shall provide such information regarding the site and its proposed uses as the application may require. The Plan submission shall be submitted as part of the sewer permit review process required by Chapter 11-16 of the Code. The building commissioner shall be the custodian of all such submissions.

(b) The Plan shall be valid only upon approval by the building commissioner.

(c) Before a Plan may be approved, the Applicant must certify to the building commissioner that the Applicant has met or will meet, in addition to the requirements of this chapter, all other city, county, state, and federal requirements related to floodplains, wetlands and water quality.

(d) Following Plan approval and completion of construction, the Owner shall provide to the building commissioner, in such time frame as established by regulation, as-built drawings of the Development in such form(s) and format(s) as the commissioner of water management may require. Consistent with applicable law, the building commissioner shall treat such as-built drawings as confidential trade secrets, and shall provide the Owner with a copy of any appeal, received by the building commissioner, of the building commissioner's notice of denial provided to a third party seeking inspection and copies of such drawings.

(Added Coun. J. 12-13-06, p. 95586, § 1; Amend Coun. J. 11-8-12, p. 38872, § 209)

11-18-060 Stormwater management plan – Amendment.

A Regulated Development shall be developed, operated and maintained in compliance with its approved Plan until such time as the City approves an amendment or other modification of the Plan for that Regulated Development. The submission of a request for amendment shall be made to the building commissioner in such form(s) and format(s) as the commissioner of water management may require. The building commissioner shall review any request for amendment and shall notify the Applicant of the result of such review. An amendment may only be granted if the building commissioner determines that the amendment will not have a detrimental effect on the Plan.

(Added Coun. J. 12-13-06, p. 95586, § 1; Amend Coun. J. 11-8-12, p. 38872, § 210)

11-18-070 Change of ownership.

(a) Upon a change of ownership of a Regulated Development, each new Owner of the Regulated Development or any part thereof shall comply with the Plan approved for that Regulated Development until such time as the building commissioner approves an amendment or other modification of the Plan for that Development.

(b) A change of ownership of a Regulated Development shall not be considered to be an amendment. However, the Owner of a Regulated Development for which a Plan is required or has been approved shall notify each new Owner of the applicability of the Plan to the Regulated Development, and provide each new Owner with a copy of the Plan, before consummation of the sale of the Development. A violation of this subsection (b) shall be punishable by a fine of $500.00.

(Added Coun. J. 12-13-06, p. 95586, § 1; Amend Coun. J. 11-8-12, p. 38872, § 211)

11-18-080 Stormwater management plan – Fees.

A non-refundable fee for review of a Plan submission or variance request shall be remitted to the building commissioner as part of the Plan submission or variance request. The fee for review of a Plan submission, or variance request based upon Section 11-18-090(b)(2), (3) or (4), shall be as follows:

(a) For Regulated Developments affecting less than 50,000 square feet – $1,000.00.

(b) For Regulated Developments affecting 50,000 or more square feet – $3,000.00.

The fee for review of a variance request based upon Section 11-18-090(b)(1) shall be 50% greater than the amounts specified in (a) and (b) above.

(c) For amendments to a Plan submitted within one year of Plan approval, the fee shall be $350.00 per submission. For amendments submitted over one year after Plan approval, the fee shall be $500.00 per submission.

(Added Coun. J. 12-13-06, p. 95586, § 1; Amend Coun. J. 11-8-12, p. 38872, § 212)

11-18-090 Variance.

(a) Upon written petition of the Applicant demonstrating that exceptional circumstances exist, the commissioner may grant a variance, in whole or in part, from the requirements of Section 11-18-030. To the extent that the Applicant can comply with Section 11-18-030, the Applicant must do so.

(b) Exceptional circumstances justifying the application of this section shall exist only where the Applicant can clearly demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the commissioner, that one of the following four circumstances exists:

(1) The Applicant cannot comply with Section 11-18-030 because of the site's exceptional physical conditions or circumstances. To demonstrate that such conditions or circumstances exist, the Applicant must provide supporting documentation. At a minimum, the Applicant must show that the site is designed to minimize the peak rate of discharge and volume of stormwater from the Development. Such showing must include a BMP feasibility evaluation for each building, parking area, landscaped area and each other significant footprint at the site. The evaluation must include all necessary technical computations and analyses (examples include engineering, architectural and horticultural analyses) to assess fully the applicability of pertinent BMPs and the extent to which they can be applied to comply with Section 11-18-030.

(2) The Applicant cannot comply with Section 11-18-030 without causing a public nuisance.

(3) The Applicant cannot comply with Section 11-18-030 without violating the Building Code or the Fire Code, as those terms are defined in Section 1-4-090 of the code, or a state or federal law.

(4) The Regulated Development is a registered landmark and compliance with Section 11-18-030 would violate the Regulated Development's landmark status.

(c) Applications for a variance shall be in a form prescribed by the commissioner. All applications for a variance shall bear the notarized signature and certification of a professional architect, engineer or geologist licensed in the State of Illinois.

(d) In applying for a variance, an Applicant may propose, and the commissioner may consider, alternative measures to accomplish the stormwater management goals of this chapter.

(Added Coun. J. 12-13-06, p. 95586, § 1)

11-18-100 Site inspections.

To enable the commissioner, or his designee, to monitor compliance with this chapter, the Owner shall permit access during reasonable hours to those areas of a Regulated Development affected by the Plan.

(Added Coun. J. 12-13-06, p. 95586, § 1; Amend Coun. J. 11-16-11, p. 13798, Art. II, § 6)

11-18-110 Regulations.

The commissioner is authorized to promulgate regulations to effectuate the purposes of this chapter. Any regulations so promulgated shall be considered as an integral part of the Chicago Stormwater Management Ordinance and shall be enforceable, and their violation subject to the same penalties, as set forth in this chapter.

(Added Coun. J. 12-13-06, p. 95586, § 1)

11-18-120 Chapter requirements not exclusive.

The requirements of this chapter shall be in addition to, and shall not relieve any person from compliance with, all other applicable provisions of the code.

(Added Coun. J. 12-13-06, p. 95586, § 1)

11-18-130 Enforcement and penalties.

(a) Except as otherwise specifically provided in this chapter, the commissioner, and his respective designee, are authorized to enforce this chapter and any regulations promulgated hereunder, including the issuance of citations for violations.

(b) Owners, developers and any other persons who violate any provision of this chapter shall be jointly and severally liable for each such violation.

(c) The failure to obtain a plan approval if required by this chapter shall subject the violator to a civil penalty of $5,000.00 to $10,000.00. Except as otherwise specifically provided, other violations of this chapter shall be punishable by a civil penalty of $100.00 to $1,000.00 for each such violation. In addition to any penalties imposed for violations of this chapter, violations of any Plan requirement or condition shall be punishable by a penalty of not less than $100.00 and not more than $1,000.00 for each such violation. Each day a violation continues shall be considered to be a separate violation. In addition to the civil penalties specified herein, the City may recover as an additional civil penalty its attorneys' fees and three times the amount of all costs and expenses incurred by the City in abating or remediating a violation of this chapter.

In addition to any other remedies, penalties or means of enforcement provided in this chapter, if the commissioner, on due investigation, makes a determination of noncompliance, he may request the corporation counsel to make application on behalf of the City to the Circuit Court of Cook County for such other order as the Court may deem necessary or appropriate to secure compliance. The corporation counsel may then institute proceedings on behalf of the City, as provided by law.

(Added Coun. J. 12-13-06, p. 95586, § 1; Amend Coun. J. 11-16-11, p. 13798, Art. II, § 6)

11-18-140 Cease and desist orders.

(a) The commissioner may issue a cease and desist order to stop any person from proceeding with any activity regulated under this chapter when the commissioner has reason to believe that such activity is in violation of this chapter, or that the activity endangers human or animal health, endangers the environment, or has the potential to cause or worsen flooding or wasteful use of water. The

commissioner may enforce a cease and desist order pursuant to this section or pursuant to section 11-18-130(d).

(b) Prior to imposing the penalty specified by this section, the commissioner(s) issuing the cease and desist order shall serve the respondent with a copy of the order, stating the nature and location of the violation, the date by which the respondent must cease and desist the illicit activity, the amount of the applicable penalty for noncompliance, the respondent's right to request an administrative hearing to contest the merits of the order, and the time and manner in which a hearing may be requested. Service of the cease and desist order shall be in the manner set forth in Section 2-14-074 of this code.

(c) (1) Within 10 days of service of the cease and desist order, the respondent may submit to the commissioner(s) a written request for a hearing to be conducted by the City's department of administrative hearings. Upon receipt of a timely request for a hearing, either or both of the commissioners shall institute an enforcement action with the department of administrative hearings. Notice of the administrative hearing shall be given to the respondent in the manner set forth in Section 2-14-074 of this code.

(2) In the event the respondent fails to comply with a cease and desist order or fails to request a hearing within the 10-day period provided in subsection (c)(1) of this section, the commissioner(s) issuing the order may institute an action to enforce the order with the department of administrative hearings. Notice of the administrative hearing shall be given to the respondent in the manner set forth in Section 2-14-074 of this code.

(d) Upon the initiation of an enforcement action pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, the department of administrative hearings shall appoint an administrative law officer who shall conduct the hearing within 30 days of receiving; the request. Chapter 2-14 of the code shall apply to any hearing conducted pursuant to this section. The cease and desist order shall remain in effect until the department of administrative hearings has taken final action on the matter. In addition to imposing fines and penalties consistent with this section, the administrative hearing officer shall have the authority to affirm, vacate or modify the cease and desist order.

(e) The penalty specified by this section shall be imposed either upon expiration of the time period in which the respondent may seek review by the department of administrative hearings, or upon the administrative law officer's finding adverse to the respondent, as applicable.

(f) Violations of an order issued under this section shall be punishable by a penalty of $10,000.00. Each day that the violation continues beyond the specified cessation date shall be deemed a separate offense.

(Added Coun. J. 12-13-06, p. 95586, § 1; Amend Coun. J. 11-16-11, p. 13798, Art. II, § 6)