

November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

## City Council Meeting

### Comments & Position Statements

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#### **PUBLIC FORUM**

#### ***COMMENT ONLY***

**Suburban Climate Action Planning committee (Climate Reality Chicago)** – As the co-chair of the Suburban Climate Action Planning committee of Climate Reality Chicago, I offer the following information to address the statement referencing the 2019 floodplain maps and climate change impacts in the October 28th Manager’s Memo, item #1. The reason why the floodplain maps do not show any changes is because the 2019 Flood Insurance Study (FIS) reuses the 1992 hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) modeling results, as shown in the clips below from the FIS. The FIS is publicly available at FEMA.gov. The precipitation data from Technical Paper No. 40 (TP-40) dates back to 1960. The land surface data is nearly 30 years old. Impervious surfaces associated with land development has increased substantially in the past 30 years; impervious surfaces do not absorb stormwater and create higher flows in creeks and the West Branch DuPage River. Higher flows erode the river channel and overbank which is why the City and Park District have recently completed streambank stabilization projects. Since 1992, the region has experienced many heavy rainfall events, such as the 1996, 2008, 2013, and 2017 events. This data is not represented in the modeling or mapping. The following graphics are from Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS) depicting the precipitation data. ISWS updated Bulletin 70 precipitation design values in 2019 because the historic rainfall record has changed dramatically. The design values result from statistical analysis of the historic record. Climate change is forecast to continue these trends of increased frequency and intensity, not prolonged rainfall (duration) events. With a 2oC warming projected, the atmosphere can hold 14% more moisture. Temperature records show that we have already warmed more than a degree. The historic precipitation data has already exceeded the results of ISWS’s climate change study for the larger design frequencies, showing that climate change is already happening. Similar results have occurred across the country. It is especially problematic that the H&H study uses precipitation data that is 60 years old! The 100-year, 24-hour design storm has increased from 5.5 inches (TP-40) to 8.57 inches (Bulletin 75). Naperville is severely overdue for an update to the H&H and remapping of their floodplains. Be advised that the floodplain boundaries may change significantly, given the new precipitation and land surface data. Floodplain and stormwater management will continue to be more difficult to manage in the future. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) released the “Report for the Urban Flooding Awareness Act” in 2015 which states that more than “90% of the urban flooding damage claims from 2007 to 2014 were outside the mapped floodplain.” It goes on to say that “urban flooding is expected to increase unless action is taken. The storm sewer infrastructure is the underpinning of urban drainage, and action is needed to update aging, undersized systems.” With the update to Bulletin 75, existing stormwater basins and sewers are now considered undersized for our current rainfall amounts. The American Society of Civil Engineer’s (ASCE) Changing Climate committee is discussing how to design infrastructure to ensure our pipes meet the performance during the design life as the weather conditions change. Costs of infrastructure are based upon meeting the design life, usually 25 to 50 years. If storm sewers no longer function as intended 10 years after construction and retrofits have to be made, additional tax dollars are spent on a project when it could have been designed and constructed to operate for the entire design life. Designing for future conditions is the concept behind the federal government’s “Build Back Better” climate-resilient infrastructure plan. Mitigation studies have shown that for every dollar spent building to a higher standard, approximately \$10 is saved on rebuilding infrastructure that did not meet its intended purpose during the design life. The recently published “An Assessment of the Impacts of Climate Change in Illinois” concludes that climate change will have a significant impact on all aspects of life, especially public health. Among the long list of authors on this report are the State Climatologist, Dr. James Angel,

and a leading climate scientist, Dr. Donald Wuebbles. Dr. Wuebbles also authored the National Climate Assessment. Metropolitan Mayors Caucus' Climate Action Plan states that the Chicago region is at high risk for extreme heat and increased precipitation and subsequent flooding due to climate change. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) was one of the lead authors on the plan. Does the City of Naperville staff disagree with NOAA and the nation's leading climate scientists? In conclusion, it appears that the City does not have the expertise internally to comprehend and make sound decisions on these scientific issues. Has the City considered hiring a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) and a Certified Climate Change Professional (CC-P)? Climate Reality is available to provide education on climate change, implementing a climate action plan, reducing emissions, and addressing the impacts of climate change on infrastructure and public health.

**Carl E VanDril (NEST)** – The following memo was sent to City staff in response to the manager's memo of October 28, 2021. We respectfully submit this as a public comment. We recommend that our comments and recommendations be incorporated into City staff plans and actions. Dear Pam Gallahue, Brian Groth, Doug Krieger, Marcie Schatz, and Ben Mjolsness: Naperville Environment and Sustainability Task Force (NEST) would like to respond to the memo from October 28, 2021 from Pam Gallahue and Brian Groth to Doug Krieger with the subject Follow-up from October 21, 2021 City Council meeting. Regarding our climate resiliency, addressed in Point 1, we would like to direct you to the Sustainable Naperville 2036 report for information on the direct impacts to Naperville of climate change: The primary climate risks impacting Naperville are extreme heat, flooding, severe storms and drought. These events cause many economic, infrastructure, environmental and human issues for Naperville residents and businesses, including: Expenses to City for infrastructure repair and construction Human health negative impacts Interruptions in transportation and business operations Property damage Increases in insurance costs Air and water quality deterioration Ecosystem disruption and biodiversity loss Energy system disruptions Food and healthcare supply system disruptions Restrictions on natural resource use Potential credit rating impacts NEST requests the opportunity to meet with decision makers within the City to discuss these issues and what would be involved in a climate vulnerability assessment. Regarding Point 2, on October 6, 2021, we met with the Mayor, who confirmed that NEST could have a seat at the table during the IMEA financial risk assessment process. To this end, we would like to have input on the RFP process to select a contractor. To reach meaningful conclusions, the scope of the assessment must, at a minimum, include the following: Financial projection of status quo, including liabilities related to environmental and health damages, and potential climate litigation. Financial implications of adoption of renewable energy or other technologies or purchase agreements to reduce our carbon footprint. Financial impacts of purchase of renewable energy certificates (RECs) versus investment in clean energy infrastructure. The assessment should involve: IMEA financial transparency. Review of the 2021 RMI report Transition Opportunities for Prairie State Energy Campus, which includes a path to transition away from coal. Investigation of coal debt securitization or other debt refinancing tools. Stakeholder engagement, including NEST. As discussed in Sustainable Naperville 2036, In December 2019, Morgan Stanley noted "the fastest-growing U.S. utilities are those that are moving most aggressively toward clean energy... [while there is a large] re-rating opportunity for utilities with relatively high carbon-intensive power fleets" if they ditch coal to invest in renewables [1]. Naperville customers, as public utility owners and energy consumers, have the right to be informed of and understand the full financial risks and benefits of their energy supply, and determine the cost value of their risk exposure. Regarding Point 3, Sustainable Naperville 2036 does not address carbon capture and storage (CCS) because our research tells us that there are proven technologies that are cheaper and more effective to reduce carbon emissions. Therefore, we feel that it is important to consider CCS as part of the financial risk assessment discussed above. Regarding Point 4, our understanding was that Council's request on October 5, 2021, was that Naperville should work with other municipalities to create a collective voice within IMEA to accelerate the transition to clean energy. Naperville can lead the way, as we have done with our top-ranked public schools, parks, library system, fire department, and so much more. We appreciate that steps to adopt renewable energy have been taken. However, specific, targeted objectives, adopted by IMEA, will ensure that our community can meet

our climate goals to meet the moment. Tying back to Point 2, the discussion with other members should incorporate the need for a complete financial risk analysis and creation of a clean energy transition plan to understand the impact on and options for members and ratepayers. We look forward to continued dialogue and collaboration on these topics. We would be happy to meet with you to elaborate on the above comments - we have NEST experts that can provide research, data, and context. We would also like to refer you to Sustainable Naperville 2036 for additional information. Regards, Cathy Clarkin NEST Chair Carl VanDril NEST City Engagement Leader Jodi Trendler NEST Founder [1] GTM (2020) "How Utilities Can Avoid Being Financially Swamped by the Coal Closure Wave"

**Suburban Climate Action Planning committee** – to answer Councilman Kelly’s question if the financial impacts from climate change can be estimated, there are a number of federal tools available to determine those estimates. FEMA’s National Risk Index provides an Expected Annual Loss estimator for 18 different hazards, including ice storms, extreme heat, and tornadoes. Since flooding is the most significant risk to Naperville, the City can use federal tools such as HAZUS-MH or Flood Impact Analysis (HEC-FIA) to create a detailed estimate of current and future flood losses on a per parcel basis using structure data. However, the flood modeling must be up to date before creating a future conditions scenario. Future precipitation can be estimated from climate model output and utilized in the model to create a map of future floodplain boundaries and elevations. Impacts can be assessed of critical facilities such as Water Service Center (sanitary pumping station), City Hall, and Edward Hospital are not able to operate fully. More frequent urban flooding is predicted from climate change, creating dangerous driving conditions from road flooding and sanitary sewer overflows. Potential damages can be estimated using the future conditions rainfall with the storm and sanitary sewer system models. Results will show where the sewers lack capacity to accommodate future flows; proposed improvements can be modeled to show the reduction of raw sewage or stormwater from leaving the systems. The improvements can be incorporated into the Capital Improvement Program.

**Marilyn L Schweitzer** - Task force volunteers are exceptionally dedicated and hopeful for the betterment of our community. Having their initiatives come to fruition and be recognized by the City takes a tremendous amount of time and perseverance. Yet, the overriding reason to form a Task Force rather than a Commission or Board seems to be to avoid the Open Meetings Act. Yes, this cuts down on staff time and may allow members to work in a more streamlined fashion. But, the distinction between a commission/board and a task force is obscure: • Some task forces are listed on commission/board page. • One task force’s meetings are listed as “Government Meetings”. • Some have @naperville.il.us email addresses. • One has its newsletters sent via E-News. • Some have dedicated city website pages • No where is it publicly stated that they are not subject to the OMA nor why they are not subject to the OMA. Furthermore, beyond the mention that there are meetings, the agendas, minutes, and public involvement is lacking. The City's website should make the distinction between a Task Force and a Board of Commission clear. Since they are endorsed by the city, there should be a well-documented model that allows for wide public input, good public transparency, and consistent City Staff and Council support. It would make it easier for a new task force to form and operate efficiently. I cannot understand why there is a lack a support from City Council for forming such a model unless that by doing so would somehow force the task force subject to the OMA. I encourage City Council to consider this issue during New Business this evening.

## **I2 – Approve Inclusionary Zoning Workshop minutes from 6/21/21**

### **COMMENT ONLY**

**Marilyn L Schweitzer** - The draft minutes exclude comments made by Marilyn Schweitzer and Kristen Tang. Please add their comments before approving the minutes. See

<https://naperville.legistar.com/MeetingDetail.aspx?ID=858524&GUID=14972731-B3B1-4180-ADC8-4533C453C4EE&Options=&Search=> for the missing comments.

**I13 – Waive first reading & pass ordinance terminating temporary 30-min on-street parking regulations in CBD**

***POSITION***

Marilyn L Schweitzer – SUPPORT

**I15 – Pass ordinance proposing & setting public hearing for SSA 34 for streetscape improvements for Block 422 in Downtown**

***POSITION***

Marilyn L Schweitzer – SUPPORT

**I16 – Class S License for Variance**

***POSITION***

James Jacobson (Molly's Cupcakes Naperville) - SUPPPORT

**O1 – Approve the Bridge to 2023 Priorities Plan**

***COMMENT ONLY***

**Marilyn L Schweitzer** - ••• Naperville should invest in the "City's aged aged infrastructure" to help residents, not merely businesses. Please revise the statement. ••• Yes, let's do a statistically valid citizen survey in 2023. Please select a survey organization that has a solid track record. Many municipalities contract with the National Research Center at Polco which seem to be a widely used, well respected research company. ••• Please conduct a city employee engagement and satisfaction survey. It is my understanding that no such survey has been conducted since Mr Sheehan has been with the city. I would hope it would be welcome feedback to ascertain their job satisfaction as well as their ideas as to what would make city operations run better in terms of outcome and less stress. ••• Between City Council and Staff, please take some time to reflect on why Naperville does not seem to have the resources or perseverance to follow through on any sort of long term community planning. The 2011 Naperville Downtown 2030 plan and 2020 Riverwalk 2031 Master Plan are great, but, neither are plans that encompass all of Naperville. There is no strategy or seemingly much desire to create a sense of community or to address the varying needs for our disparate Naperville in a holistic manner.

**O2 – Provide Direction for a potential Affordable Housing Program**

## **COMMENT ONLY**

**Philip Meno (DuPage housing Alliance)** - Mayor Chirico and Esteemed Members of City Council: I am reaching out on behalf of the DuPage Housing Alliance regarding the above-referenced agenda item coming up at this Tuesday night's Council meeting. SB Friedman will be reporting back on their findings regarding voluntary, or incentive-based, affordable housing programs at the meeting, and staff is seeking direction on doing further research and making refinements to the proposed program outlined in the four numbered points in the "Discussion" section of the agenda item. Assuming all that research and developer outreach goes smoothly, the ultimate goal is to draft an ordinance for review by the HRFHC and a Council vote thereon. The DuPage Housing Alliance strongly encourages Council to so direct Staff, Friedman, and Duncan Associates to move forward with the proposed program and ordinance drafting. While the Friedman proposed program certainly does not have all of the features that the Alliance would view as ideal in such an affordable housing ordinance, we understand the direction Friedman was given at the June IZO Workshop and believe they have been necessarily responsive in their program outline to the strong reservations voiced there by certain Council members about mandates, etc. We think they have done an admirable job in finding some hopefully common ground for all Council members. Having an ordinance like this on the books would insure that affordable housing takes its rightful place at the beginning of the developers' project discussions with City staff, instead of the all-too-familiar place it has had at the final City Council sign-off stage. Regards, - Phil Meno on behalf of The DuPage Housing Alliance

**Thompson** – I am supportive of measures to support affordable housing here in Naperville. We need to be welcoming and inclusive of many different economic backgrounds to be a thriving city. High housing prices make it difficult for young professionals out of college, younger families and our senior citizens to reside here. Naperville should be accessible to residents of all income levels, and not just the upper level of income earners.

**Dorothy Stevens** - I am in favor of affordable housing in Naperville both rental and ownership

**Donielle Deering** - I became aware of Naperville's shortage of affordable housing only when I began an initiative for permanent, affordable, supportive housing for Naperville's growing population of adults with IDD (intellectual and developmental disabilities). My family moved to Naperville specifically for the special education programs in Districts 203 and 204 which were better suited for my daughter, Megan, who has autism. Megan is now 25 and my energy has shifted to creating a home for her, and other vulnerable people like her, that is affordable and will provide the daily support that Megan and other tenants will need to live somewhat independently. My goal is to transition my child into a home of her own while I am still able to assist her in everyday life. It is a scary reality that Megan will likely outlive me so I intend to set up a future for her that is fulfilling and makes her happy. Unfortunately, many families do not have a plan and their children become wards of the state. I am grateful to the City of Naperville for listening to what its families need. Both the Council and the Mayor have shown support for these issues as evidenced by the release of a Request for Proposal on City-owned land with the intent of building an affordable, inclusionary community made up of Naperville seniors and adults with IDD. SB Friedman's reports will facilitate a blueprint for the City of Naperville to follow in creating the successful affordable housing that is desperately needed. Our city is known nation-wide as one of the best places to live and raise a family. It is time now to add outstanding affordable housing to our repertoire and be a model for other cities to emulate. Thank you

**Marilyn L Schweitzer** - Do not move forward with this proposed program. This program provides "by-right density bonuses and regulatory incentives" and completely obliterates public input. It is designed to placate developers with no consideration of Naperville residents. Although it claims this program will be designated in only certain parts of the city, where and how that will be determined is not addressed. Perhaps were there an approved Land Use Plan (aka Comprehensive Plan) the strategy would make more sense. But as it stands, this program is being slapped onto existing outdated zoning ordinances to get developer buy-in, but not resident buy-in. By right incentives that reduce setbacks, increase lot coverage, decrease common area, and decrease lot width will impact the character of the neighborhood, the quality of life of the residents in affordable housing unit, and the natural environment. We need to address our outdated zoning code so we get smart density, not just density. Smart density would address environmental sustainability, quality of life, and affordable/attainable/workspace housing needs. It would not simply be an ordinance to make affordable housing palatable for developers.

### ***POSITION***

Philip Meno – SUPPORT

Helen Huie – SUPPORT

Mary Beth Nagai – SUPPORT

Danielle Deering (Naperville Supportive Housing) - SUPPORT

Vivienne Venderley – SUPPORT

Diane Forsberg (Ray Graham Association) – SUPPORT

Jama Wall – SUPPORT

Ryan Wall – SUPPORT

Wendy Wagner (Affordable Housing Initiative) – SUPPORT

Kirsten Adam - SUPPORT

Anna Maria Kissel – SUPPORT

Jay Mitchell – SUPPORT

Franz B. Kissel – SUPPORT

Pernille Boyle - SUPPORT

Michael Boyle – SUPPORT

Sophie Boyle – SUPPORT

Kathy Graham – SUPPORT

Marcy Miller - SUPPORT

Fredric Miller – SUPPORT

Robert Sacks – SUPPORT

Mary Hamill (Naperville Accessible Community Task Force) – SUPPORT

Kristen Tang (Accessibility and Inclusion Ministry at DuPage Unitarian Universalist Church) – SUPPORT

Tony Streit – SUPPORT

Carol Manthy – SUPPORT

Jean Kostal – SUPPORT

Erika Kissel – SUPPORT

Carole Krush – SUPPORT

Karen Vulich - SUPPORT

Steve Vulich – SUPPORT

Karen V Peck – SUPPORT

Kevin Feeney - SUPPORT

Michael Ryder – SUPPORT

Nicole McGrath-Patti – SUPPORT

Witte – SUPPORT

Paul Bleuher – SUPPORT

Sherry Healey – SUPPORT

Allison Longenbaugh – SUPPORT

Meg Collins – SUPPORT

Melissa Cleary – SUPPORT

Margaret Hoshell – SUPPORT

Jennifer Fairlamb – SUPPORT

Ben Tang – SUPPORT

Eleanor Logan - SUPPORT