The University of Illinois is developing the Illinois Center for Urban Resilience and Environmental Sustainability (Illinois CURES). Our Environment Committee is invited to help shape CURES as it begins its work supporting communities in sustainable development. Please join us for this important dialogue:

June 26, 2019

10:00 AM - noon

University of Illinois, Daley Library, Room I-470, 801 S. Morgan St., Chicago

[Pay park in Lot 1B](https://admissions.uic.edu/book-visit/directions-parking-and-places-stay/directions-specific-buildings#lib) at (1139 West Harrison Street, SE corner of Harrison and Racine) or CTA Blue Line to UIC Halsted Street. Remote participation will be available.

GRC goals – *Leadership: Work collaboratively towards a sustainable region; and*

 *Enlist support for GRC goals through regional, state and national leadership.*

The University of Illinois has a longstanding tradition of excellence in science, engineering, technology, humanities, social sciences, business and design. The university system is also home to many excellent interdisciplinary programs that are important to urban sustainability, including those in urban planning and policy, environmental studies, landscape architecture, public health and social work, among others that have a particularly strong relationship to urban systems and their governance. The University is therefore uniquely positioned to **work with cities to help them resolve many of the most pressing problems they are facing as they look towards the future.**

**The purpose of the University of Illinois CURES is to harness these unique capabilities to develop and deploy the research, applied learning and education, with public engagement, to generate the capabilities that cities will need to be more livable, prosperous, resilient, and sustainable.**

***Mission Statement: Illinois CURES works with cities on developing integrated sustainable solutions to improve community-wide health and prosperity now and in the future.***

**Key Objectives of Illinois CURES**

* Implement integrated, multi-faceted analyses as a comprehensive center that becomes the “go-to” place for cities to improve their resilience and sustainability.
* Establish and foster strong collaborations between Illinois CURES and cities to help them address the issues that matter most to them.
* Designed to meet the needs of both large and small communities.
* Develop partnership relationships with other university and research institutions that will complement the resources that the University of Illinois brings to the Center’s mission.
* Leverage emerging technologies with pragmatic solutions to improve urban resiliency and sustainability.
* Engage in both fundamental and applied research with a focus on advancing sustainable urban practices and innovations, including the use of smart technologies and sensors.
* Establish and strengthen training and education programs related to urban sustainability within the University of Illinois system, while also enhancing interaction between the University campuses.

MMC has participated in planning CURES for about a year. We invite the full Environment Committee to help move CURES into implementation and assure its first projects address the needs our GRC communities. An inaugural CURES Connection workshop, supported by the National Science Foundation, is being planned for August 7 & 8.