

Environment Committee Meeting  
Oct. 19, 2021, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM via Zoom

### Climate Adaptation Using the Steps to Resilience

The new [2021 Climate Action Plan \(CAP\) for the Chicago Region](#) is equal parts climate mitigation and climate adaptation. Most of the sustainability work municipalities have focused on addresses climate *mitigation* to reduce greenhouse gases.

Yet, the extreme weather events this past year have shown us that we must quickly step up our climate *adaptation* work if we are to protect our communities from climate-related hazards. The regional CAP assessed climate risk and vulnerabilities at the *regional* level and frames climate adaptation goals, targets, and objectives for the region. Yet, the climate adaptation *strategies* are tailored to leverage municipal strengths for both local and regional resilience.

Dr. Ned Gardiner from the NOAA Climate Program Office (Contractor) will join us for this meeting **to help activate municipalities on climate adaptation**. He will explain how to use the [Steps to Resilience](#) framework and the adaptation portion of the regional CAP to begin to develop resilience in your community.

Dr. Gardiner is the lead co-author of our regional CAP and aptly facilitated our climate adaptation workshops to gather input from stakeholders. Dr. Gardiner is the Engagement Manager for the U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit at NOAA and CollabraLink Technologies and is an enthusiastic champion of regional collaboration for climate action.

We will also be joined by Rich Babica, Public Works Director for the **City of Geneva**, and Greg Chismark, President of WBK Engineering, who recently undertook a comprehensive City drainage study to address stormwater issues. This assessment and plans to adapt to more frequent and severe rainfall demonstrate the steps the City is taking toward resilience.