



Leaders at the Core of Better Communities

2015 Local Government Excellence Awards Program Program Excellence Awards Nomination Form

(All programs nominated must have been fully operational for a minimum of 12 months, prior to January 31, 2015)

Deadline for Nominations: March 3, 2015

Complete this form (sections 1 and 2) and submit with your descriptive narrative.

SECTION 1: Information About the Nominated Program

Program Excellence Award Category (*select only one*):

- Community Health and Safety
- XX** Community Partnership
- Community Sustainability
- Strategic Leadership and Governance

Name of program being nominated: Brewster Creek Headwaters Flood Relief Project

Jurisdiction(s) where program originated: Village of Bartlett, IL

Jurisdiction population(s): 41,208

Please indicate the month and year in which the program you are nominating was fully implemented. (Note: All Program Excellence Award nominations must have been fully implemented for at least 12 months prior to January 31, 2015, to be eligible. The start date [on or before January 31, 2014] should not include the initial planning phase.)

Month: Oct/Nov Year: 2013

Name(s) and title(s) of individual(s) who should receive recognition for this award at the ICMA Annual Conference in Seattle, Washington, September 2015. (Each individual listed MUST be an ICMA member to be recognized.):

Name: Valerie Salmons

Title: Village Administrator Jurisdiction: Village of Bartlett, IL

Name: _____

Title: _____ Jurisdiction: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____ Jurisdiction: _____

SECTION 2: Information About the Nominator/Primary Contact

Name of contact: Paula Schumacher

Title: Assistant Administrator Jurisdiction: Village of Bartlett, IL

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Brewster Creek Headwaters Flood Relief Project Successful Partnerships Lead to Innovative Flood Control Solutions

In the fall of 2013, the Village of Bartlett with DuPage County Stormwater Management, And the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County completed construction of an approximately \$4.8 million flood control improvement project along Brewster Creek in Bartlett.

This project was prompted by a significant flood event that occurred in the Village of Bartlett in September 2008. Particularly hard hit was the Bartlett Estates subdivision and surrounding areas of DuPage County in the vicinity of Beaver Pond. This area, which is located in the headwaters of Brewster Creek, was flooded for several days. Eleven Bartlett Estates homes surrounding Beaver Pond had floodwaters enter the first floor and basement. There were also roadway closures that included a state highway (IL Route 59), a county roadway (Stearns Road) and many residential streets within the Bartlett Estates subdivision. The roadway closures effectively blocked access to and isolated approximately 50 residences.

Immediately after the flood event, Bartlett Village Administrator Valerie Salmons began coordinating with DuPage County Commissioner Jim Zay, Tony Charlton of DuPage County Stormwater Management, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County (FPDDC) President Dewey Pierotti and former FPDDC Commissioner Roger Kotecki to develop a flood control project for the affected area. A partnership was developed to investigate mutually beneficial solutions to alleviate flooding while improving areas of the Pratt's Wayne Woods and Wayne Grove Forest Preserves located within the immediate vicinity.

The Village of Bartlett led the planning process, commissioning Christopher B. Burke Engineering Ltd. to prepare a watershed plan for the Brewster Creek headwaters. The plan was approved by DuPage County in 2010 and the design, permitting and construction of the \$4.8 million project was funded by DuPage County Stormwater Management.

It was determined that Beaver Pond had an undersized outlet that was causing significant flooding in the area. The partnership worked to identify land that could be utilized for flood storage.

The northeast portion of Pratt's Wayne Woods Forest Preserve was a former shopping center development site that was abandoned and subsequently purchased by the FPDDC as part of a previous forest preserve expansion. A mutually beneficial agreement was reached to naturalize this site and create a 58-acre basin that could store floodwater and provide significant water quality treatment of the urban storm water runoff prior to discharge into Brewster Creek and the forest preserve.

Another significant portion of the project had construction crews install more than 2,100 feet of 60-inch pipe under Stearns Road and nearly 5,000 feet of bypass storm sewer in Wayne Grove Forest Preserve to convey water from Beaver Pond to the new flood storage facility and alleviate drainage backups. Following discussions with Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and DuPage County Division of Transportation (DuDOT), it was determined that the optimal way to minimize traffic impacts from this portion of the construction would be to tunnel under the intersection of IL Route 59 and Stearns Road.

The project was constructed in the fall of 2013 and provides a 100-year level of protection to the previously flooded homes, IL Route 59 and Stearns Road. It also provides water quality benefits to Brewster Creek as it flows through the Pratt's Wayne Woods Forest Preserve.

Permits from this project were required from DuPage County Stormwater, Illinois Department of Water Resources – Office of Water Resources for Dam Safety and Floodway Construction, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, IDOT, DuDOT, Kane-DuPage Soil Water Conservation District and Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. In addition to the permits, easements were required from FPDDC, ComEd and the Bartlett Park District.

A valuable lesson learned as we undertook this project is that it can be advantageous to widen the perspective with which you view the end goal. Immediately after the 2008 storm event, Bartlett was focused only on solving the flooding problem for residents in the Beaver Pond area. However, as the project unfolded, we became aware of a secondary benefit that could be facilitated, which is improving the quality of the storm water runoff prior to its discharge into Brewster Creek and the forest preserve.

Broadening the scope of what could be accomplished opened the collaboration up to include several more units of government, all of which benefitted in their own way by taking this big picture approach to the initial challenge.

Although this project required intricate coordination and cooperation by all of the partner agencies, this was greatly outweighed by the relief from future flood concerns that we were able to secure for residents and other property owners in the area and also by the positive environmental improvements that we were able to attain.