



# VILLAGE OF WINNETKA PRESS RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Village Receives \$2 Million in Grant Funding from Metropolitan Water Reclamation District**

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) is a regional governmental agency with responsibility for general supervision of stormwater management in Cook County. In 2013, MWRD announced its intent to financially partner with municipalities in constructing local stormwater improvements and sought “shovel-ready” projects for funding consideration. The Village of Winnetka submitted several projects that are part of its comprehensive Stormwater Management Program.

Ultimately, the MWRD selected the Village’s Northwest Winnetka (Greenwood/Forest Glen area) project and awarded \$2,000,000 in funding. The proposed improvements for Northwest Winnetka include an additional trunk sewer along Tower Road, installation of additional lateral sewers to drain individual roads, and an outlet pipe to the pond. The Village estimates the project cost at approximately \$4.6 million.

This process took many months, as the MWRD first had to receive authority from the State to grant funding to local agencies. Public Act 098-0652 was approved on June 18, 2014 and authorized the MWRD to plan, manage, implement, and finance local activities relating to stormwater management in Cook County. Following passage, the MWRD and Village Staff began to develop an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) to provide the means for administering the grant. The IGA was approved by the MWRD Board on August 7.

On August 19, the Village Council unanimously adopted the IGA with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District. Next, Staff will finalize bidding documents for the proposed improvements and then advertise bids. It is anticipated a bid award recommendation will appear before the Council in early October so that construction can begin over the winter. Weather permitting, work can begin in December and be completed in the summer of 2015.

For continued progress updates on Northwest Winnetka and all the Village’s Stormwater Management Program projects, please visit [www.winnetkastormwaterplan.com](http://www.winnetkastormwaterplan.com).

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