

Chicago Wilderness

July 15, 2022

Dear Chicago Wilderness Executive Council Members & Guests,

We look forward to seeing you next week at the July Executive Council Meeting:

Wednesday, July 20 from 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/623162292>

Meeting ID: 623 162 292

Password: 511661

One tap mobile +13126266799,,623162292#,,1#,511661# US (Chicago)

The Chicago Wilderness Alliance is an important force for conservation in the region and we look forward to working with all of our alliance members to continue our work to promote, preserve and restore the biodiversity of the region.

The agenda and support materials for the meeting is attached.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth S. Kessler, CW Chair
McHenry County Conservation District

James J. Jerozal, Jr., CW Vice-Chair
Nicor Gas/Corporate Council

Mike Glester, Treasurer
Magnolia Land Partners

Nathanael Pilla, Exec. Secretary
Orbis Environmental Consulting

At Large Members of the 2022 Steering Committee

Jerry Adelman, Openlands
Jim Anderson, Citizens for Conservation
Michelle Carr, The Nature Conservancy in Illinois
Leslie Dorworth, Illinois-Indiana Seagrant
Cathy B. Geraghty, Forest Preserves of Cook County
John Rogner, IL Department of Natural Resources
Amy Rosenthal, Field Museum
Maggie Soliz, Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District, AISWCD
David Shimberg, Riverwoods Preservation Council
Victoria Wittig, Urban Waters Federal Partnership
Laura Reilly, Chicago Wilderness Coordinator



Executive Council Meeting

July 20, 2022, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

AGENDA

1.0 Introductions & Welcome **9:30 AM- 9:32 AM**
Elizabeth S. Kessler, CW Chair
McHenry County Conservation District

2.0 Approval of Agenda **9:33 AM- 9:34 AM**
ACTION: Move to approve the Agenda for the Executive Council Meeting of July 20, 2022

3.0 Approval of Consent Agenda **9:34 AM- 9:35 AM**

- Acceptance of Treasurer's Report for April, May, June 2022 – 2nd Quarter
- Approval of Executive Council Minutes for April 20, 2022
- Approval of CW Alliance Policy and Procedures
- Amendment to FY 2022 Approved Budget
- New Members
 - Old Growth Forest Network-General

ACTION: Move to approve the Consent Agenda as presented for the Executive Council Meeting of July 20, 2022

4.0 Green Vision Launch & Partner Engagement Update **9:35 AM- 9:55AM**
Sharon Dewar, Public Communications, Inc.
Dave Shimberg, Riverwoods Preservation Council

5.0 Green Vision Collective Goals Update **9:55 AM- 10:30 AM**
Brandon Hayes, Bold Bison Communications
Green Vision Goal Leads

6.0 FY 2023 Draft Budget Discussion **10:30 AM-10:45 AM**
Mike Glester, CW Treasurer
James Jerozal, CW Vice Chair

ACTION: Move to adopt the Draft FY 2023 Budget as presented.

Chicago Wilderness

Executive Council Meeting Agenda Continued

July 20, 2022

- | | | |
|-------------|--|--------------------------|
| 7.0 | Conservation Congress 2022 Update - November 3, 2022
<i>Cherie Fisher, US Forest Service</i>
<i>Lynda Lancaster</i> | 10:45 AM-11:00 AM |
| 8.0 | JEDI Roadmap Working Group - Roadmap Update
<i>Raquel Garcia-Alvarez, Forest Preserve Dist. of Cook County</i> | 11:00 AM-11:10 AM |
| 9.0 | Recognition of Chicago Wilderness Alliance Members
<i>Elizabeth S. Kessler, McHenry County Conservation District</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• James Jerozal, Vice Chair, Nicor Gas• Retirements: Lynne Westphal US Forest Service; Lynda Lancaster USDI NPS Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore; and Bob Megquire Openlands | 11:10 AM-11:15 AM |
| 10.0 | 2023 Nominations and Recruitment
<i>Elizabeth S. Kessler, McHenry County Conservation District</i> | 11:15 AM-11:20 AM |
| 11.0 | Reports from Team & Working Group Committees | 11:20 AM-11:25 AM |
| 12.0 | Chicago Wilderness Coordinator Report
<i>Laura Reilly, CW Coordinator</i> | 11:25 AM-11:28 AM |
| 13.0 | Announcements | 11:28 AM-11:30 AM |
| 14.0 | Adjournment | 11:30 AM |

Next Meeting: OAKtober 19, 2022, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

CHICAGO WILDERNESS ALLIANCE

STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES and NET ASSETS
June 30, 2022

Assets

Cash and Investments	\$	529,180.95
Total Assets	\$	<u>529,180.95</u>

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$	-
Other Liabilities	\$	-
Total Liabilities	\$	<u>-</u>

Net Assets

Net Assets at Beginning of Period	\$	448,521.15
Change in Net Assets	\$	<u>80,659.80</u>
Total Net Assets	\$	<u>529,180.95</u>

Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$	<u>529,180.95</u>
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STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the period ending June 30, 2022

Revenue

Membership Dues	\$	21,050.00
Sponsorships	\$	3,500.00
Donations	\$	50,000.00
Grants	\$	20,000.00
Application Fees	\$	-
Registration Fees	\$	250.00
Interest Earned	\$	-
Total Revenue		<u>\$ 94,800.00</u>

Expenses

Friends of the Forest Preserves	\$	2,844.00
Blue Pay/Other Transaction Fees	\$	399.32
Payroll/Employment Expenses	\$	5,158.92
Insurance	\$	-
Operational Expenses	\$	3,719.28
Program	\$	<u>2,018.68</u>
Total Expenses		<u>\$ 14,140.20</u>

Net Surplus/(Deficit)	\$	<u>80,659.80</u>
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Chicago Wilderness Alliance Fiscal Year is January 1 to December 31

CHICAGO WILDERNESS ALLIANCE

STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES and NET ASSETS
May 31, 2022

Assets

Cash and Investments	\$	448,521.15
Total Assets	\$	448,521.15

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$	-
Other Liabilities	\$	-
Total Liabilities	\$	-

Net Assets

Net Assets at Beginning of Period	\$	454,958.81
Change in Net Assets	\$	(6,437.66)
Total Net Assets	\$	448,521.15

Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$	448,521.15
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STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the period ending May 31, 2022

Revenue

Membership Dues	\$	25.00
Sponsorships	\$	230.00
Donations	\$	10.00
Grants	\$	-
Application Fees	\$	-
Registration Fees	\$	-
Interest Earned	\$	-
Total Revenue		\$ 265.00

Expenses

Friends of the Forest Preserves	\$	7.95
Blue Pay/Other Transaction Fees	\$	36.71
Payroll/Employment Expenses	\$	6,658.00
Insurance	\$	-
Operational Expenses	\$	-
Program	\$	-
Total Expenses		\$ 6,702.66

Net Surplus/(Deficit)	\$	(6,437.66)
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Chicago Wilderness Alliance Fiscal Year is January 1 to December 31

CHICAGO WILDERNESS ALLIANCE

STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES and NET ASSETS
April 30, 2022

Assets

Cash and Investments	\$	454,958.81
Total Assets	\$	454,958.81

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$	-
Other Liabilities	\$	-
Total Liabilities	\$	-

Net Assets

Net Assets at Beginning of Period	\$	451,568.21
Change in Net Assets	\$	3,390.60
Total Net Assets	\$	454,958.81

Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$	454,958.81
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STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the period ending April 30, 2022

Revenue

Membership Dues	\$	1,575.00
Sponsorships	\$	-
Donations	\$	10.00
Grants	\$	12,565.00
Application Fees	\$	-
Registration Fees	\$	-
Interest Earned	\$	-
Total Revenue		\$ 14,150.00

Expenses

Friends of the Forest Preserves	\$	424.50
Blue Pay/Other Transaction Fees	\$	53.95
Payroll/Employment Expenses	\$	7,854.14
Insurance	\$	-
Operational Expenses	\$	206.91
Program	\$	2,219.90
Total Expenses		\$ 10,759.40

Net Surplus/(Deficit)	\$	3,390.60
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Chicago Wilderness Alliance Fiscal Year is January 1 to December 31

2022 BUDGET	YTD NET ASSETS As of 12/31/2021	QTR 1 SUM As of 3/31/2022	QTR 2 SUM As of 6/30/2022										
					JANUARY	QTR 1 FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	QTR 2 MAY	JUNE			
REVENUE		\$ 123,546.93	\$ 232,761.93		\$ 61,106.93	\$ 53,105.00	\$ 9,335.00	\$ 14,150.00	\$ 265.00	\$ 94,800.00	\$ 232,761.93	YTD REVENUE	
EXPENSE		\$ 41,791.83	\$ 73,394.09		\$ 23,575.50	\$ 12,649.61	\$ 5,566.72	\$ 10,759.40	\$ 6,702.66	\$ 14,140.20	\$ 73,394.09	YTD EXPENDITURES	
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		\$ 81,755.10	\$ 159,367.84		\$ 37,531.43	\$ 40,455.39	\$ 3,768.28	\$ 3,390.60	\$ (6,437.66)	\$ 80,659.80	\$ 159,367.84	YTD NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	
NET ASSETS	\$369,813.11	\$451,568.21	\$529,180.95		\$407,344.54	\$447,799.93	\$451,568.21	\$454,958.81	\$448,521.15	\$529,180.95	\$529,180.95	YTD NET ASSETS	
2022 ACTUAL					JANUARY	QTR 1 FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	QTR 2 MAY	JUNE			
Membership		\$ 65,600.00	\$ 88,250.00		\$ 53,300.00	\$ 3,075.00	\$ 9,225.00	\$ 1,575.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 21,050.00	\$ 88,250.00		
Sponsorship		\$ -	\$ 3,730.00		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 230.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,730.00		
Donation		\$ 53,250.00	\$ 103,270.00		\$ 3,110.00	\$ 50,030.00	\$ 110.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 103,270.00		
Grants		\$ 4,696.93	\$ 37,261.93		\$ 4,696.93	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,565.00	\$ -	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 37,261.93		
Application Fees		\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Registration Fees		\$ -	\$ 250.00		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00		
TOTAL REVENUE		\$ 123,546.93	\$ 232,761.93		\$ 61,106.93	\$ 53,105.00	\$ 9,335.00	\$ 14,150.00	\$ 265.00	\$ 94,800.00	\$ 232,761.93		
EXPENSES													
FISCAL SPONSOR													
Friends of the Forest Preserves		\$ 3,706.41	\$ 6,982.86		\$ 1,833.21	\$ 1,593.15	\$ 280.05	\$ 424.50	\$ 7.95	\$ 2,844.00	\$ 6,982.86		
TOTAL FISCAL SPONSOR		\$ 3,706.41	\$ 6,982.86		\$ 1,833.21	\$ 1,593.15	\$ 280.05	\$ 424.50	\$ 7.95	\$ 2,844.00	\$ 6,982.86		
INSURANCE													
Insurance D/O		\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
TOTAL INSURANCE		\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
OFFICE													
State of Illinois - Annual Filing		\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Blue Pay-Clover Business Solutions		\$ 943.43	\$ 1,432.03		\$ 849.46	\$ 44.09	\$ 49.88	\$ 53.26	\$ 36.02	\$ 399.32	\$ 1,432.03		
PayPal		\$ 2.07	\$ 3.45		\$ 0.69	\$ 0.69	\$ 0.69	\$ 0.69	\$ 0.69	\$ -	\$ 3.45		
Other E-Commerce		\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Web Domain		\$ -	\$ 206.91		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 206.91	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 206.91		
Formsite & Zoom		\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Your Membership.com		\$ -	\$ 3,719.28		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,719.28	\$ 3,719.28		
TOTAL OFFICE		\$ 945.50	\$ 5,361.67		\$ 850.15	\$ 44.78	\$ 50.57	\$ 260.86	\$ 36.71	\$ 4,118.60	\$ 5,361.67		
CONTRACTOR													
CW Coordinator		\$ 15,294.92	\$ 34,965.98		\$ 4,547.14	\$ 5,511.68	\$ 5,236.10	\$ 7,854.14	\$ 6,658.00	\$ 5,158.92	\$ 34,965.98		
TOTAL CONTRACTOR		\$ 15,294.92	\$ 34,965.98		\$ 4,547.14	\$ 5,511.68	\$ 5,236.10	\$ 7,854.14	\$ 6,658.00	\$ 5,158.92	\$ 34,965.98		
PROGRAM													
Conservation Congress		\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
EERP		\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Force of Nature		\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Program Funding - Other		\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 323.80	\$ 323.80		
IDNR Program Grant - DEI & Trees Initiative		\$ 10,500.00	\$ 14,414.78		\$ 7,000.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ -	\$ 2,219.90	\$ -	\$ 1,694.88	\$ 14,414.78		
TOTAL PROGRAM		\$ 10,500.00	\$ 14,738.58		\$ 7,000.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ -	\$ 2,219.90	\$ -	\$ 2,018.68	\$ 14,738.58		
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS													
Member Appreciation		\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Consultant		\$ 9,345.00	\$ 9,345.00		\$ 9,345.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,345.00		
Print Collateral/Logo/Branding		\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
TOTAL MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS		\$ 9,345.00	\$ 9,345.00		\$ 9,345.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,345.00		
VISIONING													
Visioning		\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00		\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00		
TOTAL VISIONING		\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00		\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00		
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 41,791.83	\$ 73,394.09		\$ 23,575.50	\$ 12,649.61	\$ 5,566.72	\$ 10,759.40	\$ 6,702.66	\$ 14,140.20	\$ 73,394.09		
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		\$ 81,755.10	\$ 159,367.84		\$ 37,531.43	\$ 40,455.39	\$ 3,768.28	\$ 3,390.60	\$ (6,437.66)	\$ 80,659.80	\$ 159,367.84		
NET ASSETS	\$369,813.11	\$451,568.21	\$529,180.95		\$407,344.54	\$447,799.93	\$451,568.21	\$454,958.81	\$448,521.15	\$529,180.95	\$529,180.95	YTD NET ASSETS	



Chicago Wilderness Executive Council Zoom Conference Call

April 20, 2022, 9:30-11:30 AM Central

MINUTES

Present:

Jill Allread, Openlands
Ders Anderson, Openlands
Jim Anderson, Citizens for Conservation
Beth Beyer, Technology Alliance
Tim Brennan, Farm Foundation
Bill Bromer, Midewin Tallgrass Prairie Alliance & MidIA
Mark Bouman, The Field Museum
Jack Brunner, Tetra Tech
Nan Buckardt, Lake County Forest Preserves
Michelle Carr, The Nature Conservancy
Pat Charlebois, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant
Michael Dreslik, Illinois Natural History Survey
Cherie L. Fisher, United States Forest Service
Adam Flickinger, Friends of the Chicago River
Cathy Geraghty, Forest Preserves of Cook County
Mike Glester, Magnolia Land Partners
Tedd Haffner, unaffiliated
Drew Hart, United States Forest Service
Amy Heldman, Friends of the Chicago River
Rebecca Judd, Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelley Foundation
Elizabeth S. Kessler, McHenry County Conservation District
Kris Krouse, Shirley Heinze Land Trust
John Legge, The Nature Conservancy
Thomas Meehan, Chicago Zoological Society, Brookfield Zoo

Jeff Mengler, Hey and Associates, Inc. & Fox River Ecosystem Partnership
Stacy Meyers, Openlands
Debby Moskovits, The Field Museum
Ted Penesis, Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Nathanael Pilla, Orbis Environmental Consulting
Donna Prepejchal, LMV Lake Michigan Region
Naureen Rana, Chicago Park District
Laura Reilly, Chicago Wilderness
John Rogner, Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Ellicia Sanchez, The Nature Conservancy
Ralph Schultz, Forest Preserve District of Will County
Lydia Scott, Chicago Region Tree Initiative
David Shimberg, Riverwoods Preservation Council
Maggie Soliz, Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District and Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Casey Sullivan, Argonne National Laboratory
Patrick Thomas, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
Leslie Thompson, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant
Pati Vitt, Lake County Forest Preserve District
Lynne Westphal, United States Forest Service
Victoria Wittig, Urban Waters Federal Partnership

I. Call to Order and Welcome

Chair Elizabeth Kessler called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM central time thanking those that have joined and briefly highlighted the successes of the last few months.

II. Approval of Agenda

Discussion on an agenda addition the line item for an "America the Beautiful" coalition with a representative from the Chicago Wilderness to be nominated.

Cathy Geraghty (Forest Preserves of Cook County) motions to accept the agenda and meeting format, seconded by Mike Glester (Magnolia Land Partners). No further discussion. All ayes. Approved.

III. Approval of Consent Agenda

- Acceptance of Treasurer's Report for January, February, March 2022 – 1st Quarter
- Approval of Executive Council Minutes for January 19, 2022
- NEW MEMBERS
 - o A3 Environmental Consultants
 - o Friends of the Illinois Nature Preserves

Maggie Soliz (Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District and Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts) motions to accept the agenda and meeting format, seconded by Ralph Schultz (Forest Preserve District of Will County). No further discussion. All ayes. Approved.

IV. Green Vision Update

2022 Steering Committee

1. Managing Healthy Landscapes

Pati Vitt, Lake County Forest Preserves District

Erik Neidy, DuPage County Forest Preserve District

Pati Vitt described the work that the committee has been working on breaking down the survey numbers from the group relating to the importance and priorities of land management. Areas covered included:

- o Invasive species council priorities
- o Prescribed fire council priorities
- o Oak ecosystems council priorities
- o Urban tree canopy priorities
- o Climate adaptation group
- o Volunteer stewardship subgroup priorities
- o Wildlife taskforce priorities
- o Priority species group
- o Grassland bird group

There was an additional session due to the need for a Regional Database covering relevancy, ease of use, and so forth. They met with the Nature Conservancy to learn more about their experience trying to integrate data across management units. There was a lot of orphaned data or data still on paper. Next steps – CW Café.

2. Growing with Agriculture

Tim Brennan, Farm Foundation

Daniel Suarez, Audubon Great Lakes

Tim Brennan shared the first annual field day that will focus on innovative farm practices. This will take place on June 24, 2022, in Will County, Illinois. Tim gave a breakdown of the day's event which will start in Monee. They are looking for a few

more sponsors - about \$2,500 for the buses each, \$1,100 for headphones, and \$1,000 for reception; The Nature Conservancy is sponsoring the lunch.

3. Prioritizing Green Infrastructure

Jim Jerozal, Nicor Gas

Sara Race, ComEd

Maggie Soliz, Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District and AISWCD

Maggie Soliz began the presentation commenting that a month ago they got a message through Jeff Mengler (Hey and Associates, Inc. & Fox River Ecosystem Partnership) that Representative Lauren Underwood had 10.5 million dollars for community project funding. Each of the representatives in the area seemed to have a similar amount of money. There was no green infrastructure in it so they proposed to have shovel ready projects to put into the community projects that should get funded. The problem is that Chicago Wilderness is not in the conversation. There needs to be shovel ready projects! Jeff Mengler added that previously this funding was for government agencies but now is open to non-profits. He is on the advisory board for Representative Lauren Underwood. There are four projects that they submitted for her, daylighting Crystal Creek, sewers to keep nutrients of pollutants out of Wonder Lake, then to take a parcel to do restoration on 100 acres of wetland and 8,000 feet of straight-line ditch. They are leveraging other federal funds out of 206.

Laura Reilly announced “gROWing Chicago” will have a kickoff Meeting on April 28, 2022.

4. Conserving Land for Biodiversity

Ben Haberthur, Kane County Forest Preserve District

Cathy Geraghty, Forest Preserves of Cook County

Cathy Geraghty led the presentation mentioning their focus on the use of 30x30 in adding conservation lands. She highlighted the several identified priorities.

- a) Communications campaign for increasing conservation lands
(with PCI on board this is going to be checked off)
- b) Policy support
- c) Ranking of priority areas for conservation
- d) Relationship-building with potential sellers of high-priority lands
- e) Look-out group for no loss of areas/acres – Rapid-Response Team

5. Increasing Equitable Access to Nature

Teish Daniel (Chicago Park District)

Radhika Miraglia (Friends of the Forest Preserves)

Amy Rosenthal (Field Museum)

Update was that on April 29, 2022, for their next meeting which are quarterly with a community spotlight.

6. Taking Climate Action

Ted Haffner, unaffiliated

Ted Haffner talked briefly about the response to the letter from the City of Chicago on the Climate Action Plan. 10:14 transcript. A climate action survey was sent. They have had three quarterly meetings and will schedule the next one soon. Their ask is for a goal lead assistant.

7. Protecting Healthy Water

Stacy Meyers, Openlands

Matthew Santagata, Openlands

Stacy Meyers discussed the long and arduous process in rethinking how they measure and capture water in the three-state Chicago region. They went through the metrics and decided which makes sense to collect. Craig Shillinglaw (Openlands) was part of the data HUB. Questions they are seeking answers for included:

- What data could realistically be collected across the full expanse of the Ecoregion?
- What aspirational data is probably a good idea, and potentially could be collected?

Answers will be in 3 tiers. One which is a short list of metrics for each of their 6 principles; second, tier, which is viable ones, that they would like to determine whether they could be collected; and the third is a wish list of members evaluating what data we collect right now.

8. Mapping and Metrics

Mark Bouman, Field Museum

Mark Johnston, Field Museum

Mark Bouman updated the group on the status of the HUB, inviting all members to participate. There has been updates on the editorial and design of the page. One new idea is the interactive maps in each of the hub pages, working to create story maps at the level of CW to support the 30x30 conversation, and all the 7 goals as part of the roll-out of the conversation at Congress.

9. Goal Team and Working Group Resource List

Laura Reilly, Chicago Wilderness Coordinator

Laura Reilly talked about the creation of a working group .pdf file with links to all of their teamwork. It has meeting schedules, archive meeting notes and files, and a master list of all committees in the chairs on those committees as well as opportunities.

V. Green Vision Campaign Launch Update

Selection of Public Communications Inc.

Elizabeth Kessler (McHenry County Conservation District) briefly recounted that the last EC meeting approved for a committee to move forward and pursue solicitations of proposals to assist us with branding strategy in communications engagement plan. She explained the process taken and announced that they chose Public Communications Inc. (PCI).

Development of the Working Group

Jill Allread (APR, CEO, PCI) gave a brief introduction and thanked everyone for the opportunity to work with the CW. They are beginning right away with their first meeting already have taken place. They asked for a committee and task force that could be a working group followed by an assessment of what communications Chicago Wilderness (CW) is doing now and has done in the recent past. This all culminating with a brand refresh that will help in launching the Green Vision in a much more public way but also not just externally but with a deeper engagement within the CW memberships.

They have an entire sector in their agency that is dedication to conservation and environmental issues supplemented by their in-house design and in-house digital strategy.

Project Timeline & Scope

Elizabeth Kessler (McHenry County Conservation District) added that the goal to completion is November 3rd which would correspond to the CW Congress.

VI. Formal Responses

30x30 Letter of Support – Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IL-DNR)

Ben Haberthur, Forest Preserve District of Kane County

Debby Moskovits, Field Museum

Ben Haberthur gave an update on the Green Vision overview of the acreage breakdown to align with the 30x30 goals. Debby Moskovits added that in the last SC meeting, it was discussed to have a statement that goes to the IL-DNR.

The draft that would go to IL-DNR highlighting each of the acreages in decreasing order (Conservation Land, Local Parkland, Agricultural Land, Undeveloped Land, Built Land).

By restoring acres to ecological health, they contribute to 30x30 within the 93,600 acres under conservation land. The metrics are **no restoration**, **restoration underway**, and **under management**. Then going to the 55,500 acres additional lands and waters. This is the opportunity to have native plantings in the 20,000 acres in city parks.

The draft has had input from each of the goal teams.

Eight specific recommendations to the IL-DNR came from Jim Anderson (Citizens for Conservation) (Appendix to the letter):

1. Executive Strategic Land Acquisitions through LAWCON and Natural Areas Fund
2. Increase and Incentivize Voluntary Conservation Easements
3. Evaluate Conservation Restoration Efforts and Adaptively Manage
4. Accelerate Regional Collaboration – led conservation efforts: Watershed Workgroups, NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Program, Millennium Reserve, Kankakee Sands, Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge, Chiwaukee Prairie, Illinois Beach, Lake Michigan, Lakeplain Partnership, others.
5. Support and Fund Nature Based Solutions to address Climate Change and Environmental Remediation

6. Support creating jobs by investing in restoration and resilience projects and initiatives, including the Civilian Climate Corps
7. Focus on natural community restoration and species recovery efforts that are identified in State Action Plans. Encourage collaborations like the Chicago Wilderness Priority Species, Chicago Regional Tree Initiative, Oak Ecosystem Recovery Plan, and Chicago Wilderness Wetland Conservation Strategy
8. Encourage more parks and safe outdoor

After discussion on economics and stormwater issues, Debby Moskovits (Field Museum) made a motion to support the advancement of this prepared document to IL-DNR which will give the support to allow the working group to have the authority to go ahead and submit the letter behalf of the Alliance. Ben Harberthur (Forest Preserve District of Kane County) seconded the motion. No further discussion. All ayes. Approved.

VII. 2022 Conservation Congress

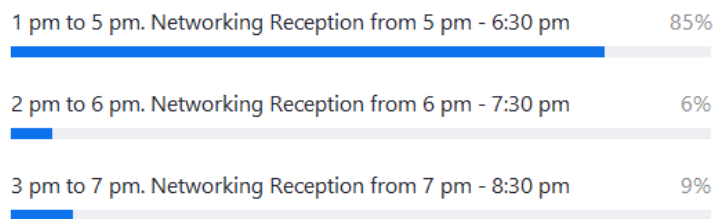
Cherie Fisher, US Forest Service

Cherie Fisher did a survey that went out to everyone with feedback on what people want with Congress. The support was in favor of keeping the structure the same way as the past meetings with everyone at one place in one time. There is less support for breakouts. What we decided so far is that it makes the most sense to have a half day event. The UIC is available on November 3, 2022 (Thursday).

A survey was taken to see preferred start times for Congress with a 1.5 hour reception.

Congress 2022 November 3 at UIC

1. Session Time Preference (Single Choice) *



Your answer: 3 pm to 7 pm. Networking Reception from 7 pm - 8:30 pm

Looking for Volunteers to join the planning committee, email Laura Reilly (Chicago Wilderness).

VIII. Save Bell Bowl Prairie Campaign – Letter of Support

Ellicia Sanchez, The Nature Conservancy in Illinois

Ellicia Sanchez updated the group on the Bell Bowl controversy. Bowl Prairie

construction has been pushed back to mid-summer 2022. On March 11, 2022, the Government Relations Committee received an action alert request from Save Bell Bowl Prairie. The letter is circulated to the CW members with the ability to sign on it their organization could sign on. She requested that CW should sign on to this on the paper copy.

Debby Moskovits (Field Museum) motions to advance the letter in support of protecting Bell Bowl Prairie with the recommendation that the undersigned members of the Alliance, and then Laura Reilly can opt in to put their name listed under the alliance brand. Maggie Soliz (Kane-DuPage Soil & Water Conservation District and Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts) seconded. No further discussion. All ayes. Approved.

IX. Update on Equity & Cultural Workshops & Development of Road Map - Cream City, LLC.

Elizabeth S. Kessler, McHenry County Conservation District

Elizabeth Kessler updated the group on the workshop coming in May. There are two more sessions. August Ball is going to be recognized for her work from the Field Museum next Wednesday, April 27, 2022. The Chicago Wilderness roadmap will follow these sessions.

X. Proposed Change to Make the Executive Council Membership More Inclusive

Laura Reilly, CW Coordinator

Laura Reilly recommended deleting the EC minimum dues level as a requirement of the EC Partnership under the “Rights and Responsibilities of Executive Council Partnership”. Jim Anderson (Citizens for Conservation) made a motion to change the “Rights and Responsibilities of Executive Council Partnership” paragraph by removing the due restrictions. Ralph Schultz (Forest Preserve District of Will County) seconded the motion. No further discussion. No further discussion. All ayes. Approved.

XI. Coordinator’s Report

Laura Reilly (Chicago Wilderness)

- City Nature Challenge 2022 – April 29-May 2, 2022
- Chicago Tribune did a shout out to the CW.
- There is an Earth Day summit led by Teishetta Daniels (Chicago Park District) on April 23rd.
- Currently working on a the CW Café Series.

XII. Announcements

Elizabeth Kessler (McHenry County Conservation District) made three announcements.

- The CW is looking for individuals to serve on the work with the Green Vision Launch with PCI.
- The CW is looking for volunteers from partnering organizations to assist us as we begin the JEDI Roadmap with August Ball of Cream City Conservation, LLC.
- We are still looking for help setting up Congress.

XIII. Adjournment

Elizabeth Kessler (McHenry County Conservation District) thanked everyone for their time and work and asked for a motion to adjourn.

John Rogner (Illinois DNR) motions to adjourn, Cathy Geraghty (Forest Preserves of Cook County) seconded. No further discussion. Meeting adjourned at 11:45am central.

Next Meeting: July 20, 2022, 9:30 AM-11:30 AM

Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/623162292>

Meeting ID: 623 162 292

Password: 511661

One tap mobile

*+13126266799,,623162292#,1#,511661# US
(Chicago)*



CHICAGO WILDERNESS ALLIANCE POLICIES and PROCEDURES

I. PREAMBLE

- A. **Purpose.** The purpose of Chicago Wilderness Alliance (or "Alliance") is to bring together a coalition to implement the Mission of Chicago Wilderness.
- B. **Mission.** Chicago Wilderness is an inclusive regional alliance of organizations and individuals working collaboratively to engage the full region in delivering the Green Vision for Chicago Wilderness—a vigorous landscape where people and nature thrive together promoting diverse vibrant communities, environmental health and justice, economic vitality, and well-being for all.

II ORGANIZATION

Chicago Wilderness Alliance shall be organized as follows:

- A. **Chicago Wilderness Alliance:** Partners of Chicago Wilderness Alliance (comprised of Executive Council and General members) that have been admitted by a majority vote of Executive Council partners at an Executive Council meeting at which there is a quorum, and that agree with the Purpose and Mission of the Alliance as described in Section I.
- B. **The Executive Council:** Partners that have been admitted to Executive Council partnership by a majority vote of Executive Council partners present at an Executive Council meeting at which there is a quorum. The Executive Council shall convene at least four times per year, normally on the third Wednesday in January, April, July, and October. At such meetings, the Executive Council shall:
1. Review progress toward achieving Chicago Wilderness' vision and mission;
 2. Set the strategic focus of the Chicago Wilderness Alliance;
 3. Set one to five-year strategies and objectives;
 4. Implement the strategies of the Chicago Wilderness Alliance;
 5. Determine annual objectives and the annual operations plan of Chicago Wilderness Alliance;
 6. Approve leadership of existing teams and committees and create subcommittees or teams to better achieve the mission of the Alliance;
 7. Admit new partners to the Chicago Wilderness Alliance, revoke the partnership of an existing partner, or approve changes in partnership level;
 8. Develop key strategic external relationships;
 9. Receive reports from Corporate Council, Teams, standing committees, and other administrative groups, as appropriate;
 10. Approve use of the name "Chicago Wilderness" for policy and project sponsorship;

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11. Approve at its October meeting the annual budget and approve project work, approve grant recommendations, and balance priorities against resources;
12. Monitor results of projects;
13. Review and approve recommendations for recipients of Excellence in Ecological Restoration Program (EERP) accreditation and/or Force of Nature Awards;
14. Set policy and operational guidelines; and
15. Follow Roberts Rules of Order for parliamentary practice and governance of the Chicago Wilderness Alliance meetings.

In addition, the Executive Council is responsible for electing the Chicago Wilderness Alliance Officers: Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Executive Secretary, and five to eleven at-large Steering Committee partners of Chicago Wilderness Alliance and has authority to modify or amend these Policies and Procedures.

The Executive Council must take no action that would violate the Policies and Procedures of the Chicago Wilderness Alliance.

At all meetings of the Executive Council, 50 percent of Executive Council partners, (as defined in part IV.A.2) shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The act of a majority of the Executive Council partners present at any meeting of the Executive Council at which there is a quorum shall be the act of Chicago Wilderness Alliance.

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Notice of meetings of the Executive Council shall be posted on the online partner calendar and advertised in the partner e-news or equivalent communications. Meeting dates are generally set at the last meeting of the preceding year for the following year.

Meetings of the full Chicago Wilderness Alliance: Full participation of both the Executive Council and General partners are invited at the biennial Chicago Wilderness Congress. The Congress is further outlined in this Section.

- C. The Fiscal Sponsor of Chicago Wilderness Alliance.** The Chicago Wilderness Alliance is registered with the Illinois Secretary of State as a non-profit corporation and shall execute a Fiscal Sponsor Agreement with a Fiscal Sponsor. The Fiscal Sponsor of the Chicago Wilderness Alliance shall be an independent 501(c)3 non-profit organization operating under its own bylaws. The Fiscal Sponsor shall act as principal coordinators of the sponsored program (Chicago Wilderness Alliance). The Fiscal Sponsor, in its sole and absolute authority retains oversight authority to ensure funds disbursed by Fiscal Sponsor to Chicago Wilderness Alliance in support of the Sponsored Program are used for their intended charitable purposes. The Fiscal Sponsor agrees to receive donations that are designated to support the Sponsored Program. The Fiscal Sponsor agrees that all Program Funds will be reported for federal tax purposes as contributions to Fiscal Sponsor. The Fiscal Sponsor shall act on behalf of the Chicago Wilderness Alliance in contractual matters and provide services as agreed upon by and between the parties. The Fiscal Sponsor will maintain respective books and financial records for the Sponsored Program in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, shall retain records as long as required by law and shall make records available to auditors as required by law. The Alliance fiscal year is January 1 -December 31.

- D. Steering Committee.** The Steering Committee serves as the Executive Committee of the Executive Council. It

includes the officers of the Chicago Wilderness Alliance and five to eleven additional at-large partners, drawn from Chicago Wilderness Alliance partnership, who are elected by the Executive Council. The Steering Committee oversees the day-to-day business of the Alliance under authority of the Executive Council, including internal and external communications; programs, in consultation with Chicago Wilderness Alliance partnership and existing working groups, task forces and committees; financial coordination, reporting, and budgeting; planning and leading Executive Council meetings; and partnership policy. The Steering Committee also serves to align the Alliance behind the Green Vision, and promotes coordination among CW working teams to enhance collective impact, recommends multi-year goals and annual plans to advance the mission of Chicago Wilderness.

- E. **The Corporate Council.** A forum to bring together the for-profit partners of Chicago Wilderness Alliance to leverage the resources, skills, capabilities, and influence of the business community to foster widespread awareness of the region's biological diversity and its link with quality of life and a healthy economy, and to develop broad-based support for diverse vibrant communities. The Corporate Council determines its own leadership structure and meets every other month or as necessary.
- F. **The Working Groups and Teams ("Teams").** Partners of the Working Groups and Teams of Chicago Wilderness Alliance meet regularly to facilitate communication and collaboration in order to further the mission of Chicago Wilderness Alliance. Working Groups and Teams are established by the Executive Council or Steering Committee to address long-term, broadly conceived issues, and report their activities periodically to the Steering Committee and/or Executive Council. It is recommended that chair/co-chair from each team have regular attendance at Executive Council meetings and report out team activities periodically. The process by which teams select their chair/co-chair is determined within each team.
- G. **Standing Committees.** Only partner representatives can serve as Chicago Wilderness Alliance standing committee chairs. Unless otherwise noted, new leadership of any standing Chicago Wilderness Alliance committee will be presented to the Executive Council for approval.

Awards Committee: The Awards Committee oversees awards programs established by the Executive Council. Meetings are held as necessary.

Communication Committee: The Communication Committee advises on the communication strategy for Chicago Wilderness, working closely with the Chicago Wilderness Coordinator on content and design of website, newsletter, social media and outreach materials. Meetings are held as necessary.

Congress Committee: The Congress Committee plans and executes the biennial Chicago Wilderness Congress. In order to permit active participation in direction-setting and the sharing of progress reports by all partners of Chicago Wilderness Alliance, there will be a biennial Chicago Wilderness Congress. The Congress will be open to partners of Chicago Wilderness Alliance, its partners, and other interested parties.

Functions:

The functions of the Congress shall include, but may not necessarily be limited to:

- Sharing information about partner activities relating to achievement of Chicago Wilderness Alliance objectives;
- Presenting reports from the Executive Council, Steering Committee and Working Groups and

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- Teams of Chicago Wilderness about activities since the last Congress; and
- Soliciting input, discussion, and recommendations on activities for Chicago Wilderness and its Working Groups and Teams for the coming two years.

Rules of Procedure:

The Vice Chair of Chicago Wilderness will serve as ex-officio Chair of the Congress.

At least 18 months prior to the Congress, the Executive Council will appoint a committee, drawn from all categories of partners, to develop the Congress program.

Location and Timing of Congress:

Chicago Wilderness Alliance will select a date and a location for the Congress and announce these to its partners at least six months prior to the scheduled date of the event.

Green Vision Goal Team and HUB/Mapping Leaders: This group provides cross-alliance coordination among CW teams and projects to deliver on the full expression of the CW Green Vision. The group promotes coordination among CW working teams to enhance collective impact, recommend multi-year goals and annual plans to the Steering Committee and Executive Council, and work on clear metrics with a visual, consensus-based dashboard. The group consists of volunteers ready to problem solve and to put energy into keeping the collective focus on (1) incorporating new relevant data and efficiently updating existing data for enhancing nature restoration, (2) engaging a broader audience (from urban neighborhoods to farmers, elected officials of underserved communities to those in rural townships, land stewards to community activists) in implementation of the GV, and (3) embracing new themes, from environmental justice to urban and agricultural community engagement to ecological tourism. Meetings are held monthly (or more often, as necessary).

Development Committee: The Development Committee develops and oversees the strategy to raise funds for the Alliance. Meetings are held as necessary.

Excellence in Ecological Restoration Commission: The Excellence in Ecological Restoration (EERP) Commission administers the Excellence in Ecological Restoration Program. The Commission is co-chaired by two partners of Executive Council who recruit commissioners, to be approved by Executive Council, and oversee and lead the Commission activities. The Commission is charged with identifying sites for accreditation and recognition by the Chicago Wilderness Alliance. The Commission reviews sites for EERP accreditation and makes recommendations on qualifying sites to the Executive Council for approval every two years.

The Commission consists of seven to nine partners who represent the profession, including at least three natural resource professionals, one representative of the Chicago Wilderness Executive Council, one Chicago Wilderness Steering Committee partner, and two to four at-large representatives from Chicago Wilderness partner organizations.

Commissioners are approved by Executive Council at a regular meeting and serve one, two, or three-year terms, but no more than six consecutive years. The Commission meets as needed. The Commission is augmented with an Advisory Panel consisting of professionals with expertise in the following disciplines: Hydrology, Entomology, Botany, Ornithology, Herpetology, Aquatics Biology, Soil Science, Malacology, and Wildlife Biology. The Commission will consult with partners of the Advisory Panel as needed.

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Commissioners must meet all the following requirements: (1) currently employed in (or recently retired from) the natural resource profession; (2) an employee or volunteer of a Chicago Wilderness partner, with written endorsement of the Executive Council representative of that partner; (3) hold at least one academic degree (bachelor's or advanced degree) in natural resources or a related professional specialization; and (4) five or more years of full-time professional experience in natural resources management or equivalent experience.

Government Relations Community: The Government Relations Community oversees the government relations strategy on the federal and state levels, in coordination with the Chicago Wilderness Officers. Meetings are held as necessary.

Nominations & Recruitment Committee: The Nomination and Recruitment committee oversees the recruitment, nomination and election of Chicago Wilderness Alliance officers and at-large partners of the Steering Committee. The Nomination & Recruitment Committee shall be appointed by the Steering Committee. The Nominations and Recruitment Committee will prepare a slate of candidates and present the slate for approval by the Executive Council in October and affirmation and installation of new officers and at-large partners of the Steering Committee in January.

Partnership Committee: The Partnership Committee strives to cultivate ownership among partners of Chicago Wilderness Alliance by increasing partner engagement and the value partners derive from the Alliance to better achieve regional conservation goals through collaboration. The Committee coordinates applications for partnership in Chicago Wilderness Alliance at both the General and Executive Council level and submits recommendations for partnership to the Executive Council. Additionally, the Partnership Committee, in coordination with the Communications Committee, oversees the implementation of the Partner Engagement Strategy, including:

1. Partner onboarding or mentoring
2. Partner engagement metrics
3. Additional strategies that enhance partner engagement and diversify participation within the Alliance.

The Partnership Committee is comprised of representatives from interested Chicago Wilderness Alliance partners. The Committee's chair(s) are representatives of Executive Council partners and appointed by the Committee.

- H. **Other Administrative Groups.** The Executive Council, Steering Committee and/or Chair and Vice Chair may set up task forces and ad hoc committees to make recommendations in various areas of operations. These groups, their responsibilities, and composition shall be listed on the partners' website.

III. OFFICERS

The officers of Chicago Wilderness Alliance are the Chair, Vice Chair, Executive Secretary, and Treasurer, and the five to eleven at-large partners of the Steering Committee. Officers must be a partner of Chicago Wilderness. The Chair presides over meetings of the Executive Council and Steering Committee; serves on the Steering Committee and Green Vision Goal Teams; and represents Chicago Wilderness at local, regional, national, and international events. The Vice Chair serves on the Steering Committee, Partnership Committee and Chicago Wilderness Congress; in the absence of the Chair presides over

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meetings of the Executive Council, Steering Committee; and represents Chicago Wilderness Alliance at local, regional, national, and international events at the request of the Chair. The Treasurer leads coordination with the fiscal sponsor; lead financial oversight and reporting; and leads the budgeting process. The Executive Secretary serves as parliamentarian; establishes quorum at Executive Council and Steering Committee meetings, takes attendance, coordinates the scheduling of Executive Council meetings, distributes agendas, and records and distributes minutes. At-large Steering Committee partners with the appropriate interest and capacity will be designated to coordinate key functions, including partnership recruitment and retention; public program (e.g., Excellence in Ecological Restoration and other outward facing programs); external communications; and strategic initiatives. Steering Committee partners will be designated to act as liaison or MAP (most accountable person) to functioning Chicago Wilderness Alliance committees, task forces, and working groups.

A. Steering Committee:

- 1. Length of Term:** The Steering Committee shall serve a staggered schedule with service terms not to exceed three years for each position.

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Position	Term	Election Cycle Groups	Next Election Cycle	Next Installation Cycle
Chair	3-Years	<u>1</u>	2024 4	2025 5
Vice-Chair	3-Years	<u>1</u>	2024 4	2025 5
Treasurer	3-Years	<u>2</u>	2023 3	2024 4
Executive Secretary	3-Years	<u>3</u>	2022 2	2023 3
At-Large – 1	3-Years	<u>1</u>	2024	2025
At-Large – 2	3-Years	<u>1</u>	2024	2025
At-Large – 3	3-Years	<u>1</u>	2024	2025
At-Large – 4	3-Years	<u>1</u>	2024	2025
At-Large – 5	3-Years	<u>2</u>	2023	2024
At-Large – 6	3-Years	<u>2</u>	2023	2024
At-Large – 7	3-Years	<u>2</u>	2023	2024
At-Large – 8	3-Years	<u>2</u>	2023	2024
At-Large – 9	3-Years	<u>3</u>	2022	2023
At-Large – 10	3-Years	<u>3</u>	2022 2	2023 3
At-Large – 11	3-Years	<u>3</u>	2022 2	2023 3

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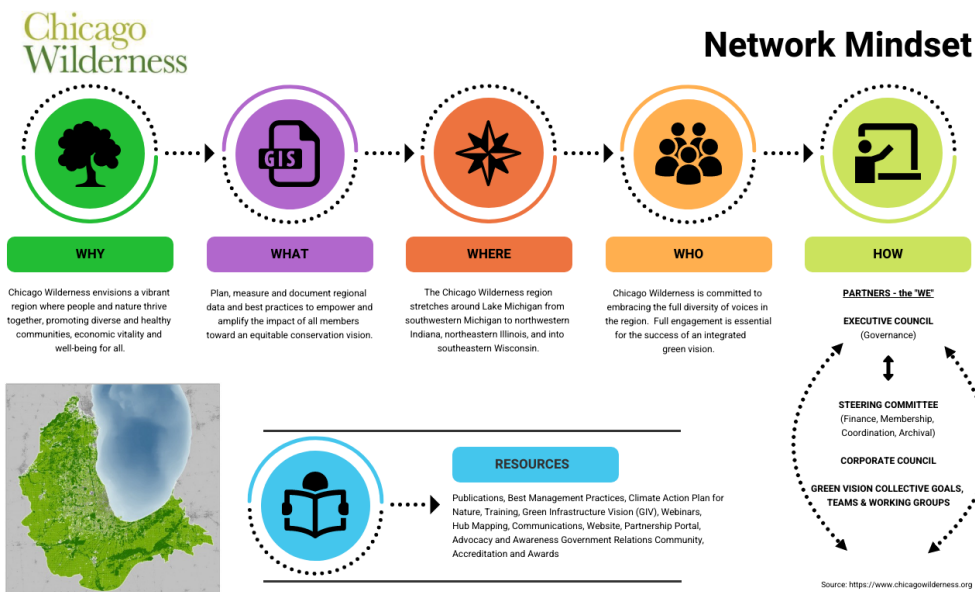
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- 2. Term Limits:** Officers and At-Large Steering Committee Partners are eligible to serve two-consecutive terms in their elected position; however, following their second term, the individual must vacate the position and wait a period of one-year before being eligible for reconsideration as a candidate for the Steering Committee. The only exception is for an individual who is elected to serve a term vacated by an officer or At-Large Steering Committee partner, and new At-Large Steering Committee partners who begin a vacated term which has less than three years remaining.

- 3. Vacancy of Position:** In the event that an Officer or At-Large Steering Committee Partner resigns early or is otherwise unable to complete a term, a temporary replacement will be elected at the next regular election cycle. The Steering Committee may assign a replacement for the

vacated position until the next regular election cycle. If a vacancy with an Officer occurs, the vacancy may be filled by another Steering Committee member until the next election cycle. If an Officer changes place of employment during a term, the Officer may opt to join as an Individual Partner and complete such term. If such changes occur, the Steering Committee will notify the Executive Council at their next regularly scheduled meeting of these changes.



IV. PARTNERSHIP

A. Partnership Categories. There are two categories of partnership in Chicago Wilderness Alliance: Executive Council and General. All partners will have a demonstrable past record of work that supports the mission of Chicago Wilderness Alliance and will commit in the future to actively and publicly support the mission, goals, and objectives of Chicago Wilderness Alliance as established by the Executive Council. Both categories of partnership will participate equally in the Chicago Wilderness Alliance biennial Congress.

- 1. General Partners:** Federal, state, county, and local agencies, biological research and education institutions, businesses, and not-for-profit agencies, individuals and students and others that support the mission of the Chicago Wilderness Alliance through programs relating to conservation of biological diversity and promotion of improved quality of life, and environmental health and justice.

Rights and Responsibilities of General Partnership: General partners are encouraged to contribute, annually, based upon the Contribution Schedule in this Section. General partners are welcome to propose items for consideration by the Executive Council and Steering Committee and to attend meetings of the Executive Council as observers. General partners are eligible to participate in Chicago Wilderness working groups and committees as partners or in leadership roles (eg: vice- chair, co-chair or chair), to propose projects for official endorsement from Chicago Wilderness Alliance and implement projects.

2. **Executive Council Partners:** Federal, state, county, and local agencies, biological research and education institutions, businesses, not-for-profit agencies and other organizations, who will commit to the engagement to the fulfillment of the objectives of Chicago Wilderness Alliance.

Rights and Responsibilities of Executive Council Partnership: Executive Council partners participate and vote in meetings of the Executive Council, which determines policies and strategies for Chicago Wilderness Alliance. Executive Council partners may propose projects for official endorsement from Chicago Wilderness. Each organization participating on the Executive Council shall assign an Executive Council delegate. Delegates (or designated proxies) of Executive Council partners are expected to attend three or more Executive Council meetings per year. Executive Council organizations shall actively participate on Chicago Wilderness Alliance working groups and committees, lead efforts and implement projects to promote the objective of Chicago Wilderness Alliance and to fulfill other responsibilities outlined in Section I.

- B. **Application and Admission Procedures for New Partners:** Organizations and individuals seeking partnership initially will be considered for General partnership. The applicant will complete an application describing their existing programs in support of biodiversity conservation, environmental health, and improved quality of life, and proposed ways in which the organization/individual will contribute to the fulfillment of the objectives of Chicago Wilderness Alliance. The application is submitted to the Partnership Committee.

The Partnership Committee will notify the Executive Council of all applications for partnership. To be considered at a meeting of the Executive Council, applications should be received by the Partnership Committee at least 30 days before the next scheduled meeting.

The Executive Council will receive a list of proposed new partners with a summary of each applicant's application and the Partnership Committee's recommended action. Copies of complete applications will be available to the Executive Council prior to the meeting at which the proposed partnership will be considered.

Applicants for new partnership will be accepted by majority vote of the Executive Council partners present at a meeting at which there is a quorum. All votes related to the admission of new partners will be by private ballot or electronic ballot. Admission as a General partner will be official following the vote in the Executive Council. Denial of acceptance for General partners should be based upon concerns that the applicant either does not meet requirements of partnership under Section I or has not shown that it has or will support the objectives of Chicago Wilderness Alliance. In cases where admission is denied, the applicant will be informed of the nature of the objections raised to its admission and will be given an opportunity to apply again having responded to the objections.

- C. **Application and Admission Procedures for Executive Council Partnership.** An organization that is a General partner may apply to become an Executive Council partner. The organization will complete an application describing their qualifications for Executive Council partnership. The application is submitted to the Partnership Committee.

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The Partnership Committee will notify the Executive Council of all applications for elevation to Executive Council partnership. To be considered at a meeting of the Executive Council, applications should be received by the Partnership Committee at least 30 days before the next scheduled meeting.

The Executive Council will receive a list of proposed new Executive Council partners with a summary of each organization's application and the Partnership Committee's recommended action. Each Executive Council Organization shall identify a delegate for the purposes of representation and completion of Executive Council duties. Copies of complete applications will be available to the Executive Council prior to the meeting at which the proposed change in partnership will be considered.

Applicants for Executive Council partnership will be admitted when the Executive Council has determined that the applicant clearly shares and supports the objectives of Chicago Wilderness Alliance; that the applicant does not pursue objectives or carry out acts that conflict with the responsibilities outlined in the Section I; that the applicant has a substantial record of activity in the conservation of biodiversity, improved environmental health, or enhanced quality of life in the Chicago region; and that the applicant meets any other qualifications of Executive Council partnership as prescribed in these Policies and Procedures and elsewhere. The Executive Council shall admit the applicant to Executive Council partnership by a majority of votes of the Executive Council partners present at a meeting at which there is a quorum; the vote will be by private or electronic ballot.

D. Unincorporated Organizations or Regional or National Alliances/Networks. Unincorporated Organizations or Regional or National Alliances/Networks may be considered for reciprocal admission to Chicago Wilderness Alliance and admitted as general partners and approved through the normal procedure noted above. Unincorporated Organizations or Regional or National Alliances/Networks who wish to be considered for reciprocal admission to Chicago Wilderness Alliance may be asked to demonstrate their legitimacy and stability as an organization by submitting with their application copies of their organizational charter, bylaws or other defining instrument, as outlined in this Section.

E. Annual Partnership Contributions.

- 1. Annual Partnership Contributions Program:** Each Alliance partner is required to provide an annual financial partnership contribution. The contribution amount outlined below in Table 1 are recommended levels based upon an organization's operating budget. Some partners, either because of their mission or benefit received from the partnership within Chicago Wilderness, may be able to provide greater support.

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Deleted: <#>Partnership Contribution Requirements:
Annual contributions are required to participate as a partner of the Alliance. Beginning January 1, 2020, all existing paid partners considered in good standing in 2019 shall map to one of the prescribed contribution levels outlined in Table 1 "Annual Partnership Contributions". Should a member in good standing not map directly to a specific level that matches their 2019 contribution amount on January 1, 2020, they will have the option to remain at the 2019 funding level unless they wish to move up to the suggested annual contribution level where they were mapped.
→ Partners who previously contributed to Chicago Wilderness Alliance prior to 2019 but not considered partners in good standing wishing to become partners in good standing for 2020 shall map to the contribution level that is equal to the most recent contribution level on record with Chicago Wilderness Alliance. If the most recent amount contributed does not map to an existing level, the closest level that is not less than the most recent contribution will be used or the past level will be honored for one (1) year, then mapped to the next higher level the subsequent year.

2. **Payment of Contributions:** Contributions will be based on a fiscal year beginning January 1 of each year and ending December 31 of the following year.
3. **New Organizational Partners:** New organizational partners are considered provisional until they are formally accepted by the Executive Council. Upon formal acceptance, new organizational partners will be invoiced and shall be required to make payment within 60-days of the invoice date.

Table 1: Annual Partnership Contributions

Level	Annual Operating Budget	Level Description	Eligibility for Executive Council	Suggested Annual Contribution
1	\$30M+	1	*	\$12,500
2	\$12M+	2	*	\$8,500
3	\$6M+ - \$12M	3	*	\$4,500
4	\$1.5M+ - \$6M	4	*	\$2,500
5	\$751k – \$1.5M	5	*	\$1,200
6	\$501k - \$750k	6	*	\$550
7	\$301k - \$500k	7		\$300
8	\$101k – \$300k	8		\$100
9	< \$100k	9		\$50
10	n/a	Individual/Retired		\$25
11	n/a	Student		\$10
12	n/a	Community Partners/Other/Sponsorship		\$ -

4. **Contribution Approval and Invoicing:** The Treasurer shall prepare the annual fiscal year budget establishing the revenue requirements for the next fiscal year. The Steering Committee shall review and recommend to the Executive Council the fiscal year budget and recommended contribution amounts (revised Table 1 if required). Following Executive Council approval, invoices for each fiscal year shall be prepared under the direction of the Treasurer and delivered to all partners by October 31 preceding each fiscal year. Partners receiving the invoice shall make payments by no later than March 31 of the fiscal year to remain a partner in good standing. Partners unable to make payments prior to March 31 must contact the Treasurer prior to the deadline to arrange an alternative payment schedule. New partners starting after March 31 in any fiscal year shall be invoiced a pro-rated amount based on the number of full months remaining after Executive Council approval and shall be required to make the payment within 60-days of the invoice date.
5. **Other/Sponsorship Contributions:** Some Chicago Wilderness Alliance partners are not able to contribute funding due to legal or policy constraints within their organization or by law or may be a Regional or National Alliance or Network that shall be considered for reciprocal membership. In those cases, or in other unique circumstances that arise, the partner shall discuss the issue with the Treasurer. The Treasurer will bring the issue to the Steering Committee, and the partner will be informed following the Steering Committee decision. Where a partner is able to contribute or sponsor Chicago Wilderness such that that contribution directly eliminates a component of the fiscal year's budget or provides funding that otherwise would have been incurred by the Alliance, such contribution can be considered equivalent to an annual contribution. These contribution requests must be made to the Treasurer and approved by

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the Steering Committee on the same timeline as outlined in regular contribution invoicing described in this Section.

F. Revocation of Partnership, Withdrawal of Existing Partners, and Change in Partnership Level.

1. Partner in Good Standing: A partner in good standing is defined as follows:

1. A partner that comports with the ideals of Chicago Wilderness Alliance described in Section I
2. A partner that has completed the partnership process outlined in this Section
3. A partner that has contributed to the Alliance and meeting the requirements of this Section

2. Revocation of Partnership: A General or Executive Council partner may have its partnership revoked if it acts persistently in a manner seriously inconsistent with the objectives of Chicago Wilderness as described in Section I or fails to make annual contributions as described in this Section. A proposal for revocation of partnership detailing the ways the partner organization/individual has violated the objectives must be submitted by at least three General or Executive Council partners to the Chair of Chicago Wilderness or any of the Chicago Wilderness Officers (Vice-Chair, Treasurer, or Executive Secretary), who shall immediately forward the proposal to the Partnership Committee. Within 30 days of receiving the proposal, the Partnership Committee shall report whether it finds that the proposal is based on legitimate grounds to the Chicago Wilderness Officers, the partner organization/individual in question, and the partners submitting the proposal. If the Partnership Committee has found that the proposal is based on legitimate grounds, a hearing shall be scheduled for the next Executive Council meeting. The Executive Council, after hearing the reasons for which revocation is being proposed may, by a majority of vote of the Executive Council partners present at a meeting at which there is a quorum, request the partner in question to present to the next meeting of the Executive Council the reason why revocation of partnership is not justified. The partner in question will notify the Chair or the Officers of the Chicago Wilderness Alliance if it wishes to present its case against revocation of partnership. If not, then the partner will be considered to have withdrawn from partnership. If the partner elects to argue for maintenance of its partnership, they will do so at the next meeting of the Executive Council. After considering any response from the partner, the Executive Council may vote to revoke its partnership by a two-thirds majority of votes of the Executive Council partners present at a meeting at which there is a quorum; the vote will be by private or electronic ballot.

2. Non-Payment of Annual Contributions: Payment should not be considered a barrier for participation in the Chicago Wilderness Alliance. Should an organization or individual wish to apply for membership scholarships or adjust their recommended dues level, they should contact the Chicago Wilderness Coordinator or Treasurer to discuss. A scholarship application request form can also be completed online and recommendations can be approved by the Steering Committee leadership.

Deleted: Beginning April 1, 2020, upon review by the Treasurer, if any partner is found to not be in good standing as described in this Section, the Treasurer will bring the issue to the next meeting of the Steering Committee and contact the Partnership Committee Chair. The Treasurer and/or Partnership Committee Chair shall present the circumstance to the Steering Committee. The recommendation of the Steering Committee shall be presented at the next scheduled Executive Council meeting. After discussion, the partner will be considered to have withdrawn from partnership due to non-payment, and the Executive Council may vote to revoke its partnership by a two-thirds majority of votes of the Executive Council partners present at a meeting at which there is a quorum; the vote will be by private or electronic ballot.

3. Withdrawal of Partnership: Any partner may withdraw from the Chicago Wilderness Alliance at any time by providing written notice of the party's intent to withdraw to the Chair of the Alliance.
4. Change in Partnership Level from Executive Council to General: An Executive Council partner may request to change its level of partnership to General partner at any time, and the change must be acknowledged by the Executive Council. The partner will submit its request to the Partnership Committee, which shall then notify the Executive Council in advance of its next meeting.

The Executive Council may change the partnership level of an Executive Council partner to General partner if the partner does not fulfill the expectations described in this Section. The Executive Secretary will track and report to the Partnership Committee Chair if an Executive Council partner fails to attend at least three Executive Council meetings per year for two calendar years. The Partnership Committee will recommend to the Executive Council potential changes to partner level. The partner will be notified that a change in level is being considered at least 60 days prior to the next Executive Council meeting and be invited to present at that meeting the reason why change in partnership level is not justified. The partner will notify the Chair of the Chicago Wilderness Alliance if it wishes to present its case against change in partnership level. After considering any response from the partner, the Executive Council may change the partnership level by a two-thirds majority of votes of the Executive Council partners present at a meeting at which there is a quorum; the vote will be by private or electronic ballot.

V. GENERAL POLICIES

- A. Chicago Wilderness Endorsement Policy regarding Policy and Advocacy Issues. The Chicago Wilderness Government Relations Committee facilitates the sharing of information on legislative matters and regional issues affecting the natural resources of the Chicago Wilderness region. To share such information with Chicago Wilderness Alliance partners, communication will be facilitated through the Chicago Wilderness Alliance Coordinator and Chicago Wilderness Alliance Chair. The information will be disseminated electronically or by other means as appropriate.

To request engagement from Chicago Wilderness Alliance partners on an issue, send the information, including a brief description of the issue, a bill number (if applicable) and contact information to the Chicago Wilderness Alliance Government Relations Community Chair. While the Alliance does not take a position for or against specific legislative or regulatory action, Chicago Wilderness does invite its partners to do so if they choose. However, Chicago Wilderness Alliance as an entity may render an opinion on whether and how legislative proposals will impact its goals and initiatives or provide other education or information useful in evaluating potential legislative action.

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Chicago Wilderness Alliance, through its Government Relations Community, may coordinate visits with elected officials to discuss related policy issues. Chicago Wilderness' State and Federal Legislative Principles serve as a reference document for legislators in developing or considering public policy that affects the Chicago Wilderness region.

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Chicago Wilderness Alliance may also support or render an opinion on how a specific project or proposal of one of its partners or partners will advance the goals of the Green Vision for the region. Partner organizations may request a letter of support from Chicago Wilderness on a project, proposal, or issue at any time by contacting the Chicago Wilderness Alliance Coordinator.

Chicago Wilderness Alliance does not endorse specific projects of non-partners or individuals, nor can Chicago Wilderness Alliance endorse any projects or proposals developed for non-competitive fundraising or promotional solicitations directed to any funder.

- B. Chicago Wilderness Data Sharing Policy.** Chicago Wilderness Alliance partners will cooperate with one another to share ecological, social, and other data related to the conservation of the region's biodiversity, improved environmental health, and enhance quality of life, including geo-spatial data, and data resulting from monitoring, research, and other management, conservation, or educational activities.

Data should only be used in ways that enhance or strengthen efforts to enhance diverse, vibrant communities. Each partner organization has its own mission and priorities that should be respected and sharing data and information should facilitate the achievement of common Green Vision goals. Data, or information resulting from the data, may be used in projects, reports, brochures, websites, or other informational materials produced by Chicago Wilderness Alliance partner organizations for the purpose of promoting the region's Green Vision, with appropriate credit given to the data owner on all resulting products.

Third-party transfer of data is permissible provided that it is to another Chicago Wilderness Alliance partner organization and that the goal is to further the Green Vision. In the cases of large Chicago Wilderness Alliance data gathering projects, any intent to share the information with other Chicago Wilderness Alliance partners should be made known in advance and special arrangements made where necessary. However, Chicago Wilderness Alliance partners shall share data collected as part of a Chicago Wilderness Alliance funded projects with other partners of the Alliance in order to promote collaborative work and share lessons learned.

All users should respect the integrity and the limitations of any given data set, and all uses of data should respect legal and intellectual property rights.

Recipients of data will accept data "as-is" and will not hold the owner responsible for the accuracy or correctness of the data. Data owner will specify to the best of their knowledge the accuracy and completeness of the data. The data user will acknowledge the level of accuracy in any resulting products and shall only use the data in ways appropriate to its level of accuracy.

Whenever possible, data will be shared at no cost to other Chicago Wilderness partners, excepting nominal service fees for reformatting or extracting selected data or for creating special service map products or other applications. The intent is not to burden partners but further help partners.

VI. MODIFICATIONS AND AMENDMENTS

These Policies and Procedures may be modified or amended by a vote of a majority of all Executive Council partners. Proposed changes must be sent to all Executive Council partners at least one week prior to the meeting at which the changes are to be discussed. Ballots will be distributed electronically following the meeting, and must be returned by mail, e-mail, or fax within two weeks of distribution.

Adopted by the Executive Council of the Chicago Region Biodiversity Council, March 20, 2002 with

clarification by the Partnership Committee, July 8, 2002
Further amended (partnership contribution structure) by Executive Council, December 18, 2002
Further amended (government and data sharing policies and language consistent with strategic plan) by Executive Council, November 16, 2005
Further amended (revised partnership contribution structure and seats on Steering Committee) by Executive Council, January 17, 2007
Further amended (partnership, structure, elimination of Steering Committee, adding and clarifying standing committees, establishing officers, partnership revocation, standing committee leadership, Trust functions, endorsement policy) by Executive Council, 2011
Further amended (team co-chair representation, standing committee chairs, Coordinating Group representation, Chicago Wilderness Chair candidate nomination process, governance, standing committees) by Executive Council, 2012
Further amended (endorsement policy, Partnership Committee, partner dues, Corporate Council) by Executive Council, 2013
Further amended (executive director appointment, honorary partners) by Executive Council, 2014
Further amended (fiscal year changes) by Executive Council, 2016
Further amended at Executive Council meeting to adopt the Chicago Wilderness Policies and Procedures on January 24, 2018.
Further amended at Executive Council Meeting on October 16, 2019.
~~PROPOSED: Further amended at Executive Council Meeting on July 20, 2022,~~

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Chicago Wilderness Alliance FINAL Operating Budget FY 2022

REVENUE	FISCAL YEAR 2022 (January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022)						NOTES
OPERATING REVENUE							
Membership Dues							
2	Tier 1	\$ 12,500	\$ 25,000				COVID-19 Conservative with Slight Growth
4	Tier 2	\$ 8,500	\$ 34,000				
3	Tier 3	\$ 4,500	\$ 13,500				
6	Tier 4	\$ 2,500	\$ 15,000				
4	Tier 5	\$ 1,200	\$ 4,800				
20	Tier 6	\$ 550	\$ 11,000				
7	Tier 7	\$ 300	\$ 2,100				
27	Tier 8	\$ 100	\$ 2,700				
30	Tier 9	\$ 50	\$ 1,500				
16	Tier 10 - Individual/Retired	\$ 25	\$ 400				
0	Tier 11 - Student	\$ 10	\$ -				
6	Tier 12 - Other/Sponsorship	\$ -					
125	Sub-Total Membership Dues		\$ 110,000				
	Total Membership Dues			\$ 110,000			
Donations							
	Corporate Donations - Nicor Gas		\$ 50,000				Nicor Gas (\$15k 10K acres; \$15k Equitable Access; \$10k HUB; \$10k Calumet/Field Museum)
	Individual Donations A		\$ 50,000				George Rabb Trust Gift
	Individual Donations B		\$ 1,000				
	Total Donations			\$ 101,000			
Grants							
	Nicor Gas		\$ 20,000				Nicor Gas (\$20k 2022, \$20k 2023) - Grant Submittal May
	Illinois Department of Natural Resources		\$ 36,000				Total grant \$75,000 (Green Vision work - IDNR secured for JEDI, Admin Support and Tree Initiative)
	Total Grants			\$ 56,000			\$30,500k in 2021, 2023 \$8,500 for Tree Cafe
Programs							
New Rebranded Program - Conservation Congress - Hybrid - Fall 2022							
Sponsorship							Plan for 2022 Potential Hybrid - In-Person/Virtual
2	Sponsorship - Regional Visionary	\$ 10,000	\$ 20,000				America the Beautiful 30 x 30, Build Back Better (Climate & Equitable Jobs Act)
2	Sponsorship - Wilderness Patron	\$ 5,000	\$ 10,000				Congress - Seven Goals - Culminates - HUB MAP Social Gathering
5	Sponsorship - Conservative Collaborator	\$ 2,000	\$ 10,000				Fall 2022 - Mini-Workshops (October-November)
10	Sponsorship Wilderness Friend	\$ 1,000	\$ 10,000				No Straight Presentation Style
0	Student Sponsorship	\$ 40	\$ -				Institutional Registration for X Tickets for Attendance, Sponsorship, Scholarship/Outreach
Registration							
0	Early Bird Registration - Members	\$ 50	\$ -				
0	Early Bird Registration - Non-Members	\$ 75	\$ -				
0	After Deadline Registration - Members	\$ 75	\$ -				
0	After Deadline Registration - Non-Members	\$ 100	\$ -				
0	Student Registration (50 Students - Sponsored by Members)	\$ 40	\$ -				
0	Sub-Total Conservation Congress		\$ 50,000				
Excellence in Ecological Restoration Program (Biennial)							Program 11/4/ 2021 - No Program 2022
0	Sponsorship	\$ 500	\$ -				
0	Applicant Fee (\$100 Members/\$300 Non-Members)	\$ 100	\$ -				
	Sub-Total EERP		\$ -				
Force of Nature Awards (Biennial)							Program 11/4/2021 - No Program 2022
0	Sponsorship	\$ 500	\$ -				
0	Applicant Fee	\$ -	\$ -				
	Sub-Total Force of Nature Awards		\$ -				
	Total Program			\$ 50,000			
OPERATING REVENUE SUB-TOTAL				\$ 317,000			
CWA FUND RESERVES INVESTMENT				\$ 131,147			
TOTAL REVENUE				\$ 448,147			
EXPENSES							
Fiscal Sponsor							
	Sponsorship Fee of 3% of Revenue		\$ 7,500				
	Optional Services - TBD		\$ -				Increased due to Increased Revenue - IDNR Grant, Sponsorship, etc.
	Total Fiscal Agent			\$ 7,500			
Insurance							Actual 2020 - \$1,585; Actual 2021 - \$X

Chicago Wilderness Alliance FINAL Operating Budget FY 2022

	D/O Insurance & General Liability Insurance			\$ 1,600			Actual 2019 \$1,547 (\$1,347 and \$200 Service Fee) + 1.6%
	Total Insurance			\$ 1,600			
	Office Operations: Technology (Computer/Software, Credit Processing, Web)						
	Membership Portal (YourMembership.com)			\$ 8,000			Actual 2020 \$6,819
	Website Domain Licensing (GoDaddy.com, Network Solutions.com)			\$ 200			Paid in 2019 - 3 Years @ \$197.91 - Budget in 2022
	Credit Card Processing (BluePay.com, PayPal.com, etc.)			\$ 3,100			
	EERP & FON Application - Formsite			\$ 1,000			Remain on Formsite.com
	Zoom Communications Platform			\$ 2,000			Café Series/Webinars - Capacity up to 500 Participants
	Computer			\$ -			13" Macbook Pro, Mouse, Microsoft Suite, etc. - Purchased in 2021
	Project Management: Trello			\$ -			
	Surveys (Google)			\$ -			
	State of Illinois - Annual Filing Not-for-Profit			\$ 10			
	Misc. Expenses			\$ 1,000			
	Total Office Operations			\$ 15,310			
	Alliance Coordination						
	CW Alliance Coordinator						
	1 @ 40 Hrs/Wk x \$33.28 (4%) Hr x 52 Weeks) & 11% Overhead			\$ 76,837			\$33.28 - 2022 - \$32 - 2021. \$31 - 2020. \$30 - 2019.
	Mileage Reimbursement, Misc.			\$ 2,000			
	Total Alliance Coordination			\$ 78,837			
	Program						
	New Rebranded Program - Conservation Congress - Hybrid - Fall 2022						Opportunity for New Look & Feel - Aligned with Green Vision
	Event Coordination Management			\$ -			Field Trips - New Idea
	General Communication			\$ -			Outdoor Adventure - National Parks w/ Naturalist Leading Trek
	Facility Rental			\$ -			Destination - ZOOM in from locations
	Food & Beverage			\$ -			Phone Camera w/Leaders with YouTube/FB Live
	Speakers/Presenters			\$ -			Hikes of the CW Region
	Misc.			\$ 50,000			
	Sub-Total Conservation Congress			\$ 50,000			
	Excellence in Ecological Restoration - Biennial (2021)						
	0 Awards Reception (Food & Beverage)			\$ 20	\$ -		
	0 Awards - Site Signage & Award			\$ 150	\$ -		
	0 Postage/Mailing			\$ 0	\$ -		
	Sub-Total EERP			\$ -			
	Force of Nature Awards - Biennial						
	0 Awards Reception (Food & Beverage)			\$ 20	\$ -		
	0 Awards			\$ 50	\$ -		
	0 Postage/Mailing			\$ 0	\$ -		
	Sub-Total Force of Nature			\$ -			
	Program Funding						
	Model Projects - Collective Impact Goals - Green Vision			\$ -			New Initiatives - Green Vision Goals
	Program Grants (Goal Group Led Initiatives)			\$ 25,000			Team Working Groups - Review Process, Develop Timeline, etc. - 7 Goals @ \$3,500 Per Goal
	10k Acres			\$ 15,000			Supported by Nicor (\$15k)
	Discovery Grant - Calumet-Field Museum			\$ 10,000			Supported by Nicor (\$10k)
	Scholarships/Engagment JEDI			\$ 15,000			Supported by Nicor (\$15k)
	Facilitated Meetings			\$ -			Reduced from \$5k to \$0
	PCI - Public Communications, Inc.			\$ 72,400			PCI Contract - \$8k-\$9k per month
	HUB Mapping & Intern			\$ 10,000			Dave Holman (\$3k) and Intern (\$7k) - Supported by Nicor \$10k
	Green Vision Specialist			\$ 40,000			Supported by Nicor \$20k
	JEDI Consultant - Engagement Strategy			\$ 26,000			Cream City Consulting, LLC - 6 @ \$3,500, 1 Road Map @ \$5,000 - Supported by IDNR Grant
	Cream City Conservation, LLC - No. 7 - Equity Tools & Practice			\$ 3,500			Supported by IDNR Grant
	Funds for Key Work Activities - Strategic Support & Meetings			\$ 2,000			Max. \$250 Working Teams/Groups
	Sub-Total Program Funding			\$ 218,900			
	Meeting Supplies						
	Members Appreciation Event			\$ 3,000			
	Executive Council Meetings (4 @ \$200)			\$ -			
	Corporate Council Meetings (4 @ \$75)			\$ -			
	Misc. Supplies - Coffee Service (4 @ \$75)			\$ -			
	Sub-Total Meeting Supplies			\$ 3,000			
	Total Program			\$ 271,900			
	Marketing & Communications						
	Outreach to Donors/Supporters/Partners on Green Vision Stories (4 Stories - 15 Hours)			\$ 4,200			Maria Sadowski - 5 to 10 Hours Per/Week @ \$52/Hour (4%) - Increase to \$70 per TNC - 500 Hours
	Annual Report (45 Hours)			\$ 3,150			Pitch 6 Stories Chicago, IL; Milwaukee, WI; Lake-Porter, IN; Kalamazoo-Grand Rapids, MI)
	Café Series (20 Workshops x 5 Hours)			\$ 7,000			Annual Report - 40 Hours
	Promote Cream City Workshops (6 Workshops x 10 Hours/Workshop)			\$ 8,400			
	Supporting GV Process (7 Goals/1 DEI x 15 Hours)			\$ 14,000			
	Promoting CW Brand & CW Activities and Work of Partners (12 Months x 25 Hours)			\$ 21,000			

Chicago Wilderness Alliance FINAL Operating Budget FY 2022

[illegible]

Chicago Wilderness

New Partners Recommended by the Partnership Committee and voting on by Executive Council Members in advance of the meeting by separate electronic ballot.

Chicago Wilderness Executive Council Meeting, Wednesday, July 20, 2022

NEW PARTNERS

Name	Type of Partner
Old-Growth Forest Network	General

Old-Growth Forest Network

- **Representative to Chicago Wilderness: Nick Sanchez**
- **Mission/Goal of Organization:**
To create a network of forests across the U.S., with one in each county where forests can grow, open for visitors and never logged, and a network of people inspired to protect them.
- www.oldgrowthforest.net

(All ballots will be kept confidential and will be destroyed after the vote is counted and recorded. For Executive Council Members Only)

Chicago Wilderness Alliance Green Vision Campaign

Communications strategy and messaging
development update

July 20, 2022

ONE EAST WACKER

Key Objectives & Goals

Develop a communications strategy and plan aimed at **increasing engagement, building trust** among members and partners, create **broader awareness** and assist in **launching the bold new Green Vision** promoting the Chicago Wilderness HUB.

Plan effectiveness will be measured by:

- More members participating in events/activities;
- More individuals aware of CW and positive perception of CW
- Increased membership and participation defined by geographic location and racial diversity
- Increased participation and engagement of partners across the four-state region.

Discovery Process, Marketing & Communications Assessment

To achieve objectives, we conducted research to glean insights into the challenges and opportunities for Chicago Wilderness Alliance to increase member recruitment, diversification and engagement

Communications Audit & Analysis:

- Website
- Green Vision materials & Hub
- Annual Reports
- Newsletters
- Culture & Inclusion Survey Results
- Historic, essential reports, plans and marketing tools

Qualitative Interviews:

- 13 In-depth interviews with Green Vision Goal Leaders to date

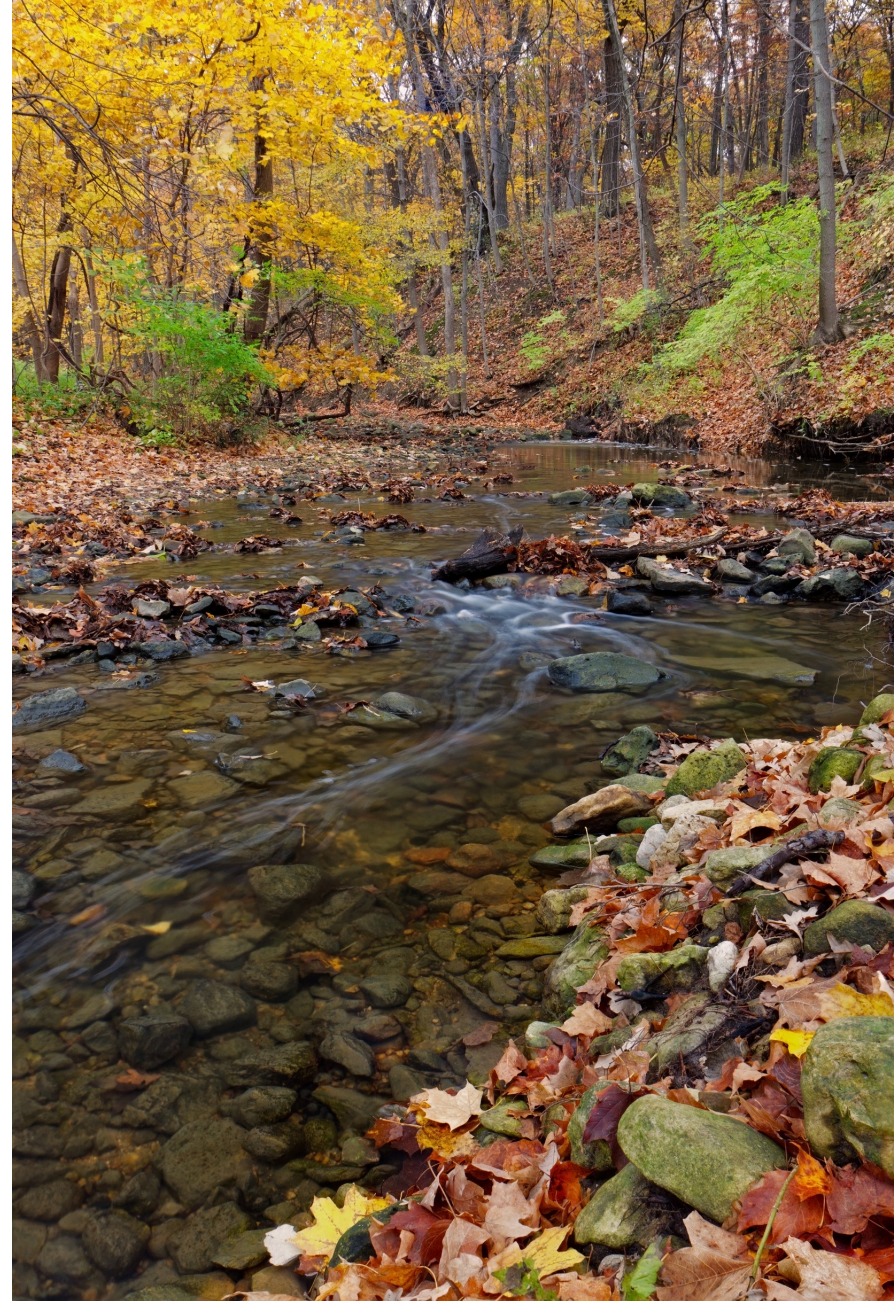
Member Survey:

- 138 participants responded
- Primarily Illinois
- 62% are not currently active on a working group or committee

Chicago Wilderness

Summary of Key Communications Challenges

- 1 Lack of Clarity and Consistency
- 2 Information Overload
- 3 Perception Issues and/or Structural Issues
- 4 Constraints of the Name
- 5 Look/Tone/Personality
- 6 Lack of Member Recruitment and Engagement Strategy



Summary of Opportunities

- 1 Develop message framework
- 2 Align on name; Streamline info, elevate priorities and segment by audience; Website overhaul
- 3 Refine storytelling: Elevate success stories that inspire, motivate, convey urgency and action
- 4 Develop member engagement & recruitment strategies
- 5 Update brand guidelines: Look/tone/personality (logo?)

NEXT STEPS

- 1 Share messaging framework for Green Vision with goal leads for review to ensure accuracy; Refine as needed
- 2 Develop overall Chicago Wilderness Alliance message framework; Develop first draft of communications strategy and plan – goal is delivery within the next 2 – 4 weeks
- 3 Work with Laura and Elizabeth to identify CWA Marketing Committee members to engage on this work; Share materials for their review; convene meeting
- 4 Refine strategy based on committee inputs; Align on priority strategies for PCI to activate, design and develop in advance of Conservation Congress in early November



**Public
Communications
Inc.**

Contact Information

Sharon Dewar
Senior Vice President
sdewar@pcipr.com
708-616-7452

Chicago Wilderness Alliance DRAFT Operating Budget FY 2023

REVENUE	FISCAL YEAR 2023 (January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023)						NOTES
OPERATING REVENUE							
Membership Dues							
2	Tier 1	\$ 12,500	\$ 25,000				Dues levels remaining the same for 2023.
4	Tier 2	\$ 8,500	\$ 34,000				
3	Tier 3	\$ 4,500	\$ 13,500				
6	Tier 4	\$ 2,500	\$ 15,000				
4	Tier 5	\$ 1,200	\$ 4,800				
20	Tier 6	\$ 550	\$ 11,000				
7	Tier 7	\$ 300	\$ 2,100				
27	Tier 8	\$ 100	\$ 2,700				
30	Tier 9	\$ 50	\$ 1,500				
16	Tier 10 - Individual/Retired	\$ 25	\$ 400				
0	Tier 11 - Student	\$ 10	\$ -				
6	Tier 12 - Other/Sponsorship	\$ -					
125	Sub-Total Membership Dues		\$ 110,000				
	Total Membership Dues			\$ 110,000			
Donations							
	Corporate Donations		\$ -				
	Individual Donations		\$ 1,000				
	Total Donations			\$ 1,000			
Grants							
	Nicor Gas		\$ 20,000				Nicor Gas (\$20k 2022, \$20k 2023) - Grant Awarded - Support Green Vision/HUB Core Work
	Illinois Department of Natural Resources		\$ 8,500				Total grant \$75,000 (Green Vision work - IDNR secured for JEDI, Admin Support and Tree Initiative)
	Total Grants			\$ 28,500			\$30,500k in 2021; \$8,500 for Tree Café in 2023
Programs							
Cafe Series & Workshops							
12	Sponsorship - Café Series	\$ 1,500	\$ 18,000				To be solicited and secured.
4	Sponsorship - JEDI Worksops & Initiatives	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 14,000				To be solicited and secured.
	Sub-Total Café Series & Workshops		\$ 32,000				
Conservation Congress - Field Trips							
4	Sponsorship - Field Trips	\$ 2,000	\$ 8,000				To be solicited and secured.
400	Registration - Field Trips	\$ 10	\$ 4,000				100 Registrations x 4 Field Trips
	Sub-Total Conservation Congress - Field Trips		\$ 12,000				
Excellence in Ecological Restoration Program (Biennial)							
2	Sponsorship	\$ 500	\$ 1,000				Program 11/2023
8	Applicant Fee (\$100 Members/\$300 Non-Members)	\$ 100	\$ 800				
	Sub-Total EERP		\$ 1,800				
Force of Nature Awards (Biennial)							
2	Sponsorship	\$ 500	\$ 1,000				Program 11/2023
0	Applicant Fee	\$ -	\$ -				
	Sub-Total Force of Nature Awards		\$ 1,000				
	Total Program			\$ 46,800			
OPERATING REVENUE SUB-TOTAL				\$ 186,300			
CWA FUND RESERVES INVESTMENT				\$ 89,914			Investment from Fund Reserves to Support FY 2023 Initiatives. Discussion on sustainability.
TOTAL REVENUE				\$ 276,214			
EXPENSES							
Fiscal Sponsor							
	Sponsorship Fee of 3% of Revenue		\$ 7,500				
	Total Fiscal Agent			\$ 7,500			
Insurance							
	D/O Insurance & General Liability Insurance		\$ 1,600				Actual 2021 - \$
	Total Insurance			\$ 1,600			
Office Operations: Technology (Computer/Software, Credit Processing, Web)							
	Membership Portal (YourMembership.com)		\$ 8,000				Semi-Annual \$3,719.80 x 2
	Website Domain Licensing (GoDaddy.com, Network Solutions.com)		\$ 200				Paid in 2019 - 3 Years @ \$197.91 - Budget in 2022
	Credit Card Processing (BluePay.com, PayPal.com, etc.)		\$ 3,100				
	EERP & FON Application - Formsites		\$ 1,000				Remain on Formsites.com - EERP/Force of Nature, etc.
	Zoom Communications Platform		\$ 2,000				Café Series/Webinars - Capacity up to 500 Participants
	Computer		\$ -				13" Macbook Pro, Mouse, Microsoft Suite, etc. - Purchased in 2021 - Replacement (2028) - 7 Years
	Project Management: Trello		\$ -				
	Surveys (Google)		\$ -				

Chicago Wilderness Alliance DRAFT Operating Budget FY 2023

	Canva - Photo/Desktop Publishing			\$ 120			\$119.40 per year
	Adobe			\$ 120			\$9.99 per month
	Hootsuite			\$ 400			\$398.88 per year (May)
	Google Drive Storage			\$ 120			\$9.99 per month
	State of Illinois - Annual Filing Not-for-Profit			\$ 10			
	Misc. Expenses			\$ 1,000			
	Total Office Operations				\$ 16,070		
	Alliance Coordination						
	CW Alliance Coordinator						
	1 @ 40 Hrs/Wk x \$35.60 (7%) Hr x 52 Weeks) & 11% Overhead			\$ 82,194			2023 \$35.60 (7%); 2022 - \$33.28 (4%); 2021 - \$32; \$31; 2019 - \$30
	Mileage Reimbursement, Misc.			\$ 2,000			Standard Mileage Rate - Itemize Submittal of Mileage Request
	82193				\$ 84,194		
	Program						
	New Rebranded Program - Conservation Congress Field Trips 2023						
	Event Coordination Management			\$ -			
	General Communication			\$ -			
	Facility Rental			\$ -			
	400 Food & Beverage	\$ 10	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000			
	Speakers/Presenters			\$ -			
	4 Transportation - Field Day	\$ 2,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000			
	4 Misc. - Field Trips	\$ 1,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000			
	<i>Sub-Total Conservation Congress</i>			\$ 16,000			
	Excellence in Ecological Restoration - Biennial (2021)						
	100 Awards Reception (Food & Beverage)		\$ 25	\$ 2,500			
	8 Awards - Site Signage & Award		\$ 200	\$ 1,600			
	0 Postage/Mailing		\$ 0	\$ -			
	<i>Sub-Total EERP</i>			\$ 4,100			
	Force of Nature Awards - Biennial						
	100 Awards Reception (Food & Beverage)		\$ 25	\$ 2,500			
	15 Awards		\$ 100	\$ 1,500			
	0 Postage/Mailing		\$ 0	\$ -			
	<i>Sub-Total Force of Nature</i>			\$ 4,000			
	Program Funding						
	Program Grants (Goal Group Led Initiatives)			\$ 25,000			Team Working Groups - Review Process, Develop Timeline, etc. - 7 Goals @ \$3,500 Per Goal
	HUB Mapping & Intern			\$ -			
	Green Vision Specialist			\$ 40,000			Supported by Nicor \$20k (2023 Corporate Donation)
	JEDI Workshops & Engagement Strategy			\$ 10,000			
	Funds for Key Work Activities - Strategic Support & Meetings			\$ 2,000			Max. \$250 Working Teams/Groups
	<i>Sub-Total Program Funding</i>			\$ 77,000			
	Meeting Supplies						
	Member Appreciation Event			\$ -			
	Executive Council Meetings (4 @ \$200)			\$ -			
	Corporate Council Meetings (4 @ \$75)			\$ -			
	Misc. Supplies - Coffee Service (4 @ \$75)			\$ -			
	<i>Sub-Total Meeting Supplies</i>			\$ -			
	Total Program				\$ 101,100		
	Marketing & Communications						
	Communications Consultant						
	Outreach to Donors/Supporters/Partners on Green Vision Stories (4 Stories - 15 Hours)			\$ 4,200			Maria Sadowski - 5 to 10 Hours Per/Week @ \$52/Hour (4%) - Increase to \$70 -2022 - 500 Hours
	Annual Report (45 Hours)			\$ 3,150			
	Café Series (20 Workshops x 5 Hours)			\$ 7,000			
	Promote JEDI Workshops & Field Trips (4 Workshops & 4 Field Trips x 5 Hours Each)			\$ 2,800			
	Implementation of PCI Recommendations			\$ 5,000			
	Supporting GV Process (7 Goals x 15 Hours)			\$ 7,350			
	Promoting CW Brand & CW Activities and Work of Partners (12 Months x 25 Hours)			\$ 21,000			
	<i>Sub-Total Communications Consultant</i>			\$ 50,500			
	Print Collateral & Branding						
	Misc. Campaign/Advertising			\$ 15,000			Future Wish List Ideas: Video Informercial, Annual Report, Branding - Increased from \$10k to \$15k
	Postage/Mailing (\$0.49)			\$ 250			
	Total Marketing & Communications				\$ 65,750		
	TOTAL EXPENSES				\$ 276,214		
	NET SURPLUS/LOSS				\$ -		
	CASH RESERVES/OPERATING FUND BALANCE						
	Actual Retained Earnings as of 12/31/2017			\$ 33,600			Goal of 25% Revenue
	Actual Retained Earnings as of 12/31/2018			\$ 121,545			

	Actual Retained Earnings as of 12/31/2019				\$ 205,362			
	Actual Retained Earnings as of 12/31/2020				\$ 329,761			
	Actual Retained Earnings as of 12/31/2021				\$ 369,813			
	Actual Retained Earnings as of 6/31/2022				\$ 529,181			
	Est. Retained Earning as of 12/31/2022 - At time of Final Budget Approval 11/2021				\$ 238,666			
	Est. Retained Earning as of 12/31/2022 - At 6/31/2022				\$ 421,014			
	Est. Retained Earning as of 12/31/2023				\$ 331,100			

CHICAGO WILDERNESS ALLIANCE
FY 2023 AMENDED BUDGET - FY 2023 DRAFT BUDGET
REVENUE & EXPENSE REPORT FY 2022 - AS OF 6/30/2022

	ACTUAL YE FY 2020	ACTUAL YE FY 2021	APPROVED FY 2022 AMENDED BUDGET	ACTUAL YTD FY 2022 AMENDED BUDGET AS OF 6/30/22	EST. YE FY 2022 12/31/2022	PROPOSED FY 2023 BUDGET
REVENUE						
Membership Dues	\$ 136,610	\$ 112,380	\$ 110,000	\$ 88,250	\$ 128,250	\$ 110,000
Sponsorships	\$ 43,120	\$ 1,100	\$ 50,000	\$ 3,730	\$ 53,730	\$ 42,000
Donations	\$ 53,040	\$ 53,136	\$ 101,000	\$ 103,270	\$ 103,270	\$ 1,000
Grants	\$ -	\$ 18,579	\$ 56,000	\$ 37,262	\$ 57,262	\$ 28,500
Registration Fees		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 4,000
Application Fees	\$ 2,000	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 800
OPERATING REVENUE SUBTOTAL	\$ 234,770	\$ 189,195	\$ 317,000	\$ 232,762	\$ 342,762	\$ 186,300
CWA Fund Reserves Investment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 131,147	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 89,914
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 234,770	\$ 189,195	\$ 448,147	\$ 232,762	\$ 342,762	\$ 276,214
EXPENDITURES						
Fiscal Sponsor	\$ 7,043	\$ 5,676	\$ 7,500	\$ 6,983	\$ 10,282	\$ 7,500
Insurance D/O	\$ 1,585	\$ 1,424	\$ 1,600	\$ -	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,600
Office/Technology/Member Portal	\$ 16,100	\$ 9,268	\$ 15,310	\$ 5,362	\$ 15,310	\$ 16,070
Contractor - Alliance Coordinator	\$ 66,359	\$ 67,828	\$ 78,837	\$ 34,966	\$ 78,837	\$ 84,194
Program	\$ 7,268	\$ 47,076	\$ 271,900	\$ 16,739	\$ 271,900	\$ 101,100
Marketing & Communications	\$ 12,015	\$ 17,871	\$ 73,000	\$ 9,345	\$ 73,000	\$ 65,750
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 110,371	\$ 149,143	\$ 448,147	\$ 73,394	\$ 450,929	\$ 276,214
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$ 124,399	\$ 40,052	\$ -	\$ 159,368	\$ (108,167)	\$ -

CASH RESERVES/OPERATING FUND BALANCE

Actual Net Assets as of 12/31/2017	\$33,600
Actual Net Assets as of 12/31/2018	\$121,545
Actual Net Assets as of 12/31/2019	\$205,362
Actual Net Assets as of 12/31/2020	\$329,761
Actual Net Assets as of 12/31/2021	\$369,813
Actual Net Assets as of 6/30/2022	\$529,181
Est. Net Assets as of 12/31/2022	\$421,014

Chicago Wilderness

The Chicago Wilderness Alliance has partnered with August M. Ball of Cream City Conservation & Consulting, LLC to establish a benchmark of how we are doing in cultivating belonging and equity among both the Chicago Wilderness Alliance and individual partner organizations (employees, volunteers, board members). This is the initial phase of Chicago Wilderness' Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) work.

A Culture & Inclusion Survey was launched from August 2-September 10, 2021 to help capture feedback anonymously. More than 500 people participated. You can find the results of the assessment [here](#).

We have completed all 7 JEDI Workshops and are ready to implement the knowledge we have obtained into a roadmap that will increase the Alliance's capacity to serve its partners and increase support across the region.

The following Alliance workgroup members have volunteered to lead this initial effort but this work will not be done in a vacuum. We would greatly appreciate your support in providing feedback on our initial focus areas for the roadmap by filling out this **FEEDBACK FORM** by July 15th and if you are able, consider joining a sub-workgroup to advance the Alliance's roadmap.



Elizabeth Kessler

Executive Director McHenry County Conservation District, Chicago Wilderness Chair



Leslie Dorworth

Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant and Purdue University Northwest (PNW)



Laura Reilly

Chicago Wilderness Coordinator



Raquel Garcia-Alvarez

Stewardship Program Coordinator



Dani Abboud

Director of Community Programs & Partnerships, Brushwood Center at Ryerson Woods



Teishetta Daniel

Center Director, Northerly Island Park - Chicago Park District



Beatriz Cañas

Director of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility

Chicago Wilderness

Feedback Form for JEDI Workplan

The following 80 responses were obtained as of 7/12/22. The feedback form will remain open until the end of July to capture any additional feedback

Factors

Accessibility

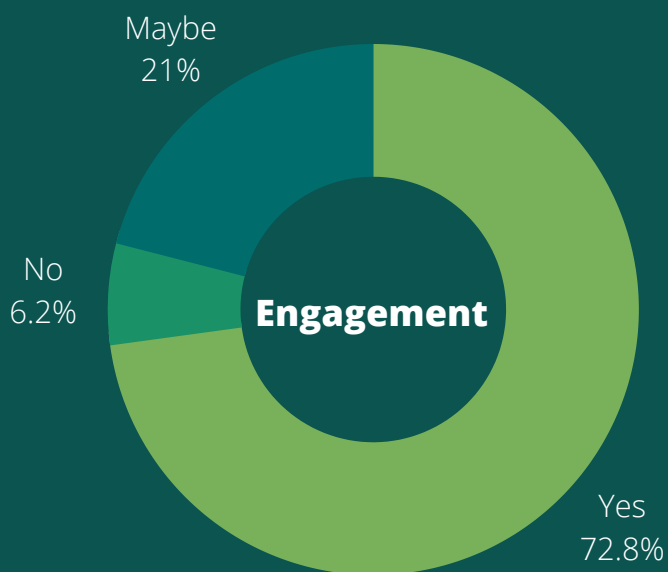
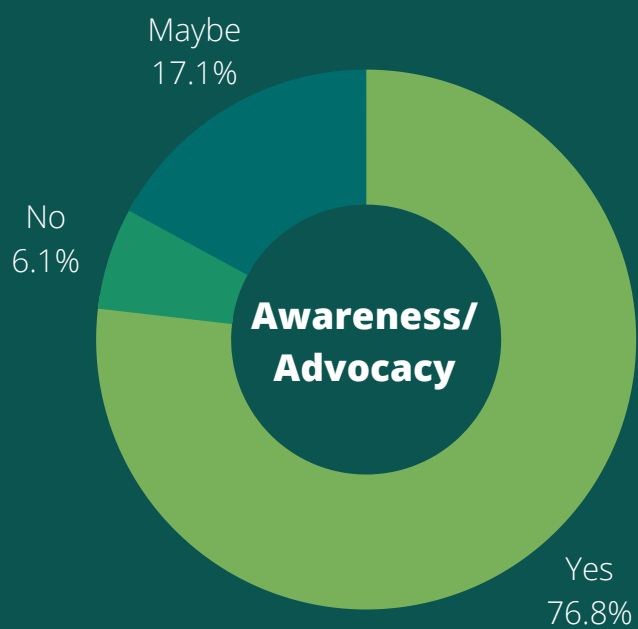
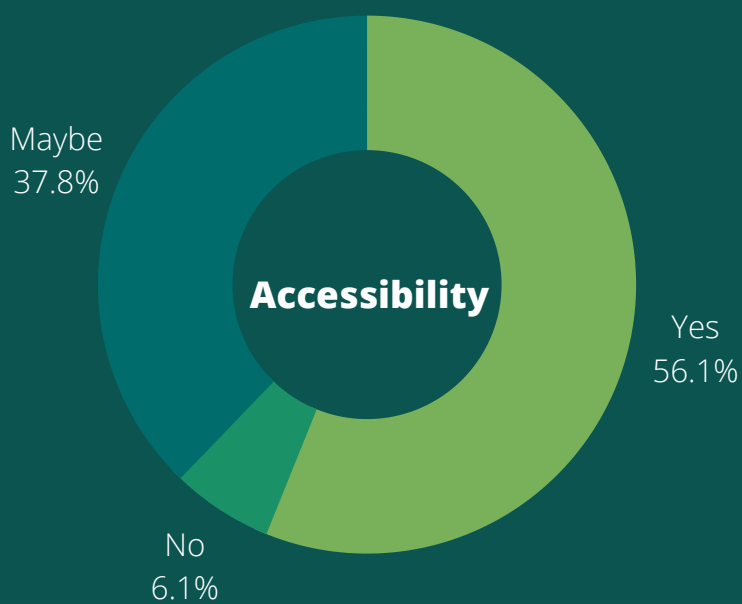
CWA resources have been created but many organizations, staff, members, volunteers are not aware of them and not able to access/plug in. Barriers include: Language (multi-lingual, science technical jargon, ASL, live transcript), Transportation, Technology, Capacity, etc.

Awareness/Advocacy

Numerous CWA resources have been created, but many organizations within our membership are not activating around these resources or connecting to the work due to aforementioned barriers and lack of effective communication. Additionally, groups who may be interested in joining the alliance may not be aware of what resources and support are available.

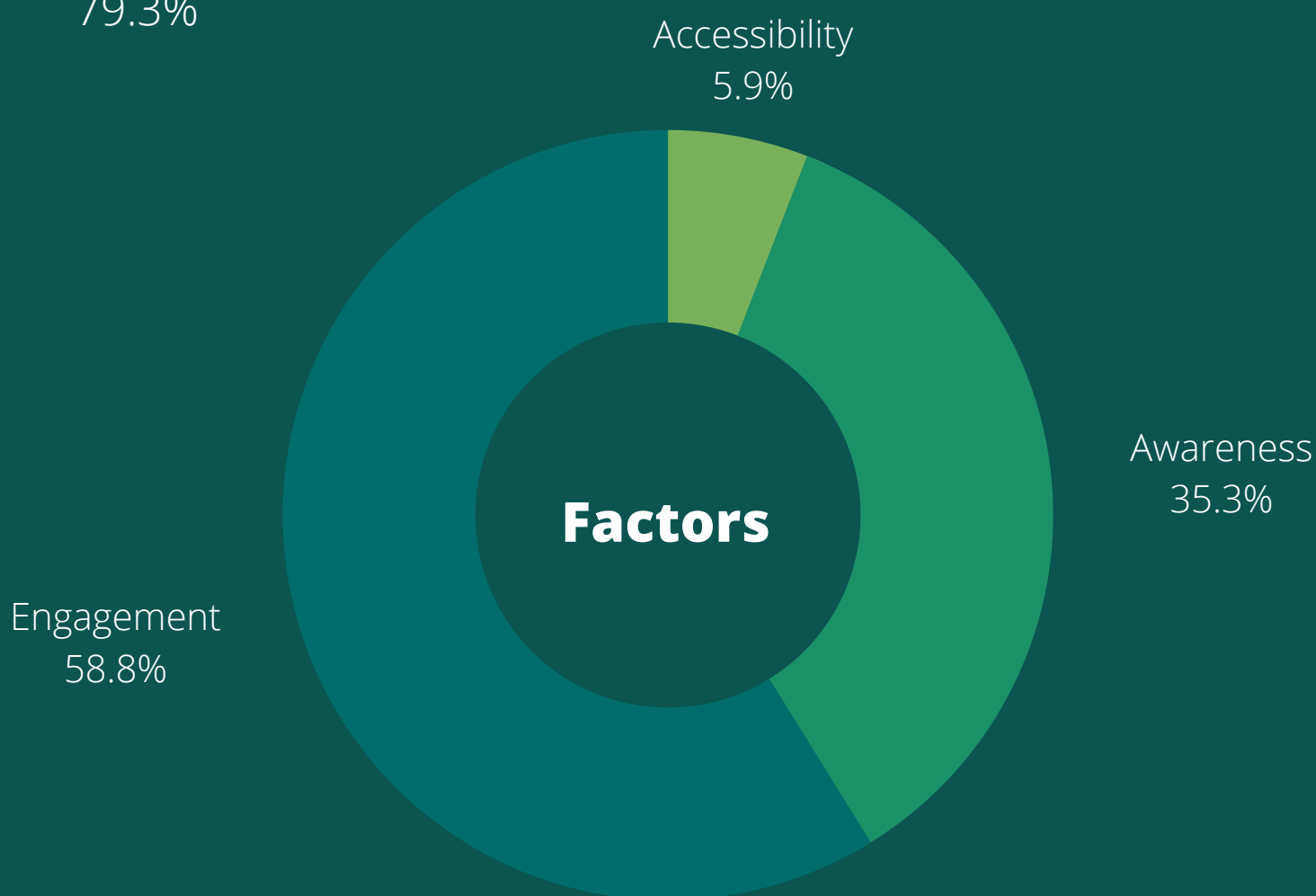
Engagement

We know that the Chicago Wilderness Alliance membership is not accurately representing the broad diversity of organizations and individuals advancing this work across the region. We want to reach more organizations that are also working within the realm of human and ecological health, but may align in other ways besides strictly conservation/nature engagement (such as public health, transportation, housing, etc).



Other areas CWA staff would like to see the Roadmap focus on over the next 12 months

- Access to parks and outdoor recreation assets.
- Neurodivergence, LGBTQ+, and immigrant roles in conservation work.
- In-person events that break through barriers; invite people to join the struggle for equity and life.
- Outreach/leadership training to young professionals, environmentalists of color
- Initiatives regarding climate change.
- Relevance to local government.



2022 STEERING COMMITTEE ROSTER					
Position	Individual	Term	Election Cycle Groups	Next Election Cycle	Next Installation Cycle
Chair	Elizabeth Kessler	3-Years	1	2024	2025
Vice-Chair	Jim Jerozal, Jr.	3-Years	1	2024	2025
Treasurer	Mike Glester	3-Years	2	2023	2024
Executive Secretary	Nathanael Pilla	3-Years	3	2022	2023
At-Large – 1	Jerry Adelman	3-Years	1	2024	2025
At-Large – 2	Jim Anderson	3-Years	1	2024	2025
At-Large – 3	Cathy Geraghty	3-Years	1	2024	2025
At-Large – 4	John Rogner	3-Years	1	2024	2025
At-Large – 5*	Victoria Wittig	3-Years	1	2024	2025
At-Large – 6	Amy Rosenthal	3-Years	2	2023	2024
At-Large – 7	David Shimberg	3-Years	2	2023	2024
At-Large – 8	Maggie Soliz	3-Years	2	2023	2024
At-Large – 9	Michelle Carr	3-Years	3	2022	2023
At-Large – 10	Leslie Dorworth	3-Years	3	2022	2023
At-Large – 11	Open	3-Years	3	2022	2023

GROUP 1 (ELECTIONS 2024, 2027, 2030, ...)

Chair
Vice Chair
At-Large No. 1
At-Large No. 2
At-Large No. 3
At-Large No. 4

GROUP 2 (ELECTIONS 2023, 2026, 2029, ...)

Treasurer
At-Large No. 5*
At-Large No. 6
At-Large No. 7
At-Large No. 8

*During Election Cycle 2024, At-Large No. 5 will be slated for 2-Years to Align the Rotation

GROUP 3 (ELECTIONS 2022, 2025, 2028, ...)

Executive Secretary
At-Large No. 9
At-Large No. 10
At-Large No. 11



Vice Chair Duties:

The Vice Chair serves on the Steering Committee, Partnership Committee and Chicago Wilderness Congress; in the absence of the Chair presides over meetings of the Executive Council, Steering Committee; and represents Chicago Wilderness Alliance at local, regional, national, and international events at the request of the Chair.

Steering Committee At-Large Position Description of Duties 2023

The [Steering Committee](#) oversees the day-to-day business of the Alliance under authority of the [Chicago Wilderness Alliance](#), including

- internal and external communications;
- programs, in consultation with Chicago Wilderness Alliance partnership and existing working groups, task forces and committees;
- financial coordination, reporting, and budgeting;
- planning and leading Executive Council meetings;
- partnership policy.
- Alliance behind the [Green Vision](#), promotes coordination among CW working teams to enhance collective impact
- recommends multi-year goals and annual plans to advance the mission of Chicago Wilderness.

At-Large Steering Committee Member Commitment

- The term begins January 2023 and runs for 3 years, with the option to serve a second term.
- Attend quarterly Chicago Wilderness Executive Council meetings.
- Attend monthly Steering Committee meetings. These meetings will be held virtually for the foreseeable future. currently, we are in a heightened meeting frequency of every other week for the foreseeable future but expect to plane out to monthly over time.
- Conduct pre-work ahead of the meetings (setting agenda, outreach with members, committees and working groups, etc.). Estimated 5 hours work per month.

[Nominate yourself or a colleague](#) by September 20, 2022

The Nominations Committee will accept [nominations](#) and work with the current steering committee to identify and prioritize candidates that represent the racial/ethnic, sexual orientation and gender diversity of Chicago Wilderness members and the region we serve. Along with demographic diversity on the Committee, we also hope to achieve diversity in organizational size represented; the geography of the region; non-profit, government, and business organizations, etc.