



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Press Release

Allison Fore

Public and Intergovernmental Affairs Officer

312.751.6626

allison.fore@mwrdd.org

100 East Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611

For immediate release

November 14, 2017

State Senator Aquino, Rep. Hurley deep dive into McCook Reservoir's intricacies



In the photos: State Senator Omar Aquino (2nd District) and State Representative Frances A. Hurley (35th District) were joined by staff from Representative Kelly Cassidy's office (14th District) and the offices of U.S. Representatives Raja Krishnamoorthi (8th congressional district) and Brad Schneider (10th congressional district) to deep dive into the reservoir's intricacies.

State and federal officials recently toured McCook Reservoir to have a firsthand perspective of the new reservoir's capacity and grandeur. State Senator Omar Aquino (2nd District) and State Representative Frances A. Hurley (35th District) were joined by staff from State Representative Kelly Cassidy's office (14th District) and the offices of U.S. Representatives Raja Krishnamoorthi (8th congressional district) and Brad Schneider (10th congressional district) to deep dive into the reservoir's intricacies.

The 3.5 billion gallon reservoir will go online by December, marking the beginning of the end of completion of the Tunnel and Reservoir Plan (TARP), the region's plan for preventing backflows into Lake Michigan and providing an outlet for flood waters.

"The MWRD tour highlighted the importance of the infrastructure that helps control pollution and flooding and the state's continued role in maintaining these tunnels and reservoirs," said Senator Aquino.



McCook Reservoir is 3,000 feet long and 310 feet deep and is the final TARP piece. When the second and final phase of the reservoir is completed in 2029, the reservoir will add an additional 6.5 billion gallon holding capacity for a total of 10 billion gallons.

Commissioner Martin J. Durkan and MWRD Senior Civil Engineer Kevin Fitzpatrick led the tour, pointing out the various activities that culminated in this colossal end product.

"The District has a strong history of completing projects that have a wide reaching impact beginning with the reversal of the Chicago River 117 years ago, and I know that 100 years from now, the region will *(continued)*

State Senator Aquino, Rep. Hurley deep dive *(continued)*

look back on this project as an everlasting gift to the future,” said Commissioner Durkan.

“I would like to thank Commissioner Durkan for the tour of the McCook Deep Tunnel Project,” said Rep. Hurley. “This project is a fascinating display of engineering. The Tunnel and Reservoir Plan will benefit constituents in my district by reducing instances of flooding.”

“We appreciate the attention of elected officials and are always happy to provide tours and additional insight into our operations,” said MWRD President Mariyana Spyropoulos. “Not only are behind the scene tours impressive, they are educational. We encourage anyone who is interested to see for themselves the work that goes on behind the scenes to protect the environment and waterways of Cook County.”



(L-R): State Senator Omar Aquino (2nd District), MWRD Commissioner Martin J. Durkan and State Representative Frances A. Hurley (35th District) prepare to board the MWRD bus.

###

Recovering Resources, Transforming Water

Established in 1889, the MWRD (www.mwr.org) is an award winning, special purpose government agency responsible for used water treatment and stormwater management in Cook County, Illinois.