

## **Staff Responses to Council Questions**

### **October 17, 2017**

#### **Consent Agenda Item D. Removed from Consent Agenda**

*Consent Agenda Item D. Resolution: Authorize a First Amendment to Subdivision Improvement Agreement with Bradley Property Holdings, LLC and Bradley Construction Services for the McInerney Subdivision will be tabled to a date uncertain and placed on a First Reading for a Village Council meeting in November.*

#### **Non-Agenda Questions**

*I have been in my house for 23 years. Have never flooded. My entire basement floor is soaked from ground water. Is there anything the Village will do to assist? Or any programs that you are aware of?*

The Village does not have programs that assist residents with floodproofing basements to protect them from groundwater. The Downers Grove Sanitary District has a program to assist residents who experience sanitary sewer back-ups in their homes.

*Will there be a garbage pickup sponsored by the village for item list in flooding?*

No special garbage pickup for storm damaged material has been arranged. While some households experienced losses caused by the recent storm, the event did not rise to the level of a State or Village declared disaster or emergency. Therefore disaster relief and emergency services including a special garbage pickup are not available.

*Can you estimate the cost of a special trash pickup for those who flooded this weekend?*

Republic Services has indicated that a special collection for all households impacted by the flood could cost the Village between \$35,000 to \$80,000. The actual cost could vary based on participation and additional tonnage of waste removed.

*Did the Park District fill in Hummer Park and is that why it flooded so quickly?*

Village staff is not aware of any fill placed by the Park District at Hummer Park. The North Branch of St. Joseph's Creek runs through Hummer Park and a significant amount of the park is within the floodplain, as well as portions of Fairview Avenue west of Hummer Park. The area upstream of Hummer Park is relatively small and runoff reaches the park quickly. Water backs up and is stored in the park and over tops Fairview Avenue, until water levels downstream recede and allow this area to drain. This area is identified in the 2014 Stormwater Project Analysis projects list. Potential improvements may include expanding the storage volume within the Park, and increasing the sizes of culverts on Fairview, Austin and Rogers.

*Does the stormwater feed into the sanitary sewers? I thought they were two different types of distribution pipes - stormwater drains going into creeks and sanitary (where your shower, laundry, and sinks drain into) going to the wastewater treatment center.*

Although there are separate distribution systems for stormwater and sanitary water, a significant amount of groundwater does leak into (infiltrate) the sanitary system. The Sanitary District has completed many sewer lining projects to reduce the amount of infiltration; however, the sanitary system receives a significant amount of additional water in their systems during large rain events. Information about the Sanitary District programs can be found here:

<https://www.dgsd.org/sewer-backups/>

*If this is going to happen more frequently due to climate change, what is the village planning in order to address the new epic storm occurrences? Supply sand-bags? Have bigger better and more reservoirs? Get control over builders that take a small house on a large lot and turn it into a big house and a small open space?*

The Village has identified and prioritized 22 capital projects that should be constructed to improve service levels in areas that do not currently meet the recommended level. The estimated cost of these projects is more than \$40 million, including \$500,000 of existing storm sewers should be replaced each year. Eleven of the projects will be constructed in 2017 and 2018.

Further, the Village is considering changes to stormwater regulations designed to reduce the negative impacts of development on stormwater management. Also, FEMA is in the process of updating the floodplain maps to reflect the current climate.

### **Attachments**

There are no rEmarks.