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July 28, 2014

TO: Mayor Morley and Members of the City Council
RE: **Stormwater Project Prioritization**

The Public Works and Buildings Committee met several times and again on Monday, July 28, 2014 to recommend an action plan for stormwater project prioritization. Stormwater improvement projects were identified in the comprehensive flood plan completed by Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. (CBBEL) at the request of the City. The comprehensive flood plan was developed in response to the widespread flooding experienced throughout the City in the summer of 2010. Additional study areas and improvement projects were added after the 2013 storm event.

The City of Elmhurst aspires to provide all areas of Elmhurst with 100 year overland flood protection with the hope of drastically reducing the potential for overland flooding. While this goal is technically feasible, the economics and solutions employed will be very different. In short, the goal is to provide the maximum flood protection to the most people in the most cost effective manner. To that end, the City will undertake projects that create improvements using public land assets first before undertaking projects to improve and protect individual homes. Given that the City of Elmhurst has experienced four significant flooding events in the last six years due to major rainfall events, it behooves the elected officials to address this challenge on the behalf of all Elmhurst residents.

The City, District 205 and the Park District formed a communications committee to review the proposed stormwater improvement projects. The City's communication committee members met individually with the Park District and District 205 representatives in order to focus on the specific stormwater projects identified for school and park properties. The communications committee decided to focus on two pilot projects for the Park District and two pilot projects for District 205. Park District and District 205 representatives selected pilot project sites that each felt would be conducive to balancing stormwater and park/school needs. The entire communication committee recently met and it was requested that the City formalize the pilot project recommendation for the individual elected bodies to officially consider.

All of the elected bodies fully understand that the problem of flooding is a Communitywide problem. The public improvements must be executed in a collaborative manner. For each of these projects it is the collective intention that these sites will continue to be used for their intended purposes (recreation, open space, education, and/or sports) with the additional benefit of stormwater improvement for the corresponding neighborhoods.

RE: Stormwater Project Prioritization

To those ends a number of projects have been identified as pilot projects for initial completion. Monies for these projects have been budgeted for in 5 year capital plans covering 2014-2018 for the City of Elmhurst. Where possible, grant funding will be explored to assist in their completion. The following projects have been identified as pilot projects:

Target Completion Year	Neighborhood Area	Current # of homes flooded during 100 Year Flood Events	Improvement Project Description	Project Partners	# of homes which will not flood during a 100 Year Flood Event	# of homes that will still flood during a 100 year Flood Event	Estimated Project Cost *	Estimated Cost/Home
2015	Crescent Ave. & Cambridge Ave. and Washington St.	101	Above ground storage in York Commons Park	Park District / City	51	50	\$ 3.21 MM	\$ 63 K
2015	Saylor Ave & Jackson Ave	104 +	Above ground storage at Bryan Middle School Ball Fields	District 205 / City	61 +	43 +	\$ 2.73 MM +	\$ 45 K
	SUBTOTAL	205			102	93	\$ 5.94 MM	\$ 58 K
2015	Pine Street	30	Above ground storage in Golden Meadows Park	Park District / City	30	0	\$ 3.39 MM	\$ 113 K
2015	Washington St	63	Above ground storage behind Madison School	District 205 / City	12	51	\$ 2.50 MM	\$ 208 K
	TOTAL	235			151	84	\$ 11.83 MM	\$ 78 K

In an effort to make significant progress to reduce overland flooding in Elmhurst, the City and the communications committee will continue to review and prioritize stormwater projects to make every effort to address all stormwater improvements in a timely manner. The following projects have been identified and would be prioritized in such a way as to provide the greatest benefit to the most residents in the shortest time possible:

Neighborhood Area	Current # of homes flooded during 100 Year Flood Events	Improvement Project Description	Project Partners	# of homes which will not flood during a 100 Year Flood Event	# of homes that will still flood during a 100 year Flood Event	Estimated Project Cost *	Estimated Cost/Home
Saylor Ave & Jackson Ave	104 +	Above ground storage behind Jackson School and Christ United Church	District 205 / City	57 +	47 +	\$ 0.67 MM +	\$ 12 K
Saylor Ave & Jackson Ave	104 +	Above ground storage @ NE Corner of Bryan & Butterfield (currently 205 equipment storage area)	District 205 / City	TBD +	TBD +	\$1.00 MM +	TBD
Saylor Ave & Jackson Ave	104	Above ground storage behind Jackson School/Christ United Church AND at Bryan Middle School (both areas)	District 205 / City	80	24	\$ 3.40 MM	\$ 43 K
Vallette St. & Swain Ave	94	Increased pumping capacity	City / County	87	7	\$ 11.73 MM **	\$ 195 K
Spring Road & Harrison Ave	17	Increased pumping capacity	City / County	17	0	\$ 3.78 MM **	\$ 222 K
Yorkfield	11	Relief sewer / expand Harrison detention	City	11	0	\$ 0.79 MM	\$ 72 K
Geneva Avenue	15	Above ground storage in East End Park	Park District / City	15	0	\$ 1.89 MM	\$126 K
Seminole Avenue	4	Above ground storage in Wild Meadows Trace	Park District / City	4	0	\$ 0.42 MM	\$ 105 K
Larch Avenue	3	York Road & I-290 Interchange	City / State	3	0	\$ 1.96 MM	\$ 653 K
York High School	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
York to West & North to First	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Crestview Park	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

As seen above, there are a significant number of homes that will continue to have a significant probability of flooding in spite of the completion of all of the improvement projects. In those cases, the City of Elmhurst will assist those homeowners with implementing flood proofing measures. Exact proportions of cost sharing are undetermined at this time and will require City Council approval to begin such a program.

Target Completion Year	Neighborhood Area	Current # of homes flooded during 100 Year Flood Events	Improvement Project Description	Project Partners	# of homes which will not flood during a 100 Year Flood Event	# of homes that will still flood during a 100 year Flood Event	Estimated Project Cost	Estimated Cost/Home
2015-2021	Remaining homes that would still flood during a 100 year frequency storm event	72	Individual flood proofing of homes (Est'd @ \$ 25 K/home)	City / Residents	0	0	\$ 1.80 MM	\$25 K

+ These numbers were not included in the summary totals. The summary used the combined Saylor Ave. & Jackson Ave. project totals.

*Project costs do not include such items as land acquisition, temporary/permanent construction easements, and the relocation of utilities. Final engineering is required to identify construction easements and utility relocation costs.

**Cost does not include compensatory storage required to offset increased pumping to Salt Creek.

NOTE: Some of the estimated project costs, including Madison School and Golden Meadows Park, have been updated and revised since the creation of the original Burke report.

The action plan for the prioritization of stormwater projects shall serve as a foundation for the City to request commitments from District 205 and the Park District to move forward with these important stormwater projects. City Council approval of this action plan will provide City support and direction for the identified pilot projects and provides commitment to continue to pursue additional stormwater improvement projects with the communications committee.

It is, therefore, the recommendation of the Public Works and Buildings Committee that the action plan for stormwater project prioritization as outlined above, be approved and that the City Manager and/or Mayor be authorized to prepare a formal request to District 205 and the Park District for timely commitment to the identified pilot projects.

Respectfully submitted,

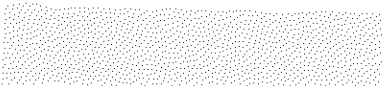
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