



1200 Wilmette Avenue
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NOTICE OF MEETING

There will be a meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Village President and Board of Trustees on Thursday, October 20, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, second floor of the Village Hall, 1200 Wilmette Avenue. The agenda is as follows:

- I. Call to Order
- II. Discussion of Stormwater Improvement Program (\$77 Million)
- III. Discussion of Annual Road Program Funding (\$500,000/year)
- IV. Discussion of Village Facility Repairs (\$4.85 Million)
- V. Discussion of Water Plant Electrical Improvements (\$7.7 Million)
- VI. Public Comment
- VII. Adjournment

Bob Bielinski
Village President

If you are a person with a disability and need special accommodations to participate in and/or attend a Village of Wilmette public meeting, please notify the Village Manager's Office at 251-2700 (TDD #853-7634) as soon as possible.



Date: October 17, 2016
To: Timothy J. Frenzer, Village Manager
From: Michael Braiman, Assistant Village Manager
Subject: Meeting Materials for Village Board COW- October 20, 2016

Enclosed are the following materials for the October 20th Village Board Committee-of-the-Whole to discuss long term capital planning, including sewers, roads, facilities, and water:

- PowerPoint Presentation
- Emails from residents sent to sewers@wilmette.com regarding the proposed \$77 million stormwater improvements, received as of 2:00pm on Monday, October 17th



Long Term Capital Planning Workshop 3

Sewers, Roads, Facilities & Water
October 20, 2016

Summary of Previous Capital Discussions

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- The Village Board has been discussing critical capital improvements for the last several years; a number of large projects have been deferred or reduced in scope to reduce costs to the community:
 - Facilities- Critical repairs have been deferred since 2008
 - Police Station rebuild deferred to 2025 to allow existing debt service to peel off to ensure least possible impact to the property tax levy
 - Road Program- Reduced annual funding request from \$2.75M to \$2M
 - Water Main Replacement- An annual water main replacement program (\$1.3M/year) has been deferred until 2020 when new wholesale water revenue will allow the program to proceed without increasing the water rate

Goals for Tonight's Meeting

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- Continue discussion of \$77M Stormwater Improvement Project
 - Current Decision Point: Determine whether to engage a third party engineering firm to conduct a value-engineering review to validate the results, analysis and cost estimates of the CBBEL report
- Determine whether to budget the following in FY 2017:
 - Increase to annual road program funding
 - Complete critical facility repairs in 2017
 - Engineering design of water plant electrical improvements

What is a Value-Engineering Study

Four Components:

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Level 1 - Technical Review

- Review of the pump station and pipe network capacities and parameters used to develop the hydraulic model

Level 2 - Alternatives Review

- Was the alternative analysis performed sufficient to determine that the proposed project concept is the best option for meeting the Village's objectives?
- Did the alternative analysis adequately consider the key factors that could make one alternative "better" than another?
- Are there any factors that could dramatically impact the feasibility, cost, or effectiveness of the proposed project that were not adequately considered?

Level 3 - Project Cost Review

- Review the assumptions and backup that went into the initial cost estimate
- Determine how reasonable the current estimate reflects key factors that may impact project costs

Level 4 - Value Engineering Analysis

- Identify ways in which the construction cost and/or risks could potentially be reduced
- This step should only be taken once the Village has determined a specific course of action



Stormwater Improvements

Stormwater Improvements

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- This presentation will talk about 10, 25 and 100 year storms, what does this mean?
 - 10- year storm: There is a 10% chance of a storm of this magnitude happening in any given year
 - 25-year storm: There is a 4.0% chance of a storm of this magnitude happening in any given year
 - 100-year storm: There is a 1.0% chance of a storm of this magnitude happening in any given year

Stormwater Improvements

7

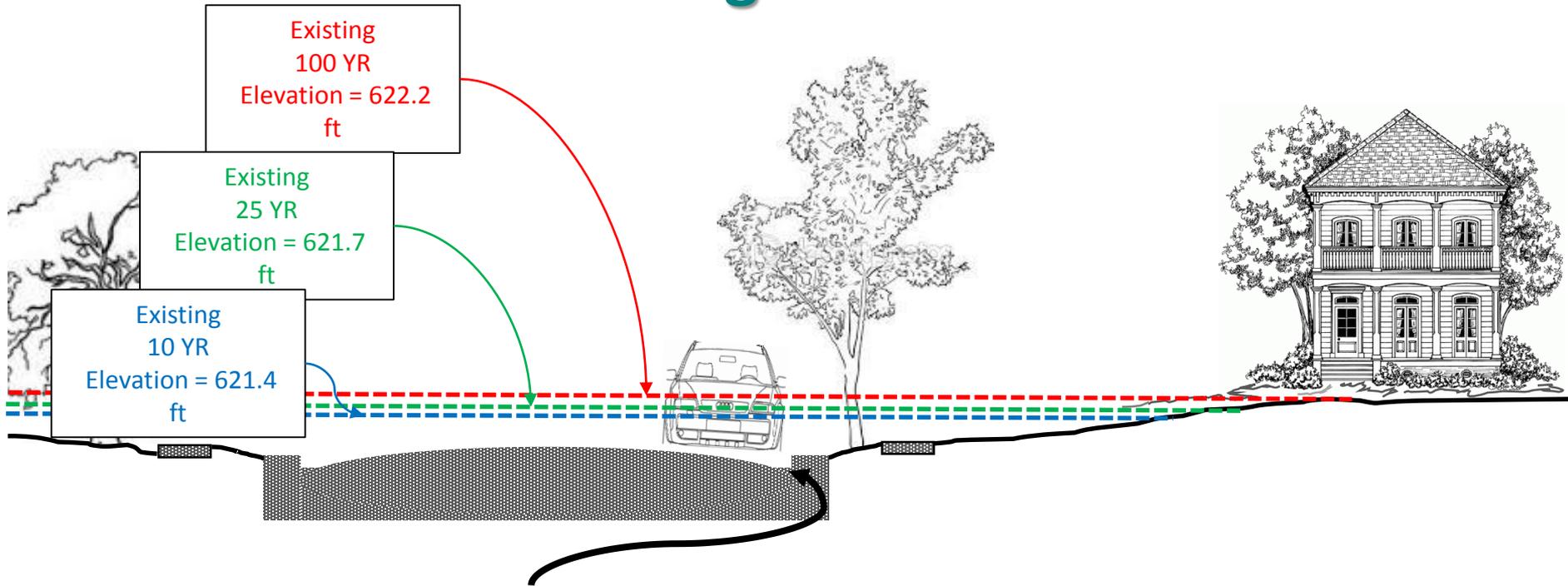
- The separate storm sewer system west of Ridge Road, built in the 1950s, is undersized to adequately handle even moderate rain events
 - The system currently can only handle a 2-year rain event
 - The result of the undersized system is flooded streets and intersections during moderate rain events
- A modern sewer system, with a larger capacity has been identified as the best solution to reduce the amount of overland flooding experienced west of Ridge Road

Benefits of the Proposed Stormwater Improvement Project

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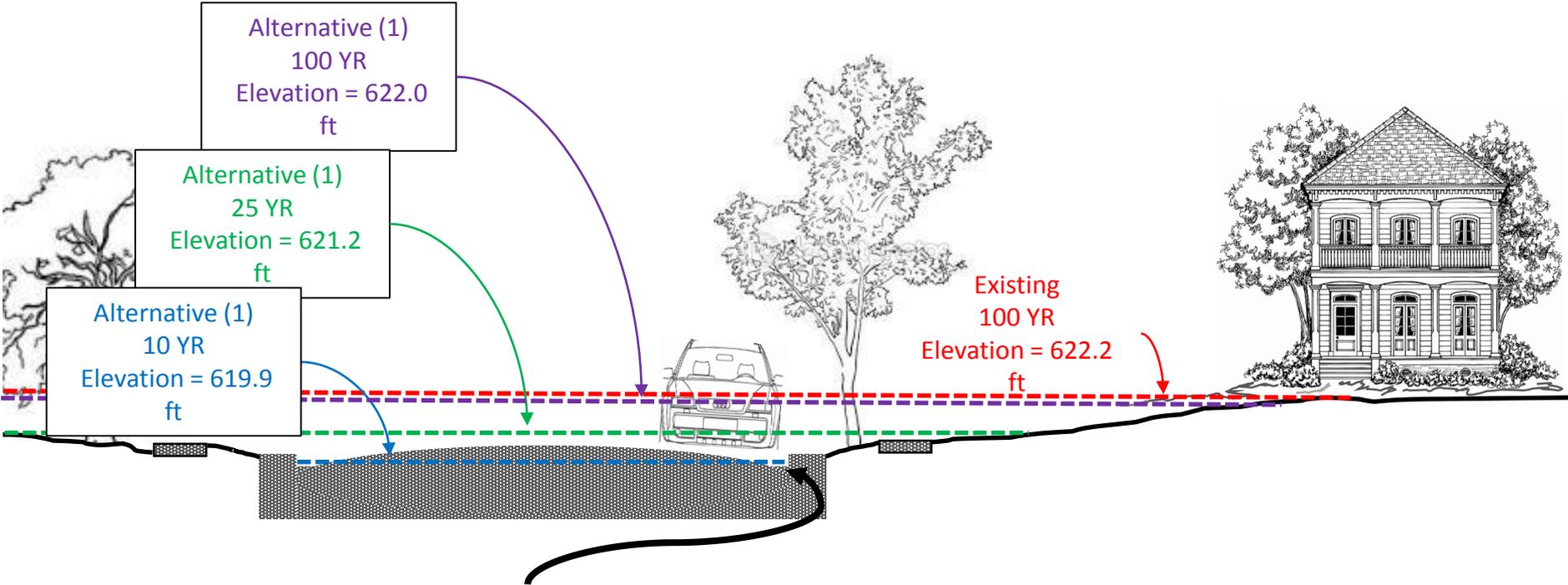
- The project will mitigate problems associated with stormwater for households west of Ridge Road and will lead to better performance of the sewer system in even the most extreme storms:
 - Basement Back-ups: Reduced infiltration of stormwater into the sanitary system, thereby reducing basement back-ups
 - Foundation seepage: The ground will be less saturated with rain water, thereby reducing hydrostatic pressure which can cause seepage
 - Overland flooding: Structures/vehicles less susceptible to overland flooding
 - Streets/Intersections: Severity and duration of street/intersection flooding reduced
- Project is designed to keep flood levels for a 10-year rain event below street level and reduce overland flooding
 - The project will not eliminate overland flooding in the most extreme storms but will reduce the severity/duration of overland flooding for all storms

Kilpatrick Avenue Existing Conditions



Lowest Roadway
Elevation = 619.8 ft

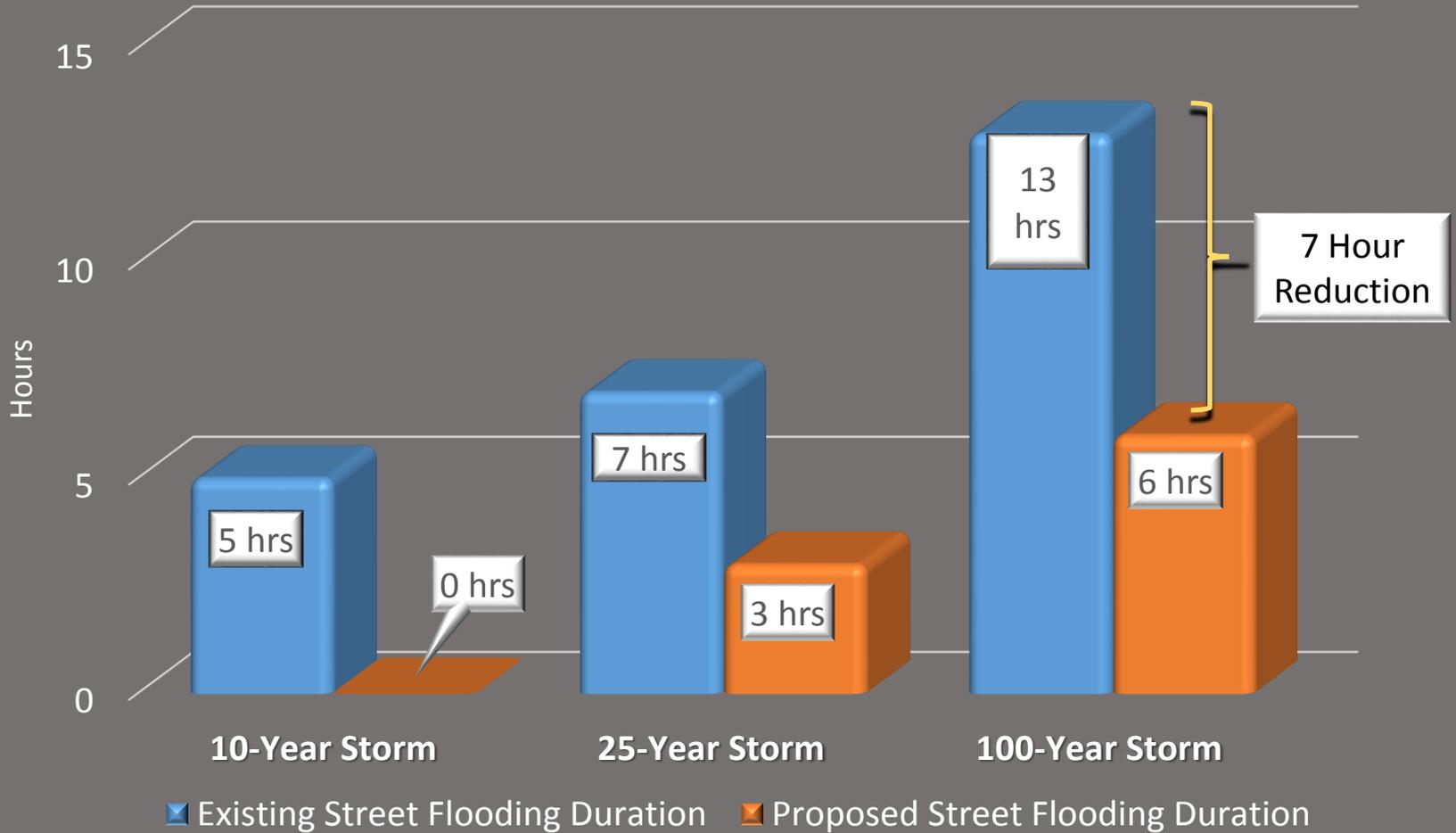
Kilpatrick Avenue



Lowest Roadway
Elevation = 619.8 ft

Kilpatrick Avenue

Existing Conditions vs Alternative 1 Reduction in Street Flooding Duration (Hours)



Cost of the Proposed Stormwater Improvement Project

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- The proposed project is \$77 million
 - This is in 2016 dollars and includes a 20% contingency
- Cost Impact
 - Estimated annual debt service is \$5.6M
 - Sewer rate is projected to increase from \$4.24 to \$8.92
 - This is an estimated average annual increase of \$625 per household
- As engineering, permitting and construction will take at least 5-6 years, the sewer rate increase would be phased in over time

Downsides of the Proposed Stormwater Improvement Project

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- **Cost:** The \$77M project will have a significant impact on a resident's annual sewer bill and the large debt load could lead to a reduction in the Village's Aaa bond rating, thereby increasing future borrowing costs
- **Execution Risk:** Long implementation period could lead to increasing interest rates, construction price increases, other unforeseen problems
- **Construction Impact:**
 - Inconveniences associated with construction, including traffic
 - Impact of the Park District Golf Course
 - Possible tree/vegetation removal along trunk line routes

Summary- Stormwater Improvements

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- The proposed improvements would provide relief from the negative impacts of storm water to properties west of Ridge Road
- The \$77M project would be funded by a \$625 average annual increase to the residential sewer bill
- There are no other identified, less costly alternatives that provide comparable levels of protection; should the project not move forward, existing conditions will remain in place
- Conducting a value-engineering review of the proposed project is the most appropriate next step

Next Steps- Stormwater Improvements

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- Determine whether to engage an engineering firm to conduct a Value-Engineering review of the CBEL alternatives
 - Winter 2016: Issue an RFP to hire an engineering firm
 - Jan/Feb. 2017: Village Board approval of contract
 - Summer 2017: Public meeting presenting results of value-engineering study
- Continue to solicit public input regarding the proposed improvements

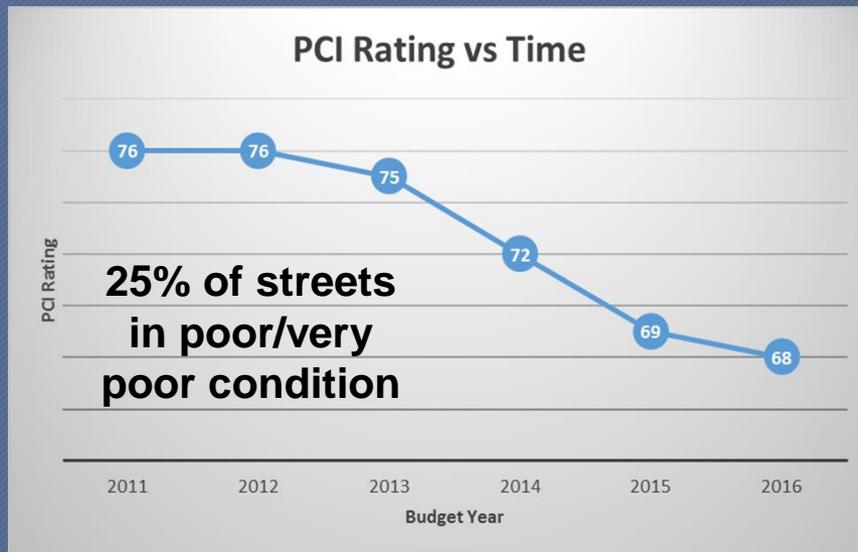


Annual Road Resurfacing Program

Annual Road Program

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- The condition of the Village's roads continues to deteriorate



Maintaining the existing funding level of \$1.5M will increase percentage of poor/very poor streets to 45% over the next 20 years

- Staff is recommending a \$500,000 increase to the annual budget to provide steady improvement in pavement conditions in a fiscally responsible manner

Recommendation: Maintain PCI Rating Between 65 - 68

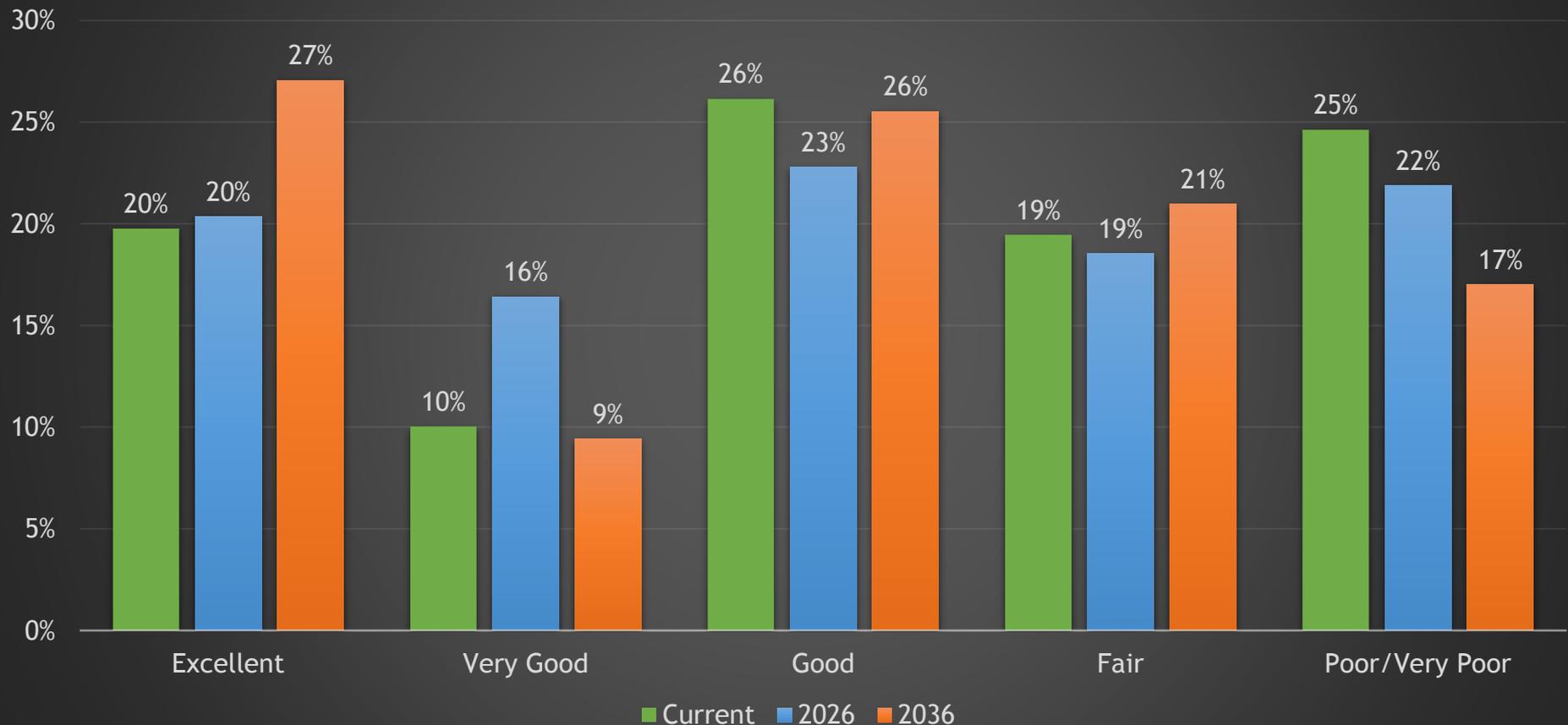
- Annual funding need =
 - \$2M in 2017 & \$4M/\$3.5M in 2027
- How to get there:
 - Fund engineering design/mgt. through operating budget
 - Increase property tax levy by \$500,000 for 2017
 - Utilize additional \$2M/\$1.5M in retired debt service beginning in 2027

Existing Avg. PCI (2016)	Average PCI after 10 years	Average PCI after 20 years w/ use of retired debt (2027)
68 (Fair / high end)	65 (Fair/mid-range)	68 / 67 (Fair / high end)

Benefits of Recommendation: Steady Improvement

19

\$2M through 2026, \$4M through 2036



Cost of Enhanced Road Program

20

- The road program is currently funded at \$1.5M per year through dedicated General Fund revenues
- The recommendation to add \$500,000 will increase the property tax levy by 3%
 - To the average household tax bill, this is an approximate \$50 increase

Summary- Road Program

21

- The current level of funding for the road program is not sufficient to maintain existing pavement conditions
- The most practical solution to ensure steady improvement in pavement conditions is to add \$500,000 to the annual program budget beginning in FY 2017, and as road related debt service payments decline in 2025, utilize those funds to further improvement the Village's roadways
- This recommendation will reduce the amount of poor/very poor streets, and impacts the avg. property tax bill by \$50 per year



Facility Repairs

Facility Repairs

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- The Village will have the opportunity to refinance debt in 2017 and 2020 and the following long deferred projects are recommended for debt financing in 2017:

Project	Budget
PW Yard Improvements	\$3,380,000
VH Roof Replacement	\$630,000
Police Radio Network	\$500,000
VH HVAC Replacement	\$200,000
Police Station Generator	\$135,000
Total	\$4,845,000

PW Yard Improvements	
Lot Reconstruct	\$2,125,000
Fuel Tanks	\$500,000
Vehicle Hoists	\$380,000
Generator	\$180,000
South Garage	\$80,000

Summary Facility Repairs

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- **Public Works Yard Improvements**
 - Paving improvements were initially deferred in 1993 when the facility was rehabbed
 - The additional 23 years of pavement degradation now requires complete reconstruction of the lot (a leaf hauling truck fell through the pavement in 2015)
 - Vehicle hoists and generator are rusting and require replacement; fuel tanks were installed in 1991 and the warranty will be expiring
- **Village Hall Roof & HVAC**
 - The roof and HVAC are original to the building, and were installed in 1973
 - Projects should be completed at the same time to limit costs of moving HVAC equipment multiple times
- **Police Radio Network**
 - Federal regulations recently enacted require the Police Department to abandon its radio frequency by 2020, thereby rendering the current network obsolete
- **Police Station Generator**
 - The generator is 24 years old and reached the end of its useful life; powers only 1/3 of the facility which is used as the Village's emergency operations center

Cost of Facility Repairs

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- The annual debt service for the \$4.85M program is estimated to be \$355,000
- The debt service would impact the FY 2018 property tax levy as debt would not be issued until September 2017
- The impact to the FY 2018 tax levy is 1.99%
 - To the average household tax bill, this is an approximate \$30 increase



Water Plant Electrical Improvements

Water Plant Electrical Improvements

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- Proposed for FY 2017-2019 at an estimated cost of \$7.7M
- Replace 2 backup generators, the main switch gear of the water plant, multiple MCCs, and small addition to the plant to accommodate equipment
- Identified as the most mission critical project in the water plant's condition assessment study
- Challenges in the project include limited space at the water plant, operational challenges to keep the plant running during the replacement project, long lead time and limited options to reduce neighborhood impact

Water Plant Electrical Improvements

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- The project will be phased over 3 years:

Year	Action Item	Loan Process
2017	Engineering Design	Village required to pay for design costs at this time
2017	Bidding & Contract Award	Upon execution of contract, IEPA reimburses Village for design costs above
2018	Construction	Payments made by IEPA
2019	Substantial Completion	Debt service payments to IEPA begin 6 months after substantial completion

- Annual debt service is projected to be \$471,000
 - Per IEPA program guidelines, debt re-payments will not begin until 2019 or 2020

Impact to Water Rate

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- There is an opportunity to refinance Water Fund debt in 2017 and 2019
 - Under current market conditions, as well as water consumption/weather, the Village is hopeful that the savings realized from the refinancing will be sufficient to pay for the electrical improvements without requiring a water rate increase
- New wholesale water revenue from Kenilworth and Golf in 2017, and North Maine Utilities in 2020 may also be utilized such that a water rate increase may not be necessary

Summary- Water Plant Improvements

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- An engineering firm conducting an assessment of the Water Plant determined the electrical improvements to be the highest priority project at the plant
- The improvements are estimated to cost \$7.7M and will be completed from 2017 - 2019
- A water rate increase may be avoided through the refinancing/restructuring of existing debt and new wholesale revenues



Financial Impact to Residents

What is the Impact to Residents?

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- Road Program- In order to maintain the existing condition of streets, and to steadily improve the condition over time, an additional \$50 would be added to the average household's property tax bill in 2017
- Facility Improvements- A bond issue would be required to complete critical repairs deferred since 2008, thereby adding \$30 to the average household's property tax bill in 2018
- Stormwater Improvements- The recommended \$70,000 - \$100,000 value-engineering study will be funded from existing bond proceeds in 2017 and no sewer rate increase is required for the study

From: [Prejzner, John](#)
To: [Braithman, Michael](#)
Subject: Fwd: I am against the proposed sewer plan
Date: Monday, October 17, 2016 1:55:29 PM

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Ronald M. Meyer" <rmelmeyer@yahoo.com>
Date: October 17, 2016 at 11:06:19 AM CDT
To: "sewers@wilmette.com" <sewers@wilmette.com>
Subject: **I am against the proposed sewer plan**
Reply-To: "Ronald M. Meyer" <rmelmeyer@yahoo.com>

I have read the reports of the committee about sewer rehabilitation west of Ridge Road. I am not able to attend the hearing on October 20.

I oppose the plan because of the high cost per house that might be helped. Under the proposal, it seems the village will spend between \$200,000 and \$400,000 per house that is helped. It would make more sense to spend less money just fixing up each house. But I don't agree that it is the village's responsibility to remediate poor sitings of houses, or poorly built houses. When I bike around the village, I often see houses sitting low on lots that were not designed to discourage flooding.

A lot of flooding seems to occur in Kenilworth Gardens. That region used to be the site of a natural pond, the Frog Pond. The original developer saved money by not adequately

elevating houses. The lower initial cost of those houses is reflected in their lower current property taxes.

When I purchased my house in 1988, I bought contour maps to check into the likelihood of flooding. It seems to me that some of the owners did not check their lots that carefully and now want the village at large to make up for their not having researched the property before their purchase.

Some houses subject to overland flooding sit too low on the lot. Some have below-grade garage doors with no surface flood-blocking berm built into the driveway. I have seen one berm on the north side of the 700 block of Chestnut.

When I attended the meetings, it seemed that just about all the homeowners there beside me were outspoken owners of properties that flood. I do not agree that a majority of village residents really want to have their sewer fees more than double for a project that will benefit only a few hundred houses.

Thank you for considering my opinion.

Ron Meyer
610 8th Street
847.251.5458

From: [Prejzner, John](#)
To: [Braiman, Michael](#)
Subject: Fwd: Sewer flooding July 2016
Date: Monday, October 17, 2016 1:55:19 PM

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Rachelle Leech <rachelle.leech@comcast.net>
Date: October 17, 2016 at 9:54:30 AM CDT
To: sewers@wilmette.com
Cc: <jsheasgarner@gmail.com>
Subject: Sewer flooding July 2016

In response to the proposed work on sewers in Wilmette, please add my experience this past Summer.

Home owners: Grant & Rachelle Leech
Address: 245 Vista Drive, Wilmette, IL

On Sat July 23, 2016, following a torrential downpour over a few short hours, our basement began flooding. We have a double sump pump with back-up battery. The power went out for about 2 hours, but our sump pump did NOT stop as it switched over to batt power.

Our basement is fully completed and lined with deluxe carpeting. It has a TV room, guest bedroom, bathroom and small gym room. The entire area was flooded so anything on the floor was damaged.

In the 7 years that we have lived in Wilmette, we have never flooded before, so we are not a low lying house. This damage was entirely due to the sewer system not being able to drain away the rain water fast enough. Many other homes in our street suffered the same damage, even though we are on higher ground than most other homes east of us.

The cost to remove the water and dry the basement (done by SERVPRO) was over \$5,000. The cost to repair the damage to dry walls (replace all baseboards and re-paint) and replace carpeting was just over \$10,000. The cost to replace the damaged furniture was another \$4,000.

Our insurance company - State Farm - accepted our claim and paid out a significant portion of the incurred costs (after adjusting for 'depreciation' of carpeting and furniture). Our concern is that we understand that we stand to possibly lose our State Farm cover should we have this happen again and need to make a 2nd claim.

We applaud the proposed sewer repair / replace project, and thank the Village for this well overdue initiative, which will save many families from unexpected or unwarranted costs due to flooding.

Kind regards
Rachelle Leech

Sent from my iPad

From: [Prejzner, John](#)
To: [Briman, Michael](#)
Subject: Fwd: 77 Million sewer project
Date: Monday, October 17, 2016 9:33:38 AM

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Robert Remmert <sandbobber@comcast.net>
Date: October 16, 2016 at 4:50:45 PM CDT
To: sewers@wilmette.com
Subject: 77 Million sewer project

I can't believe we are even discussing this. It is total nonsense. As a resident and taxpayer the amount of money for this project is way too much for the limited benefit it would provide. Certainly this type of expenditure requires a referendum.

From: [Prejzner, John](#)
To: [Braiman, Michael](#)
Subject: Fwd: Wilmette Feedback - Stormwater Plan and October 20th Meeting
Date: Monday, October 17, 2016 9:33:13 AM

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: alpesh patel <alpesh_kent_patel@hotmail.com>
Date: October 14, 2016 at 6:24:00 PM CDT
To: "sewers@wilmette.com" <sewers@wilmette.com>
Subject: **Wilmette Feedback - Stormwater Plan and October 20th Meeting**

I am writing to inform you of our support of the proposed stormwater plan for Wilmette but feel strongly it must also be supported by a more immediate, shorter-term solution of a storm water basin located under Thornwood Park similar to the West Park basin. The Princeton Place basin section of West Wilmette has not received the upgrades it needs vs. many other areas. The proposed plan phases this work towards the end of the project and it comes far too late in light of the safety concerns and history of flooding that the Princeton Place basin has seen over the past few years.

The street flooding over the past few years has been a regular occurrence for Princeton Place basin residents. Cars have been stranded in the streets and fire vehicles and police cars are not able to respond to calls for assistance. Children cannot catch their school bus ... we have even seen a school bus that became stranded a few years ago with the high flood waters. My kids struggle to sleep when it starts storming hard as they worry about the street flooding and their parent not being able to get home from work and not being able to get into the driveway. Many in the Princeton Place basin have urged the Village to immediately implement a short term solution. Consultants hired by the Village to propose stormwater solutions actually included a plan for a storm water basin to be located under Thorwood Park similar to the West Park basin. But the Village did not move fast enough on this plan that could have addressed these major safety concerns and street flooding over the last few years. The "100 year flood" numbers were largely inaccurate as the past few years have shown.

The proposed stormwater plan fails to adequately address the pressing issues of the residents living in the Princeton Place basin area of Wilmette. The

proposed stormwater plan, along with the Thornwood Park basin, is a solution that works and makes sense. The added cost of the Thornwood Park basin is actually extremely modest as the proposed solution already requires the stormwater pipes to be made be expanded. Importantly, it provides a more comprehensive solution for the larger Wilmette footprint and where problems are most acute.

Thank you for your support.

Best,

Alpesh Patel and Dr. Kruti Acharya
2115 Beechwood Ave
Wilmette, IL 60091

From: [Prejzner, John](#)
To: [Briman, Michael](#)
Subject: Fwd: storm system
Date: Monday, October 17, 2016 9:33:55 AM

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: nmaa <nmaa@comcast.net>
Date: October 16, 2016 at 11:40:13 PM CDT
To: sewers@wilmette.com
Subject: storm system

I would be enthusiastically in favor of the project. It would seem to be reasonable to expect the State and/or Federal Governments might have programs to cover (or match) some of the costs. I would also like the Village to hire a qualified engineering company to be available and provide in home flood control plans and advice for individual home owners. The various companies cannot always be trusted to be fully objective.

Ned Schwartz
2305 Greenleaf
773-297-9115

From: [Prejzner, John](#)
To: [Braithman, Michael](#)
Subject: Fwd: Not in favor of Sewer Project
Date: Monday, October 17, 2016 9:32:57 AM

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: amy <amywolfe@gmail.com>
Date: October 14, 2016 at 4:14:54 PM CDT
To: sewers@wilmette.com
Subject: **Not in favor of Sewer Project**

Dear Village of Wilmette,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed \$77 Million Storm Water Project. I live west of Ridge Road in the proposed area that would benefit from this project, and yet, I do not think this is a good use of money for so few residents. Also, since this option does not seem to solve the overall problem, as you state on your website "Low lying areas, however, would still be prone the occasional flooding," I think this is just a band-aid and not a solution. In my opinion, more effective options should be explored.

Thank you for taking my opinion into consideration,

Amy Wolfe

From: [Prejzner, John](#)
To: [Braman, Michael](#)
Subject: Fwd: Input on storm water initiative - 2nd installment
Date: Monday, October 17, 2016 9:33:27 AM

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Joel Kurzman <joelkurzman@gmail.com>
Date: October 16, 2016 at 2:07:11 PM CDT
To: sewers@wilmette.com
Subject: Re: Input on storm water initiative - 2nd installment

Hello, below please find the 2nd installment of my feedback to the Village, also shared on the Dry Out West Wilmette Facebook Page.

Posting from October 14

I've shared the view that both expensive grey and cheap green infrastructure improvements are inescapable if we are to address the misalignment between development and infrastructure in West Wilmette. But can we start with enforcing our current Village Code? And please know I'm not picking on Kenilworth Gardens (KG). There is just more information to work with, although I had to file FOIA requests to obtain it. And while reading this post, please recall there is a separat...ed sewer system West of Ridge Road...and it is illegal to discharge storm water into the sanitary sewer system.

In 1987, the Village identified 173 properties in KG that were potentially tied to the sanitary sewer system illegally. Today, the Village has no information about the extent to which these properties are now in compliance. Fast forward to 2013, the Village funded smoke and dye testing of properties in KG and found 151 properties with varying levels of illegal contributions to the sanitary system. Letters were sent to these homeowners in June 2014 about defects costing \$100 or less to repair. As of December 2014, less than half these homes had complied. In 2015, paid consultant engineers recommended sending a second letter and to enforce Code. We do not know the current level of compliance.

Why can the Village so easily recommend homeowners spend \$15,000 (or more) on overhead sewers and flood control systems, while taking years to enforce Code about \$100 solutions with KG homeowners who are known contributors to the problem? (Any why do we need to pay consultants for that rudimentary suggestion to follow up?) And why not enforce the more expensive repairs as well? If you feel, as I do, the Village isn't taking taking sewer issues seriously enough, please attend the October 20 meeting at Village Hall. Please email your views to sewers@wilmette.com.

But please know, even correcting every illegal connection will not replace the need for expensive grey and cheap green infrastructure improvements. If anything, correcting illegal connections to the sanitary system could add burden to the storm water system...making it even more imperative that we modernize our storm water infrastructure. Because we're supposed to have a separated system, right? If you hear me in the community speaking about stewardship, this is what I'm talking about.

Posting from October 16

So I've laid out why the Village must pursue an infrastructure project as part of a comprehensive plan for addressing its storm water problems and why I think the \$77 million initiative is the most effective proposal that the current Board of Trustees has yet to produce. So I should be a cheerleader for the plan, right? Not so fast. There is no comprehensive plan and no enforcement of Code. And I also think the Board is lacking creativity in its proposed financing of the ...project. Doubling residential sewer bills without a plan or Code enforcement is going to elicit a very strong negative reaction on October 20. It's fair to wonder if that's the design.

The Village should pursue a storm water utility to finance the project, following the lead of Winnetka, Buffalo Grove, Des Plaines, Palatine, Rolling Meadows, Downers Grove, Park Ridge, and countless other municipalities. Storm water utilities typically use formulas to determine fees based on a parcel's impermeable surface and contribution to the sewer system. When it comes to water, Wilmette charges people based on usage. Residents expect to pay more if they use more water. Why can't sewer fees be based on how much a property sends storm water to the sewer system or sanitary matter to the sewer system?

Just doubling residential sewer fees, as the current Board is proposing, also lets some of the biggest storm water and sanitary sewage contributors off the hook. A storm water utility could potentially assess businesses, schools, and Park District buildings in addition to residents. Spreading out the burden, fees tied to use. All governmental bodies need to be working together and invested in solutions. When you hear me speaking in the community about stewardship, that's what I'm talking about.

On Tue, Oct 11, 2016 at 9:56 AM, Prejzner, John <prejznerj@wilmette.com> wrote:

Mr. Kurzman,

Thank you for providing your feedback. We will share your comments with the Village Board for their consideration. If you have any other questions or comments please feel free to contact me.

John Prejzner

Assistant to the Village Manager

Village of Wilmette

[\(847\) 853-7502](tel:(847)853-7502)

From: Joel Kurzman [mailto:joelkurzman@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 8:36 AM

To: dist.ntfy.sewers <dist.ntfy.sewers@wilmette.com>

Subject: Input on storm water initiative - 1st installment

Dear Village of Wilmette:

Below are three recent postings from the Dry Out West Wilmette Facebook Page with perspective on the \$77 million storm water initiative. I will share subsequent postings as well. I hope you will find them informative. As you know, I have advocated for the Village to address its sewer problems for nearly a decade, but only using Facebook since about 2013. If you are not familiar with DOWW, below is a description.

Dry Out West Wilmette is a campaign dedicated to addressing long-standing sanitary and storm water issues in Wilmette, providing information to residents and establishing a new and higher level of accountability for the Village. The campaign does not just seek the support of households directly impacted by flooding or back-ups, but all residents who care about their neighborhoods and neighbors. Whether it's property values, insurance rates, passable streets, or structurally sound Village assets, Dry Out West Wilmette believes all residents are impacted by sanitary and storm water issues.

Posting from October 6

Below please see the recently published Village Communicator with a lead story about the storm water proposal. For some residents, this could be their first exposure to the scope of the challenges facing West Wilmette and the significant cost of addressing them. I am happy for these people, because it may mean they have not been continuously ravaged by overland flooding and sewer back-up. They also haven't beaten their heads against the wall with the Village for decades as the problem got worse. I wouldn't wish that upon anyone.

How did the problem get worse? To answer, I must disagree with how the problem is framed in the Village Communicator. True, the separated system was designed and constructed in the 1950's, but it probably did handle small and moderate rain events at that time. However, it was neither designed nor constructed for the development that has ensued. Regardless of how one thinks about the specific proposal currently under consideration, it is plain to see that development has outpaced our 1950's infrastructure. We are now paying a price for this fundamental misalignment. If and when you hear me speaking in the community about stewardship, this is what I'm talking about.

<http://www.wilmette.com/.../Oct-2016-Jan-2017-Communicator-Fi...>

Posting from October 7

In my previous post, I framed the storm water problem as a misalignment between the development and infrastructure of West Wilmette. So is the \$77 million proposal under consideration going to solve the problem? The short answer is: not by itself. In fact, besides the cost, the main criticism about the proposal is that it doesn't go far enough. How will the community and Board of Trustees wrestle with that? It costs too much, but it doesn't help enough. Go figure.

In working with engineers to develop solutions, the Village's goal was to create 10-year storm protection for all residents. A modest goal, unlike the 100-year protection aspiration of Winnetka. There are some West Wilmette neighborhoods that have just 2-year storm protection currently. It's hard to imagine investing huge money and to still have flooding concerns during 100-year rain events such as in July. But that would be true of the current proposal. That's how misaligned we are. That said, this proposal will absolutely help avoid flooding and sewer back-ups during small and medium rain events.

My view is, any infrastructure project must be part of a comprehensive plan. Below please see the Village's Stormwater Management Plan and compare it to Winnetka's Master Plan (both links below). Besides being less than comprehensive, Wilmette's plan has no accountability, no transparency, no metrics, no updating, no creativity, and almost no meaningful community engagement. However, these documents do reflect the wide-ranging solutions needed to address complex storm water flooding and sewer issues. Without a comprehensive approach, any investment in Wilmette will gradually become less effective if we don't pursue other solutions as well.

http://www.wilmette.com/.../Comprehensive_Stormwater_Manageme...

<http://www.villageofwinnetka.org/.../Winnetka-Stomwater-Maste...>

Posting from October 11

So if the Village lacks a substantive master plan to address storm water issues, should we even spend money on infrastructure improvements? Yes. Even if we implemented all of my green recommendations (Things I Would Do posting series from 2015), we would only make a modest dent in the issue. There is no escaping the reality that our pipes cannot convey water or sewage at a sufficient rate. Even a new asset like West Park does not fill to capacity because we can't get the sewage to it.

So why this \$77 million plan over the other ideas offered by the consulting engineering firm? If you are new to the issue and need a primer on the plans that were offered, and why the current proposal made the most sense, I refer you to the Sewers of Wilmette blog and the most recent Village study (links below). In short, making Community Playfield into a lake was highly unpopular for obvious reasons and the local storage idea didn't get all neighborhoods to 10-year flood protection. They weren't cheap plans either. Yes, the most effective plan was also the most expensive.

<http://sewersofwilmette.com/wilmette-storm-sewers/>

http://www.wilmette.com/.../Report_January_2015_Final_w_attac...

Most of my green recommendations continue to be valid as additional measures in a comprehensive plan. However, studies from both Winnetka and Wilmette show minimal impact for even the most robust green initiatives (link below). There is no realistic way to garden and rain barrel our way out of the severe misalignment of development and infrastructure. Any comprehensive plan for Wilmette needs both expensive grey and cheap green solutions. Again, when you hear me speaking in the community about stewardship, that's what I'm talking about.

http://sewersofwilmette.com/.../Report_January_2015_GoGreen.p...

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JOEL KURZMAN

<http://www.linkedin.com/in/joelkurzman>
joelkurzman@gmail.com
[224.475.6630](tel:224.475.6630)

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JOEL KURZMAN

<http://www.linkedin.com/in/joelkurzman>

joelkurzman@gmail.com

224.475.6630

Wilmette Village Trustees
via e-mail

October 14, 2016

Re: 2017 Budgeting

I attended the August 19 Committee of the Whole meeting, because of my concern about the very large projects that the Village must undertake and the unprecedented expense those projects require. I am quite impressed with the Village budget process in general and the capital planning process in particular. The staff was exceedingly well prepared and the discussion has been very thoughtful. As you put the finishing touches on your work for the coming year, **I ask that you please focus on necessities and set aside niceties for now.**

Here's why. The current economic environment is challenging for the Village. Because interest rates at near all-time lows, capital has never been less expensive—which is the good news. However, rates will only increase and it is just a question of how soon and how fast. Historically, Village revenue has come mainly from property taxes. This revenue is based on the value of property. When interest rates rise, it will become more expensive to finance homes, which will drive home prices down. If home values fall, so will your revenue (at any given tax rate). So, even though capital is inexpensive, you'll need to increase taxes and fees more than you expect to need because your ability to service that debt will diminish as rates rise. **This is not the time to increase spending unless we absolutely must.**

The Village Public Works and Finance staff made a compelling case for what we residents already know: that our pavement is crumbling, that we need to undertake a regular program of water and sewer system replacement, that our water plant needs updating, and that we have to figure out the best way to finance a massive drainage project in the western part of the Village. What most residents do not yet know is that you are about to begin work that is many times more expensive than the recent failed lakefront levy. Even if this work is phased in, you will be asking a lot of residents in the way of new fees and taxes. In this environment, it is even more critical to be a good steward of your funds.

As you build the 2017 budget, **please focus on essentials, not luxuries.** Planning efforts should focus on how to better manage existing assets, how to meet essential needs, coordinating capital projects (don't tear up streets, parks or golf courses more than once!), and reducing expected costs.

One of the items that you will consider in the upcoming budget is a bicycle master plan.

Funding a bicycle master plan is a luxury in a Village already recognized as bicycle friendly and facing the need to take on more debt than we ever have had in the past. Every bicycle master plan I've read is simply a wish list of desired investments for a narrow constituency (Evanston's most recent plan focuses on about 1% of their population, for example). These plans seek to grow capital expenditures and operating outlays, not reduce them. (Evanston's most recent plan estimates just over \$4 million in new direct expenses, and identifies more needed expense on top of that). Lay funding for this plan aside for now. Stick to common sense priorities. **Put first things first.**

A far better use of planning funds would be a master transportation plan or, even better, a comprehensive infrastructure planning exercise. As we significantly expand pavement repair, traffic calming, water main replacement, sewer maintenance/replacement and drainage improvement expenses, the Village could engage its residents in defining what services they expect and are willing to pay for. From a resident's perspective, the inability to clear an intersection is as important as potholes or pavement condition. The ability to safely cross a street or leave a driveway is even more important. For some, keeping water out of their homes will trump everything else. As we literally remake our street and drainage networks, it makes sense to first take steps to rationalize traffic flows in the Village, solve safety and congestion problems, re-examine speed limits, set enforceable load restrictions (extending pavement life), and reduce total expenses by coordinating street, sewer and water projects. When this kind of planning is done well—it reduces, not increases—costs. This kind of planning is also the best use of limited staff, trustee and citizen time. **If you undertake a planning project, pick one that will pay for itself out of savings, not one that increases long-term costs** (even if some of the upfront expenses might be covered by grants).

Again, thanks for your work on our next budget. Compliments to the staff for doing their homework, the process they use, and the material they've prepared.

Sincerely,

David Rankin
1731 Wilmette Ave.

cc: Tim Frenzer
Brigitte Berger

Prejzner, John

From: Gale Teschendorf <goorienteing@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2016 12:47 PM
To: Prejzner, John
Subject: Sewers

Can we have a special assessment to cover this cost? At least for 50% of the cost.
Won't this increase property values in the affected neighborhood?
What do you expect when you buy/build on a swamp?
Is it fair for them to get all of the gain at no additional cost?

Best regards,

Gale Teschendorf
1920 Schiller Ave
Wilmette, IL 60091
847-701-4253

"Live every day like it's your last because someday you're going to be right." Muhammad Ali

Prejzner, John

From: Berger, Brigitte
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 4:44 PM
To: Prejzner, John
Subject: Fwd: Notice of October 20, 2016 Special Meeting of the Village Board

Begin forwarded message:

From: Katherine White <ktwint@aol.com>
Date: September 27, 2016 at 4:35:11 PM CDT
To: "Berger, Brigitte" <bergerb@wilmette.com>
Subject: **Re: Notice of October 20, 2016 Special Meeting of the Village Board**

Hi Brigitte,

Although I was not able to attend I did watch the meeting on the tv. Basically one of the main issues for the storm water sewers, which I was able to surmise from the reports that your associate sent to me, is that the pipes are too small, which I could see right away from the dimensions listed (10" in Diameter) - ridiculously small. I am hoping replacement of these is being considered. As several of the speakers indicated, this discussion has been going on for decades, and maybe, it is time to rectify the issue. Until those pipes on our street are replaced we will continue to have street flooding several times a year - we had it 3 times in August and September.

Regards,
Katie White
1042 Pontiac Road

Sent from my iPad

On Sep 27, 2016, at 4:19 PM, Berger, Brigitte <bergerb@wilmette.com> wrote:

Good afternoon everyone:

The purpose of this email is to provide an update on the Village Board's on-going discussion of long range capital planning for roads, water infrastructure and sewers. While the Village Board did not make any decisions at their September 12 and September 19 Committee of the Whole meetings, they did schedule another meeting on October 20, 2016 to continue discussions of these important matters. The meeting will be held at 7:00 PM at Village Hall. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you may watch it live on WCTV Channel 6 or stream it via the website at www.wilmette.com.

Also, this link <http://www.wilmette.com/village-services/stormwater-management/stormwater-improvement-project/> will take you to a new page on the Village's website dedicated to the proposed \$77 million stormwater project

west of Ridge Road to reduce flooding. We welcome your feedback at sewers@wilmette.com.

Warm regards,
Brigitte

Brigitte Ann Berger, P.E.
Director of Engineering and Public Works
Village of Wilmette
711 Laramie Avenue
Wilmette, IL 60091
847.853.7627
bergerb@wilmette.com

Prejzner, John

From: Berger, Brigitte
Sent: Wednesday, September 28, 2016 9:42 AM
To: Prejzner, John
Subject: FW: Notice of October 20, 2016 Special Meeting of the Village Board

From: sgold111554 [mailto:sgold111554@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 28, 2016 9:40 AM
To: Berger, Brigitte <bergerb@wilmette.com>
Subject: RE: Notice of October 20, 2016 Special Meeting of the Village Board

Good morning,

Unfortunately I will be out of the country until the 24th. I was a bit dissapointed at the Sept. 19th meeting. The inappropriate responses inre the first resident's query was anything but respectful. It is intimidating enough to stand before that board, on telly, but, to be insulted was beyond my expectation. There were issues discussed and estimates mentioned that made absolutely no sense. Ie:, if we already spent 77 million and it was proposed to spend an additional 77 million, why was it considered not the "Cadillac " for 200 million if in total we are thinking 184 million? The board member sitting on the far right of this board does not have the demeanor of a person assisting on budgetary matters. He was rude and demeaning. He challenged me and as you already know of my demeanor, I accept the challenge. The comment about salaries was also incorrect. Not all members of this panel are volunteers as the spokesman stated. I am going to request cost sharing for my raised sewage lines. I saw that it was on the proposed agenda for 2017 however, it will cost double, if not more, to continually clean up and replace the basement because of the recent sewage backup. Also, the comment to my request was "why should residents tax money pay for my individual repairs". This, of course, has a weak argument since it was clearly stated that not ALL residences will benefit from a 77 million dollar investment of ALL resident's tax monies.

Sometimes it is easier to pick your battles at the appropriate times, with 5 minutes allotted, a discussion was not appropriate.

I do believe that your opinions are valuable and it was obvious that you are brighter than the two gentlemen (used freely) whom guided the discussions. You have always responded promptly and respectfully to my queries. Sewage backup was barely mentioned. Sewage backup is NOT an act of god, it is a controlled reversal, timed, that began on April 23, 2015, just after the work was done on the corner of Greenwood and 21st street. Since that house had NEVER before flooded, since it was built, the only reasonable explanation is that when my plumbing company cameras that area, we will indeed find a back flow apparatus.

Respectfully yours ,
Sherri Gold

Sent via the Samsung GALAXY S® 5, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: "Berger, Brigitte" <bergerb@wilmette.com>
Date: 09/27/2016 4:19 PM (GMT-06:00)

To: "Berger, Brigitte" <bergerb@wilmette.com>

Subject: Notice of October 20, 2016 Special Meeting of the Village Board

Good afternoon everyone:

The purpose of this email is to provide an update on the Village Board's on-going discussion of long range capital planning for roads, water infrastructure and sewers. While the Village Board did not make any decisions at their September 12 and September 19 Committee of the Whole meetings, they did schedule another meeting on October 20, 2016 to continue discussions of these important matters. The meeting will be held at 7:00 PM at Village Hall. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you may watch it live on WCTV Channel 6 or stream it via the website at www.wilmette.com.

Also, this link <http://www.wilmette.com/village-services/stormwater-management/stormwater-improvement-project/> will take you to a new page on the Village's website dedicated to the proposed \$77 million stormwater project west of Ridge Road to reduce flooding. We welcome your feedback at sewers@wilmette.com.

Warm regards,

Brigitte

Brigitte Ann Berger, P.E.

Director of Engineering and Public Works

Village of Wilmette

711 Laramie Avenue

Wilmette, IL 60091

847.853.7627

bergerb@wilmette.com

Prejzner, John

From: Peg Duros <pegd@centerforcontextualchange.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 28, 2016 12:06 PM
To: Prejzner, John
Subject: need to be heard

To Whom it May Concern:

Everyone has a story..... my family moved to Wilmette in 1970, when I was 16 years old. My husband and I chose to return to Wilmette in 1985 to raise our children and have lived here ever since. From 1985 until just 3 years ago we lived on 14th Street and never had water in our basement. My husband is ill with MS and Parkinson's and is now completely confined to a wheelchair. We were determined to stay in Wilmette and searched for a ranch style home. We moved to west Wilmette almost 4 years ago and in that time have had two major floods in our finished basement – both times 6 inches of standing water throughout the entire basement. We have lost furniture, clothing, appliances, and all of our family photos (the most heartbreaking). I feel frustrated, angry, sad and completely abandoned and neglected by the Village administration. What I have learned from other residents of this area of Wilmette is that this kind of flooding has been going on for a number of years. The fact that absolutely nothing has been done to remedy the situation despite pleas from countless residents of west Wilmette is not only disappointing but unconscionable. We have limited financial resources and cannot go through this again. What is it going to take?

Sincerely,

Peg Duros
2606 Marian Lane

Prejzner, John

From: Dave Wisel <wisel.dave@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 28, 2016 8:34 PM
To: Prejzner, John
Subject: Comments on Proposed Storm Water Project

As a 21 year resident of Wilmette, I want to submit my input concerning the storm water project under consideration. Unfortunately I cannot attend the meeting on October 20th.

Regardless of the potential benefits of the storm water project, the cost is extraordinarily high. Due to the length of the project and unknown complications, the current estimate of \$77M could easily become closer to \$90-\$100M. These projects also have a history of mixed results. I do not believe we can afford a major project like this with our other obligations and rising taxes. We should look at other alternatives with much lower overall costs.

I also do not approve of the potential cost being allocated to the sewer bill. The combined water / sewer rates have increased over 300% in the last 15 years (\$2.27 to \$6.85 per 100 CF). Your proposal would increase the sewer cost by another 210% by my calculations, bringing the combined water / sewer increase to over 500% since 2001 and that is assuming the water rate does not increase which I'm sure it will. For comparison purposes, the cumulative inflation rate over the same 15 year period was 36%.

Our water expenses have risen every year like clockwork for 15 years at a rate nearly ten times higher than inflation without the cost of this potential project. Even if the projected annual increase of \$625 per household is accurate, this is a significant impact to all homeowners and especially for those on a fixed income. We need a lower cost solution.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dave Wisel
443 Sandy Lane
Wilmette, IL
wisel.dave@gmail.com

Prejzner, John

From: Berger, Brigitte
Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2016 6:12 AM
To: Prejzner, John
Subject: Fwd: Blackhawk Road Flooded Again

Begin forwarded message:

From: David Kupiec <dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com>
Date: September 28, 2016 at 10:05:30 PM CDT
To: "Berger, Brigitte" <bergerb@wilmette.com>
Subject: **Re: Blackhawk Road Flooded Again**

Blackhawk Road flooded again. 5th time this year. Not able to access driveway to home. Unacceptable!!! The Wilmette Village needs to fix this regular ongoing problem!!! Resident since 2003!!! Please forward to Village President. Residents entitled to access to homes!

David J. Kupiec
Kupiec & Martin, LLC
600 West Van Buren Street, Suite 202
Chicago, Illinois 60607
312-632-1022
dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com
www.kupiecandmartin.com

From: David Kupiec <dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com>
Date: Saturday, August 20, 2016 at 8:49 AM
To: "Berger, Brigitte" <bergerb@wilmette.com>
Subject: Re: July 23,2016 Rain Event - Blackhawk Road Completed Flooded

Blackhawk Road was completely flooded and impassable this morning earlier this hour. Water has since drained in the sewers.

David J. Kupiec
Kupiec & Martin, LLC
600 West Van Buren Street, Suite 202
Chicago, Illinois 60607
312-632-1022
dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com
www.kupiecandmartin.com

From: "Berger, Brigitte" <bergerb@wilmette.com>
Date: Thursday, August 18, 2016 at 8:10 AM
To: David Kupiec <dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com>
Subject: RE: July 23,2016 Rain Event - Blackhawk Road Completed Flooded

Noted—thanks.

From: David Kupiec [<mailto:dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com>]
Sent: Thursday, August 18, 2016 7:45 AM
To: Berger, Brigitte <bergerb@wilmette.com>
Subject: Re: July 23,2016 Rain Event - Blackhawk Road Completed Flooded

Water on Blackhawk Road is draining. Street open.

David J. Kupiec
Kupiec & Martin, LLC
600 West Van Buren Street, Suite 202
Chicago, Illinois 60607
312-632-1022
dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com
www.kupiecandmartin.com

From: David Kupiec <dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com>
Date: Thursday, August 18, 2016 at 7:04 AM
To: "Berger, Brigitte" <bergerb@wilmette.com>
Subject: Re: July 23,2016 Rain Event - Blackhawk Road Completed Flooded

Blackhawk Road is completed flooded again. Residents cannot get to work or school.

David J. Kupiec
Kupiec & Martin, LLC
600 West Van Buren Street, Suite 202
Chicago, Illinois 60607
312-632-1022
dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com
www.kupiecandmartin.com

From: David Kupiec <dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com>
Date: Saturday, July 23, 2016 at 11:35 PM
To: "Berger, Brigitte" <bergerb@wilmette.com>
Subject: Re: July 23,2016 Rain Event - Blackhawk Road Completed Flooded

Yes, through the floor drain which has a reverse shut off. The basement toilet which has a reverse protection is also having problems and both were installed in 2013. Once the sewers start to drain everything will be fine. It has been over an hour since the rain stopped. Not sure why there is no place for the water to go after all the improvements. The flooding on Blackhawk Road today is much worse than 2013!

David J. Kupiec
Kupiec & Martin, LLC
600 West Van Buren Street, Suite 202
Chicago, Illinois 60607
312-632-1022
dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com
www.kupiecandmartin.com

From: "Berger, Brigitte" <bergerb@wilmette.com>
Date: Saturday, July 23, 2016 at 11:09 PM
To: David Kupiec <dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com>
Subject: Re: July 23,2016 Rain Event - Blackhawk Road Completed Flooded

The storm sewers are surcharged which means at capacity. Unfortunately, there is not much we can do until it stops raining and system drains.

Are you experiencing a sewer backup through the basement floor drain?

On Jul 23, 2016, at 11:06 PM, David Kupiec <dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com> wrote:

Blackhawk Road flooded again. Basement sewers in house starting to make noises. Please address street flooding ASAP to take pressure off home sewers and prevent addit basement flooding. Thank you.

David J. Kupiec
Kupiec & Martin, LLC
600 West Van Buren Street, Suite 202
Chicago, Illinois 60607
312-632-1022
dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com
www.kupiecandmartin.com

From: David Kupiec <dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com>
Date: Saturday, July 23, 2016 at 8:54 PM
To: "Berger, Brigitte" <bergerb@wilmette.com>
Subject: Re: July 23,2016 Rain Event - Blackhawk Road Completed Flooded

Thanks again.

David J. Kupiec
Kupiec & Martin, LLC
600 West Van Buren Street, Suite 202
Chicago, Illinois 60607
312-632-1022
dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com
www.kupiecandmartin.com

From: "Berger, Brigitte" <bergerb@wilmette.com>
Date: Saturday, July 23, 2016 at 8:47 PM
To: David Kupiec <dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com>
Subject: Re: July 23,2016 Rain Event - Blackhawk Road Completed Flooded

Noting receipt. Thank you. Public Works crews are doing what they can but Wilmette received almost 3-inches of rain in little over an hour.

On Jul 23, 2016, at 8:40 PM, David Kupiec <dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com> wrote:

Blackhawk road water has withdrawn. Road is dry. Thank you.

David J. Kupiec
Kupiec & Martin, LLC
600 West Van Buren Street, Suite 202
Chicago, Illinois 60607
312-632-1022
dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com
www.kupiecandmartin.com

From: David Kupiec <dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com>
Date: Saturday, July 23, 2016 at 7:47 PM
To: "Berger, Brigitte" <bergerb@wilmette.com>
Subject: Re: July 23,2016 Rain Event - Blackhawk Road Completed Flooded

Water starting to come in to house from sewer. Please correct street problem ASAP!!!

David J. Kupiec
Kupiec & Martin, LLC
600 West Van Buren Street, Suite 202
Chicago, Illinois 60607
312-632-1022
dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com
www.kupiecandmartin.com

From: David Kupiec <dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com>
Date: Saturday, July 23, 2016 at 7:35 PM
To: "Berger, Brigitte" <bergerb@wilmette.com>
Subject: Re: July 23,2016 Rain Event - Blackhawk Road Completed Flooded

Brigitte,

Unfortunately for more than an hour and a half, Blackhawk Road from Locust west to Romona is completely flooded. Higher water than the April 2013 storm. Moreover, water continues to gush from the sewer at Blackhawk and Osage like a fountain. This did not happen in 2013. Please address at your earliest. Thank you. Dave and Barb Kupiec, 2728 Blackhawk Rd.

David J. Kupiec
Kupiec & Martin, LLC
600 West Van Buren Street, Suite 202
Chicago, Illinois 60607
312-632-1022
dkupiec@kupiecandmartin.com
www.kupiecandmartin.com

From: "Berger, Brigitte" <bergerb@wilmette.com>
Date: Thursday, June 23, 2016 at 3:06 PM
To: "Berger, Brigitte" <bergerb@wilmette.com>
Subject: June 22 Rain Event

Good afternoon everyone:

You are receiving this email because you have expressed interest in Wilmette's sewer systems.

Last night, the western portion of Wilmette received approximately 2-inches of rain in one hour. As you are likely aware, the Village has recently made significant improvements to the sanitary system west of Ridge Road, including completion of the West Park Sanitary Storage Reservoir (which filled for three hours last night), construction of overflow relief sewers, sewer lining and manhole rehabilitation. We would greatly appreciate your feedback on how these improvements may or may not have impacted your property.

Please respond to this email and let us know if you experienced water in your basement last night. We would also love to hear from you if you did not have a sanitary sewer backup, but might have flooded during similar rain events in the past.

Don't forget to include your address in your response.

Thank you in advance for your feedback.

Kind regards,

Brigitte

Brigitte Ann Berger, P.E.
Director of Engineering and Public Works
Village of Wilmette
711 Laramie Avenue
Wilmette, IL 60091
847.853.7627
bergerb@wilmette.com

Prejzner, John

From: JAtkin747@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2016 12:20 PM
To: Prejzner, John
Subject: Storm sewer project

If the \$77 million project will truly significantly reduce flooding, it sounds like it is worth it. And best to start working on the project now while interest rates are low . . . and before global warming and more storms make the matter worse.

If funding is available from federal and state governments, so much the better. (And if not, we still need to reduce flooding.)

I am interested to know how this project relates to the water storage facility that was installed south of Lake Avenue, west of the expressway.

Jeff Atkinson
3514 Riverside Drive
Wilmette

Prejzner, John

From: Lee F. Canel <leecanel@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2016 2:04 PM
To: Prejzner, John
Cc: 'ascanel'
Subject: Some Relief is needed July 23 2016 photo
Attachments: 20160723_185005.jpg

Our residence has a storm sewer in front on both sides of the street. It is to low point of the block where water is the highest. The street regularly fills up like a bath tub, but lately water has gone well beyond the limits of the street and up even past where sidewalks and parkways would be (we do not have them on the north side of Birchwood). Water has gone up our driveway to near the path in front of our home. While the street has filled periodically for years, particularly if the grates are clogged, and we understand this is by necessity and by design, having the sewers flood and greatly exceed curb level to also flood the public right-of-way and large portions of my front yard in dramatic fashion (see photo) was not anticipated. In the past, water sometimes overflowed from the street, but not to the point I feared it would damage my house if it came much closer like this. Flooding in the past few storms exceeded anything we have seen in the past, and was clearly due to flooded sewers, not clogs. Nobody wants to increase taxes, but everyone should recognize that this problem not going to go away, and it will likely get worse year by year. Accordingly, we would definitely support a well-designed project that would bring relief to our street and those in the surrounding area. We also believe that any new sewer installed should anticipate increasing water amounts and severe rain events in the future, as this is highly likely if not certain.

Andria and Lee Canel
2124 Birchwood Avenue
Wilmette, Illinois 60091-2306
(847) 256-2519



Prejzner, John

From: Robert Birdsell <birdsellrob@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 01, 2016 10:11 AM
To: Prejzner, John
Subject: Please do this project

We have lived in Wilmette for 11 years in 2 different homes west of ridge. We have flooded multiple times in both homes. Most of the flooding has been from sewer back up. I strongly encourage you to do the proposed sewer project as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Rob Birdsell
2511 Kenilworth Ave

Rob Birdsell
847.204.3836

Prejzner, John

From: Bill Tefft <tefft.bill@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 06, 2016 9:27 PM
To: Prejzner, John
Subject: Storm Water Project - Yes

Hello, as current residents in the Kenilworth Gardens neighborhood we'd be supportive of the Storm Water Project.
Thanks!

Prejzner, John

From: Prejzner, John
Sent: Monday, October 03, 2016 9:56 AM
To: 'margarita.garcia'
Subject: RE: \$77 million sewer project

Ms. Garcia,

Thank you for contacting us and providing us with your questions. The answers are below.

The proposed project is solely located in the Village of Wilmette and thus Wilmette is the only community involved in paying for it.

The plan is to finance the project through issuing debt which would be paid over the course of 30 years.

As proposed, the project will be paid for through an increase in the sewer rate, which is part of the water bill. Therefore, all water customers in Wilmette will be involved in paying for the project.

If you have any further questions or comments please feel free to contact me.

John Prejzner
Assistant to the Village Manager
Village of Wilmette
(847) 853-7502

From: margarita.garcia [mailto:margarita.garcia@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Saturday, October 01, 2016 10:14 AM
To: Prejzner, John <prejznerj@wilmette.com>
Subject: \$77 million sewer project

Sirs,
How many communities will be involved in paying for this exorbitant amount?
The project will be paid over a period of how many years?
Will every Real Estate tax payers AND for-profit AND not-for-profit be involved in the payment of this exorbitant amount?

Thank you for responding,
Margarita Garcia

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Prejzner, John

From: Dennis Hammond <djh_chicago@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 03, 2016 2:50 PM
To: Prejzner, John
Subject: Storm sewers

Did we go out for competitive bids for the consultant (Burke) we seem to use them a lot? Also why not get a second opinion on this project for design and pricing. Dennis Hammond

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Prejzner, John

From: Howard Gopman <hgopman2002@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 03, 2016 3:57 PM
To: Prejzner, John
Cc: Carol Gopman
Subject: Sewer Project

Since it appears that the sewer project will not benefit the far west side of Wilmette where we reside, we would oppose it since it will undoubtedly raise our taxes.

Howard Gopman
226 Millbrook Lane
Wilmette, IL 60091

Prejzner, John

From: Mike Esler <mikeesler@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 04, 2016 4:28 PM
To: Prejzner, John
Subject: Stormwater improvement project

In regards to the call for comments on the stormwater improvement project:

As a resident of Kennilworth Gardens since 2010, I am strongly in favor of the proposed project to improve stormwater management for west Wilmette.

Reading recent emails from Brigitte Berger, as well as her comments in the Wilmette Beacon, there seems to be a great deal of reference to 50 year storm events, and 100 year storm events. What's not explained is what these labels mean.

Storm event recurrence metrics are a lagging indicator of how often one would expect to see a particular amount of rainfall in a given time period. These numbers are easily manipulated to suit the story one wants to tell. Two inches over one hour is different than two inches over 24 hours or two inches over one week. There are many different ways that the recent storms could have been described, depending on the time slice one chooses to look at.

In addition, these numbers are based on 10 and 20 year studies. Given our constantly changing climate, their relevancy is somewhat limited.

What matters is the impact on residents. My home has gotten some water every year we have lived here, and significant flooding (three to six inches) in three of the six years we've lived here. If you drive around Kennilworth Gardens after a storm, you will see many homes with carpet and other belongings out on the street the next morning.

There is a human toll as well. In the last storm event my neighbor had to be taken by ambulance to the hospital after suffering an injury in the clean-up effort.

And if you walk around Kennilworth Gardens you will see something unique to this neighborhood - manhole covers in the front lawns of 25-30 per cent of the homes. Unlike other parts of Wilmette, home owners here are being asked to shoulder the burden of protecting homes on their own.

The other economic impact is in home prices. Everyone who lives in this neighborhood is legally required to disclose flooding when selling their homes, which suppresses what someone is willing to pay.

The Village has a civic responsibility to serve all of its home owners. West Wilmette, and Kennilworth Gardens in particular is clearly underserved at present.

Lastly, a comment on the cost of the project. The website that the Village has created indicates that the cost would be equal to the entire sum of what has been spent on the rest of the Village since 1990. This is an extremely biased and political statement. Seventy-seven million dollars in 1990 has the equivalent purchase power of 141 million dollars today.

The website also indicates that sewer bills would more than double. I would like to suggest that there are other ways to pay for these improvements aside from sewer bills. While I applaud the Village for its use of an extremely clean budgeting process that ties revenue to capital expenses within a given department, this is an extraordinary problem that requires creative solutions. Certainly there are other revenue sources that could be put towards this exceptional need.

Prejzner, John

From: DrRobtLindner@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, October 06, 2016 3:29 PM
To: Prejzner, John
Subject: Storm water project

The cost of this project seems high and the increase in water rates is not fair to seniors who are on fixed incomes. The project should be funded by property tax increases instead of fees, so that the source of funding will be more progressive.

It is also not fair for those of us, who live east of ridge to be called upon to pay for a project that does not benefit us in any way.

Thank You,

Robert Lindner (70 years old)
1624 Elmwood Ave
Wilmette, IL60091

Prejzner, John

From: Leslie Nathan <lesady@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 5:35 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Sewer Fee

Will the doubled+ sewer fee be for the five year construction period only or permanently? The articles did not spell this out.

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone LES

Prejzner, John

From: JEANETTE GRIDLEY <gridleyjohn@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 6:14 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: \$77 million

1. Way too much money
2. Who knows how much it will actually help
3. Didn't we just put in a huge retention area by the paddle courts
4. The vocal minority who live in low lying areas as designated by army corps of engineers bought land in a low area and should know they are prone to flooding so if the basement floods they were aware of their low area
5. The cost starts at 77 and could easily double
6. Can wilmette cut their taxes instead of spending more?
7. Get some rain barrels and families need to plan better
8. This plan I can bet a million dollars will go over budget and the claims that one engineer says are inflated.

please consider being fiscally conservative. This is more money than we can fathom, and we all know once you open up the streets and pipes 20 new problems will arise..

john gridley

429 pinecrest

Prejzner, John

From: Karendexter <karendexter@ameritech.net>
Sent: Sunday, October 09, 2016 5:34 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Storm water project Wilmette

I think the storm water project as outlined in The Communicator as a solution to flooding will enhance the reputation of our community and value of homes for all.

Thanks for asking and listening

Karen and Fred Rolison

Sent from my iPad

Prejzner, John

From: Geier, Andrew M. <Andrew.Geier@FaegreBD.com>
Sent: Monday, October 10, 2016 9:49 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Stormwater Improvement Project

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are residents at 2034 Beechwood Avenue and are writing to express our support for the stormwater improvement project the Village is considering. We have lived on Beechwood Avenue for 10 years. In recent years, any time there is a substantial rainfall, the streets flood and we, and many of our neighbors, experience basement flooding. It is time to make these needed improvements to our sewer system. Failure to do so will result in more property damage and heartache for us and our fellow residents, as well as diminished property values.

Thanks for your time and your work for the Village.

Kind regards,
Andrew & Shannon Geier
2034 Beechwood Avenue, Wilmette

Prejzner, John

From: Wendy Crawford-Schultz <wcs24@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, October 10, 2016 1:11 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Stormwater Plan

I am in favor of the proposed stormwater plan as long as it includes the addition of a stormwater basin at Thornwood Park. East Wilmette received upgrades first. The area west of Romona received upgrades/relief with the construction of the West Park basin. The Princeton Place basin section of Wilmette is the last area to receive an upgrade to the stormwater system.

In the current proposal, the Princeton Place basin area is again the LAST area to receive an upgrade and the timing is 10+ years away. In the interest of equitable treatment for all residents, I strongly encourage the immediate approval of a Thornwood Park Basin for stormwater relief for the Princeton Place basin area.

All residents of Wilmette are entitled to equal services. Currently, some residents living in the Princeton Place basin area do not have access to emergency response during rain events. Police cars and Fire trucks cannot drive through flooded streets to assist residents. Residents need access to emergency response during a rain event that can easily create an emergency situation such as fire from a lightning strike, electrocution from entering a flooded basement, a natural gas leak or a personal emergency such as a heart attack from over exertion.

Wendy Schultz
2130 Beechwood Avenue

Prejzner, John

From: Wilkinson, Simon <Simon.Wilkinson@bp.com>
Sent: Monday, October 10, 2016 2:44 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Support for rainwater relief

We need a long-term solution for the flooding that occurs in the Princeton Place basin. When we experience sustained rainfall in Wilmette we anxiously monitor conditions on our street and in our basement. We have experienced surprising flooding in our street on many occasions during our 5 years of residency. The streets are impassable for residents and municipal service vehicles. We see kayaks cruising down the middle of the road and in the aftermath ruined basement carpets and furniture pile up awaiting removal. After years of study we believe that the proposed solution (option 1) should be acted upon now, for the good of residents and property values for the entire village. It is a costly proposal but the scope and frequency of the flooding for the amount of rainfall does not seem normal. The investment is about providing a basic service to a substantial portion of the village's population.

Thanks

Simon Wilkinson
Offer Development Manager
(312) 594-7187 (Office)
(312) 420-8701 (Cell)

Prejzner, John

From: Matthew Huebsch <huebsch@chapman.com>
Sent: Monday, October 10, 2016 5:36 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: West Wilmette Stormwater Issue

I am a resident on Beechwood Avenue and fully support the stormwater update proposal. I have had stormwater backup in my basement on multiple occasions, which has cost me a lot of money (both for repair and preventative measures). The issues with the backup effect my entire street to the point it is impassable. The issues are many and range from safety to damage to personal property to reduction in the value of the houses on these streets. I believe the Village owes it to its residents to provide adequate drainage. It has gotten to the point that we monitor storm systems and do not sleep when heavy storms are predicted.

Best,

Matthew P. Huebsch | Partner
Chapman and Cutler LLP
111 West Monroe Street | Chicago, IL 60603
Direct: 312.845.3279
Fax: 312.516.1979
huebsch@chapman.com

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Prejzner, John

From: Joel Kurzman <joelkurzman@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 8:36 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Input on storm water initiative - 1st installment

Dear Village of Wilmette:

Below are three recent postings from the Dry Out West Wilmette Facebook Page with perspective on the \$77 million storm water initiative. I will share subsequent postings as well. I hope you will find them informative. As you know, I have advocated for the Village to address its sewer problems for nearly a decade, but only using Facebook since about 2013. If you are not familiar with DOWW, below is a description.

Dry Out West Wilmette is a campaign dedicated to addressing long-standing sanitary and storm water issues in Wilmette, providing information to residents and establishing a new and higher level of accountability for the Village. The campaign does not just seek the support of households directly impacted by flooding or back-ups, but all residents who care about their neighborhoods and neighbors. Whether it's property values, insurance rates, passable streets, or structurally sound Village assets, Dry Out West Wilmette believes all residents are impacted by sanitary and storm water issues.

Posting from October 6

Below please see the recently published Village Communicator with a lead story about the storm water proposal. For some residents, this could be their first exposure to the scope of the challenges facing West Wilmette and the significant cost of addressing them. I am happy for these people, because it may mean they have not been continuously ravaged by overland flooding and sewer back-up. They also haven't beaten their heads against the wall with the Village for decades as the problem got worse. I wouldn't wish that upon anyone.

How did the problem get worse? To answer, I must disagree with how the problem is framed in the Village Communicator. True, the separated system was designed and constructed in the 1950's, but it probably did handle small and moderate rain events at that time. However, it was neither designed nor constructed for the development that has ensued. Regardless of how one thinks about the specific proposal currently under consideration, it is plain to see that development has outpaced our 1950's infrastructure. We are now paying a price for this fundamental misalignment. If and when you hear me speaking in the community about stewardship, this is what I'm talking about.

<http://www.wilmette.com/.../Oct-2016-Jan-2017-Communicator-Fi...>

Posting from October 7

In my previous post, I framed the storm water problem as a misalignment between the development and infrastructure of West Wilmette. So is the \$77 million proposal under consideration going to solve the problem? The short answer is: not by itself. In fact, besides the cost, the main criticism about the proposal is that it doesn't

go far enough. How will the community and Board of Trustees wrestle with that? It costs too much, but it doesn't help enough. Go figure.

In working with engineers to develop solutions, the Village's goal was to create 10-year storm protection for all residents. A modest goal, unlike the 100-year protection aspiration of Winnetka. There are some West Wilmette neighborhoods that have just 2-year storm protection currently. It's hard to imagine investing huge money and to still have flooding concerns during 100-year rain events such as in July. But that would be true of the current proposal. That's how misaligned we are. That said, this proposal will absolutely help avoid flooding and sewer back-ups during small and medium rain events.

My view is, any infrastructure project must be part of a comprehensive plan. Below please see the Village's Stormwater Management Plan and compare it to Winnetka's Master Plan (both links below). Besides being less than comprehensive, Wilmette's plan has no accountability, no transparency, no metrics, no updating, no creativity, and almost no meaningful community engagement. However, these documents do reflect the wide-ranging solutions needed to address complex storm water flooding and sewer issues. Without a comprehensive approach, any investment in Wilmette will gradually become less effective if we don't pursue other solutions as well.

http://www.wilmette.com/.../Comprehensive_Stormwater_Manageme...

<http://www.villageofwinnetka.org/.../Winnetka-Stomwater-Maste...>

Posting from October 11

So if the Village lacks a substantive master plan to address storm water issues, should we even spend money on infrastructure improvements? Yes. Even if we implemented all of my green recommendations (Things I Would Do posting series from 2015), we would only make a modest dent in the issue. There is no escaping the reality that our pipes cannot convey water or sewage at a sufficient rate. Even a new asset like West Park does not fill to capacity because we can't get the sewage to it.

So why this \$77 million plan over the other ideas offered by the consulting engineering firm? If you are new to the issue and need a primer on the plans that were offered, and why the current proposal made the most sense, I refer you to the Sewers of Wilmette blog and the most recent Village study (links below). In short, making Community Playfield into a lake was highly unpopular for obvious reasons and the local storage idea didn't get all neighborhoods to 10-year flood protection. They weren't cheap plans either. Yes, the most effective plan was also the most expensive.

<http://sewersofwilmette.com/wilmette-storm-sewers/>

http://www.wilmette.com/.../Report_January_2015_Final_w_attac...

Most of my green recommendations continue to be valid as additional measures in a comprehensive plan. However, studies from both Winnetka and Wilmette show minimal impact for even the most robust green initiatives (link below). There is no realistic way to garden and rain barrel our way out of the severe misalignment of development and infrastructure. Any comprehensive plan for Wilmette needs both expensive grey and cheap green solutions. Again, when you hear me speaking in the community about stewardship, that's what I'm talking about.

http://sewersofwilmette.com/.../Report_January_2015_GoGreen.p...

--

JOEL KURZMAN

<http://www.linkedin.com/in/joelkurzman>

joelkurzman@gmail.com

224.475.6630

Prejzner, John

From: Parker, David T <David.T.Parker@morganstanley.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 8:42 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Wilmette

The sewers need improvement and so do our roads. No one wants to pay more in taxes but keeping the essential services up to date is necessary. I vote yes for roads and sewers.

Kenilworth Ave between Thornwood park and Locus is a joke and I don't even drive on Lake avenue in the right lane heading west as you will hit pot holes with your right tires.

Best,

Dave Parker
2018 Greenwood Avenue

David Parker
The RDP Group
Vice President
Financial Advisor
NMLS # 1262274
Morgan Stanley Wealth Management

227 West Monroe St. Suite 3400 | Chicago, IL 60606

Phone-312-648-3321 | Fax- 312-648-3344
david.t.parker@morganstanley.com

Please feel free to visit our team website @ <http://www.morganstanleyfa.com/rdpgroup>



Connect with me on LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/david-parker>

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Prejzner, John

From: Susan Landwer <susanlandwer@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 9:27 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Cc: Mark Landwer
Subject: Support Storm Water Solution - Wilmette

Hello - My husband Mark Landwer and I **support the storm water solution** for Wilmette for all of the reasons below:

- a. This is now a safety issue – school buses, police, fire and ambulance vehicles cannot get down our streets and we have video of this. We are fortunate not to have had an emergency situation to date that was compromised due to impassable streets, but it is likely to occur at some point if we don't fix this issue.
- b. We are becoming known as a suburb that floods - that hurts property values across the board in Wilmette.
- c. We have had 8 yrs of study and this is the solution recommended through a very comprehensive process. It is time to act.
- d. It is very clear something needs to be done as we cannot continue to have impassable streets and flooded basements every time a yellow/red cell passes through Wilmette. Again, this is the solution proposed by independent consultants.
- e. Residents have spent tens of thousands of their own money to upgrade/install overhead sewers, drain tiles, sump pumps, etc. - we still have issues and the inadequate stormwater system is the cause.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Susan & Mark Landwer
2210 Beechwood Avenue

Prejzner, John

From: Brett Murphy <brettmurphy@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 12:08 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Beechwood Avenue

As a resident of Beechwood Avenue, I would like to give my strong support to the proposed \$77 million storm water project. Recently, a firetruck was unable to get down our street during a rain event, it is the Village's responsibility to ensure the safety of its residents. I shudder to think what would happen if one of my children needed emergency care and a flooded street prevented a fire truck or ambulance from reaching them.

I truly believe the Village would be negligent if they don't make improvements when they are aware of the safety concerns posed by regular flooding of my street.

The Village has been diligent and done a comprehensive thorough study and now is the time to act.

Thank you for your consideration.

Prejzner, John

From: Robert <robertwallace37@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 4:56 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: re: flooding

Hello, Wanted to be sure you know that we have flooded three times since we moved here in 2014.
1st in Summer 2014 [6-8"] and twice this year in the Summer [4-6"] and [1--2"]. I have moved the downspouts away from the house, installed rain barrels and planted some 35 trees and bushes [all in 2014] to try to help to no avail. my back yard floods as well. The flooding is sewage during heavy rains from the bathroom shower drain and laundry room floor drain. I can't tell you how frustrating and heartbreaking it is to experience this not once, not twice, but three times in two short years of living here. Please Help!

Robert Wallace
2910 Wilmette
Wilmette, IL 60091
312-835-5875

Prejzner, John

From: Frenzer, Tim
Sent: Wednesday, October 12, 2016 9:42 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Cc: Braiman, Michael
Subject: FW: sewer project

[Resident comment on Communicator article.](#)

Timothy J. Frenzer
Village Manager
Village of Wilmette
1200 Wilmette Ave.
Wilmette, IL 60091
Tel. (847) 853-7501
Fax (847) 853-7700
E-Mail: FrenzerT@wilmette.com

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From: Larry Craig [<mailto:lacraig1@sbcglobal.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 3:46 PM
To: Frenzer, Tim <frenzert@wilmette.com>
Subject: sewer project

Tim Frenzer, Village Manager

Greetings!

I read the article about the storm water project in The Communicator. I saw the part about hiring a consultant to tell us what needs to be done, but I didn't see the part where the village sought proposals from a number of different companies to do the work.

This project will cost a lot of money. I get that. But when a project is very large, I am sure different companies will have very different estimates on what it will cost for the various parts of this project. No, the cheapest bid is not always the best bid, but I am not seeing here any great effort on your part to see that this money will be spent as wisely as possible.

I can't say either that I have felt the need for such a project in the first place. The only times my street has flooded is when the street cleaners have been unable to clean the drains often enough because of all the cars that park by my house.

It makes me wonder if this project is trying to do more than necessary. As The Problem is stated in The Communicator, it gives the impression that because the storm sewer system was designed in the 50s, that alone should tell us that it must be inadequate for today. Engineers today are so much smarter than those who lived back then. Engineers in the 50s didn't know how to calculate water flow back then.

Why are they now too small, after almost 70 years of use? I know that there are a lot more buildings now than there were in the 50s, but we have been here since the 70s, and I don't see the problem. I don't think the conversion of a lot of double lots to single lots would have made that much of a difference.

So I approach this project with a bit of skepticism, for the cost and the size of the project and for the Board to make the right decisions about the project.

Thank you.

Larry Craig
1938 Schiller Ave
Wilmette IL 60091
847-251-1324

Please visit my blog at poligion1.blogspot.com for articles I have written on politics, culture, and public life. I have also started posting youtube videos of these same articles.

I also have a site called theimportanceofhealing.blogspot.com that talks about healing and tells a little about my book of the same name. And a site called LarrysBibleStudies.blogspot.com with all my other articles on the Bible.

Prejzner, John

From: Michael St. Peter <mstpeter@lplegal.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 12, 2016 3:26 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Cc: 'Tracy'; michaelstpeter@hotmail.com
Subject: Statement of Support for Proposed Stormwater Proposal for West Wilmette

Dear Village Board of Trustees,

I am writing about the proposed storm water solutions for the Princeton Place basin area of West Wilmette (between Ridge Road and Romona Road). My wife, Tracy, and I and our two young children have lived in Wilmette for over 4 years and we have seen the safety issues and property damage caused by the lack of capacity of the storm water system in our area. Our street has flooded almost to our front door on multiple occasions, and Village emergencies crews cannot reach our house during even modest rain events. Also, we have repeatedly assisted stranded people whose vehicles have stalled in the floodwaters on our street, and we have witnessed the major property damage that occurs on our street during nearly every heavy rain event.

Therefore, we strongly support the “short term” solution proposed by the Village’s consultants of creating a basin under Thornwood Park. We urge the Village to undertake this project as soon as possible.

As for the longer-term solutions proposed by the consultants, we strongly support the “Option 1” \$77 million upgrade of the storm water system in our area.

We feel fortunate to live in a wonderful community like Wilmette, and I have been privileged to serve on the Wilmette Historical Preservation Commission for the last 3 years. However, we need a solution to this very urgent problem in our community. Thank you for your consideration and attention to this important matter.

Michael St. Peter and Tracy Arbuckle
2125 Beechwood Avenue

Michael St. Peter

office: 312-476-7508
mobile: 312-519-2660
e-mail: mstpeter@lplegal.com

website | [linkedin](#) | [youtube](#)

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Prejzner, John

From: Garth Gustafson <garth_gustafson@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 10:19 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Cc: Bielinski, Bob
Subject: storm water project

Hello,

I read your brief storm water analysis on the front page of the communicator this morning.

While I am in favor of reducing flooding on the west side of the village, I am shocked by the cost of this project! Doubling our sewer bills is not affordable for many residents living on fixed incomes.

Please consider less expensive solutions to this problem that do not involve an increase in our water/sewer bills.

Garth Gustafson
157 Prairie
Wilmette, IL

Prejzner, John

From: Paul Romer <paulr1999@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 11:59 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Cc: Bielinski, Bob; Krueger, Cameron; Ducommun, Carol; McKenna, Ted; Plunkett, Senta; Sullivan, Dan; Wolf, Julie
Subject: Input on Sewers Upgrade

To all:

I am grateful that you are seeking input before committing to \$77 million in additional expenses for the residents of Wilmette. The reason is that multiple entities are affecting the future and the viability of property taxes in our area and all have great reasons why they are needed at this time.

The \$103 million project at New Trier High School which is still climbing in final costs, the renovations planned at the lakefront originally planned for \$14 million but scaled back, and the pension problems which has not yet fully hit our property taxes as it is still unresolved due to not having a path to being restructured to something which our budgets can tolerate.

The triennial reassessment of our properties have recently been published and properties have been reassessed from 25% to 50% increase in value with already high property taxes in place. You can do the math on what the reassessment does to the typical property tax bills in Wilmette which will go through the roof in 2017. What I have noticed with many of the for sale signs throughout Wilmette is that new residents are not clamoring to purchase homes with \$30,000 to \$40,000 annual property tax bills and the houses have been on the market for a long time. There is quite a selection of houses for sale throughout the village. Has there been any study of why so many residents are leaving the area or the state of Illinois?

So, I urge the trustees and the President to rethink the current strategy for how the village operates in light of continuing escalating costs and the need for long term capital planning. Your focus and attention should be on restructuring how dollars are spent, village headcount are utilized vs. services which could be outsourced or not delivered to maintain the overall health of Wilmette and how the pension problems can be resolved to a 401k like most residents who work in the private sector have. I would urge you to table any investments in long term capital projects like the sewers until you have a viable plan for the future.

Sincerely,

Paul Romer

Prejzner, John

From: McColl, James <james.mccoll@bernstein.com>
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 12:40 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Stormwater Project - Yes

My family and I have been residents of Wilmette since 2004, and have lived in Kenilworth Gardens on Beechwood the whole time. We are strongly in favor of the proposed solution, as are a large number of west Wilmette residents, for many reasons. Some of the reasons for our support include:

- This is now a safety issue – school buses, police, fire and ambulance vehicles cannot get down our streets and we have video of this. We are fortunate not to have had an emergency situation to date that was compromised due to impassable streets, but it is likely to occur at some point if we don't fix this issue.
- We are becoming known as a suburb that floods - that hurts property values across the board in Wilmette.
- We have had 8 yrs of study and this is the solution recommended through a very comprehensive process. It is time to act.
- It is very clear something needs to be done as we cannot continue to have impassable streets and flooded basements every time a yellow/red cell passes through Wilmette. Again, this is the solution proposed by independent consultants.
- Residents have spent tens of thousands of their own money to upgrade/install overhead sewers, drain tiles, sump pumps, etc. - we still have issues and the inadequate stormwater system is the cause.

All the best,

Jim McColl, CFP®
Principal – Financial Advisor
Bernstein
Private Wealth Management
227 West Monroe Street
Chicago, IL 60606

Office: 312-696-7896
Cell: 847-910-0337
Fax: 312-696-7979
Email: james.mccoll@bernstein.com
Please visit us online at [bernstein.com](http://www.bernstein.com)

.....
For further important information about AllianceBernstein please click here
<http://www.abglobal.com/disclaimer/email/disclaimer.html>

Prejzner, John

From: Baugher, Peter V. <PBaugher@honigman.com>
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 1:14 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Cost/Benefit Analysis on Storm Water Project

To the Village Board:

What are the quantifiable, projected benefits of this plan? Basement flooding problems have presumably been mitigated by the West Park reservoir. Water on streets after big storms sounds like a relatively infrequent, transitory problem. \$77 million and 5-6 years of construction and disruption is a very high price for what sounds like not much gain. Let's take a pass on this. To the extent capital funds are available, road repairs and downtown/4th and Linden developments should be our Village priority.

Peter Baugher
1310 Sheridan Road
Wilmette, IL 60091
847-251-2823

This e-mail may contain confidential or privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, please delete it and notify the sender of the error.

Prejzner, John

From: Dan Johnson <dan@progressivepublicaffairs.com>
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 1:49 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Feedback on who should pay for the anti-flooding measures

Thanks for the opportunity to submit my thoughts on this project.

It is clear that climate change is causing more extreme rainfall in our region, including West Wilmette. Climate change is man-made caused primarily from carbon and methane emissions. Thus, instead of putting the costs for this extra infrastructure we are forced to build as a response to climate change on all users of the sewer system, I suggest we put some of the costs on the activities that is causing climate change to hasten.

The burning of fossil fuels (gasoline and natural gas) is the main contributor to climate change. I suggest the Village assess an additional tax on these activities (a higher retail sales tax on gasoline and a higher municipal tax on natural gas consumption) to partially fund some of the anti-flooding work for West Wilmette.

Thanks again for the opportunity to share my views on the most efficient way to raise the funds to pay for this anti-flooding infrastructure program.

Dan
1726 Walnut
Wilmette

--

Dan Johnson

Illinois lobbyist
Progressive Public Affairs

<http://www.ProgressivePublicAffairs.com>

111 West Washington, Suite 1920
Chicago, Illinois 60602

@DanLobbies

312.867.5377 (office)
312.933.4890 (mobile)

Prejzner, John

From: Ronald M. Meyer <rmelmeyer@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 2:03 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Sewer paid for by fees vs. property taxes

Dear Village Board,

Is there any chance of paying for the proposed sewer improvements using assessed property taxes instead of raising the sewer usage fees? Then the increased cost would be tax deductible for most village residents who I suspect itemize deductions.

Thank you for your attention. I suspect you've considered this and there is a good reason you have not gone this route, but I had to ask.

Ron Meyer
rmelmeyer@yahoo.com
847.644.6178
610 8th Street, Wilmette

Prejzner, John

From: Betty Ann Johnson <Madrilena@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 2:30 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Sewer Project

We are in favor of the sewer project. We believe it is important to improve the village's ability to handle storms.

Betty and Bob Johnson
1213 Gregory Avenue

Sent from my iPad

Prejzner, John

From: Tim VanDeVelde <timvandelde@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 3:01 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Fwd: Kenilworth Ave, west of Ridge

Forwarding an email I sent to Eric at the Wilmette Beacon based on his column recently around west Wilmette storm system inadequacies requesting feedback.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: <timvandelde@hotmail.com>
Date: October 6, 2016 at 1:53:16 PM CDT
To: <eric@wilmettebeacon.com>
Subject: Kenilworth Ave, west of Ridge

Eric, I saw your article in the paper recently around flooding in the West Wilmette neighborhoods. I have lived on Kenilworth Ave in Kenilworth Gardens for 12 years and have experienced at least 5 massive flooding incidents both on our street and ultimately my basement. Each time the Village punts this to a highly irregular "100 year storm" and accepts no responsibility for a completely inadequate sewer/storm system, for which I am invoiced. Every time I write the check to The Village of Wilmette which includes sewer service I am sickened. I have young children, moved here for the great school system and terrific family atmosphere Kenilworth Gardens provides. Unfortunately, the lack of adequate response from the Village and subsequent financial expense to repair my basement numerous times and ultimately put in a very expensive flood control system has made me question my decision to stay in this area. It is sad as I imagine none of the Board members live in this area and therefore don't care what happens to the young vibrant families of Kenilworth Gardens, at least it seems to be the case based on past inaction. The Village needs to understand there is a large group of residents currently coalescing around litigation against the Village. Based on the property value and individual damages \$77m is a bargain for the Village to upgrade the sewer system.

Tim

Sent from my iPhone

Prejzner, John

From: ANDRIA CANEL <ascanel@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 3:10 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Proposed Reduction in Flooding

I read the Proposed Reductions in Flooding Depths for the \$77 million Storm Water Improvement Project. Would you be able to tell me why the 2100 blocks of Schiller, Birchwood and Washington were not included in the study. Since the sewer project on Hunter was completed, the flooding has increased in intensity. Now when there is a heavy rain the streets have significantly more water and water is backing up my drive-way. During one rain storm this summer it came fairly close to my front door. Previously this had never happened. This is a problem around the 2120s of the blocks that I listed.

What actions under the proposed plan will help remediate the problem and how will the flood depth on these blocks change as a result of the proposed actions?

Best regards,

Andria Canel
2124 Birchwood
Wilmette IL 60091

Prejzner, John

From: Beitel Greg <greg.beitel@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2016 11:05 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: \$77 million too much for flood control

Hi:

We live at 1014 Pontiac Rd., Wilmette and my wife and I have reviewed the possible \$77 million flood control project. While we sympathize with the West Wilmette residents, these were existing problems when the current owners of the properties bought their houses, and consequently the village should not feel obligated to go to extraordinary costs to fix the problem. The rest of the village should not have to pay huge amounts to fix problems with these houses. We have now lived in two houses in Wilmette, and both houses had some flooding in the large storms we've had over the last 10 years. I spent \$10,000 - \$15,000 on each house putting in flood control measures, including power backup systems. After that, even when there was three feet of water in the street, my houses were dry. I did not receive any help from the rest of Wilmette in paying for these projects, so I don't think we have an obligation to pay what would be much more than that to fix other peoples houses. If Wilmette does proceed with the possible \$77 million plan, I would like to submit a bill to the city to be reimbursed for my flood control measures.

If Wilmette wants to stretch out the project into a 100 yr project and tackle the proposed plan year by year, we would be willing to pay maybe \$50/year. But \$600 year is just unreasonable, and considering the proposed plan would not even completely solve flooding problems, definitely not worth it.

Greg and Annette Beitel
104 Pontiac Rd., Wilmette

Prejzner, John

From: Greg Proteau <gproteau@msn.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2016 6:56 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Storm Water Project Comments
Attachments: 2013_4_18.jpg; 2013_4_19.jpg

Dear Village Board - This is in response to your request for comments on the proposed \$77 million storm water project. Our primary thoughts are these:

- The focus of the village's efforts in the past several years has been west of Ridge Road. We are sympathetic to the impact of flooding on that side of town, but the flooding east of Ridge Road, and east of the Metra train tracks is not resolved. See the attached photos showing the effects in front of our home (108 9th St.) of the April 2013 flooding. This is not confined to our corner (9th & Isabella), but typically extends south across Isabella, north on 9th, the adjacent alleys and Poplar. Many other streets flood in this corner of town as well. Typically, any rain event of 2-inches or more (depending on the length and intensity of the rainstorm) will cause 9th street to flood between the berms and force water into basements that have not added sewer backup or other protections.
- An earlier village stormwater plan included increasing the size of the sewer under 9th St. to, we assume, feed into larger sewer mains to Greenleaf and deep tunnel. Apparently, this action has been postponed or eliminated. Whether this would solve or minimize our flooding issues is unknown.
- We have suggested to village planners in the past that they consider coordinating stormwater relief with the City of Evanston on this side of town and near the border. Generally when our streets are under water the Evanston streets just south of Wilmette are not. Perhaps there is a way to tie into their system that would provide relief.
- When the street floods here and basements backup, our flooding can range from some "moppable" puddles to water as deep as 5- or 6-inches and requiring pump out. When we made some renovations last year, we added a sump pit and sealed remaining basement drains, essentially going to an overhead sewer system. This has worked relatively well thus far, though we still get some basement water. To make this change, the cost was about \$8,000 – if it hadn't been part of the overall project, it easily could have cost twice as much.
- With us it was a personal decision to remedy the sewer backups after living with a regularly flooded basement for 28-years. Other homeowners have the same option. For those considering living in Wilmette (or across the North Shore), they should know basements flood here and accept it, and should be warned by sellers and realtors that they will need to deal with floods via regular cleanup or significant investment in protection.
- For all village homeowners to fund flooding fixes on the west side of town through increased sewer fees seems unfair. If Board members still wish to proceed with this project, a bond issue should be considered to at least allow funding through real estate taxes that can be applied to federal tax bills. And if the west siders are offered action, the same should be extended to east siders as well as all village homeowners.

Thank you for considering our views.

Greg & Deidre Proteau





SPEED
LIMIT
25

Prejzner, John

From: Crane, Ruth <rcranesc@uic.edu>
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2016 9:34 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Storm water project

To whom it may concern:

Our family is very much opposed to the costly storm sewer project. Every year Wilmette residents are subjected to higher taxes and increased fees. This project is too expensive for the projected benefit.
James and Ruth Schmit, 1319 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette.

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Prejzner, John

From: Ben Tolsky <bentolsky@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2016 11:00 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Questions about new sewer proposal

I'm not opposed to this new sewer project, I strongly believe that we need to maintain and improve our infrastructure, but this is a very expensive project and I want to understand what exactly it is.

First of all, if we are looking at a \$625 increase in our water bills, for how long would this be for? Is this for the 5 years that the project will take, or will this be a permanent increase?

Second of all, how does this relate to or work along side the recent West Park Project. I was of the understanding that that project was done to deal with storm water. I understand that that project only dealt with the area west of Romona and this new project deals with west of Ridge. Does this project only support the area between Ridge and Romona, or will this provide additional improvements to Western Wilmette as well?

I would assume that constructing sewers lines requires streets to get torn apart, and something of this scale would probably create a construction disaster accross Wilmette for the next 5 years. I'm not opposed to do this if it has to happen, but what streets will this affect. Will sewers only be built along major streets like Lake, Wilmette, and Glenview, or will it also take place on neighborhood streets.

I was actually out of town when the major storm hit in July, but I did watch my street flood during some of the other big storms we had this summer. I can tell you that as soon as the storm slowed down the flooding immediately subsided, but at its worst, water did rise above the curbs and start flooding a little bit onto the sidewalks and lawns. If you like, I can provide pictures of the flooding on Lamon and Nina from August 18th if that would help.

Thank you

Ben Tolsky
339 Lamon Ave

Prejzner, John

From: cattiva162000@yahoo.com
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2016 11:18 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Fw: Wilmette Resident

Hello,

My house is located on 550 Leamington Avenue and a sewage drain is in front of it. We have flooded so many time we lost count. The Village of Wilmette has never responded to any of our complains about the kind of predicament we find ourselves in every time it rains. My guess is that you have decided to do something about the flooding problem in Wilmette now that wealthier residents have started to complain. Hopefully, their complains will not fall on deaf ears like mine have so many times before.

IT'S ABOUT TIME THE VILLAGE OF WILMETTE TAKES ACTION ON SUCH A SERIOUS PROBLEM!!!!!!

Mary Diaz
Frustrated Wilmette Resident

Prejzner, John

From: Jerry Pearlman <bbpearlman@ameritech.net>
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2016 11:51 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Storm Water Project

As a long-time residents of Wilmette (living at 21 Linden since 1972) we have been supportive of virtually every initiative to improve the Village. We are supportive of the proposed storm water project. We do, however, strongly object to the proposed means of funding the project. Sewer fees are already incorrectly charging water users for water that does not ever enter the sewer system. Irrigation and pool-evaporation refilling water never enter the sewer system. We estimate that our sewer charge for this water is well over \$1,000 per year (perhaps as much as \$2,000). Our water bill for the last 12 months was just over \$3,000.

Your proposed funding would more than double the sewer charge on the water bill thereby adding over \$2,000 to our bill. We recommend that you CAP THE AMOUNT OF INCREASE ON ANY WATER BILL TO \$625 or add a flat rate increase to all residents.

Barbara and Jerry Pearlman
21 Linden Avenue

Prejzner, John

From: Seth Martin <wsmartin@firstmartin.com>
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2016 12:06 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Not in Favor

I am a resident of east Wilmette so my opinion is clearly biased (even though our block has water issues as well) but based on Jacoby's article in the paper and the costs associated with this project (\$600+ per year) I think it is way too much money. We would be better off paying for some storm water mitigation at the very few houses most effected rather than a \$77MM project. No matter what this should go to a referendum.

Kind regards

Seth Martin
915 Elmwood Ave
Wilmette, IL 60091

Prejzner, John

From: Tony Antolini <tonyantolini@economist.com>
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2016 12:07 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: I'm in support of the plan

My street Beechwood is dangerous even with moderate downfall in the center of the block. We are lucky on our end so far but I worry about home values, damage and safety with our inadequate drainage.

Thank you
Tony Antolini

--

Tony Antolini
Americas Director, Corporate & Industry

The Economist
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Prejzner, John

From: Rhode, Christine M. <crhode@vedderprice.com>
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2016 12:15 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Sewer project

I sure wish you had done this after bad storm in 2013, when I had major sewer backup. I then put in backflow system. Many of my neighbors did the same. Having spent the money on that I am reluctant to pay again. An expense of this magnitude should be submitted to referendum, just like the Gillison Park plan. The fact that that referendum failed should not deter you from doing the democratic thing and asking people to vote on it.

Christine M. Rhode
West Wilmete resident

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Prejzner, John

From: Bill Muno <wm1507@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2016 12:21 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Comments on the Proposed Project

1 - The cost/benefit on this project seems questionable. Not that many homes will benefit. The cost per affected home is very high.

2 - Any project should be funded from property tax not the sewer fee. The sewer fee should be for O&M not system improvements.

William Muno, P.E.
2319 Schiller Ave.
Wilmette, Illinois. 60091

Prejzner, John

From: mcbraun@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2016 12:28 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: \$77 million sewer project

I respect what the village is trying to do to avoid flooding. However, I have spent over \$20,000 personally to install overhead sewers when I got 11 inches of sludge in my basement a couple years ago. I spent another \$10,000 on cleanup, replacement of appliances, etc. Things are now under control for me with water in my basement but it was very expensive.

Our taxes are going to be reassessed & it's looking like the increase will be substantial and for this reason, I strongly object to paying an additional \$600 annually for sewers on my water bill.

I am a senior citizen on a fixed income--this is way too much!!

Millie Braun
mcbraun@gmail.com

Prejzner, John

From: Jud Ely <JEly@posrg.com>
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2016 12:29 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Cc: CeCe Ely
Subject: Storm Water Project

This is Jud Ely and I live at 910 Seneca Road, Wilmette. The basement of our house flooded four times within seven years due to sewer back-up. These floods cost thousands of \$'s to remediate and we lost some very valuable memories/keepsakes on the first one. These traumatic flood events caused a tremendous amount of emotional stress and distress for myself and my family.

We invested \$10K+ in the Park's backflow system and we no longer seem to have this problem. We cannot bring back the \$'s or the irreplaceable keepsakes that we have lost, but we can prevent this from happening to other houses in the area that are still experiencing the same problem (evident by the continuing piles of basement carpeting/other furniture on the curb after one of those 100 year storms that we have had 5 to 6 of in the last 10 years).

It is amazing to me and in my opinion, a massive oversight, that it took the Village of Wilmette this long to acknowledge this chronic sewer problem --- it is way, way long overdue! We are strong supporters of any improvements to fix a sewer system that is clearly inadequate in our day and age.

Sincerely, Judson and CeCe Ely

Jud Ely – Chief Financial Officer

POSRG 1059 N. Old Rand Road, Wauconda, IL 60084

Phone: 847.526.9650 ext 303 | **Toll Free:** 866.462.1005 | **Mobile:** 847.815.4367 | **Fax:** 847.526.9651



Prejzner, John

From: ronnie h <altituderonnie@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2016 12:33 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Sewer

After the high cist of rebuilding New Trier, this is out of hand!

Sent on a Sprint Samsung Galaxy S® 5

Prejzner, John

From: Jeanette McDonough <jbmcdonough@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2016 12:41 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: \$77M proposed Sewer project

I live in West Wilmette and got a basement full of water in 2013. I have spent much time and money to fix my problem and make sure I am not creating one for my neighbors. I don't want to pay to fix the problem for those neighbors who haven't addressed the problem on an individual basis. This is not a good use of tax dollars.

Jeanette McDonough

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE Droid

Prejzner, John

From: Tom Rebarchak <trebarch@flash.net>
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2016 12:41 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: I say no!

Why do you have to tax us to death with a plan that is too costly. We got by for the last 50 yrs. Why does government have to protect us from the fear of the "big storm"? Why not offer low interest loans to help the few people who need it. Use some of that transfer tax money for some good not put it into the general fund!

Sent from my iPhone
Tom Rebarchak

Prejzner, John

From: srakj1135@comcast.net
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2016 5:32 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: More pics from 419 Wilshire Drive W flood 2013
Attachments: DSC_0291.JPG; DSC_0296.JPG; DSC_0290.JPG; DSC_0301.JPG; DSC_0304.JPG

Prejzner, John

From: Renee Kalis <srakj1135@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 10:00 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Flood water 419 Wilshire drive w
Attachments: IMG_0403.JPG; ATT00001.txt

Prejzner, John

From: Renee Kalis <srakj1135@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 10:10 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: June 22.2916
Attachments: IMG_0187.JPG; ATT00001.txt

Prejzner, John

From: Renee Kalis <srakj1135@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 10:11 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: June 22. 2016 rain storm
Attachments: IMG_0188.JPG; ATT00001.txt

Prejzner, John

From: Renee Kalis <srakj1135@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 10:12 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: 6 22 16 from 419 Wilshire drive w
Attachments: IMG_0189.JPG; ATT00001.txt

Prejzner, John

From: Renee Kalis <srakj1135@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 10:14 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: 7 23 2016 - 419 Wilshire drive w
Attachments: IMG_0403.JPG; ATT00001.txt

Prejzner, John

From: Renee Kalis <srakj1135@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 10:16 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: July 23 2016 / 419 Wilshire drive w
Attachments: IMG_0408.JPG; ATT00001.txt



419

419





















Prejzner, John

From: Dan <daq2000daq@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 19, 2016 10:34 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Please approve \$77million project

This is a health and safety issue. Not having streets able to be navigated by emergency vehicles and having dirty standing water in and on people's property is unhealthy. It is only a matter of time before someone will die from electrocution or some other accident. The mold that can grow in a flooded basement is unhealthy. It is embarrassing that a well-regarded village can alleviate a problem and doesn't do it. That is a lot of usable space (basements - that people underdevelop) that is going to waste where land space is at a premium. Ultimately it is extremely shortsighted even from a financial standpoint. By not improving this infrastructure, property values suffer. The yearly amount, while not insignificant, is a huge savings to flood damage and insurance costs. It is also extremely needlessly stressful. People worry every time there is a heavy rain and must curtail all kinds of plans to deal with the issues surrounding floods. It would be ridiculous to put this up for referendum as it becomes a political issue then. This is not a political issue that needs to be put up for vote.

Dan Kim
812 Leyden Ln

Prejzner, John

From: buy <buy411@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, October 19, 2016 10:48 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: proposed sewer project

10/19/2016

To: Village Wilmette

**From: Randall Cohn/Wendie Choll
210 Kilpatrick Avenue
Wilmette, IL**

We are long term residents on the west side of the Village of Wilmette and have dealt with heavy rains and flooding for a number of years. Over that time period, we have invested in drainage systems and waterproofing to keep water out of our basement and have not looked to the Village to solve flooding problems.

Based on our review of the proposed \$ 77 million dollar sewer project, we do not support spending taxpayer funds on this project. Reasons for our rejection of this proposal are:

- 1. Projected additional water/sewer fees are excessive, particularly for residents on fixed incomes.**
- 2. The number of homes being “protected” by this project is a small percentage of the total housing stock in the Village.**
- 3. Homeowners who are currently impacted by flooding can make investments in their home to protect the property without this Village project.**

Other questions to be considered are:

- 1. Would it be cheaper for the Village to make grants/loans to individual homeowners to install flood protection at their property?**
- 2. If this project is approved, why not increase property taxes which will provide for a tax deduction by homeowners rather than the non-deductible fees on water/sewer bills?**

In addition, a project of this magnitude should absolutely be put to a voter referendum and not decided by a small group of Village officials or committee members.

Please share this letter with members of the Village Board.

Prejzner, John

From: Amy Tyson <amytyson@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2016 3:46 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Option 1 storm sewer upgrade

Greetings,

I am writing to voice my support of Option 1, the westside separate storm sewer upgrade. With each rainfall the neighborhood holds its collective breath. Please help protect Westside communities, properties and property values.

-Amy Tyson
439 Wilshire Dr
Wilmette

--

Amy M. Tyson, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of History
DePaul University

Prejzner, John

From: Bill Shapiro <wms256@ameritech.net>
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2016 3:54 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: West Wilmette improvements

Dear Trustees,

I am a 48-year resident of west Wilmette who has lived through many basement floods. During this period, my taxes have been used to fund the major sewer improvements of east Wilmette.

It is now time for the village to recognize the needs of our area. Our flooding problem will not go away and is, in fact, certain to get worse due to climate change. Failure to address the problem now will only make it more costly in the future. Therefore, I urge to adopt the proposed Option 1 plan for enlargement of the west Wilmette storm sewers.

Sincerely,

William Shapiro
406 Wilshire Drive West

Prejzner, John

From: Lynn Davis <ljd17@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2016 5:07 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: West side sewers

I have lived in Wilmette for 43 years and for most of that time I have flooded. I have spent tens of thousands of dollars trying to stop this problem.

It is time for the village to do something to stop this problem.

I have willingly paid my share while you helped fix the problem for other Wilmette residents and I feel it is time to help west Wilmette.

Wilmette has a reputation for flooding and also for not trying to stop the problem, which holds down property values.

It is time!

Thank you,

Lynn Davis

Sent from my iPad

Prejzner, John

From: Daniels <jackddaniels@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2016 9:11 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Storm Water Project

Will the proposed enlarged capacity storm sewer west of Ridge create sufficient pressure on the sewer system east of Ridge to cause backups at the drain points and flooding below Ridge?

John Daniels
1611 Wilmette Ave.

Prejzner, John

From: MICHAEL SILBERT <michael_silbert@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2016 9:45 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Cost of West Wilmette Sewer Project

Coming on the heels of the New Trier addition and the just completed real estate tax reassessment the additional cost of this project is too burdensome to undertake.

Michael Silbert
110 sixth street
Wilmette

Prejzner, John

From: pacwjc@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 10:21 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Sewer Improvements

TO WHOM IT MAY CONERN:

My name is Patricia Coyle and I live just west of Ridge Road. I am definitely OPPOSED to the storm sewer improvements proposal. You may want to keep in mind with the additional taxes being thrown at Wilmette residents by the Village, you are bound to experience an exodus from this community.

Prejzner, John

From: K Miller <kmillerswilmette@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 10:25 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: West Wilmette Sewer Project

Thank you for all the work in studying and communicating about this massive project. It does sound necessary, and we support it.

However, is there any way this (and, perhaps even the rest of the sewer part of my water bill) can be on my tax bill and not a fee? This is a significant expense for the homeowners and the tax relief of a tax deductible expense rather than a consumer fee can go a long way toward making it more affordable.

Thank you,
Kimberly and Tim Miller
401 Laurel Ave
Wilmette
847-251-3965

Prejzner, John

From: EDWARD UDE <edwardude@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 11:43 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Westside sewer upgrade

My wife and I have lived on Wilshire Drive West for over 25 years. A flood control system was installed prior to the purchase of our home. Since that time we have NEVER had a problem with water backing up into our house through our sewer system.

While I understand the frustration that some of the people in the neighborhood have with water problems, I do not feel that I should now be asked to pay \$525 to over \$1,000 per year for the next 30 years for something that I don't need.

I would suggest that people who continue to have these problems install a flood control system as this would still be less expensive than the cost over a 30 year period. I have read that people say that with numerous flood control systems the water would have no place to go. I know one thing. It will not go in your basement and the water will recede as it always does.

My wife and I are both retired and this is an additional expense that we DO NOT want.

Prejzner, John

From: Mart Jalakas <mjalakas@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 12:22 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: public comment

The amount of money requested for this project is very high and this project will only benefit a minority of residents. Some combination of an assessment and fee increases should be considered. In any engineering projects there are alternatives to the most expensive plan. Why do all these drains have to be below ground? More natural creeks and drainage ditches has been working for millions of years and improvement of these features must be less expensive than buried sewer pipe. Your web site does not offer any alternative solutions.

Sincerely,
Mart Jalakas

Prejzner, John

From: EILevin@drl-ent.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 12:27 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: ground water seepage

sirs,
is there a way to find out the source of groundwater seeping into the sump?
the pump sometimes triggers every 15 minutes-for about 15-30 seconds.
ellis levin
2906 hawthorn ln
wilmette, il
224 558 8997

Prejzner, John

From: Berger, Brigitte
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 2:00 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: FW: West Wilmette Sewer Plans

Mr. Dodson asked that his comments be shared to the sewers@wilmette.com address as well so his email (below) is being forwarded.

Brigitte

From: Berger, Brigitte
Sent: Friday, September 23, 2016 5:18 AM
To: Drews, Therese <drewst@wilmette.com>
Cc: Frenzer, Tim <frenzert@wilmette.com>
Subject: Fwd: West Wilmette Sewer Plans

Hi Tina- this is a follow up comment from the COW meeting Monday night. The resident asked that his email be shared with the Village Board.

Thanks,
Brigitte

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Berger, Brigitte" <bergerb@wilmette.com>
Date: September 22, 2016 at 2:41:14 PM CDT
To: Richard Dodson <rwd2815@gmail.com>
Cc: Dale Davison <dale@dale-davison.com>
Subject: RE: West Wilmette Sewer Plans

Dear Mr. Dodson:

Per your request, your comments will be shared with the Village Board members.

I also wanted to clarify something in my prior email. While it is true that the sanitary sewer system and storm systems are completely separate, during severe rain events there is often cross-infiltration from one system to the other. For example, when the storm sewer pipes are full, groundwater can migrate into the sanitary sewer pipes through open joints, cracks etc. So, while the \$77 million project will add capacity to the storm sewers, it will also benefit the sanitary system through reduced cross-infiltration. It is difficult to say with confidence that installation of relief sewers will result in a reduced number or severity of sewer backups in your home, but it may have a positive impact.

Also, please keep in mind that the Village Board has made improvements to the sanitary sewer system a high priority. The Village is taking the lead on a regional study to identify bottlenecks in the interceptor system serving your area (the large pipes that convey flow to MWRD) and the

2017 budget proposes several projects that will add capacity to the sanitary sewers by removing groundwater that doesn't belong.

I am happy to hear that you only experience some minor street and yard flooding during major rain events. Unfortunately, there are a number of properties in Wilmette that see flood waters rise to the elevation of their foundation. For these folks, the \$77 million relief storm sewer project will provide a large benefit.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts in writing with us.

Best regards,
Brigitte
847.853.7627

From: Richard Dodson [<mailto:rwd2815@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 21, 2016 2:23 PM
To: Berger, Brigitte <bergerb@wilmette.com>
Cc: Dale Davison <dale@dale-davison.com>
Subject: Re: West Wilmette Sewer Plans

Brigitte,

Thank you for your prompt reply. I suppose I am talking my own position but what I take away and see as the major problem is sewer back up. I can live with temporary street flooding and even yard flooding but not sewer back up. In the 22 years I have lived in my present house I have seen at least four major storms and the street flooding never lasts more than 6-7 hours. When the street flooding recedes yard flooding can be addressed with a pump and garden hose. So long as sewer water is kept out of basement I think most people can tolerate the rest. The 77 million project, which at best is probably 50/50 chance of approval. I realize if approved in 5 years time we will see less water invade the sewers but not necessarily prevent sewer back up. I still think, particularly if approval is rejected or delayed, spending a maximum of 4.2 million would be in the best interest of most residents. If you are not impacted today which is the vast majority of Wilmette how do you get such a large expense approved? I would add an observation. At the meeting it was pointed out that 29 million was spent on east side of town in early 1990's, some 25 years ago. With inflation that would be double in current dollars. Please share this with the trustees. Thank you, Richard Dodson
Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 21, 2016, at 8:14 AM, Berger, Brigitte <bergerb@wilmette.com> wrote:

Good morning Mr. Dodson and Ms. Davison:

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with us.

I understand the logic in your message below, however, the proposals for an overhead sewer cost-share program and the \$77 million project address two different problems.

The west side of Wilmette is served by a separate sewer system which means sanitary and storm flows are collected and conveyed in two separate and distinct pipe networks. The proposed cost share program for residential overhead plumbing is to protect homes from *sanitary* sewer backups. Such backups can occur when the sanitary pipes become full or "surcharged" during rain

events. The \$77 million investment is actually to improve the *storm* sewer system, which is a completely different system. The \$77 million project would add capacity to the storm sewers which in turn would reduce street flooding during rain events.

We will be providing the Village Board with a budget for 2017 next month that does include a modest amount of start-up funding (probably \$30,000) for an overhead sewer program. I am sure the Trustees will give this program thoughtful consideration during their budget deliberations.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions.

Warmest regards,

Brigitte

*Brigitte Ann Berger, P.E.
Director of Engineering and Public Works
Village of Wilmette
711 Laramie Avenue
Wilmette, IL 60091
847.853.7627
bergerb@wilmette.com*

From: Richard Dodson [<mailto:rwd2815@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, September 20, 2016 1:22 PM
To: Berger, Brigitte <bergerb@wilmette.com>
Cc: Dale Davison <dale@dale-davison.com>
Subject: West Wilmette Sewer Plans

Brigitte,

I watched the board meeting last night on TV and have read the email you sent recently recapping this long and winding road.

I am a home owner, 2815 Blackhawk Road, and a neighbor of Dale Davison who spoke at last night's meeting. One of her questions was why not offer those homes impacted by sewer backups an incentive to install either overhead sewers or a flood control system.

The board chairman responded that they have discussed this in the past and a major concern is fairness to those taxpayers that have done one of these systems in the past. That is a reasonable concern that I appreciate.

The leading proposal discussed at the meeting was one that would cost \$77 million dollars and take 5 years to implement. A MAJOR expense.

As I understand the problem approximately 700 homes are impacted in a 100 year rain event, 1% chance of happening in a given year. This would amount to \$110,000 per home if spread over those 700 homes.

It is my understanding that the cost of a flood control system or overhead sewer is in a rough range of 10-20 thousand dollars. Why not simply over an incentive program to all 700 homes that might work like this;

The city would offer to pay 50 % or say \$6000, which ever is less, to all 700 homes should they install either of the two suggested plans. Maximum cost to city of \$4.2 million and then shelve the whole idea of spending \$77 million.

As to the fairness issue of those that have paid the entire cost themselves I can only offer that if I were one of them I would rather see the city finance a 4.2 million program than one costing 77 million.

It is likely some version of this proposal has been made in the past but either way I would appreciate feedback.

Thank you,

Richard Dodson

Prejzner, John

From: Martin Grill <mgrill36@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 2:06 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Question for Oct 20 Capital Planning Meeting - Sewer Project

I plan on attending the Oct 20 meeting, but I have a question and a comment that might require some advanced research – so I just wanted to provide a heads-up in order for you to be prepared...

Question: What is the estimated total dollar value of the economic loss to homeowners and the Village from a so-called 10-year, 25-year, 50- year and 100-year flooding event? The basis of my question is that the proposed \$77 million project (Alternative 1) is anticipated to provide relief for 700 structures in a 100-year event, at a cost of about \$235,000 per structure. It would seem that there are other interventions that could be implemented on a per-structure basis (e.g., flood control) that would be considerably less expensive. For example, there appears to be good topological data to determine risk on a property-by-property basis. Subsidies for individual structure flood control could be on a sliding scale based upon risk – ranging from full cost subsidy for those at highest risk, to partial subsidy for moderate risk, to interest-free loans for low risk. In that way, homeowners have a choice in the amount of risk mitigation they deem necessary, and the amount of personal expense they wish to assume to protect their property. My assertion is that individual property flood control would be a fraction of the cost on a per-structure basis than the \$235,000 per structure proposed in Alternative 1. Clearly, this does not solve the underlying storm sewer infrastructure aging/deficiency issue, but it can provide cost-effective relief for the more frequent 10/25-year events.

Comment: As a follow-up to my assertion, above, it appears that Alternative 1 has a stated project benefit of reducing street flooding to zero (“at or below street level”) for at least a 10-year event – and seeks to provide a minimum of zero (lower end of the range) for 25/50/100-year events. I live in East Wilmette, in an area where street flooding actually occurs *by design* for events even more frequent than a 10-year event. In fact, for rainfall classified as 10+-year events, standing water in streets can last for several days. I find it incongruent that street flooding was deemed an appropriate solution for East Wilmette, but appears to be something “engineered” to be prevented in West Wilmette.

Thank you for your consideration of my question and comment. I look forward to your response at the Oct 20th meeting.

Martin Grill
429 9th Street

Prejzner, John

From: Ben Tolsky <bentolsky@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 5:36 PM
To: Prejzner, John; dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Re: Questions about new sewer proposal
Attachments: IMG_8288.JPG

Hi John, I won't be able to attend the meeting on Thursday, just too difficult with little kids. I hope that the following comments can be expressed at the meeting:

With the recent 25%+ hike in property tax appraisals it seems like Wilmette should be swimming in money, I don't understand why property taxes couldn't be used to finance this project. By basing it on water usage, your placing a premium on families with children as more people in the house leads to more water usage. This is a huge increase in our water bills on top of what will already be a huge increase in our tax bills.

If we have already spent a similar amount of money in the last 25 years on other drainage issues (the work in East Wilmette and on the West Park project), how was that financed? Obviously not with a \$625 increase since we don't even pay that much right now.

The plan also is not complete, it ignores large areas of Western Wilmette and the materials online even shows several large clusters of homes that will still flood when this project is completed, especially in between Wilmette Ave and Glenview Rd. Amongst the areas being ignored is my block which does flood and I've attached a picture of it from August 18th. This may not be as severe as some of the other flooding I've seen pictures of, but this also wasn't as severe of a storm as the other storms. I can also say that even after a little bit of rain, or in the winter as snow melts, there is a lot of land on the northeast corner of Glenview Rd and Big Tree Ln that is always flooded and the water can sit there for days, or in the winter weeks. In fact I see this condition all along Glenview Rd in between the Edens and Skokie. I see that there will be a new lateral along Glenview Rd, but it will rely on existing laterals to get it to get it to the trunk that runs along Wilmette, won't this just further strain the existing laterals in my neighborhood? It seems like we could use a trunk running along Hibbard Rd to help move out all of this water.

I did have some flooding issues in my home, but after having my drains rooted out that is no longer an issue. The previous owners also installed an ejector pump so that sewers don't back up into our downstairs bathroom which I assume they only did because flooding was a problem. My house also sits on a lot that is graded properly so all water drains away from the house. I would like to know if similar measures have been taken in all of the houses that are flooding. I would also like to know if the houses that are flooding sit in or near FEMA 50-year or 100-year flood plains, that is something that any responsible homeowner should be looking at before buying a house, I know that I ruled out houses because of that. Certainly if people purchased a house for less money because it is in a flood plain, then they shouldn't be complaining when their house floods. I see that many of the people who are very vocal in supporting this project at any cost happen to live in FEMA flood plains.

I'm not opposed to this project, but I am opposed to how it is being funded, especially with the increases we are about to see in property taxes. And I think that it needs to be all inclusive, it is not right to leave many houses out of receiving the benefits that other houses are receiving.

Ben Tolsky
339 Lamon Ave

On Fri, Oct 14, 2016 at 12:59 PM, Prejzner, John <prejznerj@wilmette.com> wrote:

Mr. Tolsky,

Thank you for providing your comments. We will share your feedback with the Village Board for their consideration. As for your question regarding the duration of the sewer rate increase, this would be for at least 30 years. The increase is directly tied to the cost of debt service necessary to repay the \$77 million in debt that would be issued, scheduled to be repaid for the next 3- years.

Please know that this project is separate from the West Park Project. That project was implemented to deal with sanitary sewer backups. This proposed project is to deal with storm water, which is a separate system in west Wilmette.

For more information about the areas the project will impact, please go to <http://www.wilmette.com/village-services/stormwater-management/stormwater-improvement-project/>.

If you have any further questions feel free to contact me or Brigitte Berger, the Engineering and Public Works Director, who is copied on this email.

John Prejzner

Assistant to the Village Manager

Village of Wilmette

[\(847\) 853-7502](tel:(847)853-7502)

From: Ben Tolsky [mailto:bentolsky@gmail.com]

Sent: Friday, October 14, 2016 11:00 AM

To: dist.ntfy.sewers <dist.ntfy.sewers@wilmette.com>

Subject: Questions about new sewer proposal

I'm not opposed to this new sewer project, I strongly believe that we need to maintain and improve our infrastructure, but this is a very expensive project and I want to understand what exactly it is.

First of all, if we are looking at a \$625 increase in our water bills, for how long would this be for? Is this for the 5 years that the project will take, or will this be a permanent increase?

Second of all, how does this relate to or work along side the recent West Park Project. I was of the understanding that that project was done to deal with storm water. I understand that that project only dealt with the area west of Romona and this new project deals with west of Ridge. Does this project only support the area between Ridge and Romona, or will this provide additional improvements to Western Wilmette as well?

I would assume that constructing sewers lines requires streets to get torn apart, and something of this scale would probably create a construction disaster accross Wilmette for the next 5 years. I'm not opposed to do this if it has to happen, but what streets will this affect. Will sewers only be built along major streets like Lake, Wilmette, and Glenview, or will it also take place on neighborhood streets.

I was actually out of town when the major storm hit in July, but I did watch my street flood during some of the other big storms we had this summer. I can tell you that as soon as the storm slowed down the flooding immediately subsided, but at its worst, water did rise above the curbs and start flooding a little bit onto the sidewalks and lawns. If you like, I can provide pictures of the flooding on Lamon and Nina from August 18th if that would help.

Thank you

Ben Tolsky

339 Lamon Ave



Prejzner, John

From: Jean Gram <jeangram2000@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 7:23 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Don't Stop at Sewers

While I agree the sewers are inadequate to deal with the number and sizes of houses in this village I also think we need to have a more comprehensive plan as we spend this kind of money.

In general most newer homes are maxing out their lots, which is something no one ever projected would happen in the 1950s designed west Wilmette. On top of that, the increase in the number of homes who use lawn services has decreased the mulch and organic matter in the soil throughout the village. This speeds up the run off. Leaf blowing all season long (no matter what the law says) compacts our soil and makes areas in our yards such as flower beds and beds under bushes relatively useless for holding water in a rain. I wish I had the link to a graphic illustration I saw of this on a science show for kids... Equal amounts of water were poured into containers of soil, soil with mulch and soil with compost and mulch and allowed to run out of holes in the bottom of a clear container. In the case of the plain soil almost as much mucky water ran out as was put in. In the case of soil with mulch, less so. But the clear winner of water retention was the soil with a layer of compost and mulch. Not only did the mass soak up 4/5ths of the water, the water that did drain off actually came out almost clear. In a village our size each home could have a major impact on run off if we were simply to have a layer of compost and mulch under our bushes instead of our current expectation of black soil equaling a cared for lawn.

Like in the 30s when the dustbowl got farmers throughout the nation to begin contour plowing, a run off crisis like we have seen in the past few years could be an opportunity for us to assess what we are doing to bring this on ourselves.

Additionally to improved sewers and changing our landscape maintenance and planting patterns, we could benefit from having new construction add permeable pavers to increase water absorption, and include water barrels in the design.

My home on the east side of town is in a low spot on our block. This low area encompasses 4 homes. Even though our street and sewers were redone a few years ago we are still pumping our yards out after a good rain.

I mention this because it should be clear that even with this expenditure, existing problems due to the grade of neighboring buildings will not be addressed. In our case the only way to passively drain our yards would be to lower our alley a couple of inches and run a sewer line under it. I have been told that the village will not consider this for alleys so we have adjusted our expectations.

We need to be clear what our expectations need to be with the current suggested work, and we need to partner with the village in reducing our run off, even if we are rebuilding the sewer system.

Thank You,
Jean Gram
228 Maple Ave
Wilmette

Prejzner, John

From: Frenzer, Tim
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 9:29 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Cc: Prejzner, John; Braiman, Michael; Berger, Brigitte
Subject: Fwd: Sewer project

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Bielinski, Bob" <bielinskib@wilmette.com>
Date: October 18, 2016 at 8:39:54 PM CDT
To: "Frenzer, Tim" <frenzert@wilmette.com>, "Braiman, Michael" <braimanm@wilmette.com>, "Berger, Brigitte" <bergerb@wilmette.com>
Subject: Fwd: Sewer project

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jeremy Weiss <jeremyweiss22@comcast.net>
Date: October 18, 2016 at 8:24:34 PM CDT
To: bielinskib@wilmette.com
Subject: Sewer project

Hi Bill,

I just wanted to send you this quick note in support of the \$77 million sewer project. I am a resident of Wilshire Dr for the past 13 years and we have experienced significant basement flooding in 2007 and 2013. Also, the street floods from sidewalk to sidewalk in almost every heavy rain event.

We need bigger pipes!

Thank you for your service of our village.

Jeremy Weiss
427 Wilshire Dr W