



December 12, 2017
Committee of the Whole

ADDITIONAL AGENDA MATERIAL

ITEM:

2. Discussion of Storm Sewer System Improvements – Resident Emails

Prejzner, John

From: Joseph Wyse <joseph.wyse@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, December 10, 2017 4:09 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: I am opposed to West wilmette sewer relief plan

When I moved to wilmette 20 years ago I protected my home by putting in an overheard sewer system-at considerable expense to me. I am NOT in favor of a large project that will cost me even more taxation.

Joseph wyse
919 Cherokee

Sent from my iPhone

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Visit the following link to report this email as spam:

https://us2.proofpointessentials.com/index01.php?mod_id=&mod_option=gitem&mail_id=12943786-wxVUejszXOfT&r_address=wers%40wilmette.com&report=

Prejzner, John

From: Harry Huang <huangzn@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 9, 2017 11:23 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: My vote for Wilmette flooding projects: option 1

Dear sir or Ma'am,

I can not show up in the village Board meeting because of my kids's swimming lesson. I have read and consider all options in wilmette website, and I believe option 1 is the best proposal to solving the long time pain flooding problem of west wilmette.

I am the owner of 2931 greenleef ave.

thanks
Zhinong Huang

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

Prejzner, John

From: DEREK VANDERVOORT <derek_vandervoort@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2017 8:22 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Option 1 - Relief Sewer Project

After reviewing the costs and benefits it seems clear Option 1 provides the most consistent and equitable solution for all residents. I urge you to elect this option. Thank you.

Derek Van der Voort

Sent from my iPhone

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Visit the following link to report this email as spam:

https://us2.proofpointessentials.com/index01.php?mod_id=&mod_option=gitem&mail_id=13045334-qTsu-Ws9ECTD&r_address=wers%40wilmette.com&report=

Prejzner, John

From: Natalya Volchek <nvolchek@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2017 11:21 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Option 1 is the only way!

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

Prejzner, John

From: M Morris <madisontodaynow@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 11:52 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers; Berger, Brigitte; JoelForWilmette@gmail.com
Subject: Option 1 is the ONLY way

Hello,

As a Wilmette resident since 2009 I've endured my share of basement floods. Each flood meant the significant amount of money spent on the clean up, repairs and additional house investments (pumps etc.) It's the money that could have been spent on e.g. new paint for the house increasing the house value/curb appeal for the village or even eating out/shopping locally/investing in the community.

Every time it rains I get nervous; I have even grown to like Chicago snow storms(!) since they are *not* yet another flash flood threatening the house and even cars parked on the street.

After investigating the issue **I truly believe Option 1 is the fairest option for ALL residents and the best bang for our tax buck.** We all suffer when it rains and it would be unfair to take care of only one part of the village, especially if the other projects proposed (unlike Option 1) are not set to expand with time and additional funds.

The cost of it all will only go up; it's better to start now and have a solution that can be modified with time, while covering most (not just a small concentrated group) of the residents.

I also agree with issuing a moratorium on any new developments in the village; we should not be trying to go from a small spread out town surrounded by farms to a tightly set up Chicago neighborhood kind of a city. We all chose Wilmette for what it is, not because we hoped it will become Evanston 2.0.

Can't make it to the meeting tonight, but I trust that fairness will prevail and the village will choose Option 1.

Thank you!

Madison Morris
606 Laporte Ave

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

Prejzner, John

From: Randall Wilson <rand6057@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2017 12:03 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Option 1
Attachments: Stormwater Management Plan.docx

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

Supporters for “Option 1,” for flood control in West Wilmette, seemed to have constructed an argument based on class warfare, “East vs. West” --- the eastern people of Wilmette must certainly have experienced quite a culture shock when inspecting the current sewer system in the West.

The shock which everyone in Wilmette should experience, east and west, is the cost. But what exactly is the cost of Option 1? \$100 million? And how will it be paid for? Borrowing? Doubling the current water rates? Crowd-funding? A red-state subsidy to off-set our local high-tax and spending regime? Or maybe it’s simply a matter of moneyed magical thinking: the Publishers Clearing House Sweepstakes.

This vital piece of information was noticeably absent from the single white paper supporting “Option 1” left at my front door. Perhaps they don’t want us to know, or worse, they forgot to ask the question, which usually happens when it’s other people’s money.

Besides asking for a precise price tag on “Option 1,” we should be asking ourselves can we take on this additional debt. Do we have as much money raining down on us as storm water? Does this storm water management plan possess the danger of runaway costs? “Contingencies,” and high-risk items such as soil conditions, etc. Will all this infrastructure improvement project receive all the money raised, or will some of it be siphon off to pay down debt, meet pension obligations, give salary increases.

We should, and the Village Board should, recognize other current financial realities being faced by the taxpayers of Wilmette. Allow me to name a few:

\$100 million-plus debt for NTE renovations. 3.97% property tax levy increase by the Village Board. 4.36% proposed property tax levy by the Wilmette District 39 school board. A 32% state income tax increase (followed by a 67% income tax increase in 2011). Metra proposing 10 years of consecutive fare increases (we've already had 4 consecutive fare hikes in as many years). PACE has also raised its fares. ComEd has increased its annual delivery rate by 5%

We are dealing with a growing barrage of increase fees and taxes --- increases on fuel, cable and satellite TV, laundry and dry cleaning services, storage and hotel services, college tuition, health care insurance, inflated reassessments by the county assessor.

More important, we will soon be dealing with new congressional tax legislation from Washington that will eliminate deductions for state and local property taxes, sales taxes and incomes taxes, that is, the end of the "Soma" pacifier. And, the likely peeling back of the exemption on retirement income.

Enough is enough. We cannot afford this dubious promise of "ten-year storm protection." The only time I've experienced flooding in the 36 years that I've lived in Wilmette, occurred in 2006 when Wilmette lost power for several days, causing my sump pump to go out. (After that experience I purchased a gas-powered generator as a back-up.) Can any proposal promise "ten-years of protection" against a power failure? Of course not.

Instead of the reductive reasoning of "East vs. West," we should focus more on neighborhood-based solutions. Better still, individual solutions. A few of my neighbors (without a sump pump system) have bit

the bullet and paid Parks Flood Control to install preventive flood controls, and they have performed quite effectively.

Sometimes it shouldn't take a village board; it should take individual responsibility.

This storm water management plan, "Option One," is another reason why there should be a spending limit on capital projects proposed by the village. Why any project costing 10 million or more should require a referendum. Why home-rule will be the ruin of us all, encouraging excessive borrowing, more debt and higher taxes.

Still, unlike home-rule, I believe in the democratic process. Majority rule. If the proponents of "Option 1" believe it's the only cost-effective way to go, the best solution, then put it forward by referendum, and let all the residents of Wilmette, East and West, vote.

R. Wilson

Wilmette

Prejzner, John

From: Deana Tolzien <dmtolz@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2017 9:37 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Option 1

I encourage the Board to vote on option 1 regarding the sewer system in West Wilmette. It seems logical to me that if we are going to spend the money, it should impact the most of amount of people in the village-option 1 doing so.

Thank you.

Deana Tolzien

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

Prejzner, John

From: Michael Schield <schield@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2017 9:35 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Please choose Option 1.

We live at 2744 Blackhawk Road and would like to encourage the village board to select Option 1 - the Relief Sewer Option - to really solve the storm water drainage problems that exist. With "10 year storms" seeming to happen every year or two, and "50 year storms" coming every 10 years, the time has come to take the action necessary to address the problem.

Sincerely,

Michael and Jill Schield

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

Prejzner, John

From: jimlecinski@gmail.com on behalf of Jim Lecinski <jim@lecinski.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 9, 2017 5:02 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Cc: Annette Lecinski
Subject: Resident input on Sewer options

We live at 2800 Blackhawk Road in Wilmette.

It is time for you to act. The village has spent a decade and nearly \$1 million of taxpayer money on "studies" and taken no action to address the situation.

After thoroughly studying the four alternatives, we strongly support either Option 1 (the "Cadillac" option) or Option 4 (the targeted cheapest option).

Options 2 & 3 are caught in the middle, neither fully solving the problem nor being the most economical. They are bad compromises.

We urge you to narrow the options in Tuesday's board meeting down to only 1 or 4.

--Jim & Annette Lecinski

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

Prejzner, John

From: Nicky & Jeff Hilbert <wilmettehilberts@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 9, 2017 9:05 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Sewer project- vote for option 1

Hello,

We live at 1000 Pawnee Road in Indian Hill Estates. We've reviewed the various options for storm water relief. The only option that includes our neighborhood is Option 1. Home values in this particular area of Wilmette are very high, as are property taxes. The neighborhood is currently turning over with new families who are heavily investing in restoring and improving their homes and properties. Hence, it seems unfair and unthinkable to leave vulnerable some of the village's most expensive and well cared for homes who proportionately pay a higher than average property tax.

Please implement a fair and complete solution and vote for Option 1.

Thank you,
Jeff and Nicky Hilbert

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

Prejzner, John

From: Ben Tolsky <bentolsky@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 10:04 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Sewer Project

I certainly agree that we have a problem, but will 10-year storm protection actually solve the problem? Won't you still flood in 20-year storms and 50-year storms, and especially in 100-year storms? The problem is that these numbers are old and don't take climate change into effect. Statistically, what we call a 10-year storm is more like a 1- or 2-year storm, while a 50-year storm might occur every 5 years. And of course, this is only going to get worse since no one is doing anything to slow down climate change. So my issue is not with spending \$100 million dollars, my issue is that we aren't spending \$150 million or \$200 million dollars to actually solve this problem. After all, if your house floods twice a year now, having it flood once a year doesn't really help you any, does it? My issue is not just that we are using 1950's solution to solve a 1950's problem, but we are also not using green technologies to solve this (and other) problems. It seems foolish to me to spend \$100 million now, and then next year spend \$200 million because we didn't do it right the first time. And doing it right isn't just meeting current EPA standards, doing it right means exceeding EPA standards. The Chicagoland area diverts around a billion gallons of water each day from the Great Lakes Basin into the Mississippi River Basin. Over the course of one year, that amount equals 1 inch of water across all of Lakes Michigan and Huron. We have a split sewer system, which is awesome. We are discussing storm water, not raw sewage, but easily cleanable storm water. Sure, the amount of water that falls in Wilmette is pretty insignificant in the grand scheme of things, but every little bit helps. If we can lead the way and send storm water back to Lake Michigan, and then Evanston follows, and then Winnetka, and then Chicago does it... that will have a major impact. Perhaps we should even talk with Glenview about how we can help them get their storm water back into the lake. After all, the lake is our greatest, and one of the world's most important natural resources.

I would love to attend the meeting tonight, but tonight is the first night of Chanukah. I'd be very happy to attend a future meeting. Thanks.

Ben Tolsky
339 Lamon Ave

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

Prejzner, John

From: Robert S. Vihon <rvihon@wvproptax.com>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2017 8:18 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Storm sewers issues

Dear Board Members,

Mary and I have lived at 2806 Blackhawk for over 20 years and we have also experienced multiple basement flooding issues and mold in our home caused by ineffective aging storm water drainage impacting the quality of our life.

Option 1 in our opinion is the best option to attempt to address this issue for all residents of Wilmette including the west side of Wilmette. We strongly support option 1 and are willing to be charged whatever the expense to address this basic needed critical safety issue. All the options are expensive but failure to address the concerns that are outlined in option 1 will plague some residents for decades. Thank you. Robert and Mary Vihon.

Sent from my iPhone

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

Prejzner, John

From: Robert Drewry <robertdrewry@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 9, 2017 4:03 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Support For Option 1

Hello, Village Board Members:

As a recent purchaser of a house in west Wilmette, I am writing to express my support for Option 1 in the Stormwater Improvement Project. Although it is the most expensive option, it is also the only option that comes close to solving the problem. It seems like talking half-measures (i.e., Options, 2, 3, and 4) will not be successful, and will eventually lead to the need for a comprehensive solution (i.e., Option 1) anyway. So, Option 1 has my full support.

Thank you,

Rob Drewry
2928 Central Avenue
Wilmette, IL, 60091

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

Prejzner, John

From: Stein, Jonathan <jj@inlandgroup.com>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2017 11:17 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Westside Wilmette Flooding

TO: Village of Wilmette Board
FROM: Jonathan J. Stein

I am a 17 year resident at 634 LaCrosse Avenue and am in **full** support of Option 1 as the **best** solution to resolve the habitual and historical flooding in West Wilmette. With Westside Wilmette flooding costly to residents over the many years, it is perplexing why a permanent solution to the problem is not addressed through Option 1 as the best value for all Wilmette neighborhoods.

If you would like to further discuss, I can be reached at 630-218-4949.

Thank you,
Jonathan J. Stein



Jonathan J. Stein
Director
Inland Real Estate Advisors, Inc.
2901 Butterfield Road
Oak Brook, IL 60523
Direct: 630.218.4949
jj@inlandgroup.com

The Inland Real Estate Group of Companies, Inc.
Torch Award Winner for Ethics in the Marketplace
Better Business Bureau of Chicago and Northern Illinois



The Inland name and logo are registered trademarks being used under license.

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

Prejzner, John

From: Joel Feinstein <joelifeinstein@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 10, 2017 6:41 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Cc: Berger, Brigitte
Subject: Wilmette West Side Sewers

Dear Village Trustees,

I send you this communication to clarify and elaborate on my brief comments at the stormwater meeting on Monday, November 27.

Hydrology

We will very likely see increases in the storms as we have in the past decades. Technical Paper 40 (TP-40) by the US Department of Commerce, published in 1961, was the default design hydrology used in this region until it was replaced by the Bulletin 70 from the Illinois State Water Survey published in 1989. It is general knowledge, and well accepted, that the Bulletin 70 rainfalls are no longer adequate and needs to be increased.

To show an example of the increase between TP-40 and Bulletin 70 the 10-yr, 3-hr storm for this area was 2.1 inches in TP-40, while it is 2.86 inches in Bulletin 70. This presents a 36% increase in the design code over 28 years or over 1.1% per year. This may not be the actual increase in the storms, but it is certainly indicative. I picked the 3-yr storm for the example because I think Joe Johnson of MWH (now Stantec) may have mentioned this storm in the last meeting, though I think they are using critical storm durations for each sub-basin.

This hydrologic information I used can be found on page 36 of TP-40 here:
http://www.nws.noaa.gov/oh/hdsc/PF_documents/TechnicalPaper_No40.pdf

and on page 30 of Bulletin 70 here: <http://isws.illinois.edu/atmos/statecli/PDF/b70-all.pdf>

Construction

When the Village tears up roadways to install large sewers, the roads will have to be reconstructed, not just resurfaced. This means that the cost of road improvements could be incorporated and paid for, in part, by the sewer improvements. That said, it makes no sense to reconstruct a roadway and not put in the optimal size sewer for the long run. To increase the size of the sewer at some time in the future would be a waste of precious Village funds.

Option 1 – Relief Sewer

For the reasons outlined above, Option 1 – Relief Sewer is the best alternative in the long run. True, it is very expensive and those living at the upstream will have to wait. However, there is one other very compelling reason that Option 1 is better than the others. All the analysis to date does not adequately show a very real problem. The problem with the detention storage options is that they will not serve back-to-back storms. If another storm hits while the basins are full, the system will act almost as though no improvements were made.

Legacy

The inherent issue with the Village west side stormwater, is that we have a very large drainage area with a single outlet. Our stormwater challenges are only going to get greater over time. The Village has an opportunity to take a long-term planning look at the west side drainage. In that light, we should ask ourselves what should our drainage system look like in one hundred years. I do not believe we will ever be able to increase the capacity of our pumping station as it would create issues for properties downstream, and maybe upstream, on the Chicago River. That said, we would best build to our maximum downstream capacity once and for all.

The Village has let development get so far ahead of the stormwater system, it would be best to address the issue as expeditiously as possible, rather than kicking the problem further down the road for future generations to solve. In that light, I challenge the Trustees to do what may prove to be unpopular, but is the right thing for the future of the Village. This large public works project, Option 1 – Relief Sewer, is right thing.

Respectfully submitted,

Joel Feinstein

Professional Engineer

Certified Floodplain Manager

407 Wilshire Drive West

Wilmette, IL 60091

[linkedin.com/in/joel-feinstein-2b4aa68](https://www.linkedin.com/in/joel-feinstein-2b4aa68)

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

Prejzner, John

From: Leonard Brenner <ljbrenner@brennerlegal.com>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2017 10:24 AM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: 2616 Blackhawk

We are located east of Locust, but I don't see a plan that covers our street. We flood just as bad as Blackhawk west of Locust, and our block also needs to be addressed.

Leonard J. Brenner
Leonard J. Brenner, Ltd.
555 Skokie Blvd. Suite 500
Northbrook, Illinois 60062
Phone: (847) 480-1020
Fax: (847) 480-0034

PRIVILEGE AND CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE

The information in this electronic mail is intended for the named recipients only. It may contain privileged and confidential matter. If you have received this electronic mail in error, please notify the sender immediately by replying to this electronic e-mail or by calling (847) 897-5750. Please do not disclose the contents to anyone.

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

Prejzner, John

From: Karleen <karleensm@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, December 8, 2017 11:08 PM
To: dist.ntfy.sewers
Subject: Approve Option 1 Relief Sewers

To the Wilmette Village Board:

Please approve Option 1 Relief Sewers and move forward on upgrading the westside sewers. This is the only upgrade that can improve drainage throughout the entire westside, bringing roads and properties up to the minimum standard of 10-year storm design.

Option 1 takes full advantage of the existing pump station capacity and our outflow permit for the Chicago River. A full capacity storm trunk is an essential part of the project, along with the network of new and bigger storm sewer pipes.

There are potential sources of supplementary funding (MWRD, IDOT) as well as cost savings (installation during roadway construction or water main replacement). Option 1 would replace some old storm sewer pipes, cutting legacy maintenance costs for the replaced sections.

As Stantec engineers Joe Johnson and Burke engineer Darren Olson have explained, the only way to spend less is to cut back on the level of service, the area served, or both. That's not an equitable solution.

I join my westside friends and neighbors in the opinion that the flooding situation has gone on too long. Practically as soon as the sewers were installed in the 20s and 50s, they were overwhelmed by development. Climate change is just making rainfall worse. Although the engineering findings have not changed significantly in three years, the board continues to meet and study and ask for more charts showing the existing data. That is not leadership.

I invite you take a walk through any of the 14 identified flood areas in the westside. You'll notice many inventive defenses people have constructed to attempt to save their property. Flooding is stressful, expensive, and will take more and more of a toll on community health and property values.

Do the right thing. Get going on Option 1 and put your energy behind finishing an infrastructure upgrade for the entire village. Let's also get started on creating green infrastructure, zoning rules that deal with stormwater, and "rain ready" programs to support struggling property owners.

I learned at the recent Chicago Climate Summit that mayors around the US have sustainability and stormwater management woven into every department and every decision--Wilmette should too.

Karleen S McAllester
323 Wilshire Drive East
Wilmette, IL 60091
cell: 847-644-2524
email: karleensm@gmail.com