

Village of Elmwood Park Flood Mitigation Project Fact Sheet

- Project will consist of separating the stormwater from the sanitary sewer flows for 252 acres of Elmwood Park (approximately 20% of the total area of Elmwood Park).
- Project is the final approach to addressing sewer backup problems in the Village. Previous measures included:
 - During 2000 to 2005, five underground vaults holding 248,000 gallons of stormwater were constructed.
 - The Village, with assistance from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency constructed four “Green Alleys” to reduce the volume of stormwater runoff.
 - Creation of neighborhood parks to reduce the area of impervious cover.
- Project will restore the “natural drainage” condition that existed in Elmwood Park prior to the developments which began 100 years ago and ultimately resulted in stormwater being conveyed in sewers to a wastewater treatment plant where the water was treated.
- Project will significantly reduce the number of times that combined sewage will be discharged by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago into the Des Plaines River near North Avenue.
- The project will reduce the volume of stormwater that needs to be treated by the MWRDGC by 150 million gallons per year. This volume of water would fill a football field that is 348 feet in height.
- The project will take runoff from portions of northwest and southwest Elmwood Park and convey it through pipes to the Oak Park Country Club (OPCC) into a 14-acre-foot reservoir on the south side of the OPCC property. The runoff will be temporarily stored and then pumped out to the historic outlet (Des Plaines River) for this area.
- The reservoir will also help address the flooding problems of OPCC.
- A flood wall will be constructed along Thatcher Avenue to prevent Des Plaines River floodwaters from entering Elmwood Park.

Flood Mitigation Project Details

The Flood Mitigation Plan to be constructed in 2013-14 is described in detail below. Stormwater in Elmwood Park is currently drained by combined sewers which carry both stormwater and waste water. Under the Flood Mitigation Plan, new storm sewers will be installed at select locations within the Village. The new storm sewers will vary in size from 12 inches in diameter to a 3-foot by 12-foot box culvert. The total length of storm sewer will be approximately 40,000 feet. The storm sewers will collect stormwater and convey it to a newly constructed detention reservoir in the Oak Park Country Club (OPCC). The water from the detention reservoir will then discharge to the Des Plaines River. Below is a more detailed explanation of the proposed improvements. Please also reference the attached exhibit for additional details.

Project Area 1 – 80th Avenue Storm Sewer

The 80th Avenue Storm Sewer Project will begin south of Westwood Avenue and extend north to Fletcher Street. Construction is expected to commence early April 2013. The project will include the construction of approximately 7,000 feet of storm sewer with diameters ranging from 8" to 54", complete reconstruction of the existing pavement and replacement of approximately 3,600 feet of 8" water main. New sewers throughout the Westwood Subdivision will be constructed and connected to the 80th Avenue storm sewer in 2014.

Project Area 2 – Storm Sewer and Detention Reservoir

A new north to south flowing storm sewer will be installed along 76th Avenue from Palmer Avenue to the alley located south of Armitage Avenue. From there it will flow westward into the OPCC and into a new 14 acre-foot detention reservoir. (For clarification, one acre-foot (326,000 gallons) is defined by the volume of one acre of surface area (66 feet x 660 feet) to a depth of one foot). The detention reservoir will be dry during non-storm periods.

Storm sewer will be constructed through the OPCC from the proposed detention reservoir to Fullerton Avenue. This sewer will be extended to 80th Avenue in 2014 (see Project Area 5 description below). A storm sewer will be installed on 74th Court from north of Armitage Avenue to Dickens Avenue. The storm sewer will continue westward on Dickens Avenue where it will tie into the proposed sewer on 76th Avenue. Additional storm sewer will be constructed on Cortland Parkway and Country Club Lane.

Construction of this improvement will be completed in 2013.

Project Area 3 – Pump Station

A pump station will be constructed at the southeast corner of the OPCC. The pump station will consist of five pumps with a total discharge capacity of 150 cubic feet per second (cfs). A backup diesel powered generator will provide electricity in the event of a power outage. Low stormwater flows will be conveyed using the existing 30-inch storm sewer and a new 30-inch storm sewer. The pump station will discharge through two 36-inch force mains to the Des Plaines River at Thatcher Avenue, approximately 400 feet south of Bloomingdale Avenue. The detention reservoir will provide a temporary storage area for stormwater. The pump station is designed to empty the reservoir in 24 hours or less. Construction of this improvement will be completed in 2013.

Project Area 4 – Westwood Subdivision Storm Sewer

New storm sewers will be constructed throughout the Village's Westwood Subdivision. These sewers will also drain the Diversey Avenue/75th Court and Schubert Avenue/74th Court areas. The stormwater runoff from these areas will be conveyed to the 80th Avenue Storm Sewer (See Project Area 1 description above). Construction of this improvement will be completed in 2014.

Project Area 5 – 80th Avenue-OPCC Storm Sewer Connector

An 84-inch diameter storm sewer linking Project Areas 1 and 2 will be constructed from 80th Avenue/Westwood Avenue, cross the railroad tracks and Grand Avenue, continue southerly through the Eastbrook/Westbrook median, eastward on Altgeld Avenue, southward on 78th Court to Fullerton Avenue and eastward to connect to the improvement described in Project Area 2 above. Construction of this improvement will be completed in 2014.

Project Area 6 – Thatcher Avenue Floodwall and Sewer Improvements

A floodwall will be constructed on the west side of Thatcher Avenue within the existing right of way. The floodwall, which will average 3.5 feet in height, will prevent Des Plaines River floodwaters from flowing across Thatcher Avenue into Elmwood Park properties. The floodwall will reduce the risk of overbank flooding to Elmwood Park homes shown to be located within the 100-year Des Plaines River floodplain as shown on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). Within the limits of the floodwall, Thatcher Avenue will be reconstructed with new curb and gutter and storm sewer. In addition, the force main described in Project Area 3 will be extended to the Des Plaines River.

Construction of this improvement will be completed in 2014.