



## CITY OF PARK RIDGE

505 BUTLER PLACE  
PARK RIDGE, IL 60068  
TEL: 847/ 318-5200  
FAX: 847/ 318-5300  
TDD:847/ 318-5252  
URL:<http://www.parkridge.us>

---

### THE CITY OF PARK RIDGE FLOOD ADVISORY TASK FORCE

#### PRELIMINARY REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL December 14, 2009

**Mission:**

To listen, learn from and to lead the Park Ridge community in understanding area flooding issues and to develop an appropriate variety of flood control mitigation measures that would reduce homeowner flood risk. These measures will be presented to the City Council, city staff and the residents of Park Ridge for consideration and appropriate implementation.

*Our Mission:*

THE CITY OF PARK RIDGE IS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING EXCELLENCE IN CITY SERVICES IN ORDER TO UPHOLD A HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE, SO OUR COMMUNITY REMAINS A WONDERFUL PLACE TO LIVE AND WORK.

The Flood Advisory Task Force is comprised of nine residents, appointed by the Mayor, who have worked together to develop this preliminary report.

#### **TASK FORCE MEMBERS**

Joseph Saccomanno, Gale Fabisch, Bob Mack and Steve Tolan, Lou Arrigoni, Daniel Carroll, John Humm, Kim Jones and Patricia Lofthouse

#### **CITY STAFF**

Wayne Zingsheim, Sarah Mitchell, Brian Wiebe, and Susan Tedeschi

#### **SUMMARY OF PRELIMINARY FINDINGS**

- Increase maintenance and sewer inspections by developing a yearly sewer inspection program. Purchase vactor truck, inspection camera system and additional rodding equipment. Hire two additional employees to perform these duties. - \$500,000 estimate
- Modify and revise existing Ordinances to reduce the release rate, increase fee in lieu of detention, eliminate the 5% maximum of construction cost limit, and apply to all construction / development half acre or more. - No cost
- Increase property owner's education and awareness of stormwater management issues via booklets, website, seminars and workshops. - \$10,000 estimate
- Fund above recommendations thru a \$3 per month flood mitigation surcharge for each property owner. This revenue shall be deposited in the Sewer Enterprise fund. Continue to pursue long-term funding thru grants and low interest loans. Develop an incentive program to encourage property owners to install approved stormwater control measures.
- Develop a yearly sewer lining/replacement program based on inspection of sewers and critical infrastructure systems. - \$1,000,000 estimate
- Expand data gathering by using GIS system, surveys and other data gathering methods. - \$50,000 estimate
- Undertake a citywide sewer study. - \$400,000 estimate
- Improve sewer conveyance to a ten-year storm (2.1" of rain in 1 hour). – TBD based on citywide sewer study
- Develop and maintain a long-term citywide hazard mitigation program notification and information system. - TBD
- Create and expand dialogue with Commonwealth Edison regarding improvements and notifications. – No cost

- Combine the recommendations of the Burke Study with the citywide sewer study to determine citywide priorities. Pursue agreements with the Park Ridge Park District and Country Club. – TBD and no cost

## GOALS AND SPECIFIC DETAILS

**A. Develop a program to educate residents on the city sewer system and how to mitigate private property issues (Mr. Arrigoni and Mr. Humm)**

- To increase property owner's education and awareness on stormwater management issues.
- To provide information on stormwater management via website, print, and seminars.
- To inform property owners of the city's sewer infrastructure limitations.
- To educate homeowners in individual stormwater management to mitigate flooding.
- To publish the best water mitigation actions of local, regional and national governmental bodies.

**B. Review existing sewer system and analyze various types of flooding to better understand the scope of the problem and the various causes for flooding (Mr. Tolan and Mr. Fabisch)**

**Develop and expand existing flood database by date, location, type and cause. Document flood damage costs associated with these incidents, both private and public. Formulate short and long-term plans, including various solutions to reduce and eliminate flood damage effectively and efficiently, using all available resources (Mr. Mack and Mrs. Lofthouse)**

Types of flooding: sewer backup, overland flooding, seepage/foundation problems resulting in groundwater infiltration, mechanical/electrical deficiencies/failures.

### WHAT PROPERTY OWNERS CAN DO

Provide short-term homeowner solutions to flooding:

- Disconnect and redirect downspouts away from foundation
- Clean and televiser private sewer service line - \$300
- Purchase and install rain barrels - \$40
- Maintain and inspect existing sump pump and float system
- Install battery backup sump pump - \$1,400
- Remove overland flow path obstructions
- Seal foundation cracks - \$300 per crack
- Common sense solutions, i.e. limit water usage during flood
- File complaints against utility companies for power failures

Provide mid-term homeowner solutions to flooding:

- Install rain gardens
- Inspect low openings, raise/extend window wells
- Where needed, install glass block windows in basements
- Where possible, incorporate native plantings in landscaping
- Replace asphalt surfaces with pavers
- Purchase portable backup generator system - \$500
- Install wet wells or French drain sewer systems

Provide long-term homeowner solutions to flooding:

- Install overhead sewer – \$10,000
- Install flood control system backflow prevention and pump
- Install permanent natural gas backup generator system -\$7,000
- Re-grade property, provide berming as needed – varies
- Purchase Aqua Dam or install mechanical gate for down slope drives

#### **WHAT THE CITY CAN DO**

Provide short-term City solutions to flooding:

- Evaluate existing City sewer system, clean and televise sewers - \$1.50 - \$2 per foot
  1. Purchase sewer vactor and camera system - \$400,000
  2. Hire and train staff as needed to operate system - \$150,000
  3. Use sewer lining contract to provide lining services for sewers that have drainage or infiltration problems.
  4. Power cleaning and rodding of local sewers
- Inspect, maintain and repair critical infrastructure as needed
  1. Pump Station systems
  2. Flap gate systems and other backwater prevention systems - \$5,000
  3. Flood walls
  4. Overland flow paths
- Expand City flood database GIS system
  1. Obtain and document flood damage costs from FEMA
- Expand dialogue with Commonwealth Edison regarding power outages
  1. Customer service and capital improvements
- Incorporate modifications to City Ordinances
- Develop citywide Flood Mitigation Incentive Program
  1. Purchase and loan pumps to residents
  2. Provide drainage system design services
  3. Provide rebates
  4. Provide tax credits
- Participation in MWRDGC Watershed Council
  1. Lower Des Plaines River Watershed Council
  2. Combined Sewer District Council
- Educate residents on Municipal Codes via print and website
- Consolidate flood information on City website
- Develop citywide volunteer organization to provide hazard mitigation and emergency services for the city and residents

Provide mid-term City solutions to flooding:

- Evaluate capacity of existing sewer system
  1. Possible engineering study
  2. City review of flooding incidents
- Develop and implement Sewer Lining Program as needed
- Construct relief sewers per sewer system evaluation
- Examine each unpaved alley as possible detention site

- Where feasible, raise sidewalks and curbs for down sloping drives
- Explore opportunities to incorporate best management practices into city infrastructure

Provide long-term City solutions to flooding:

- Implement capital flood control projects
  1. Explore and develop opportunities for flood control projects
  2. Prioritize capital projects based on cost/benefit
  3. Burke Study projects
  4. Secure funding for design and construction of projects
  5. Secure needed right-of-way and land owner agreements
- Develop a partnership with future developments in Park Ridge
  1. Expand detention storage opportunities
- Partner with IDOT roadway improvements
  1. Explore sewer separation opportunities
  2. Relief sewers
- Establish a Flood Management System to provide continued long-term solutions

**C. Review current City Ordinances, practices and policies and make recommendations for change as needed** (Mr. Saccomanno and Ms. Jones)

Revise the Municipal Code as follows:

- Article 11- Public Services, Chapter 3 - Stormwater Management
  1. Section 2, Reconstruction - remove “to the extent of 50% of its present value.”
  2. Section 2, Development – change “1 acre” to ½ acre.
  3. Section 6.5, Release Rates – change from “.15 cfs per acre” to .10 cfs per acre for 100-year discharge.
  4. Section 9, Fee in Lieu of Detention – (also in 20-7-1) change from “\$25 per cubic foot” to \$30 per cubic foot.
- Article 20- Administrative Procedure, Chapter 7 - Public Works Fees
  1. Section 1, Stormwater Detention Fee – (also in 11-3-9) change from “\$25 per cubic foot” to \$30 per cubic foot.
  2. Section 1, Stormwater Detention Fee – remove “however, such fee shall not exceed five percent (5%) of the construction cost of the development as determined by the Director of Public Works.”
- Article 15 – Building Regulations, Chapter 8 – Land Grades, Section 3, Area Drain
  1. Add “shall be restricted to the sanitary sewer as approved by the City Engineer.”

**D. Seek and explore funding opportunities for flood mitigation, both for City and residents** (Mr. Carroll)

Currently there is no state or federal funding available for sewer projects. However the City of Park Ridge can raise its own capital by doing the following:

- Each household and business pay a \$3 per month sewer surcharge to fund short term maintenance projects such as purchasing a vacuum truck, video equipment and general maintenance.
- Apply to the Illinois Water Pollution Control Loan Program in order to provide the city and residents with low interest loans that mature in less than twenty years.
- Explore the issuance of bonds to cover long term projects such as sewer lining and constructing retention areas per the Burke study.
- Continue to pursue long-term funding solutions.