

Lee, Chris

From: Lee, Chris
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2025 10:42 AM
To: Lee, Chris
Subject: FW: Sewer Maintenance Fund Questions

From: Sprangers, Kurt <kspran@milwaukee.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2025 10:36 AM
To: Lee, Chris <clee@milwaukee.gov>; Haack, Nathaniel <nhaack@milwaukee.gov>
Cc: Kovac, Nik <nikovac@milwaukee.gov>; Thur, Timothy <tthur@milwaukee.gov>; Muhs, Kevin <kmuhs@milwaukee.gov>
Subject: Re: Sewer Maintenance Fund Questions

Hi Chris,
Please disregard previous emails, and use the following as our response to the inquiries. Thanks again.

Kurt

Information on the Forest Home road project and GI components on the city portion

The Forest Home - 45th to 27th project is in the early stages of design, with an anticipated final engineering date of 2032. Our preliminary review identified potential for permeable pavers in parking lanes, and bioswales to be included in this project. As this project progresses, our opportunities will evolve as more is understood about roadway design features (including traffic calming elements) and utility conflicts. Our intent is to include green infrastructure as a part of this project.

Can the City charge assessments to property owners for GI construction?

The legality of this would need to be explored further with the CAO. There could be legal concerns in assessing for GI construction as property owners already pay for GI construction through the Stormwater Fee. If legal, a proper structure would have to be developed that is fair to the residents that are being assessed, and we'd have to determine on what benefit that assessment would be based and accept risk that GI or other flood management implementation could "fail" in the sense that the feature could still be overwhelmed or the resident could still experience a backwater.

How does the department/how can the department incentivize reducing runoff?

This will be discussed as an offline future discussion. There is a current process to accomplish this, based on the quantity and type of runoff reduction on a property. Any changes to that process that would further incentivize property owners would have to be balanced against its impact to the SMF.

Can DPW text residents and businesses to alert them of upcoming projects?

This would require further review from a technical perspective, including exploring the capabilities of the City's texting service and data coordination and management capabilities within DPW. DPW will research this opportunity and report back to Council.

More information on AI software to assist sewer examinations.

The Sewer Maintenance Fund is actively working with a vendor to explore ways to utilize AI in sewer examinations. I expect by next budget cycle we'll have a better understanding on the value of this kind of service.