

## Lee, Chris

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**From:** Sprangers, Kurt  
**Sent:** Friday, October 17, 2025 2:59 PM  
**To:** Haack, Nathaniel; Lee, Chris  
**Cc:** Kovac, Nik  
**Subject:** Re: Sewer Maintenance Fund Questions

Chris,  
Please add the following line to the first response before circulating to others. Thanks.

Kurt

Traffic calming features are also expected to be a significant part of this project and will be evaluated for GI opportunities.

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**From:** Haack, Nathaniel <nhaack@milwaukee.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 17, 2025 2:55 PM  
**To:** Lee, Chris <clee@milwaukee.gov>  
**Cc:** Kovac, Nik <nikovac@milwaukee.gov>; Sprangers, Kurt <kspran@milwaukee.gov>  
**Subject:** Sewer Maintenance Fund Questions

Hi Chris,

The responses below are follow ups from Sewer Maintenance Fund's budget hearing earlier this week.

Thank you for circulating and have a great weekend!

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

The Forest Home - 45th to 27th project is in early stages of conceptual design, with a current 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. However, as this project progresses our opportunities will evolve resulting in additions and subtractions of potential GI implementations. It is our intent to include green infrastructure as a part of this project.

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

This would need to be explored further with the CAO. There is potentially a legal question that centers on whether assessing for GI or flood management projects to property owners amounts to "double charging" as property owners already pay for those services through the Stormwater Fee. If legal, a proper structure would have to be developed that is fair to the residents that are being assessed. We'd also have to determine on what benefit that assessment would be based and accept the risk that the GI or other flood management projects 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 incentive 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 commercial properties. 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. 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.

**Nathaniel Haack | Budget & Fiscal Analyst**

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