Department of Public Works Environmental Engineering Section

City of Milwaukee Flooding Study Task Force

March 10, 2011

City of Milwaukee, Environmental Engineering



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City of Milwaukee I/I Pilot Project

- The purpose of this project is to reduce clear water from entering into the sanitary sewer, ultimately reducing the chances of basement backups throughout the City
- This project consists of updating the existing plumbing of 5 City of Milwaukee owned homes
- These properties are located in the area bounded by: North 35th Street to West Fond Du Lac Avenue from West Nash Street to West Marion Avenue
- This area has reported approximately 450 basement backups in 2010
- Construction is currently underway and is estimated to be completed by the end of March 2011
- Once completed, this project will develop a procedure to rehabilitate the existing private plumbing, and eliminate inflow and infiltration from the Sanitary Sewer
- This project will cost \$95,000 to complete



Project Status

Locations

- 4220 North 42nd Street
- 3938 North 42nd Street
- 4238 North 40th Street
- 3825 North 40th Street
- 3847 North 39th Street

- Currently 3 out of the 5 properties have had the plumbing rehabilitated in the basement
- Lateral lining is expected to start next week
- This project is expected to be completed by the end of March 2011



Private Plumbing Details



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What is being done?



1. Foundation Drain Disconnection

- The existing foundation drains are televised to determine if they are functioning properly
- The foundation drains are re-routed from sanitary sewer connections to a sump pit in the basement
- A sump pump with a battery backup is installed in the sump pit
- Electrical Services are installed to power the sump pump
- The collected water from the foundation drains is now discharged to the yard that previously was going to the sanitary sewers





2. Removal of Palmer Valve

- The foundation drains connect to the sanitary lateral through a palmer valve
- This valve and the connection is removed and replaced with a new floor drain
- Most homes built prior to 1955 have foundation drain connections to the sanitary lateral





3. Install Backflow Preventer

- A backflow preventer is installed on the existing sanitary lateral
- This blocks water from flowing back into the house from the sewer main in the street in the event of a flood





- 4. Rehabilitate existing Sanitary Lateral
- The existing sanitary laterals are televised
- A cleanout is installed in the yard on the sanitary lateral
- If necessary, the lateral is cleaned from the cleanout
- The sanitary lateral is rehabilitated with a cured-inplace lining method



After



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Challenges?

 Existing electric services at some locations have to be upgraded to provide dedicated service for the sump pump (additional cost)

 Locating areas in the basement where a sump pump can be installed due to existing conditions

 Evaluating the conditions and functionality of the foundation drains

 Locating an acceptable discharge location for the sump pump drain to meet the plumbing code

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Questions?

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Sanitary Bypass Pump Station Locations

The City owns and maintains two types of pumping facilities, sanitary bypass pumps and sanitary lift stations

• Bypass Pumping Stations (83)

• Lift Stations (6)

Bypass pumps are located in areas where there has been a history of backwaters

Lift stations are located where gravity sewer service is not available, usually in low-lying areas



Sanitary Bypass Pump Station Locations

 Our records indicate that the original pumps were installed in the 1960s and 1970s

 Bypass pumps are located in areas where there has been a history of backwaters

 Generally pumps are programmed to turn on approximately 2 to 4 feet below the low basement elevation in the vicinity of the pump



Pump Operations During Last 10 Years

Reason	Precipitation		Clogged		
Year	Rain Events	Pump Runs	Sewers	Other *	Total
2001	1	1	1	0	2
2002	1	1	0	3	4
2003	0	0	3	0	3
2004	2	19	0	1	20
2005	1	3	3	0	6
2006	1	1	0	2	3
2007	0	0	0	0	0
2008	1	30	1	0	31
2009	1	7	0	1	8
2010	3	69	2	1	72
Total	11	131	10	8	149

* Includes lift station equipment failure and contractor errors

