



VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE
Stormwater and Flood Plain Oversight Committee Meeting
February 11, 7:00 p.m.

Downers Grove Public Works Facility
5101 Walnut Avenue, Downers Grove, Illinois

I. CALL to ORDER

Chair Gorman called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. A roll call followed and a quorum was established.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Chair Gorman, Mr. Civito, Mr. Crilly, Mr. Ruyle, Mr. Schoenberg, Mr. Wicklander

Members Absent: Mr. Scacco

Staff Present: Karen Daulton Lange, Village Engineer / Stormwater Administrator

Public Present: Mr. Sherwood Kramer, Ms. Ruth Edling

III. APPROVAL of February 11, 2016 Minutes

Mr. Schoenberg made a motion, seconded by Mr. Civito to approve the February 11, 2016 minutes. Motion carried by voice vote of 6-0.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Kramer stated he and Ms. Edling were there to express concerns about the drainage related to the two new homes constructed at 4732 & 4736 Oakwood. Ms. Edling lives to the north at 4728 Oakwood. The rain garden installed at 4732 Oakwood has not worked properly since it was installed last fall. There is water migrating to Ms. Edling's property and is putting three of her old growth trees in danger since water is standing in her back yard.

Mr. Kramer had three points he wanted to make to the Committee: (1) Instead of Post Construction BMPs there should be "Pre" Construction BMPs; (2) Zoning changes should be made requiring less lot coverage. There used to be one home to the south of Ms. Edling and now there are two; (3) both residents and commercial properties have little opportunity to keep stormwater on their site since there is so much impervious allowed.

Ms. Edling said she now has a crack in her basement floor due to the increase in groundwater.

Staff gave input that the new homes were built by Joel Anderson builders and there has not been a Certificate of Occupancy issued to 4732 Oakwood as the builder. The rain garden was not constructed per plan and in addition the builder directed the sump directly to it overtaxing its capacity. A recent meeting with the builder and the buyers occurred, and the builder said he would be re-submitting plans for an underground system for storage and a vegetated swale for water quality and removal of the rain garden.

Chair Gorman explained that the Committee has been looking at the lot coverage and zoning issue and encouraged them to attend future Council meetings on the issue. He also related that some people move their sump discharge seasonally to the front and back. It was noted that this area drains from east to west naturally. Developers are required to meet ordinance requirements, and cannot be made to go above and beyond those requirements.

Mr. Scacco commented on the disturbance to groundwater when new basements are built. Mr. Gorman stated that all drainage systems can be overwhelmed but the key is to ensure a safe overland flow route.

Mr. Kramer said according to his calculations that these two properties would be paying over a million dollars in taxes in upcoming years, and that the community should be able to do things to help the long term residents of Downers Grove with drainage issues. Mr. Gorman spoke on the projects that are planned, and they need to be funded. He encouraged him to attend the Council meeting scheduled next week to discuss stormwater funding.

Ms. Edling expressed concern about the crack in her basement floor and the Committee said that is difficult to prove that the construction next door caused it and it's not something the Village would compel the builder to repair. Mr. Kramer noted that the builder has occasionally pumped out her back yard during construction. They both thanked the Committee for their understanding and time.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Annual Report

Staff presented a brief summary of the 2015 Annual Report, which was distributed to the Committee. The Report will be forwarded to the Village Council and posted on the website with the minutes. Mr. Schoenberg made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wicklander to approve the 2015 Annual Report. Motion carried by voice vote of 6-0. (See Attachment 1)

B. 2016 Meeting Dates

The draft 2016 Meeting Dates were distributed, generally the second Thursday of each month. Mr. Crilly made a motion, seconded by Mr. Civito to approve the 2016 meeting dates. Motion carried by voice vote of 6-0. (See Attachment 2)

C. Stormwater Utility Report January 29, 2016

Staff reported that the Council will be discussing the Stormwater Utility at the next Council meeting. A report is available on the website. The Committee agreed that the report on line

makes a good case for the Stormwater Utility. They noted the several million dollar shortfall in the recommended level of service for maintenance, and that the map that shows the capital improvement projects that have occurred in recent years, and that they were distributed throughout the Village. The committee members were impressed with the report. Staff said they would be attending the meeting and several of the committee members said they planned to attend as well.

VI. STAFF REPORT

See Attachment 3.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No further public comment.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

The lot coverage discussion and the zoning code will continue in future.

Mr. Schoenberg made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wicklander to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote of 6-0.

Per 26.404 of the Village Code, within sixty days after the close of the calendar year the SW&FPOC shall make an annual report to the Village Council. The following is for your consideration at the February 11 meeting.

Stormwater & Flood Plain Oversight Committee 2015 Annual Report

Below is a brief summary of the activities of the Oversight Committee in 2015

- Held five public meetings, attended by three residents.
- There were no request for variances from the Stormwater Ordinance
- Reviewed and recommended improvements to the Post Construction Best Management Practices Guidelines which are now posted on the Village's [Stormwater Management web page](#).
- Refreshed familiarity with [Village Council Stormwater Policies](#) that have been adopted over the years in order to understand the levels of service the Village provides.
- Examined the FEMA issued preliminary flood plain maps that were issued to all communities in DuPage County.
- Began exploring lot coverage and its impact to runoff
- Attached are the 2015 Staff Reports presented to the Committee.

Staff Report
February 12, 2015

A. Stormwater & Flood Plain Code Changes

The Council voted in December to make recommended changes to the Ordinance to reduce the threshold of when PCBMPs are required. The Committee recommended the threshold be reduced from the net new impervious threshold of 2,500 SF to 500 SF. The Council approved the reduction to 700 SF.

B. Jetting & TV Contract

In 2014 PW completed a contract with Visu-Sewer of Illinois, LLC, for CCTV inspection and cleaning of approximately 20,000 linear feet of storm sewer pipe. A staff shortage (injured workers on leave and light duty, and Family Medical Leave Act absences) in 2014 prompted the Streets Manager to request bids in conjunction with the DuPage Municipal Partnering Initiative (MPI). The Request for Bids was issued by the Village of Lombard. The price for cleaning & inspection is \$3.35 per LF. The price is comparable to ours, it cost us \$3.15 per LF. The jetter was out for a total of 3 months in 2014 for repairs, including a new pump.

C. APWA Presentation

On November 20th, Staff made a presentation to the Fox Valley APWA on our process of prioritization to local flood solutions. The methodology of the 2014 Stormwater Project Analysis report by WBK was explained. The concept is to provide a minimum level of protection for 95% of all the separate rainfall events in a given year. The report is on our website for further reading.

D. APA Presentation

Staff made a presentation to the American Planning Association & Chaddick Institute Municipal Design Review Network on November 13th on the Village's Grove Street reconstruction project utilizing permeable pavers, rain gardens and vortex separator to improve water quality, along with residential options for BMPs and our stormwater utility incentive program.

E. DuPage County Resilience Completion

DuPage County has undertaken an effort to apply for HUD Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Resilience Competition funding to make the area more resilient from severe weather, such as flooding. There is potential for future funding that will directly benefit Downers Grove, in the areas of natural resource enhancements, sustainable development, and resiliency projects. Staff has been named to the Steering Committee, and our Village has further participated by hosting a community meeting at the Village, promoting other outreach activities using our website, E-News, Facebook and Twitter.

Staff Report June 11, 2015

A. HMGP

Appraisals for the four homes in FP were received and reviewed with owners. They are in process of signing statement of voluntary interest and we are getting RFPs for title reports. Hope to close by August.

B. New CFMs

Susan Quasney, Staff Engineer in Public Works, and Julie Lomax, Development Engineer in Community Development, both passed the Certified Floodplain Managers (CFM) exam. The CFM is a national program for certifying floodplain managers. The exam measures a person's knowledge of a community's responsibilities under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and related floodplain management topics. The Village now has five CFMs: Karen Daulton Lange, Kerry Behr, Bill McClain, Susan and Julie. The designation gives confidence and enhances the knowledge we give to our residents when responding to inquiries on floodplain management and regulations,

C. Stormwater Presentations

The Stormwater Administrator made two presentations in May. The first to the 5th Annual Sustainability Conference in Schaumburg on Village practices that further sustainability, and the second at the IAFSM Stormwater Utility Seminar in Chicago. Next week she will be addressing the 2015 Illinois Collection Systems Conference on the Downers Grove SWU.

D. St. Joseph Creek Stream Corridor Assessment

CBBEL has completed their inspection of the creek from Carpenter to the DGSD plant and will be preparing a report on the condition of the creek. The purpose of this project is to study and identify areas of St. Joseph's Creek that have seen streambank erosion infestation by invasive species, blockages and any other deficiencies that may need repair or restoration.

E. Urban Flooding Awareness Act

Last week U.S. Representative Mike Quigley (IL-05) and U.S. Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL) introduced the bicameral Urban Flooding Awareness Act to address increased flooding in urban communities and to find solutions for the urban communities impacted. Over the past six months, staff participated in preliminary meetings hosted by IDNR to give input into the UFAA. These meetings were think-tank type of environment to explore the issues of **urban flooding** including review and evaluation of methods of identification of areas at risk for urban flooding, current policy, and procedures, recent research, best practices and identification of actions to prevent, fund, and control urban flooding.

Staff Report September 10, 2015

A. HMGP

Three out of the four homes in the program have closed and demolition and restoration is expected to begin later this month. Our police department used the three homes for SWAT exercises. The fourth home is under bankruptcy and it is doubtful if the bank will cooperate with the Village to purchase.

B. Preliminary Floodplain Maps

The comment period for the Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps is now closed. Staff submitted over 30 comments for consideration of changes. A 90-day appeal period is expected to begin later this year, and after reviews and resolution of comments and appeals, it is expected that the FIRMs will become effective in the spring of 2017.

Staff partnered with the Village of Lisle to host a second Open House on the FEMA Preliminary Floodplain Maps giving our residents another opportunity to meet with staff to discuss the potential impacts of the new mapping. Prior to the Open House held at the County in July, robo-calls were made to everyone in the Village with a public telephone number or who has signed onto our alert system if they were near or in existing or proposed floodplain regarding the new maps.

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D. St. Joseph Creek Stream Corridor Assessment

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E. SW&FPOC Members Reappointed

On August 18th, Mayor Tully reappointed Anthony Civito & William Wicklander to three-year terms expiring August 31, 2018.

F. Urban Flooding Awareness Act

In August 2014, the UFAA was signed into law, compelling the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) to partner with other agencies to prepare a report on urban flooding. The final report has been issued and a copy distributed to you all.

The report includes recommendations for local governments, many of which the Village of Downers Grove already employs, including site visits with property owners to identify flood damage reduction actions, stormwater ordinances that incentivize reduction of impervious areas and infiltration of stormwater, updated stormwater atlas information, and participation in CRS.

At the September 1 Council meeting Mayor Tully suggested that the SW&FPOC review the UFAA and compile a report on how the Village of Downers Grove stacks up to the recommendations of the report.

G. CDBG-DR Grant

DuPage County is now receiving funds under Public Law 113-2 as a result of the federal disaster declaration from April, 2013. The County is administering said funds through the CDBG-DR grant program. A CDBG-DR grant would give us the potential to acquire a single family home and an adjacent vacant lot. St. Joseph's Creek flows through the vacant lot, and both lots are in the floodway/floodplain. These properties were included in our original HMGP grant submittal, in 2014, but were ultimately not pursued due to exceeding maximum purchase costs by FEMA. If purchased, these two parcels, which are adjacent to other Village owned parcels, will be incorporated into the next phase of Streambank stabilization on St. Joseph Creek – South Branch (DR-022). This will greatly improve the Village's ability to make meaningful improvements to the creek through this area, improving flood overflow routing and compensatory storage along this stretch of the creek, thereby alleviating downstream flooding of homes and property. It is expected this will go before the Council next week for a resolution allowing staff to submit the application.

Staff Report
October 8, 2015

A. CDBG-DR

Staff has submitted an application to the Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery grant program administered by DuPage County to purchase a home and a vacant lot 5631 Webster. These properties were included in the original HMGP grant submittal, in 2014, but were ultimately not pursued due to exceeding maximum purchase costs by FEMA. If purchased, these two parcels, which are adjacent to other Village owned parcels, will be incorporated into the next phase of Streambank stabilization on St. Joseph Creek – South Branch (DR-022). This will improve the Village’s ability to make meaningful improvements to the creek through this area, improving flood overflow routing and compensatory storage along this stretch of the creek, thereby alleviating downstream flooding of homes and property. See attached location map.

B. Realtor Presentation

Staff has been invited to speak at the local Baird & Warner office regarding flood plain and LPDAs next week.

C. BMP Demonstration Sites

Staff is working with a SpanCrete representative to find a location to install pre-fab pervious sidewalk in Downers Grove as a trial to see how it performs with drainage. In addition, staff is working with a representative from FloodBreak to find a demonstration location.



D. Stormwater – What We Do

See attached compilation of what types of things public works engineering and maintenance staff does that is stormwater related. Also attached is the annual list of Stormwater Master Plan Improvements Status.

Staff Report
November 12, 2015

A. CDBG-DR

Last month Staff submitted an application to the Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery grant program administrated by DuPage County to purchase a home and a vacant lot 5631 Webster. We are waiting to hear if our application was accepted.

B. NPDES inspection

On October 23rd the IEPA made an inspection of our PW facility for compliance with our NPDES MS4 permit. We have not had an official report back, but the visit went well.

C. NHMP Survey & Annual Meeting

Staff submitted the survey response to DuPage County for the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan and will be attending their upcoming annual meeting.

D. Preliminary Flood Plain Maps

DuPage County staff issued a memo to the Stormwater Management Committee that due to the large number of comments received on the preliminary floodplain maps that a Revised Preliminary floodplain map release is being recommended by ISWS and FEMA. As a result, the ISWS has stopped the initiation of the 90 day technical appeal period.



Memorandum

TO: Village Clerk, SWFPOC Members

DATE: November 23, 2015

FROM: Karen Daulton Lange, PE, CFM

SUBJECT: Stormwater & Flood Plain Oversight Committee 2016 Meeting Dates

The following is a list of the regularly scheduled 2015 meeting dates, the second Thursday of the month. All meetings are begin at 7 PM, and are held at the Public Works Training Room, unless otherwise posted 48 hours prior to the meeting.

January 14

February 11

March 10

April 14

May 12

June 9

July 14

August 11

September 8

October 13

November 10

December 8

Staff Report
February 11, 2016

A. CDBG-DR

In October staff submitted an application to the Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery grant program administered by DuPage County to purchase a home and a vacant lot 5631 Webster. The application has been accepted and staff is waiting for the County to draft an agreement with the Village for participation in the program.

B. Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Workgroup

Staff attended the DuPage County NHMP Workgroup meeting in late November. The annual report generated from this meeting is a component to credits received for the Community Rating Service (CRS) that allows properties in flood plain in our community to receive a 20% discount.

C. Illinois Association of Floodplain & Stormwater Management

The Board of Directors appointed Karen Daulton Lange, Village Engineer / Stormwater Administrator for the Village as the CRS Committee Chair.

D. 500 Storm Drain Medallions on the Way

The Village was a recipient of 500 storm drain medallions through a grant from the DuPage Foundation to SCARCE, who provided us with the medallions. Staff is working with both North & South HS to help coordinate a program where the students determine the best locations for visibility and distribution throughout the community.