



Meeting Minutes

PB
121 West Trade Street, Suite 1950
Charlotte NC 28202
Phone: (704) 342-5401
Fax: (704) 342-8472

Subject: McAlway-Churchill Drainage Improvement Project Public Meeting
Date: March 9, 2010 7:00-8:30 PM
Conducted by: Kate Labadorf (City Project Manager)
Jacklyn Bray (City Project Coordinator)
Karl Dauber (PB, consultant for City)
Minutes by: Sean Melville/Karl Dauber
Attendees: See attached attendee sheet

The City Project Manager, Kate Labadorf, opened the meeting and introduced the project. Kate explained that the City's design consultant, Parsons Brinckerhoff (PB), had just completed an analysis of the watershed and drainage systems, and explained that this public meeting marked the end of the Existing Conditions Analysis, which found many drainage systems to be undersized according to City standards. The purpose of this meeting was to explain the project goals and timeline to community members and to obtain citizen input on the accuracy of the hydraulic and watershed analyses. The next public meeting will occur once proposed improvements are selected, and a third will be scheduled after 70% design has been completed. Community members were encouraged to call 311 to report drainage issues. Kate then introduced Karl Dauber from PB, who briefly presented the work that had been performed to assess the drainage systems, and summarized the findings of the study by highlighting the problems found in various locations in the watershed, which is about 0.5 square miles (320 acres) in size (see attachment).

Area A

- Potential flooding impact to Apartment Bldg along Wendover Rd
- Undersized system from Ashworth Rd, potential street and garage flooding.

Area B

- Some driveway culverts and drainage systems through properties along Faulkner Place and Melchor Avenue are undersized, potential structure flooding.
- Some pipes along Melchor Ave are undersized, potential street flooding.

Area C

- Houses high above stream along Barmettler Avenue; driveway culverts have adequate capacity and meet City standards. However, some erosion issues. Evidence of past stabilization work.
- Pipes from Canterbury Road were rotted out and too small, potential structure flooding.
- Undersized systems from Anthony Circle, potential street flooding.
- Undersized pipes and ditches along west side of Barmettler Ave, potential street flooding.



Area D

- Church Rd culvert is undersized – this causes flooding to nearby residence
- Undersized driveway culvert downstream of Churchill Rd, potential garage flooding.
- Drainage problem at intersection of Wendover Hill Ct and Churchill Rd – causes street flooding
- Ditch from Churchill Rd next to residence is too small and causes structure flooding.

Area E

- Undersized system at Suffolk Place and undersized ditches downstream of Suffolk Place cause street flooding and potential structure flooding.
- Flooding at Wendover Road low point
- Culverts under Wendover Road and Randolph Road meet City standards.
- Most driveways along Meadowbrook Road are overtopped during storm events.
- Along Placid Place and Meadowbrook Road, driveway culverts and roadside ditches are too small, potential street flooding.
- Systems from Sedgewood Circle are undersized, potential street flooding.
- Unknown private system from Hearthstone Court, potential street flooding.

Area G

- A lot of sedimentation at Meadowbrook Rd culvert.
 - Stream cleaned in 1999 and 2001
- Homes along Placid Place and some along Meadowbrook Rd are in the Briar Creek floodplain.

Kate then invited the attendees to present their comments, concerns, and ideas about the project and drainage issues in the area. The following summarizes the information received based on property location:

4000 Churchill: Asked about possibility of curb and gutter (C&G) implementation within the project area. Kate stated that C&G is used in specific locations on a case-by-case basis depending on the situation, but not likely to be used widespread for this project. The City's policy is to replace what is there now: what is currently piped will continue to be piped and what is currently open channel will remain open. Owner stated he is in a low spot but does not have flooding problems on property beyond the stream. He mentioned that catch basins along Wendover Hill Court are blocked by silt screens, and that the baskets are full. Also, he stated that stream flow bottlenecks at Churchill Road.

325 Meadowbrook: Owner asked if project could be split into several smaller projects to increase speed. Mentioned that City Maintenance is unresponsive to 311 calls, culvert by house has been blocked for months and needs constant cleaning. Kate stated that Maintenance will be sent soon.

331 Meadowbrook: Owner of 325 Meadowbrook stated that ditch along side of house on 331 floods behind the house with water entering the garage. The ditch is okay next to the house, but upstream of the property, water is coming out of the bank.



301 Meadowbrook: Owner stated that silt deposits at culvert, not on driveway or in creek. Channel needs to be kept clean and is experiencing runoff and sediment build up from new upstream construction. New development upstream needs to be controlled, and does not seem to be using erosion control devices. Owner has experienced 2 inches of water flowing through driveway and stated that water has risen to driveway bridge level in channel. Owner stated that upstream erosion control “catch ponds” are full and blocked.

113 Meadowbrook: Owner was told by developers that the apartment complex construction (between Wendover Road and Randolph Road) was exempt from needing erosion control devices, and stated that they had experienced orange colored storm water flowing through their property. The owner has had a fence in yard washed away twice recently, and a picnic table outside of the channel has been washed away, and indicated that something has changed recently that is causing increased flow through property. Owner stated that stream channel is widening naturally and asked if channel widening could be part of project and if so, would it be done on side of stream away from structures? Kate stated that channel widening is an alternative being considered, and that City policy is to replace what is existing and widen away from a structure when possible.

3909 Churchill: Resident stated that she has had to dig up and clean out the ditch that runs along the side of her house and that it has to be reshaped prior to every rainfall. Her house flooded 3 times in one year prior to digging out the ditch on a regular basis. The flow is now within 2 feet of the house and is causing major problems. Runoff from Churchill Road used to flow very slowly, but is now flowing through fast. The curb and gutter along the road ends with no outlet or catch basin. The owner questioned whether the drainage system from Wendover Hill Court (which was connected to the drainage system in Churchill Road which then discharges through her yard) was constructed according to plan in the first place.

3931 Melchor: Owner stated that stream channel behind house is severely blocked with brush and garbage, and that the City appeared to be doing nothing about it.

4126 Faulkner: Owner requested that any drainage easement created between his property and 4116 be located to center on the property line.

724 Ellsworth: Owner stated that they are experiencing flooding from uphill neighbor, and also experiencing soil erosion. Owner has been a resident for 17 years.

Wendover Hill Court development: Numerous comments about silt sacks in the roadway inlets that are still in place and clogged. Also, the pavement has not yet been elevated up to curb level preventing water from entering curb and gutter system properly.

425, 501 Ashworth: Owners stated that roadway low point floods. Water from road goes down the driveway at 415 and then cuts across into 425 between the homes.

4109 Melchor: Owner stated that flooding is within a few feet of the house. Since pipe has been installed under Melchor Road, the road has not overtopped.

500 Ashworth: 500 is an unoccupied lot, and floods frequently.



415 Ashworth: Residents of 425 and 501 stated that 415 gets runoff from 403 and 409.

245 Anthony: Residents of 229 said that 245 experiences flooding with water entering the basement.

Wendover and Randolph Apartment Complex:

Many citizens complained that they were incorrectly told by developers that runoff flows away from neighborhood, and drainage would not be a problem; that the whole project was done without proper erosion control measures; and that water drains to Meadowbrook and causes flooding. They stated that there is still no grass in place between complex and road, and a large area of bare dirt is getting washed downstream.

General Citizen Questions:

What is the project priority? Kate stated that out of many areas with drainage issues, this is one that was selected to become a project and therefore is of priority. There was concern about maintenance not responding to all 311 calls, and one resident complaining that they have had a call in since 1988. There was concern about whether or not the final system after improvements have been done will be maintained properly. There was also a request to find ways to speed up the project schedule.