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MEETING MINUTES

Subject: Lincoln Heights Storm Drainage Improvement Project - Public Meeting 1
Date: May 6, 2014 6:00 – 7:30 PM
Location: Beatties Ford Road Regional Library
Conducted by: Steven McCraney (City Project Manager)
Doug Lozner (City Watershed Area Manager)
Josh Letourneau (AG Project Manager)
Russell Parker (AG Project Engineer)
Minutes by: Josh Letourneau
Attendees: 8 Residents

I. Welcome and Introductions

- Steven McCraney, City Storm Water Services (CSWS) Project Manager, opened the meeting by thanking the residents for their attendance, and introducing the project.
- Steven McCraney introduced himself and the team members for the project: CSWS and Armstrong Glen (AG) – see names above.
- Steven McCraney noted that there would be a formal presentation (PowerPoint) and a general Question and Answer period.
- Steven McCraney explained that the City's design consultant, Armstrong Glen, has just completed an analysis of the watershed and existing drainage systems.

II. Meeting Purpose

- Steven McCraney explained that the purpose of the meeting was to present the findings of the existing conditions analysis, request input from property owners on the existing conditions analysis results, and to obtain any additional information from the property owners regarding storm water concerns.
- Steven McCraney informed the residents that there will be more public meetings in the future as improvement alternatives are developed.

III. Charlotte Mecklenburg Storm Water Services (CMSWS)

- Steven McCraney then talked about the project history and why the Lincoln Heights project was created.
- Steven McCraney explained that there were 56 total requests reported to 311, which included issues such as inadequate and deteriorating infrastructure, road flooding, structural flooding, old culverts, sink holes, and erosion/blockages in streams.
- Steven McCraney explained that projects like this deal with larger watershed-wide issues that cannot be managed by smaller spot repairs and require considering impacts to downstream areas.

IV. Existing Conditions Analysis Results

- Russell Parker from Armstrong Glen, briefly presented the work that had been performed to assess the drainage systems, and summarized the findings of the study by highlighting problems found in the project area.
- Russell Parker first explained how the Existing Conditions Results Map works, with highlighted red lines indicating hydraulically deficient pipes, highlighted yellow lines indicating structurally deficient pipes, and highlighted red lines indicating both hydraulically and structurally deficient pipes. Mr. Parker also explained the various hatchings/colors depicting recorded citizen complaints.
- Russell Parker then goes on to summarize the results of the entire project area, including example photographs of structurally deficient pipe.

V. Next Step of Project:

- Steven McCraney then wrapped up the meeting by briefly describing the phases of the project and typical durations as follows:
 - Planning (typically 12 to 27 months)
 - Existing Conditions Analysis – finding the problems (*current phase*)
 - Alternative Analysis – developing alternative improvements
 - Design (typically 21 to 34 months)
 - Designing the improvements
 - Permitting (typically 9 months, but usually overlaps the design phase)
 - Easement Acquisition (typically 12+ months and overlaps with design phase)
 - Bid and Award (typically 5 to 6 months)
 - Construction (from 1 to 2+ years)

- Steven McCraney then discussed the immediate path forward which includes completing the existing conditions analysis, evaluating alternative solutions to the drainage issues, and holding a 2nd public meeting to present the recommended alternative.
- The formal presentation was concluded after a general Question and Answer session. Specific questions were also answered by team members during the break-out session afterward.

VI. General Questions/Discussions During the Presentation:

- Homeowner asked why it will take so long for the work to be completed. Steven McCraney explained that these projects have to follow a set process, with many phases, before construction can begin. Repairs concerning public safety receive a high priority and may be addressed before the project.
- Homeowner complained of frequent water main breaks along Holly Street, and that there was something wrong with the quality of the water. Doug Lozner suggested the homeowner contact 311, who can forward the request to CMUD.
- Homeowner asked if there was a “dream” alternative for this project. Steven McCraney mentioned that for this project there are not many alternatives, but that there may be minor variations to the types of improvements.
- Homeowner mentioned that recent work was done near LaSalle Street and wondered why the City is coming back. Steven McCraney explained that this project is focusing on the drainage problems north of LaSalle Street, and is not part of the recent work south of LaSalle Street.
- Homeowner at 1804 LaSalle Street complained that the sidewalk in front of his house is sinking and that the sewer may be causing the problem. Steven McCraney mentioned that he will provide contact information to the project manager associated with the project near his house.
- Homeowner at 2118 Holly Street mentioned that new storm drain has helped with yard flooding, but water still collects in the yard. Josh Letourneau with Armstrong Glen mentioned that the models are showing undersized pipe at this property, and that the Lincoln Heights project may resolve this issue.