

Louise Avenue Public Meeting – 3/13/07

Location: Belmont Community Center

Introduction of Project Team and Meeting Purpose

- Danée McGee, Project Manager: City of Charlotte
Bob Wilson, Principal: USI
Robby Wayne, Project Engineer: USI
Kate Labadorf, Senior Project Manager: City of Charlotte
- There was discussion that the City of Charlotte Storm Water Services (CSWS) provides the project management and that USInfrastructure of Carolina is the design consultant. Residents should be aware that Michael Baker Engineering and Meade Gunnell Surveying will be gathering information throughout the planning phase of the project and may be near or in their yards.

Charlotte's Storm Water Program

Danée McGee discussed the teams of Charlotte Storm Water Services (CSWS) and how they function. Specifically, the Engineering Team manages capital improvement projects, and the Maintenance Team focuses on smaller scale projects which need an immediate solution.

Public Input

CSWS provides information to property owners in the form of mailers every four months, an up to date webpage, public meetings, questionnaires and property owner surveys. Copies of questionnaires and business cards were given to the neighborhood association leader to pass out to property owners at the April neighborhood meeting. There was additional discussion about individual property owners having the ability to provide input during the different project phases.

Project Phases

Danée McGee briefly described the project phases and then handed the meeting over to Bob Wilson.

- Planning (Current Phase)
- Design
- Permitting
- Easement Acquisition
- Bid and Construction
- Public Involvement Throughout

Drainage Conditions in the Neighborhood

Bob Wilson discussed the history of drainage service requests and problem areas within the study area.

To determine flooding problems, USI analyzed the drainage system, looked at the 311 calls for service, and sent out questionnaires. For house flooding the 100- year storm event was evaluated along the open channel and enclosed system. The results were:

- Potential crawlspace flooding at residences along Hawthorne Avenue (study findings)
- Flooding of the Fire Logistics Station along Otts Street (citizen feedback and study findings)
- Yard flooding is a nuisance along the main system (citizen feedback and study findings)

Proposed Drainage Improvements and Next Steps

Bob went over the next steps of the project:

- Select and analyze alternatives along the main drainage corridor and possible implementation of water quality best management practices
- A public meeting will be held to present the results of the Alternatives Analysis phase.

Final Discussion

Bob summarized the existing conditions as:

- Poor existing infrastructure
- Undersized Infrastructure
- Moderate to severe erosion in open channels at several locations
- Some localized flooding issues

Citizen Discussion

Past problems were discussed by the citizen attendee and are noted below:

- Flooding at Hawthorne Lane near Kennon Street which caused a car to wash off of the road in the recent past.
- Flooding at Hawthorne Lane near the railroad bridge which occurs frequently.
- Back up and stoppage of pipe systems near Pegram Street.
- Problems behind the Baptist Church on Hawthorne Lane were discussed.
- Time frame for the Reopening of Louise Avenue and replacement of the culvert was discussed.
- The neighborhood association leader asked how CSWS handles easement acquisition and it was explained to her that CSWS likes to work individually with property owners.