



Meeting Minutes

Crystal Vista West Study Area Open House

Date and Time of Meeting: September 13, 2017, 7:00 PM

Location: City Hall

Attendees: See sign-in sheet for attendance

Mike Magnuson began by introducing himself and the other staff members present. He outlined the process of identifying solutions for the flooding issues in this area. He said that the purpose of the meeting is to meet with the residents and listen to their issues. He said the residents live out there, and are more attuned with the issues of the area

Mike explained the nine study areas and how City staff is meeting with each area. Afterwards staff would be taking all the information gathered and develop workable solutions which would be presented for discussion and endorsement. The final product would be a prioritized list of potential projects that would be presented to City Council.

Mike reviewed the history of this area. It was originally built in unincorporated McHenry County, and later annexed so that sewer and water could service the area. When it was built, there were no storm water facilities constructed, and over the years, additional vacant parcels have been built up.

As Mike noted, there is no formal drainage system. There are some ditches and storm sewer, but it is a mixture.

Mike then reviewed the topography of the area. He said that the area is relatively flat, which means water does not drain quickly out of the area.

Mike reviewed the recent rainfall events that the City has been experiencing this summer, and put them in historical context. Mike emphasized that the rainfall totals over the past two months have far exceeded other recent rain events in the past 20 years or so. Mike noted that the ground water was extremely high in this area.

Mike confirmed that there were no sanitary sewer backups in this area.

The resident said that they were not aware of any severe flooding issues in this area. Mostly it is nuisance flooding; pockets that fill up and take a while to drain. He said that his house gets standing water on and around his driveway. He said that this was not a problem until a few years ago when the road was resurfaced and the crown of the roadway was built up. He said that the road crown was raised only about two inches, but since the area is so flat, it can make a big difference. The resident said he thinks the compaction of the gravel shoulders is too much, and the water does not percolate there because of it. The resident asked that this be investigated.

The resident also said that there are some drywells in the area, and they help a little. Sometimes the inlets clog with debris and need to be cleaned. Mike said would check the drywells to make sure they were functioning properly.

Mike said in nearby areas the thought was to investigate a swale system. He said that if we could retrofit one into the area, they would have to start at the outfall and build out from there. The resident said that

would be good, but the area is very flat, and it would be difficult to get a pitch for it to drain. Mike said that the swales could be designed to store and drain water slowly.

During the meeting, Mike had been taking down ideas on the whiteboard. Mike reviewed the categories and the items under each category. They were:

Problems/Issues:

Area is generally flat, so even an inch will hold water

Area adjacent road/sidewalk

Shoulder on the north side are worse than before resurfacing a few years ago

Concepts/Solutions:

More drywells (some granular soil in this area)

Keep an eye on impervious (zoning, development)

Questions

Did the City rehab the drywells in this area?

Mike wrapped up the meeting by thanking the couple who attended and said there would be follow-up with tonight's discussion when the City was able to develop some more specific solutions for the area.

