



CITY OF ELYRIA

Spring Valley Drainage Questions & Answers

Q. Why are drainage improvements needed in the Spring Valley area?

A. The streets within this area were built without curb and gutter; however roadside ditching conveyed storm runoff to either major drainage ways or a pipe system which eventually drain to the Whitman Ditch or the Black River. Over time, the system deteriorated and no longer functions as intended.

Properties experience backyard flooding, front-yard flooding, standing water along the street edge. By providing a stormwater conveyance system in a specific area, property owners will be able to off-load their excess stormwater. Stormwater off the street pavement will also be captured, helping to prolong the life of the pavement.

Q. How much will the drainage improvements cost?

A. The cost of a new storm sewer system will depend on the improvements made. The cost of materials and labor at the time of construction will be the biggest factor in the final cost of improvements.

Q. How much will I have to pay?

A. The property owner's share of the project will depend on what improvements are made and if grant funding can be obtained to help offset costs that would otherwise be passed along to the owner.

Q: Explain the options for improvements?

A: Option 1

This option includes the resurfacing and re-crowning of the asphalt streets within the neighborhood. New storm sewers will be constructed with storm laterals for each property. Roadside ditches will remain and will be swaled where possible. Yard drains will accommodate front yard and street drainage on each property.

Option 2

This option includes the reconstruction of the roadway, widening it to 28 feet with curb & gutter. Parking will be permitted on one side of the street if amenable to the property owners. Each property will get a new concrete drive approach and roadside ditches will be eliminated. New storm sewers will be constructed along with storm laterals for each property.

Option 3

This option is the same as Option B but includes 5' sidewalks on both sides of the streets.

Option 4

This option is the least costly option with only new storm sewers, storm laterals and yard drains being constructed. Roadside ditches will remain (swales where possible) and the trenches for the sewers and laterals will be repaired with concrete and asphalt only (no total resurfacing of the streets)

Option 5

The final option includes all the items in Option 2, but the cost to property owners only includes the concrete work and storm sewer and laterals. The cost of the pavement and right of way work would be paid by with other funding sources.

The various options all include storm sewers and laterals (pipes extended towards the property outside the pavement limits).

Options 1 and 4 are very similar with the exception of full road resurfacing. Roadways could be resurfaced at some point in time using City funds if available, i.e. Issue 6. However, these options will require the roads to continue draining to roadside swales or ditches.

Options 2 and 5 are very similar with the exception of the funding breakdown. Both include a new roadway with concrete curb & gutter. A totally reconstructed roadway provides the most advantageous improvements to the neighborhood due to positive drainage off properties to the street and capturing the roadway stormwater within the roadway footprint with catch basin.

Q: Will sidewalks be included in any improvements?

A: Based on the overwhelming support for NOT having sidewalks in the neighborhood, sidewalks will not be considered at this time. (Note: even if sidewalks were paid for with grant monies and constructed at no cost to the property owner, sidewalks remain unwanted in the neighborhood)

Q. What dictates the limits of the improvements?

A. The area reviewed in 2017 and 2018 is the area that is included in the review of needed improvements. Which properties are impacted will be determined when preliminary plans are made.

Q: Is Overbrook included in the limits?

A: No, Overbrook Rd requires other improvements that are beyond the scope of this program.

Q: How will property owners pay for improvements if they are made?

A: If improvements are made and an invoice for said improvements is received, property owners will have the option to pay all, part, or none of the invoice. Whatever balance is on the invoice at the payment deadline will be certified as a Special Assessment to the Lorain County Auditor. The assessment/balance will be spread over a period of time and paid through the property tax bill (10 – 20 years depending on the improvements made).

Q: Are there grant funds available for improvements like these?

A: The City is always on the lookout for grant funding for projects.

Q: What's the next step?

A: Input from the July 12 meeting is being compiled. The comments will be reviewed by the ward councilman and engineering department. It will be determined if a plan for improvements should move forward.