

## **Grosse Pointe Park State of the Infrastructure Statement January 2022**

The GPP Infrastructure Committee in an effort to better set targets and inform the community intends to provide an overview of our current city Infrastructure status at the beginning of the year, our prioritization short and long term, as well as insight and definitions of some of our systems.

### **Primary Immediate Focus:** Flooding Protection

- Sanitary Water Capacity
  - EERV
  - Reduce Water Infiltration
  - Maximize Holding Capacity
- Storm Water Capacity
  - Reduce Water Infiltration
  - Expand Discharge Capacity
  - Maximize Holding Capacity
  - Bolster Existing Infrastructure by broadening Preventative Maintenance

**EERV (Extreme Emergency Relief Valve):** The sanitary sewer system for Grosse Pointe Park currently has a single outlet through the Detroit River Interceptor. However, if there is an inability to transfer that water the Sanitary barrel can only fill, eventually backing into homes. The **EERV** is intended as a last resort emergency measure in the event of system failure, where we can open and pump water out of the sanitary barrel to our Patterson well for discharge. The ***EERV is being designed with the hope that it will never be used.*** This failsafe would exist to prevent a sanitary backup into the homes of our residents as well as reducing backups to neighboring communities. This valve is in response to the sanitary, environmental and financial catastrophe previous backups have caused. GPP takes our responsibilities to our community, state and broader environment seriously and have continued to expand the design in conjunction with feedback from residents, state and engineering to create the most tailored and specific design that will best protect residents and neighboring communities.

### **Secondary Focus:** Water Mains and Lead Lines Replacement:

The **Water Main** system in GPP, as has been outlined in previous meetings, has reached the end of its expected lifespan. This has resulted in increasing water main failures. GPP is undertaking a broad multiyear plan to systemically replace water mains and upgrade infrastructure, this will improve service, reliability as well as reducing maintenance costs.

**Lead Lines:** First and foremost, it is important to reiterate **GPP Drinking Water is safe, please review the water quality report on the city website.** This has been verified repeatedly through drinking water tests. **However, an unfunded state mandate exists for the replacement of lead lines.** We have a legal obligation to work towards ongoing replacements over the next 20 years. Our intention is to do targeted, but aggressive changeouts, coupling lead line replacements with other water infrastructure projects to minimize both the invasiveness to residents as well as keeping costs down.

**Financing:** Establishing the best form of financing for these long-term projects. This includes aggressively pursuing any and all grant and rebate money that is available, including but not limited to State Drinking Water revolving Fund for PY 2022 and 2023.

### **Additional and Ongoing Projects:**

**Resident Information and Engagement:** In conjunction with the communication committee, we will investigate developing a better system for residents to report, be informed and to compile for DPW infrastructure issues and concerns.

**Continued scoping of sewer systems** to eliminate infiltrations (separations and downspout disconnection), flow bottle necks and better understanding of water usage and flow.

**Preventative maintenance of existing systems.**

**Working with external partners to improve reliability, accountability and reporting.**

**Improving surfacing of roadways and alleyways.**

**Lighting Upgrades and Replacement**

**Engaging in more efficient use of resources and energy, to reduce cost to residents and minimize waste.**

## Meeting Agenda (With Notes):

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Adopt Mission Statement (*Read it out loud, having a mission statement in place helps focus a committee*)
- Adopt State of the City Infrastructure (*State that Going forward, we intend to release a statement at the beginning of the year as a basic blueprint, the one pager above will be our starting off point, depending on feedback we will adjust or expand as needed, this statement to be posted on website/media etc. At this point will also acknowledge that much of what is being gone over here is all work in progress, we have been holding regular discussions and meetings, but today is for a formalized meeting*).
- OHM Update
  - EERV (timeline) (*Confirm with Patrick regarding timeline, ideally set a date where a working design can start being floated in terms of construction*)
  - Sewer Scoping Progress Report (timeline) (*Estimate next benchmark (50%? Completed increasing capacity and modeling)) 50% end of March, 100% mid July*)
  - Preventative Maintenance Planning (*Proactive instead of Reactive*)
- DPW Update
  - Water Main Projects/Updates (DPW) (*Mack Avenue main replacement timing?*)
  - Road work update **local streets st pauls**
  - Alley Separation (*February Starting*)
  - DPW building Update(*on schedule*)
- City Manager
  - Financing/Budgeting Inquiry
    - EERV (*Next EGLE Meeting?*)
    - Water Main & Lead Lines, Sewer (Bonding/utility rates) (*Fox creek enclosure, potential partnership*) (*refine utility rates by reviewing and doing a deep dive on charges*)
    - Update on Grant applications, rebate application potential (DTE) (*FEMA reimbursement, St Lawrence Great Lakes Fund, Patterson Park Shoreline, Windmill Point Break Wall* )
    - Potential Preventative Maintenance Set Aside
    - Financing Assignment (Tom) (*Assign Tom as city council point person*)
- Communication Assignment (Brian)
  - Website for reporting issues, compile into useable spreadsheet for city (*Set overlap and point person as Brian with Communications committee. I will reiterate intention for better communication, resident feedback, data acquisition, possible application to also* )
- Comments (*Communication with resents, honesty about the system capacity, financing of the EERV timeline of it*)
- Future Meetings
- Adjournment

## Meeting Agenda:

- **Call to Order**
- **Roll Call**
- **Adopt Mission Statement**
- **Adopt State of the City Infrastructure**
- **OHM Update**
  - **EERV (timeline)**
  - **Sewer Scoping Progress Report (timeline)**
  - **Preventative Maintenance Planning**
- **DPW Update**
  - **Water Main Projects/Updates (DPW)**
  - **Road work update**
  - **Alley Separation**
  - **DPW building Update**
- **City Manager**
  - **Financing/Budgeting Inquiry**
    - **EERV**
    - **Water Main & Lead Lines, Sewer (Bonding/utility rates)**
    - **Update on Grant applications, rebate application potential (DTE)**
    - **Potential Preventative Maintenance Set Aside**
    - **Financing Assignment (Tom)**
- **Communication Assignment (Brian)**
  - **Website for reporting issues, compile into useable spreadsheet for city**
- **Comments**
- **Future Meeting Schedule**
- **Adjournment**

**Mission Statement:**

Grosse Pointe Park is an older and developed community with aging infrastructure including our regional utilities and bordering communities. As was demonstrated by the flooding events of 2021, the status quo is unacceptable, it is crucial that as an infrastructure committee we take a thorough inventory of our existing systems and begin a concerted effort of Preventative Maintenance, Capacity Upgrades and new System installations to protect our resident's health, their property and the broader environment. While infrastructure also entails roads, alleys, lighting, the immediate focus for this committee is our water and sewer infrastructure and specifically mitigating the risk of flooding to our residents.

In tandem with these immediate upgrade concerns, we must work towards a long-term sewer, water main and lead line upgrade plan coupled with financing. As a committee we will strive to consolidate as many upgrades as possible to streamline and reduce financial impact, as well as broadening our Preventative Maintenance Planning to lessen long term burdens.

**Additional Information for EGLE presentation**

**Photos of Devastation**

**Insurance information, rate increases**

**Letters from Neighboring Communities**