



**Councillor Frances Nunziata**  
**Council Speaker**  
Toronto City Council  
Ward 11  
York South-Weston

**City Hall**  
100 Queen Street West  
Suite C49  
Toronto, ON Canada M5H 2N2  
Telephone: (416) 392-4091/92/93  
Fax: (416) 392-4118  
councillor\_nunziata@toronto.ca  
[www.toronto.ca](http://www.toronto.ca)

September 19, 2013

Attn: Chair & Members of the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee

From: Councillor Frances Nunziata

Re: **PW25.7 Impact of July 8, 2013 storm on the City's Sewer and Stormwater Systems**

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On Monday, July 8, the City of Toronto experienced record-breaking rainfall, resulting in flooding across the City. With millions of dollars in damages reported after the storm, thousands of people were left with flooded basements and in the case of one community in York South-Weston, no hot water for several weeks following the storm. Residents across the City have since incurred the cost of clean up, ripping out their basements and rebuilding. City property did not make it through the storm unscathed, with infrastructure being damaged beyond repair – the Humber Boulevard Bridge over the Black Creek Channel is an example of such damage.

While flooding, and the associated hardship that comes with it was widespread across the City, the Black Creek (Rockcliffe) Area was especially hard hit, with the July 8<sup>th</sup> storm being the third instance of flooding in this area this year. This area, identified by the City as a Basement Flooding Study Area (Area 4), experienced severe flooding not only as a result of overflows of the City's sewers, but also because of its close proximity to the Black Creek Channel. The City's Official Plan identifies this area as a *Special Policy Area* which refers to "parts of the community that have historically existed in the floodplain..."; this designation acknowledges that the area is at an increased risk of flooding, above and beyond what other areas would experience with severe rain storms.

In 2009, the Toronto Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) began the Black Creek Flood Management Class Environmental Assessment in which they identified 297 properties within the Black Creek (Rockcliffe) Area considered to be of medium-high flood risk. It is no surprise that these properties lie within the same area of Ward 11 that experienced severe flooding and consequently, significant damage to both public and private property.

It is in this context that I request that the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee adopt the following recommendation:

That the TRCA be requested to forward to the General Manager, Toronto Water, information on houses within the flood plain that are most vulnerable to flooding from the Black Creek Watershed and that Toronto Water and TRCA infrastructure projects which may reduce the risk of flooding for these homes be considered a priority.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Frances Nunziata".

Frances Nunziata  
Councillor, Ward 11, York South-Weston