

Basement Flooding & Water Quality Improvements Study

Website: toronto.ca/bf45

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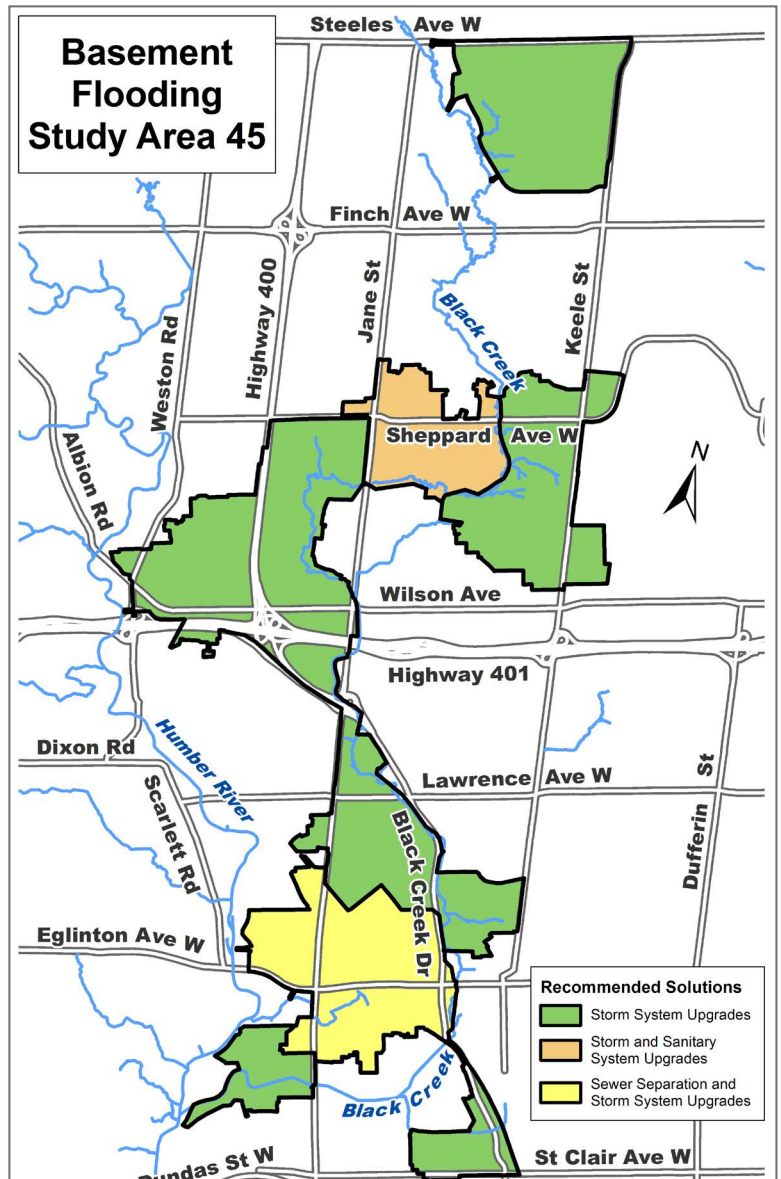


We Want to Hear from You!

Join us at an upcoming public event to review, discuss and provide your feedback on the recommended solutions for reducing the risk of basement and surface flooding and improving stormwater runoff quality in this study area (see map on the right).

The recommended solutions include a number of storm and sanitary sewer system upgrades and water quality improvement initiatives, like sewer upsizing, catchbasin treatments and combined sewer separation.

Please see this map for recommended solutions to reduce the risk of future flooding in this area.



Public Consultation Drop-In Event #2

Date:
Wednesday, December 11, 2019

Time:
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Location:
Falstaff Community Centre
50 Falstaff Avenue
(Lawrence Avenue West & Keele Street Area)

This location is wheelchair accessible

Your input will be used to inform/finalize the recommended solutions.

What is the City recommendations for Study Area 45?

Through this study, the Project Team has evaluated and considered many options to help address surface and basement flooding and improve water quality in the study area. The recommended infrastructure solutions include:

Sewer Upgrades and Wet/Dry Ponds



Controlling Stormwater

Using stormwater ponds, bioretention units and repairing sanitary sewers for surface flow diversion



Increasing Sewer Pipe Size

Sewer upgrades replacing old sewer with larger one

Drainage Measures



Diverting Surface Drainage

Redirecting water away from low-lying areas with no direct outlet



Catchbasin Inlet Control

Limiting the amount of water that can enter storm sewer



Increasing Number of Catchbasins

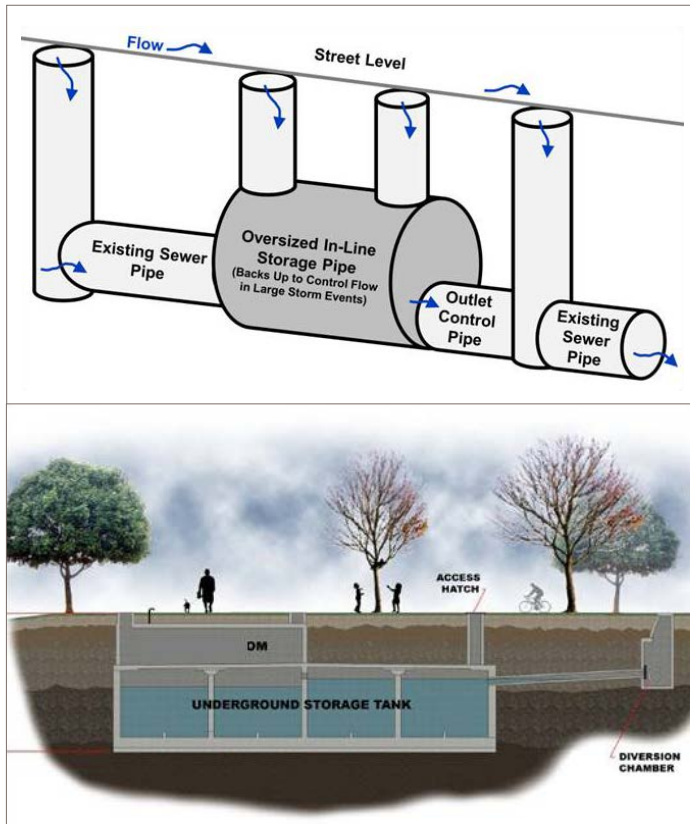
Where there is pipe capacity, adding more catchbasins to capture more flow



Sealing Sanitary Manhole Covers

Preventing water from entering the sanitary system in low-lying areas

Underground Storage



Underground Storage Tank and Pipes

An underground storage pipe controls the rate of inflowing sanitary or stormwater through temporary detention and slow release to the receiving sewer, reducing the potential for flooding

From Study to Construction

Once a study is complete, the recommended basement flooding projects are sequenced into a 5-year project list which is presented on an annual basis to City Council.

Projects are prioritized and scheduled to protect the greatest number of properties as soon as possible, within approved budgets and coordinated with other construction work, as per Council-approved criteria.

The length and type of construction will vary depending on the type of projects being implemented.

Construction Project Prioritization

Not all recommended projects from the study will proceed immediately to the design and construction stage. Projects are prioritized for implementation based on a City Council-adopted \$32,000 cost-per-benefitting-property threshold. Projects with a cost less than \$32,000 per property at the study stage and preliminary design stage proceed to construction.

Projects that exceed the \$32,000 cost-per-benefitting-property threshold will not be included in the five-year project list to undergo preliminary design. They will be moved into the State of Good Repair's long-term capital plan.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Water remains on our street for some time after a storm—is this okay?

Our streets are designed to carry stormwater flows that exceed the capacity of the storm sewer. Temporary ponding on streets is expected during major rainstorms. If the road has not drained two hours after the rain has stopped, residents are asked to call 3-1-1.

2. Can't the City just increase the size of all the sewers to handle extreme storms?

Unfortunately it is not as simple as making the pipes bigger. The challenge is which pipes, how big to make them, and how it will affect other residents. Other constraints can include space availability, conflicts with existing or proposed future infrastructure, basement elevations, pipe depth and environmental impacts. The variability in the amount of rainfall and how fast it falls is so vast that it is impractical to design a pipe system to capture it all.

As well, City Council approved funding priority and availability is also a factor in implementing these sewer system upgrades.

3. Will this study provide a solution to my backyard drainage issues?

The City's studies are aimed at addressing flooding that originates from the City's right-of-way or property (i.e. roads and sewer infrastructure) not on private property. Flooding on private property that is a result of poor surface drainage conditions due to low topography or poor lot grading is outside the scope of this study and is the responsibility of the property owner. Residents are encouraged to speak with a landscaper or contractor to discuss drainage issues and options for their backyards.

4. I installed a backwater valve in my basement and my home was still flooded. How is this possible?

Flooding can occur for many different reasons. Property owners are encouraged to speak with a licensed plumber or contractor to determine whether the devices are installed correctly and at the right location (e.g. some basements have more than one floor drain). Property owners are also responsible for proper and routine cleaning and maintenance of these devices to ensure they are in good working order.

A correct type and CSA-approved backwater valve is necessary to protect backups to basement floor drains. For additional information, visit toronto.ca/water.

5. Why should I report flooding incidents to 3-1-1?

While it is not mandatory for you to report instances of flooding to the City, it is recommended. City staff will review the problem and attempt to determine the source(s) of the flooding and include solutions if found to be a system deficiency or renovation by your neighbour. If you live in a condo tower or townhomes, please go through your building property manager (to connect with the City and track the incident). Your building management is encouraged to call 3-1-1 at any time 24/7 or email at 311@toronto.ca.

For More Information

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