Basement Flooding Study Area 60

Scarborough North, Scarborough-Agincourt and Scarborough-Guildwood

Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study

December 2022

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Learn about our Study

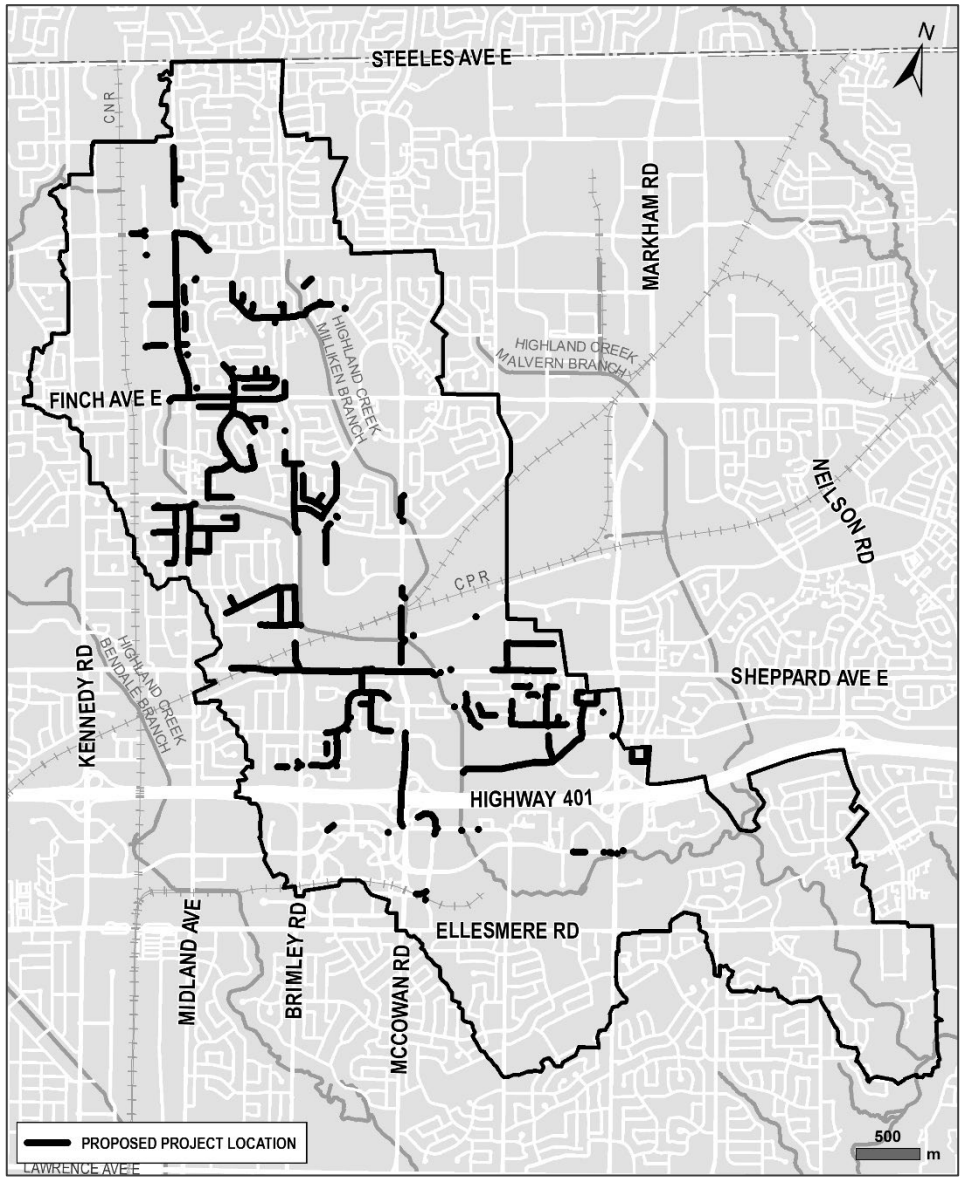
We invite you to read through this presentation to learn more about the City's study about basement flooding for Study Area 60

You will learn about:

- the purpose of the study
- what solutions have been considered and the recommended solution
- how impacts will be managed
- how to get in touch with City staff to ask questions or share your comments

Study Area

- The Study Area is located within Scarborough North, Scarborough-Agincourt and Scarborough-Guildwood
- This area is bounded by Steeles Avenue and Ellesmere Road, and by Kennedy Road and Neilson Road



Maps highlighting the extents of the proposed projects for Area 60 and the location of Area 60 within the City of Toronto.

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Study Purpose

The City is undertaking a Basement Flooding Study to:

- examine the existing storm water drainage and sanitary sewer systems and identify the causes of basement flooding and/or surface flooding (severe ponding on streets during extreme storms)
- identify and evaluate solutions
- make recommendations to reduce the risk of future basement flooding in the area and increase capacity in the City's storm and sanitary collection and overland drainage systems

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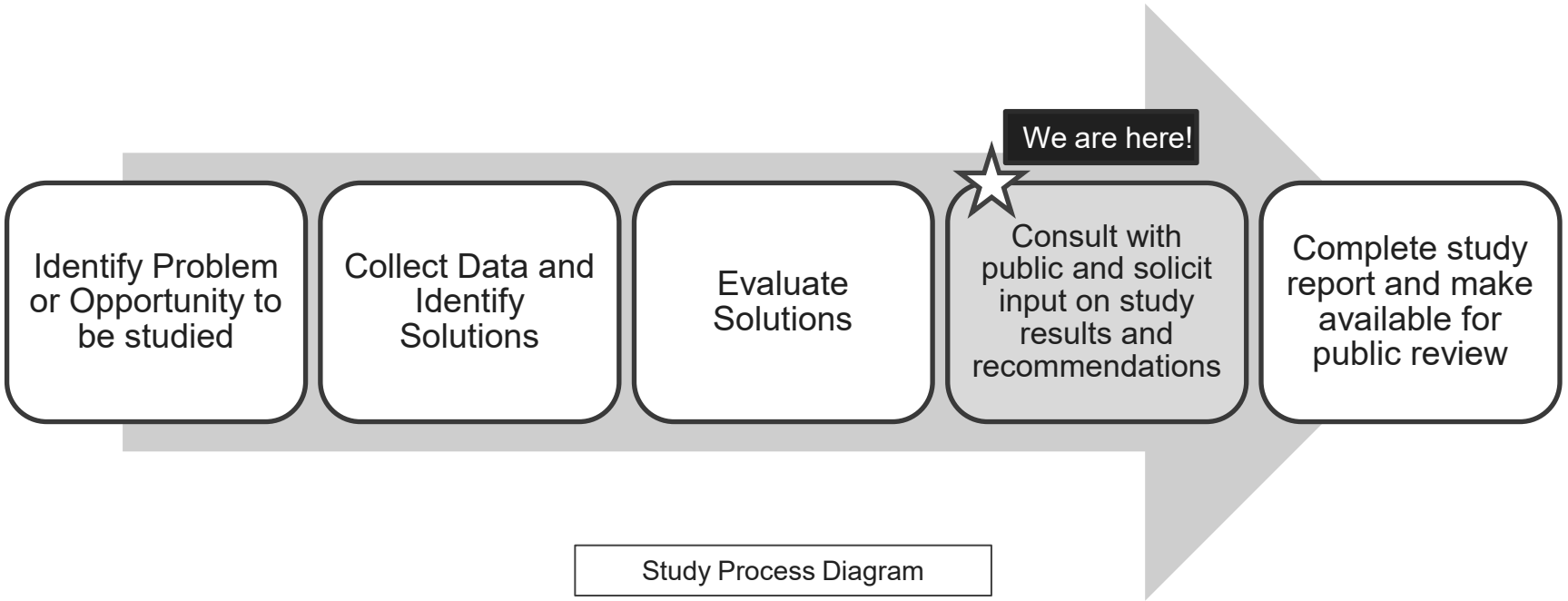
Study Process

The study is being undertaken in accordance with the Municipal Engineers Association's Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process for Schedule B projects which involves completion of Phases 1 & 2 of the planning process as illustrated below:



Study Process Diagram

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About Basement Flooding

Flooding within the Study Area

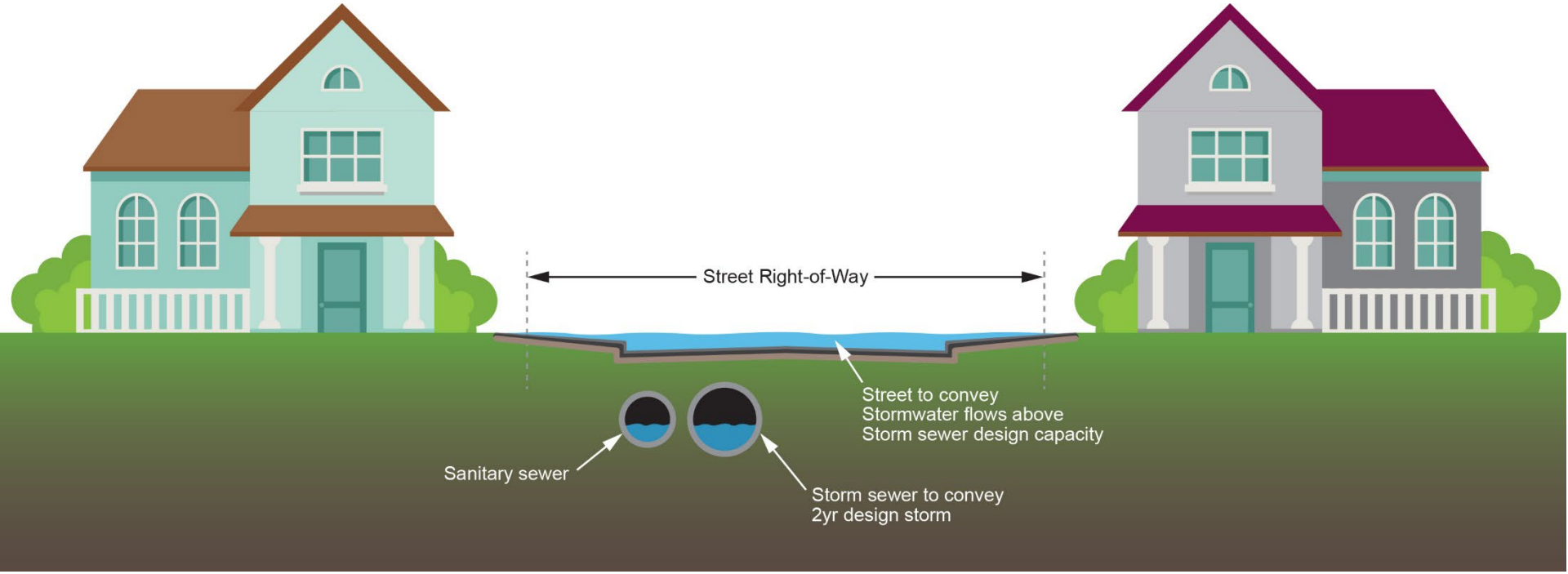
There are a number of factors contributing to flooding in the area, including:

- Sanitary trunk sewer aligned with major watercourses, offering potential for infiltration
- Elevated baseflows in the sanitary sewer taking up flow capacity
- Rural lot drainage and flow paths on private property
- Sewers not sized to handle high flows during extreme events
- Shallow sewers with less potential for freeboard from basements
- Insufficient overland flow drainage and ponding at low points
- Large industrial-commercial-institutional sector with high imperviousness ratios

Storm Drainage System

Storm sewers (or minor system) convey stormwater runoff from up to 2-year design storm.

Streets (or major system) convey major storms that exceed the storm sewer capacity. Temporary ponding on streets is expected during major rainstorms.



Graphic showing the conveyance of stormwater along the storm sewers (minor system) and streets (major system)

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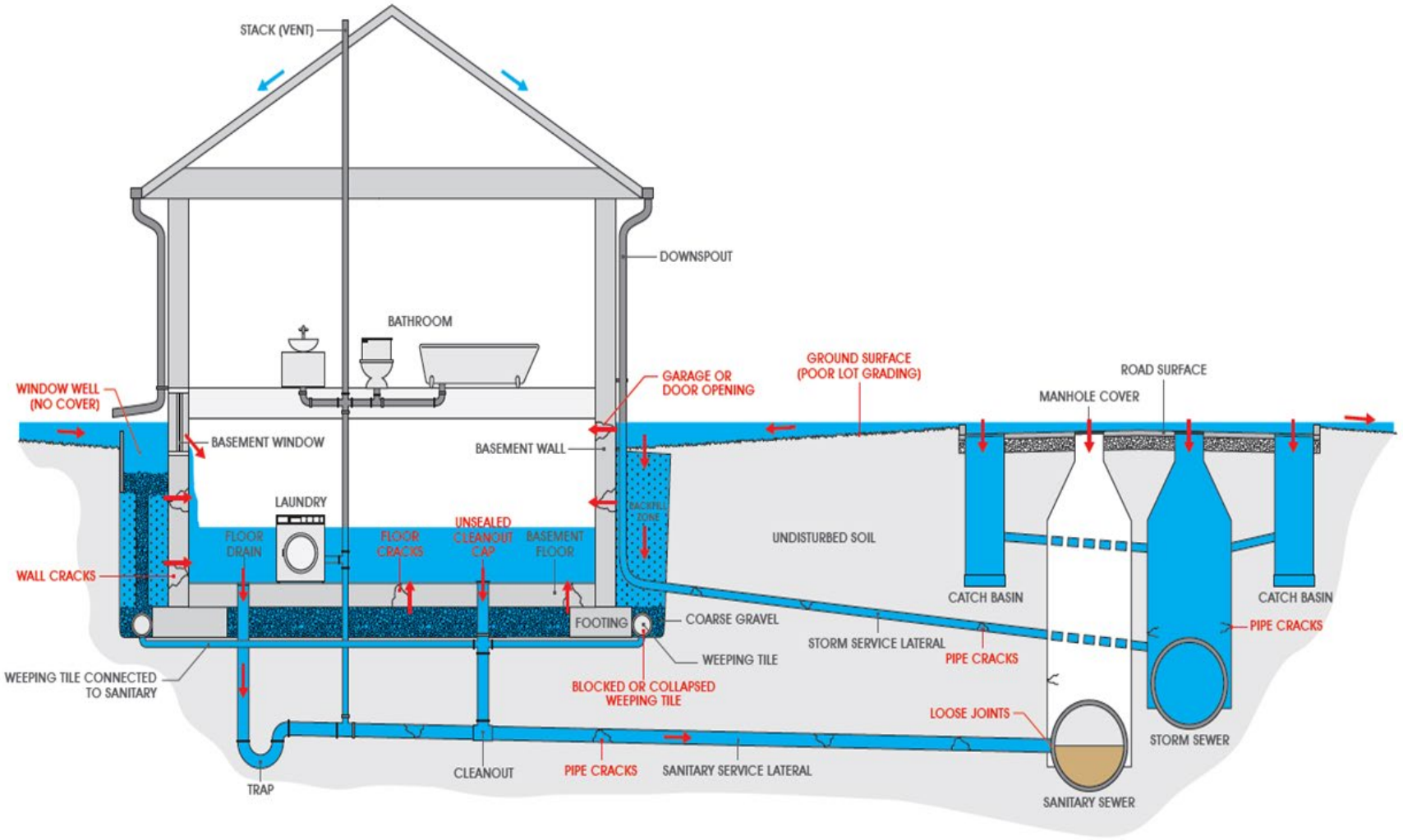
Typical Causes of Basement Flooding



Graphic highlighting the typical causes of basement flooding for a house

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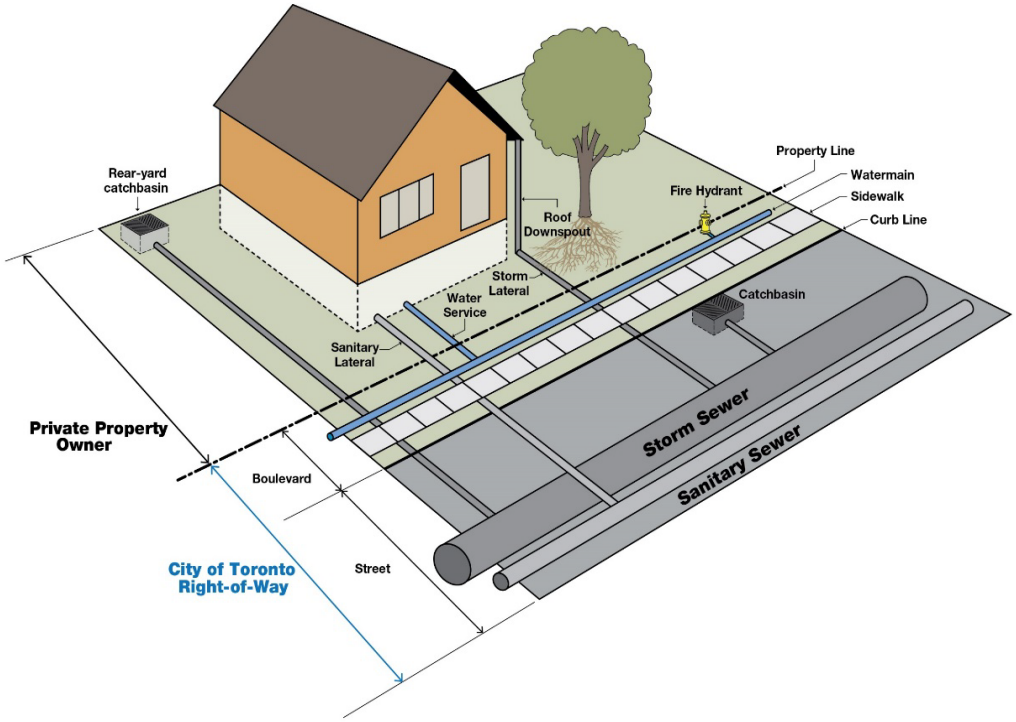
Area of Responsibility – City

The City is responsible for infrastructure within the public Right-of-Way and plans to achieve a higher than existing level of service for:

- Sanitary Sewers
- Storm Sewers
- Catchbasins within roadways
- Overland drainage within roadways



Graphic showing infrastructure within and outside of the Public Right-of-Way

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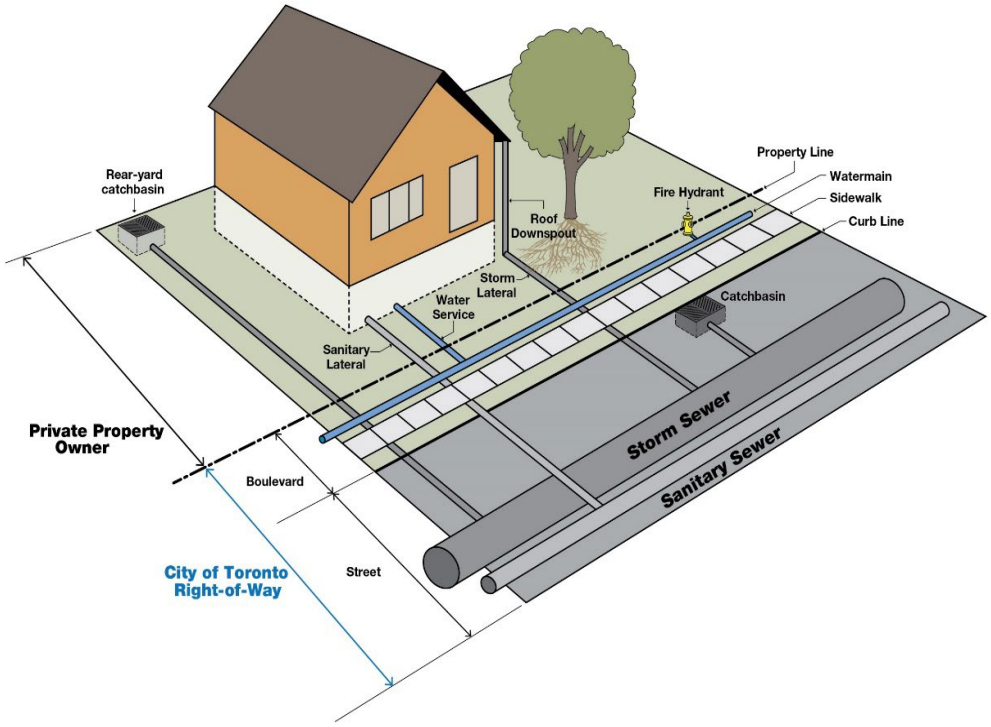
Area of Responsibility – Property Owner

Each homeowner is responsible for the operation and maintenance of drainage systems on private property including:

- Lot grading
- Front and rear-yard or driveway drainage catchbasins
- Foundation drains
- Sump pumps and backwater valves
- Private tree roots and what you put down the drains (fats, oils, grease, etc.)
- Disconnecting downspouts



Graphic showing infrastructure within and outside of the Public Right-of-Way

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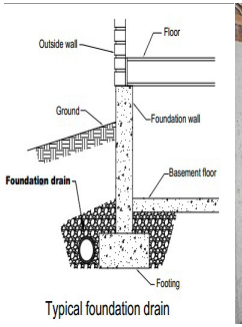
Property Owner – Potential Solutions

Solutions that can be implemented by property owners include:

Maintaining front and rear-yard drainage or driveway catchbasins

Installing backwater valve

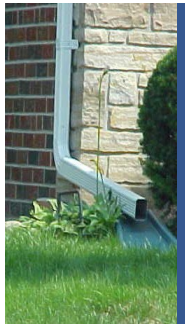
Installing permeable paving



Typical foundation drain

Disconnecting foundation drains from sanitary sewer and installing / maintaining sump pumps

Improving lot grading



Disconnecting downspouts

Using rain barrels

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Existing Flooding Conditions

Existing Sewer System Conditions

The City and its consultants have examined the existing sewer system:

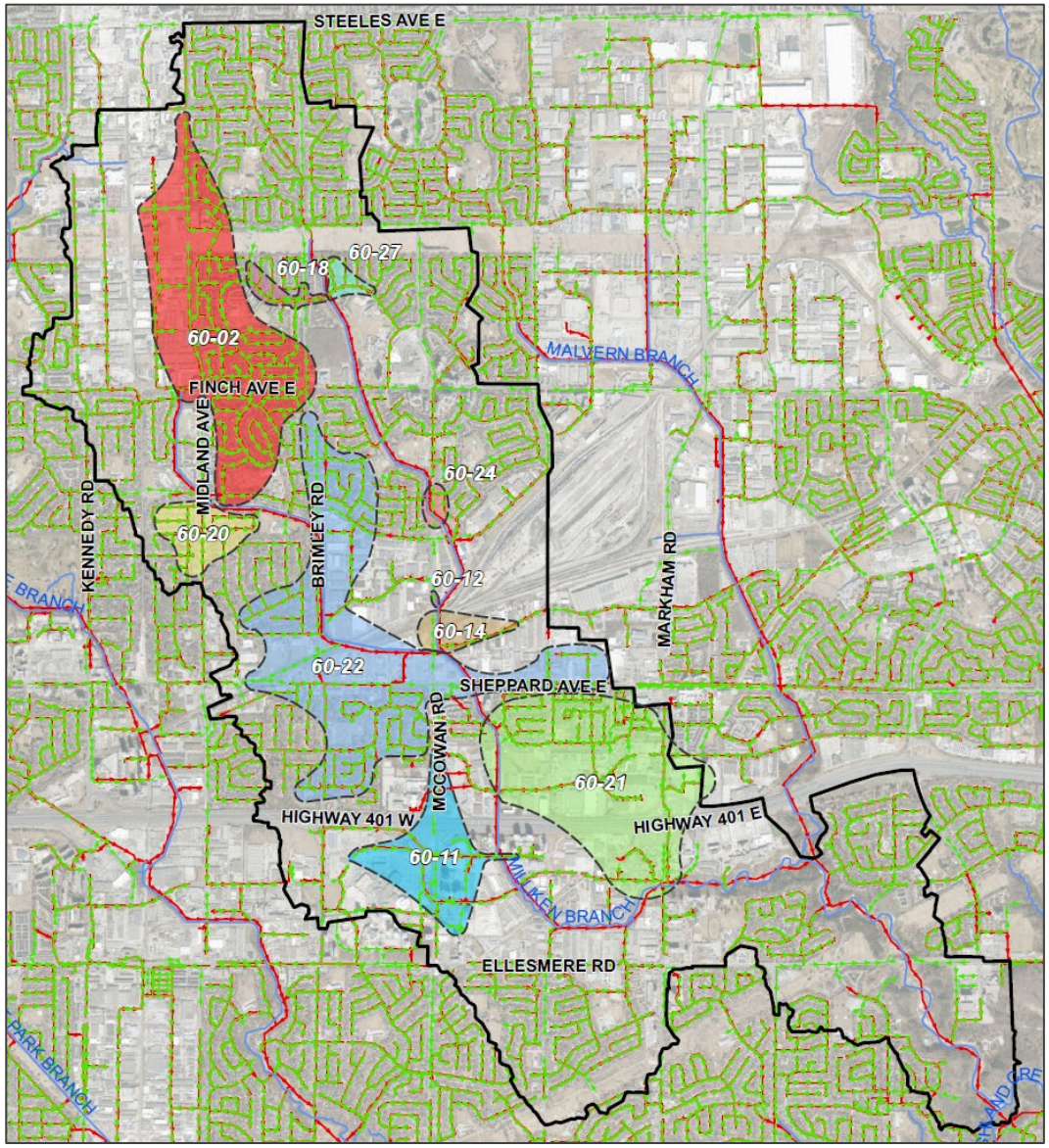
- Separated Sanitary and Storm sewer network, draining north to south
- The Storm sewer is tributary to the Milliken Branch of Highland Creek

Factors related to flooding include:

- Sanitary subtrunks aligned with watercourses offering potential for infiltration, resulting in elevated baseflows in the sanitary sewer that take up flow capacity
- Pipes not sized to handle high flows during extreme events
- Presence of shallow sewers, providing less potential for freeboard from basements
- High surface runoff generated from high-impervious ICI areas and parking lots
- Storm outfall capacities influenced by creek water levels, resulting in backwater

Existing Sewer Network

- In general, issues with the storm drainage system are due to pipes not being sized to handle high flows during extreme events.
- The sanitary system is also overwhelmed under extreme events.



Legend

- Study Area
- Schedule B Assignment Area
- Storm Sewer
- Sanitary Sewer

Map showing the existing network of Sanitary and Storm sewers

Basement Flooding Solutions

Solutions to Basement Flooding

To help reduce the risk of future basement flooding, the City has identified several solutions prioritized for implementation, which include:

- Overland surface drainage controls
- Adjusting the number of catchbasins
- Catchbasin inlet controls
- In-line storage pipes
- Replacing existing pipes with new larger pipes
- Outfall upgrades

Solutions are intended to improve drainage system capacity to the Council-approved Enhanced protection levels (100-year storm for the storm drainage system, and the historic May 12, 2000 event for the sanitary system).

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Storm Sewer Basement Flooding Solutions

Overland Surface Drainage Control

- This solution diverts stormwater away from low lying areas that have no direct outlet to reduce ponding on the surface

What Does it Involve?

- Installation of a large inlet grate or “curb drain” (shown below) to intercept road or boulevard flows and direct the flow into the sewer system

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Storm Sewer Basement Flooding Solutions

Increasing the Number of Catchbasins

- Where there is capacity in the storm sewer, the City will add more catchbasins to capture flow from the surface

What Does it Involve?

- Minor excavation of the road to install the new catchbasin(s) and connect to the storm sewer and restoration of the curb and road

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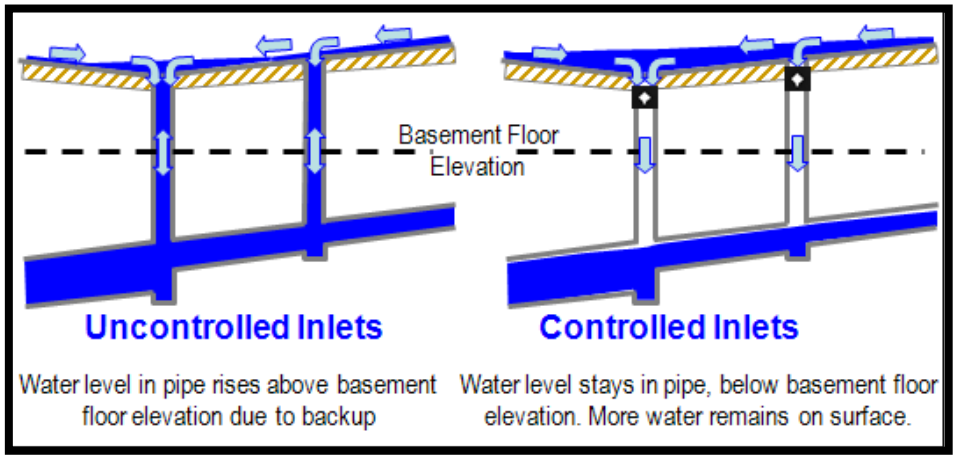
Storm Sewer Basement Flooding Solutions

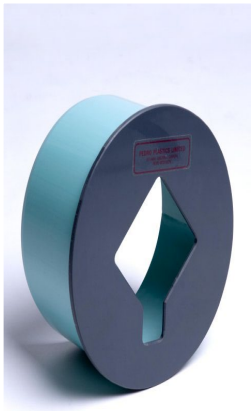
Catchbasin Inlet Controls

- Can limit flow into the storm sewer system to control back-up
- Used in locations where more water can be kept on the surface

What Does it Involve?

- Installation of a plastic or metal plate / device inside the catchbasin outlet and is not visible
- Requires minimal effort and time to install





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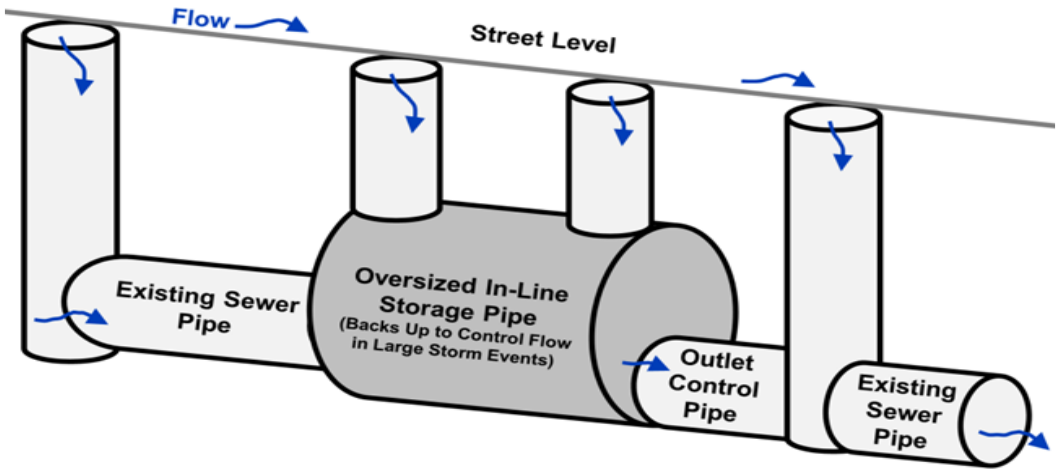
Storm / Sanitary Sewer Basement Flooding Solutions

In-line Storage Pipes

- New oversized pipes are constructed to temporarily store water and help relieve overloading of the sewer system

What Does it Involve?

- Excavation of the road to remove the old sewer, maintenance hole and catchbasin and disconnection of the sewer service line(s)
- A new sewer is then installed and connected to the system followed by restoration of the road and boulevard



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Storm / Sanitary Sewer Basement Flooding Solutions

Replacement of Existing Storm and/or Sanitary Sewers

- Increase the size of the sewer pipe by replacing the old sewer with a larger pipe (upsize), installing underground storage tanks

What Does it Involve?

- Excavation and removal of the old sewer, maintenance hole and catchbasin and disconnection of sewer service line(s)
- A new sewer is then installed and connected to the system followed by restoration of the road and boulevard

Image of storm sewer replacement in road during construction

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Evaluation of Alternatives and Recommended Solutions

Evaluation Criteria for Alternatives

Each alternative solution was evaluated based on their ability to address the Study's purpose and to compare their relative impact based on the criteria below:

Natural Environment

- ✓ Terrestrial systems (vegetation, trees, wildlife)
- ✓ Aquatic systems (aquatic life and vegetation)
- ✓ Surface and groundwater
- ✓ Soil and geology
- ✓ Receiving water quality
- ✓ Stream erosion

Socio-Cultural

- ✓ Land use impacts (parks, ravines, open spaces)
- ✓ Community disruption during construction (traffic, noise, construction in easements)
- ✓ Community disruption after construction (visual impact, odour, safety)
- ✓ Potential impacts to archaeological and cultural resources
- ✓ Impacts to Indigenous Communities

Technical

- ✓ Effectiveness in reducing surface and basement flooding
- ✓ Improvement to runoff quality
- ✓ Feasibility of implementation (available space, accessibility, constructability, easement requirements, approvals)
- ✓ Potential impacts on upstream/downstream and surrounding area infrastructure
- ✓ Impacts on operating and maintenance requirements

Economics

- ✓ Capital cost
- ✓ Operating and maintenance costs

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Recommended Solutions Overview

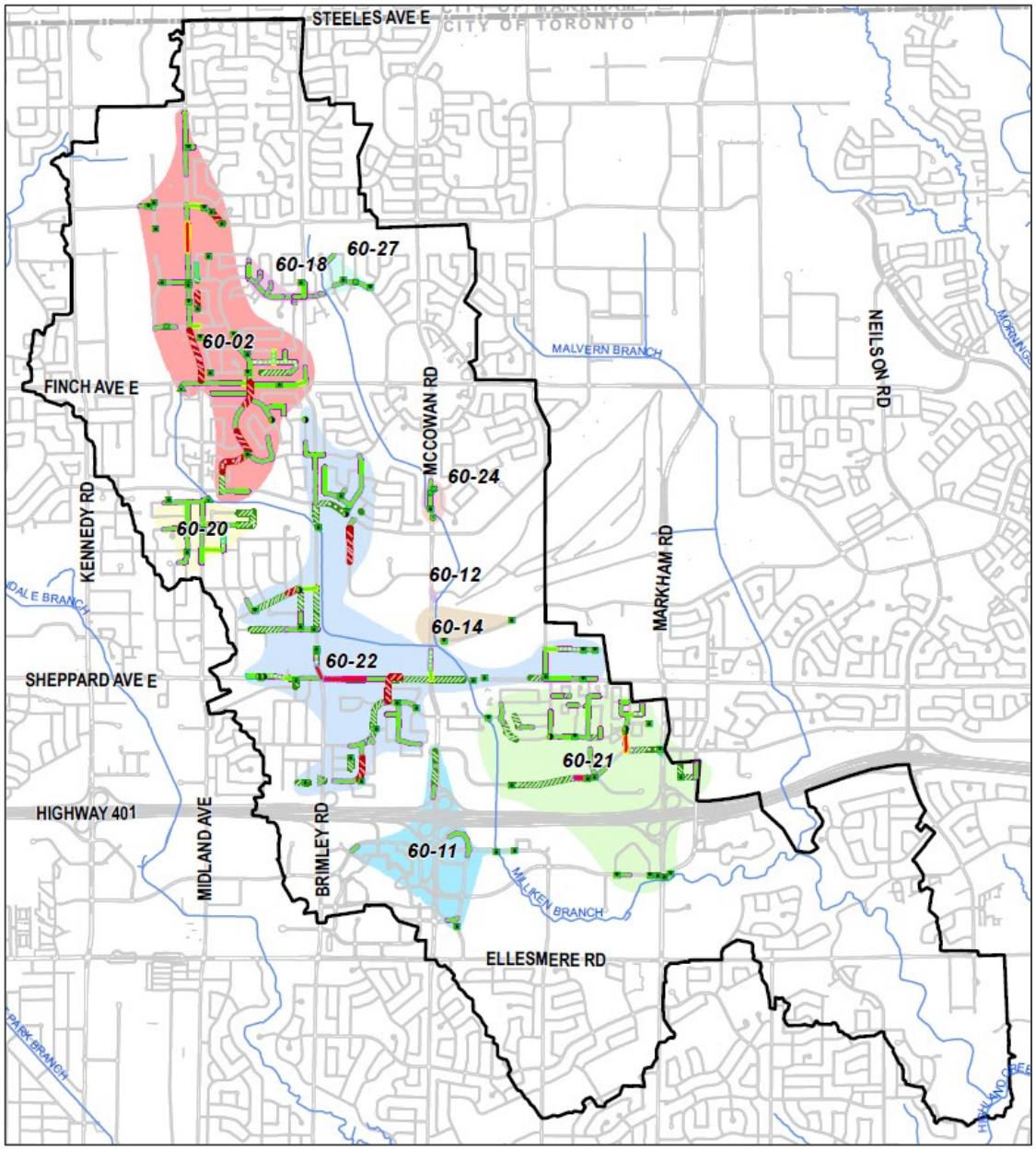
Legend

Proposed Storm Solution

- Upgrade Outfall
- Remove Catchbasins
- Increase Inlet Capacity
- Isolate Manhole
- Increase Inlet Capacity, Isolate Manhole
- Remove Catchbasins, Depress Curb
- New
- Realign
- Replace
- Upgrade
- Realign and Upgrade
- Inline Storage
- Realign and Inline Storage

Proposed Sanitary Solution

- New
- Replace
- Upgrade
- Inline Storage
- Realign and Inline Storage



Mitigation of Potential Impacts and Next Steps

Mitigation of Potential Impacts

Mitigation measures will be reviewed and refined during the detailed design

Habitat and Trees

- Vegetation removal to occur outside of the breeding bird season of April to August
- If stockpiles of gravel and sand are required during the active turtle season (April to October), install turtle exclusion fencing around stockpiles prior
- Implement erosion and sediment control mitigation measures
- Spill Prevention and Contingency Plan to be developed prior to construction
- Prepare tree removal and protection plans, along with tree protection barriers and signage where required
- Prepare tree compensation plans for tree removals
- Any damaged trees will be pruned through the implementation of proper arboricultural techniques, under supervision of a certified arborist
- On-site inspection during construction

Mitigation of Potential Impacts

Sediment and Watercourse Protection

- Prior to the installation of a new outfall, determine increase in outlet velocities and flows and design energy dissipation measures as required to prevent erosion
- Consider flow path and outlet orientation with existing bank and potential for bank hardening to prevent erosion

Construction Measures

- Complete Traffic Management Plan
- Conduct a field review to confirm the result of archaeological potential
- Use of Best Management Practices for dust control and vibration monitoring during construction
- Use of low noise equipment during construction, where possible
- Notify impacted property owners prior to construction
- Maintain access to fronting properties

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From Study to Construction

- All City basement flooding 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
- Projects are also prioritized for implementation based on a City Council adopted $68,000 cost per benefitting property threshold
- Once a project progresses to preliminary design, if there is a cost-benefit less than $68,000 per property, the project may proceed to construction
- Projects that exceed the $68,000 cost per benefitting property threshold will be moved into the State-of-Good-Repair's long term capital plan

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Contact Us

Thank you for viewing the study information

- Contact us if you have any questions or submit comments by email or phone
  - Mae Lee, Senior Public Consultation Coordinator
  - 416-392-8210 or FloodingStudy@toronto.ca
- The study team will review your feedback
- A project file report will then be completed in 2023 and made available for a 30-day public review

www.toronto.ca/BF60

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