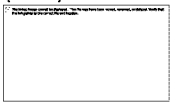
Message

From: Lorenzo Thompson [lorenzo.thompson@tcivil.com]
Sent: 4/1/2020 7:51:27 PM
To: Marceillars, Rochelle [Marceillars.Rochelle@epa.gov]; Candiac Pearson [cpearson@cesl.us]
CC: Mary Vandevord [mary.vandevord@heartlandsconservancy.org]; Samuel Swanson [sswanson@cesl.us]; Zobrist, Tyson J CIV USARMY CEMVS (USA) [Tyson.J.Zobrist@usace.army.mil]; Van Der Kloot, James [vanderkloot.james@epa.gov]; Siegel, Kathryn [siegel.kathryn@epa.gov]; Furey, Eileen [furey.eileen@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: East St. Louis, Summit Ave. Flooding
Attachments: ATT00001.txt

Thanks Rochelle,

I'll review this and discuss it with Sam.

Thanks,
Lorenzo Thompson
(314)724-3127



From: Marceillars, Rochelle <Marceillars.Rochelle@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2020 1:00 PM
To: Lorenzo Thompson <lorenzo.thompson@tcivil.com>
Cc: Mary Vandevord <mary.vandevord@heartlandsconservancy.org>; Samuel Swanson <sswanson@cesl.us>; Zobrist, Tyson J CIV USARMY CEMVS (USA) <Tyson.J.Zobrist@usace.army.mil>; Van Der Kloot, James <vanderkloot.james@epa.gov>; Siegel, Kathryn <siegel.kathryn@epa.gov>; Furey, Eileen <furey.eileen@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: East St. Louis, Summit Ave. Flooding

Hi Lorenzo,

Thanks for the information. Below are notes from the conference call held on March 26, 2020 to discuss the Marybelle Avenue/Summit flooding in East St. Louis, IL.
The below individuals participated.

- Tyson Zobrist, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Mary Vandevord, Heartlands Conservancy Organization
- Chris Pressnall, Illinois EPA
- Rochelle Marceillars, U.S. EPA

Notes from Call

Tyson provided an update when he met Sam Swanson and yourself at the above location on March 4th. It was my understanding that it was a lot of water and trash so you could not identify the source for the flooding. As you stated in your email below, the City could pump the water out of the ditches to get a better view of what is happening or causing the flooding. However, we were informed that Ameren has a powerline that runs through the ditch, therefore, they would have to be notified before any pumping would occur.

There were some follow-up items suggested to Sam such as, (1) check City files for maintenance and/or drainage plans; (2) contact IDOT to request the original construction plans of that area; and (3) contact Metro East Sanitary District to get information on Harding ditch which they manage. During the call we were informed that the City had no maintenance or drainage plans.

Mary provided some valuable information on this issue. She spoke with Christine Davis, Illinois EPA. They discussed it would be a great benefit to look at flooding, drainage and water quality issues (including combined sewer issues) from a watershed perspective. The Marybelle Ave location is in the Prairie du Pont Watershed that also contains Centreville, who are also experiencing flooding and sewer backup issues. It also contains Frank Holten State Park which Mary and I discussed the flooding issue where sewage water runs into the lake where the residents fish.

A watershed plan that looks at flood storage, water quality, and other water issues in this area would be able to look at all the issues together and then set forth a plan of action for moving important projects forward. The process would also need to include robust community outreach to identify residents' perspectives on problems and determine the most appropriate solutions. However, it will not immediately fix the problem, but it would provide longer term solutions and hopefully prevent others from happening. Mary's organization has been working on plans similar to this for many years in the Metro East area and currently are working on three watershed plans in Madison County.

I will check at the regional office for technical expertise and possible funding involving watersheds and infrastructure. I shared with the group some upcoming funding opportunities below:

- The Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) program is a federal-state partnership that provides communities a permanent, independent source of low-cost financing for a wide range of water quality infrastructure projects.
    - ✓ Stormwater - Assistance to any public, private, or nonprofit entity for measures to manage, reduce, treat, or recapture stormwater or subsurface drainage water.
    - ✓ Decentralized wastewater treatment systems - Assistance to any public, private, or nonprofit entity for the construction, repair, or replacement of decentralized wastewater treatment systems that treat municipal wastewater or domestic sewage.
    - ✓ Technical assistance - Assistance to any qualified nonprofit entity, to provide technical assistance to owners and operators of small and medium sized publicly owned treatment works to plan, develop, and obtain financing for CWSRF eligible projects and to assist each treatment works in achieving compliance with the CWA.
- Illinois announced $80M in economic development grants - Gov. Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) announced $80 million in Rebuild Illinois funds now available to invest in public infrastructure and economic development. The funds will support local governments and other entities on projects designed to help create jobs, expand economic opportunity and improve communities' infrastructure. The DCEO issued a competitive Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) allowing applications for $50 million to support broadband and $12 million for opportunity zone investments.

Next Steps

1. Rochelle
   - Contact Sam on the follow-up items mentioned above; Lorenzo your emails address those items
   - Check on technical assistance within the regional office
   - Schedule call in 3 weeks for any updates and to discuss proposal
2. Tyson
   - Provide Mary with information on the location, surrounding areas and observation during visit within 2 weeks
   - Check on available funding within the Army Corps of Engineers
3. Mary
   - Prepare proposal to share with the group within 3 weeks
4. Chris
   -Look into the CWSRF program

From: Lorenzo Thompson <lorenzo.thompson@tcivil.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2020 10:04 AM
To: Zobrist, Tyson J CIV USARMY CEMVS (USA) <Tyson.J.Zobrist@usace.army.mil>; Samuel Swanson <sswanson@cesl.us>

Cc: Marceillars, Rochelle <Marceillars.Rochelle@epa.gov>; Mary Vandevord <mary.vandevord@heartlandsconservancy.org>
Subject: RE: East St. Louis, Summit Ave. Flooding
Importance: High

Good Morning Tyson,

Thanks for the maps. Sam and his crew have 2 large pumps that could have a possible impact on reducing the amount of runoff standing north and south of Summit Ave. At that point we can identify land features and go from there to mitigate drainage ponding/crossing Summit Ave. Should the pumps not relieve the area sufficiently to achieve our goals, we may need to wait until the rainy season has passed.

All thoughts are welcome.

Thanks,

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Missouri & Illinois

Illinois 2018 DBE "ENGINEERING FIRM OF THE YEAR"

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-----Original Message-----
From: Zobrist, Tyson J CIV USARMY CEMVS (USA) <Tyson.J.Zobrist@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2020 12:32 PM
To: Samuel Swanson <sswanson@cesl.us>
Cc: Marceillars, Rochelle <Marceillars.Rochelle@epa.gov>; Lorenzo Thompson <lorenzo.thompson@tcivil.com>; Mary Vandevord <mary.vandevord@heartlandsconservancy.org>
Subject: East St. Louis, Summit Ave. Flooding

Sam,

Attached is an aerial map of possible drainage features that may drain the areas north and south of Summit Ave. It was very difficult to distinguish any distinct drainage features in this area. The best possibility of a drainage ditch is identified as "Ditch 1" in the aerial image. At this point the identified features in this map are only suggestions on locations to investigate. However, until the area can be drained, at least partially, it will be very difficult to find any historical drainage features. You stated in our call today that you were thinking about bringing in a pump to begin to drain the area. I think this would be a great start and will definitely help in figuring out a solution to the problem.

Thanks,

Tyson Zobrist

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Regulatory Branch
1222 Spruce Street
St. Louis, MO 63103
314-331-8578