

Tweddle Place Drainage Pre-Construction Open House
June 7, 2017
Leefield community Hall

Attendance: 65 (approximate), including Ward 11 Councillor Mike Nickel.

Presenters: City of Edmonton: Gary Fei, Project Manager, Utility Infrastructure Delivery.
Stantec Consulting Ltd.: Neal Cody, Water Resources Engineer.

Note: the Powerpoint presentation is available at:

https://www.edmonton.ca/residential_neighbourhoods/flooding_prevention/flood-proofing-public-consultations.aspx

PRESENTATION

Reminder on the Origin of the Work in Tweddle Place

Mr. Fei started the meeting confirming the reason for the significant work in Tweddle Place: chronic flooding issues that require flood mitigation improvements.

Project Locations and Understanding of Two Projects

Mr. Cody explained that there are two main projects being discussed tonight: the Tweddle Place Dry Pond and the 86th and 88th Street storm sewer upgrades.

Tweddle Place Dry Pond

Mr. Cody explained that the current dry pond is being expanded including removing the existing berm, installing new sewers and inlets, and installing a vegetated sound barrier. He explained that the new dry pond would be able to take on a large amount of stormwater should a severe storm occur again.

86 and 88 Street Sewer Upgrades

Sewer upgrades will increase the drainage capacity and along with the new dry pond, be able to handle water from a severe storm.

Construction Impacts and Detours

Mr. Cody explained that bylaws will be adhered to with regards to construction noise, shared sidewalk and road closures, and explained parking arrangements. He also shared how bicycle and sidewalk traffic will be re-routed and when.

Project Schedule and Renderings

Mr. Cody then explained the project schedule for both projects and shared renderings of the dry pond (see presentation on-line).

Current Millbourne Flood Mitigation Projects

Mr. Fei then explained a larger overall view of flood mitigation projects in Tweddle Place and other neighbourhoods of Millbourne. He shared that the Tweddle Place storm and sanitary sewer upgrades will occur from 2015-2021 and the Malcom Tweddle and Edith Rogers Dry Pond and Sewer Improvements will be during 2017-2023. Mr. Fei went over the details of the locations of the projects and explained that some of the work would be completed concurrently.

88th Street Cul-de-Sac

Mr. Fei then went into some detail on the work presently underway in this cul-de-sac.

Building Condition Assessment and Property Damage Claims Process

Mr. Fei explained when residents, who have received a pre-construction assessment, will receive their post-construction assessments. He shared that going forward post-construction assessments will only be done upon request. Lastly, Mr. Fei explained how residents can submit a property damage claim if they feel damage has been done to their home. The City provided at the meeting a step-by-step instructional handout regarding home assessments and damage claims.

COMMENTS AND FEEDBACK

Following the presentations, participants were invited to ask questions and provide feedback, either in front of the large group or later, at conversation stations set up around the hall. Several also provided comments via a feedback survey. This is a synopsis of the questions and feedback.

Vegetative (living wall) in dry pond replacing previous berm

Concerns were raised over why the state of the current living wall and skepticism was voiced as to what any future living wall would look like. Concerns were also raised why the willows used in the living wall were from Ontario when we have lots of willows in Alberta. Lastly, residents asked what the final living wall will look like.

Mr. Cody shared the work that had been done to understand why the current living wall was not thriving. During initial installation in May 2016, it was very hot and dry. A homeowner agreed to run irrigation from their home to the new living wall (at City expense) but unknown to the City the irrigation was shut off. To avoid a repeat of this incident, permanent irrigation will be installed for the living wall and the contractor will be required to fix any growth issues under a four-year warranty.

Mr. Cody explained that an extensive search was completed to find the right plants for the living wall and the only supplier at the time of the appropriate type of willows was from Ontario. For all vegetation in the dry pond and wall going forward, local sources will be sought whenever possible. The back-property line will be 3 meters to the living wall and from the wall to the trail will be two meters. Vegetation will be scattered.

Cost

Residents asked about the cost for the two projects. Mr. Fei shared that it is about \$57M in construction/design. About \$10M is allocated for berm removal/dry pond development.

Dust, pest, and noise control

A number of questions were asked about measures to control dust, pests and noise.

On dust control: Mr. Cody explained that dust should be at a minimum as most of the berm excavation will be completed in the winter. Construction that may create dust will be controlled using water trucks, sweeping streets, keeping trucks clean, and other measures.

On pest control: The Drainage team is working with City Parks to ensure the naturalization of the berm does not attract pests.

On noise control: Mr. Cody shared that existing bylaws will be followed.

Truck routes around the school

Mr. Cody explained that haul routes for berm removal and dry pond expansion will not affect schools in Tweddle Place as trucks will use 91st Street and Whitemud Drive. Design is still being finalized for the Malcolm Tweddle and Edith Rogers Dry Pond project so details are yet to be finalized. The shortest route out of the neighbourhood will be used (from west side of Malcolm Tweddle Park, south on Millbourne Road and west on Mill Woods Road to 91 Street) and there generally will be no truck hauling during school drop-off, lunch, pick-up and recesses. *(Ed. note: at a meeting held with school officials on June 13, they noted no objections to hauling continuing during recesses).*

Interconnections to trail

The south end interconnection will remain with a crosswalk, signage and trail while the other two will remain open but naturalized (no path).

Off-leash areas

Mr. Cody explained that the dog off-leash is unavailable during construction but will be restored when the work is completed. The Drainage team will confirm with City Parks that restoration of the off-leash area will occur.

Construction times

Underground construction will be six days per week from 7 am to 6 pm and berm work will be 12 days on, two days off, weather permitting.

Risks during construction

A resident asked about the risks should a severe storm happen during construction. Mr. Cody explained that the two new pipes being constructed in the cul-de-sacs have bypasses so this should not increase the risk of flooding. The dry pond expansion is occurring in the winter to also avoid additional flood risk. He explained utilities should not be affected by the construction.

Damage claim process

Mr. Nickel voiced his disappointment that there was no representation from City risk management at the meeting.

On EPCOR taking over Drainage Utility

City Council has been informed that flood mitigation is to remain a top priority for EPCOR and all currently funded projects will continue. It was shared that the City's Todd Wyman, who is on the transition team, will provide more information when available.

UPDATES

Updates to interested Millbourne residents are delivered by email or mail (for those without email). Community meeting summaries, presentations, handouts and more are posted on the City of Edmonton's website. To join the mailing list or for additional information, contact 311 or email drainageprojects@edmonton.ca