

Separation NOTICE

A Publication of the Department of Watershed Management

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District 4 Readies For Another Round of Sewer Separations

As the City prepares to move forward with its plan for dealing with combined sewer overflows (CSOs), Watershed Management public information staff are preparing informational presentations, fact sheets and maps, and setting up meetings with affected communities. The CSO plan, along with other sewer programs under Clean Water Atlanta, will bring substantial construction activities to many of Atlanta's intown neighborhoods. City staff and elected officials want to make sure that citizens understand what's going on outside their doors and know whom to call with any questions or concerns.

The Clean Water Atlanta CSO plan is designed to eliminate water quality violations from CSOs. Under this plan, the City will construct a tunnel storage and treatment system in parts of the city's combined sewer area and separate sewers in three sewer basins - the Greensferry and McDaniel basins, and the Stockade sub-basin. District 4 includes some of Greensferry and most of the McDaniel basin.

Most tunnel construction takes place underground. Sewer separation is more construction-intensive: a new sewer line is being laid alongside the existing combined sewer line and has to be tied into house and building sewer connections. Much of the work is open-cut, that is, involves digging

trenches to access the sewers in the street and underneath parcels of property. Several District 4 neighborhoods have a pretty good idea of what sewer separation will involve because they've been through it. District 4 includes the Utoy Creek sewer basin, which underwent separation from 1994 to 1996. Residents experienced lane and street closures and traffic rerouting; often, workers needed to access pipes on private property and occasionally, trees and other plantings had to be removed.

Communication: The Key to a Successful Project

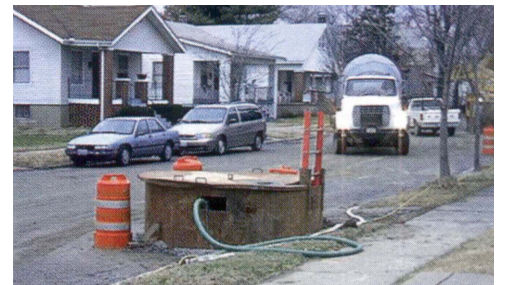


District 4 Council Representative Clea Winslow will play a key role in keeping affected neighborhoods in District 4 apprised of construction

activities and issues associated with this massive capital project. Ms. Winslow had just begun her service as a councilwoman when the Utoy separation project was getting started. She was surprised to learn that many of the residents in her district were either unaware of or not prepared for the impacts they would soon face. She began working with public information officials at City Hall, encouraging them to get information to the community ahead of the disruption.

In preparing for the upcoming sewer separation projects, Ms. Winslow has already arranged several meetings in the affected areas to begin informing her constituents and relaying their concerns back to City Hall. She has

assured her constituents that these meetings will continue throughout the project, so that residents are prepared for street closures, traffic reroutings and the other construction activities. Ms. Winslow is also working closely with area businesses and the Atlanta University Center to ensure that they are able to function successfully throughout the project. For example, she has already held a Greensferry and McDaniel town hall meetings. Presentations have also been made to the A.U. Center presidents, the West End Business Association and Pittsburgh Community Improvement Association.



Open-Cut construction and microtunneling are two methods used in constructing new sewers.



Open-cut construction on private property.

**For more information, questions or concerns,
call the Clean Water Atlanta
Helpline at 404-529-9211.**

**Visit us today at the Clean Water Atlanta
website at**

www.cleanwateratlanta.org

Sewer Improvements On Horizon for Stockade Trunk - District 1

Upgrades include provision for future sewer separation

By William Horton

Public Information Officer, City of Atlanta

ATLANTA – During the past four years, the state of Georgia suffered through one of its toughest stretches of drought as water restrictions were implemented to conserve water resources. But heavy rains in recent months have provided everyone with a temporary sigh of relief as the water restrictions were lifted. Well, almost everyone.

When heavy rains occur in the Tapestry Community in southeast Atlanta, flooding takes place along the Stockade Trunk Combined Sewer alignment. After nearly two years of studies, community meetings and recommendations, relief is on the way.

The City of Atlanta has developed a \$3.4 million plan that will eliminate the sewer overflows and the enhancements will allow for future separation of the combined trunk sewer. The trunk is more than 70 years old and is partially above ground. It is about 10 feet in diameter and contains five inlets, which were designed to allow the inflow of stormwater. However, heavy rain causes the trunk to overflow, which can allow the flow to come out of the pipe.

“The immediate objective is to close the five openings in the pipe and prevent the combined sewer from overflowing during large storms,” said Lance Clark, Chief Engineer. “Our best option is to close all five openings and install a combination of grass swale and drainage pipes to convey the storm water that previously entered the openings to a point in the drainage system below the sewer outfall.”

Alan Berg of HDR/WL Jordan and project manager for this project said as the initial drainage work is being done, the foundation for the future full separation of the combined trunksewer is also taking place.

“We’ll be putting in pieces of pipe for the full separation in areas of the drainage construction so they won’t have to rip it up again,” Berg said.

City Councilmember Carla Smith, who represents District One, said the residents in her district requested that the new sewer lines proposed for separation of Stockade sub-basin in the area of the drainage improvements be constructed at the same time as the drainage improvements so the area

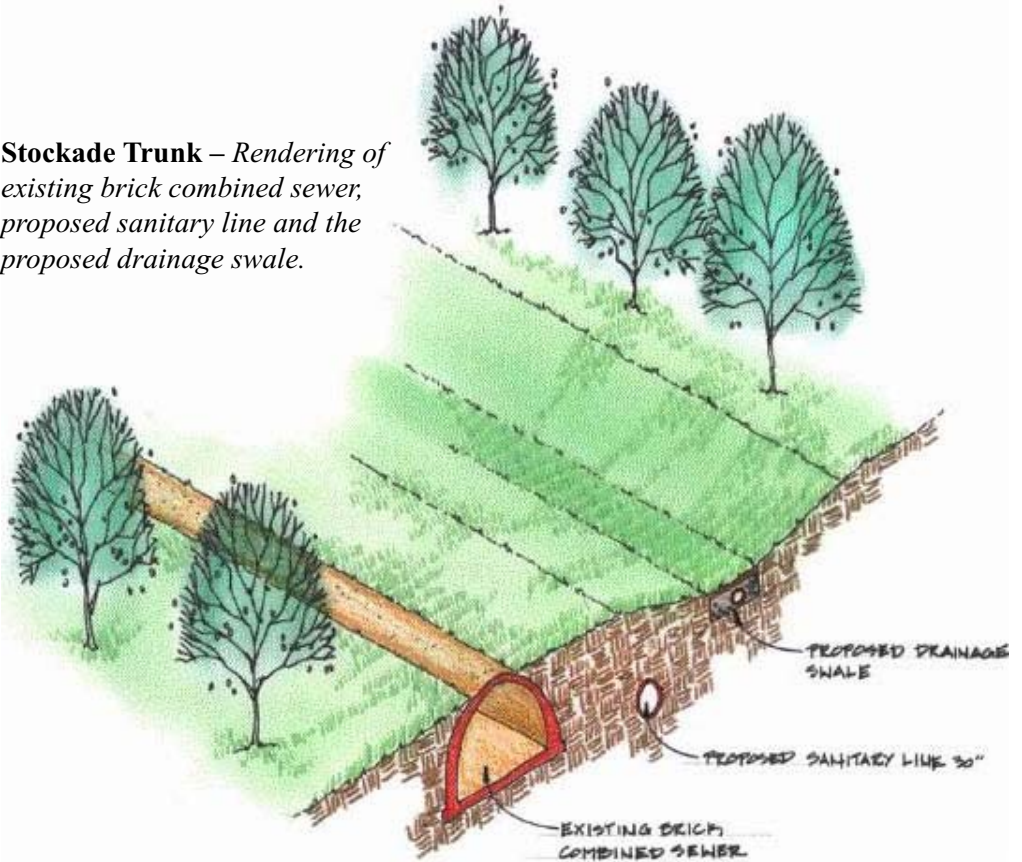
would only be disturbed once with construction. The new sewer lines have been added to the drainage project.

“The City was very receptive to re-examining the scope of the project with the residents of District One,” Smith said. “We met with them and we all agreed that it makes more sense not

to come back and disturb the area again once full separation starts. All they will have to do is connect the sanitary sewer pipe when full separation takes place.”

The initial work on the Stockade Trunk Sewer is slated to begin in the first quarter of 2004.

Stockade Trunk – Rendering of existing brick combined sewer, proposed sanitary line and the proposed drainage swale.



Pittsburgh Community Association Calls for Special Meeting



Al Berg explains sewer separation plans at the Pittsburgh Community Association meeting.



Residents pack the Mechanicsville Library for the McDaniel Sewer Separation project meeting.

Helen Jenkins, president of the Pittsburgh Community Improvement Association, wanted to make sure residents in the community understood the McDaniel Sewer Separation project and the impacts they may face. City officials and engineers attended the association’s monthly meeting in September and provided detailed information regarding the project.



City officials Lance Clark and Marilyn Johnson along with Al Berg answer questions at the Mechanicsville meeting.

Important Tidbits

Atlanta has 190 miles of combined sewer-most of which serves downtown and 1,285 miles of sanitary or separated pipe.

The proposed separation projects will increase the separated system to about 1,315 miles.