

## City makes progress analyzing Fairview flooding issues

**Beth Mlady, Special to the Sun News** By **Beth Mlady, Special to the Sun News**

**Email the author**

on October 09, 2014 at 10:32 AM, updated October 09, 2014 at 10:56 AM

FAIRVIEW PARK, Ohio – City Engineer Mike Mackay and Ward 4 Councilman John Hinkel continue to pursue solutions to **flooding problems that have plagued Fairview Park** for years.

More than 100 residents attended an August meeting, where city officials explained the longstanding situation and their intent to develop a permanent solution.

At the Oct. 6 City Council meeting, Mackay reported the current status of the city's sewer diagnostic and dye testing program. He also said he has visited more than 60 Fairview homes as a result of the May and August storms, and those residents "have been very receptive" to his recommendations for steps they can take to proactively alleviate flooding on their properties.

Mackay added, however, that some residents either failed to respond to inquiries or chose not to participate in the program. His recommendations to homeowners included installation of backflow valves on lateral connections, installation of standpipes on basement drains, proper installation and configuration of sump pumps and the disconnection of downspouts.

The second part of the city program involves interior and exterior dye testing of all drains and downspouts for each home in order "to determine the flow path," he said.

"These results will further enhance, refine and expand our recommendations for the residents," Mackay said. "We should complete the dye testing within the next two months ... and it includes approximately 60 homes. Additional homes may be added to this phase or future phases of the program."

Hinkel sent an email Oct. 7 to residents who attended the August informational meeting, and he said pipes have been repaired on Clifford Drive as well as on sections of West 220th Street. Camera work inside pipes throughout Fairview was completed by city crews. Results were sent to **Black and Veatch**, an award-winning international



A large crowd of residents listened to Fairview officials in August on ways to alleviate flooding issues.

Beth Mlady/Special to Sun News

engineering company with locations in Akron and Columbus. Black and Veatch is slated to have a report ready Oct. 10. After the city reviews those findings, officials will create an overall project plan for Fairview Park.

"At the present time, we don't have a target date for delivery of the overall plan, but that can be conveyed in a future email," Hinkel wrote, going on to say that anyone wishing to be added to the email distribution list should send a note to **john.hinkel@fairviewpark.org** or to Clerk of Council Liz Westbrooks at [liz.westbrooks@fairviewpark.org](mailto:liz.westbrooks@fairviewpark.org).

In addition, he said a Flooding section will be added to the city website, under the City Council tab. It should be online and available within the next few weeks.

"I am targeting the next update email for Nov. 14," Hinkel added. "At that time, I'd like to talk about what work, if any, can be done over the winter ... (and) 2015 work to be done, along with rough timelines."

City Council members are scheduled to meet in committee at 7 p.m. Oct. 13.

© 2014 cleveland.com. All rights reserved.