

City proceeding with planned spring sewer work

Written by [Kevin Kelley](#) on January 18, 2015 — [Leave a Comment](#)

By Kevin Kelley

Fairview Park

As promised, city leaders are proceeding with the new approach to tackling persistent flooding problems. Three proposed ordinances up for passage at Fairview Park City Council's Jan. 19 meeting would see the city spend nearly \$200,000 on the sewer problem.

One proposed ordinance authorizes a contract with Black & Veatch, an engineering, procurement and construction consultant, for \$126,000 in engineering services. The company will coordinate the collection of information to create a computer model of the city's sanitary sewer system. The model will indicate if the sewer system is adequate in size, and how badly it is affected by heavy rainstorms.

Seven water flow meters will be installed at various locations to determine the sewer system's capacity on dry days in comparison to days with heavy storms.

Two proposed ordinances would allow the city to contract qualified firms to collect data related to the creation of the computer model. One contract, for up to \$30,000, will be with a yet-to-be-determined company that will undertake field investigation work such as surveying and charting manhole covers and sewers, Service Director Rob Berner explained. Another contract, for up to \$42,000, will be made with a firm to conduct the data collection and water flow monitoring needed to evaluate the sewer system, Berner said.

The plan is to begin the flow meter measurements in the spring and finish by mid- to late summer. Based on the needs identified by the computer model, a master plan will be developed consisting of prioritized improvement projects that will be implemented over several years. In the meantime, city officials will explore potential funding sources for future projects.

The city already agreed to pay Black & Veatch \$7,500 for a report that summarized past sewer work and recommended future steps, including the creation of the computer sewer model. The city's past actions included the investment of approximately \$9 million toward sewer projects during the past 15 years.