CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS

A New Look at a Timeworn Problem: Southwest Harriet Feasibility Study

Ajay Jain, PE, CFM Bridget Osborn, PE, CFM



Illinois Association of Floodplain and Stormwater Management Conference March 13, 2019





munities. Improving Lives.



PROBLEM STATEMENT

How does a fully developed city address flooding due to undersized storm drain infrastructure in a cost effective manner with minimal disruption to residents?



HR Green[®] | Building Communities. Improving Lives.



AGENDA

- 1. History of Flooding
- 2. Infrastructure Background
- 3. MOU Partnerships
- 4. Design Goals
- 5. Modeling (XP-SWMM & Optimatics)
- 6. Vetting Options
- 7. Cost Benefit
- 8. Next Steps

HR Green® | Building Communities. Improving Lives



History of Flooding

- Area identified in 1978 flood report
 - Complaint based flood mapping



1991

HR Green® | Building Communities. Improving Lives.



History of Flooding

More complaints were received over the years



2002

HR Green® | Building Communities. Improving Lives.



HISTORY OF FLOODING

 Per current H&H modeling, structure impacts in the study area are predicted to be:



2012

- 10-year storm
 - 76 primary
 - 113 secondary

100-year

- 125 primary
- 148 secondary

"Primary Structures" = residential, commercial, or institutional buildings "Secondary Structures" = garages, sheds, or other non-habitable buildings

HR Green® | Building Communities. Improving Lives.



INFRASTRUCTURE BACKGROUND

- Similar to other problem flood areas in the city:
 - Old storm drain system throughout
 - For SW Harriet area: late 1930s
 - Design standards
 - Much smaller storm events
 - Different methodology for rainfall intensity
 - Did they design for full-build out?
 - Fully developed area = limited options
 - Lack of Open Space
 - Typical city roadway section with public and private utilities



INFRASTRUCTURE BACKGROUND

- Prior to the 1978 report
 - Some supplemental capacity added
 - Pipes and pumps
 - Didn't solve all of the issues
- Implementation since 1978 not much....
 - Constructability, cost, and agency coordination issues



INFRASTRUCTURE BACKGROUND

- Detailed XP-SWMM models
 - Network defined at the manhole level
- 5 pilot feasibility studies planned or in progress
 - 3 using Optimizer by Optimatics including SW Harriet
 - Takes standard range of solutions to determine best combination and location



MOU PARTNERSHIPS







WATERSHED DISTRICT

"The MOU memorializes a commitment to working together in order to integrate goals, plans and investment strategies that improve the environments within the Minnehaha Creek sub-watershed in Minneapolis."

HR Green® | Building Communities. Improving Lives







DESIGN GOALS

- Avoid home buy-outs that would reduce tax base.
- Reduce street flooding.
- Reduce property flooding.
- No change in flow rates to creek/lake/channel.



HR Green® | Building Communities. Improving Lives.



MODELING – Optimizer Pilot

- A. Optimatics
 - A. Optimizer
 - B. Pilot Study
- B. EPA SWMM Framework
 - i. XP-SWMM -> EPA Conversion
 - ii. Need to Validate EPA model has similar results to XP-SWMM
 - i. Matching Hydrology
 - ii. EPA SWMM Version
 - iii. Continuity Errors

HR Green® | Building Communities. Improving Lives.





OPTIMATICS MODELING

- i. Entries
 - Costs
 - Penalties
 - Balancing Preferred Options
- ii. Need to think about"alternativesanalysis" differently
- iii. Additions
 - New pipes
 - New storage locations



HR Green[®] | Building Communities. Improving Lives.



MODELING

- iii. Outcomes
- Optimatics recommended pipe upsizing vs. storage.



ilding Communities. Improving Lives.



VETTING OPTIONS

- A. Feasibility/Constructability
- B. Coordination with other City Departments and MOU Partners
- c. Utility Conflicts
- D. Tree Impacts



HR Green[®] | Building Communities. Improving Lives.



PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS



mmunities. Improving Lives.







HR Green[®] | Building Communities. Improving Lives.



EXISTING FLOOD CONDITIONS



PROPOSED FLOOD CONDITIONS



COST BENEFITS

Projects	EOPC	# of Primary Structures Removed (100-yr)	\$/Primary Structure Removed	Inundated Area Removed (ac) (10-yr)	Flooded Streets Removed (LF) (10-yr)
Pipeshed 1					
All Proposed Projects	\$ 36,844,000	35	\$ 1,052,686	13.5	14919
Pipeshed 2					
All Proposed Projects	\$ 18,088,000	11	\$ 1,644,364	3.1	434
Pipeshed 3					
All Proposed Projects	\$ 11,664,000	14	\$ 833,143	2.6	2833
Pipeshed 4					
All Proposed Projects	\$ 1,716,000	-	-	-	1145

HR Green® | Building Communities. Improving Lives.





NEXT STEPS

- Completion of detailed XP-SWMM modeling city-wide to understand full scope of problem areas
- Determination of next areas for feasibility studies
- City-wide prioritization and planning
 - Equity and risk driven vs. complaint driven
- Implementation
 - Time line TBD

HR Green® | Building Communities. Improving Lives





Ajay Jain, PE, CFM

HR Green P: 815.759.8331 E: ajain@hrgreen.com

Bridget Osborn, PE, CFM

HR Green P: 651.659.7773 E: bosborn@hrgreen.com

HR Green[®] | Building Communities. Improving Lives.

