

BEE BRANCH RESTORATION
ALIGNMENT STUDY
NEWSLETTER#3

February 2004



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the third issue of the Bee Branch Restoration Alignment Study newsletter. You are receiving this newsletter because your home or business is located in an area that may be affected by stormwater flooding.

The Bee Branch Citizen Advisory Committee, or **BBCAC**, was appointed by the City Council to voice the needs and views of impacted residents as the community seeks a solution to the Bee Branch flooding problem.

The solution should best meet the engineering criteria, community values and economic constraints identified by the BBCAC (see back for members).

BBCAC MISSION STATEMENT

The Citizen Committee will work with the engineering consultants to develop and recommend a preliminary design and alignment for the proposed open waterway and other components to solve flooding between the 16th Street Detention Basin and 24th Street.

What can be done to stop the flooding?

Engineers are needed to help answer this question. Committee members have asked the engineers to show the potential benefits of the open channel, more detention basins, a bigger storm sewer, runoff reduction controls, stormwater pumping, and various improvements to the existing sewers.

BBCAC MEETING NOTES

At the third BBCAC meeting in January, the committee members met with the City's engineering consultant to evaluate potential options and alignments.



BBCAC members David Fuerstenberg, Laurie Bartolotta, and Frank Miller identify a possible alignment.

So how do you find the best solution?

In order to rank potential solutions, the Committee established seven criteria to establish a grade for each potential solution. In order of importance, they are: preservation of local businesses and services, minimization of property acquisitions, affordability, preservation of neighborhood access and connectivity, minimize health and safety risks, impacts to quality of life and the environment.

Committee members dismissed the use of upstream detention basins because they would require the removal of over 130 homes. Rain gardens, rain barrels, cisterns, and porous pavement were considered. But because of limited benefits, they are suitable only as a component of the final recommendation. Pumping and pipe efficiency improvements proved to be too costly with estimated costs of \$60 million.

What options deserve a closer look?

The Committee is leaning towards the open channel option from just south of Garfield (near the railroad tracks) to the 16th Street Detention Basin. Between Garfield and 24th Street, the Committee is considering either an open channel or an underground sewer.

Where will the improvements be built?

Both the open channel and underground sewer would require the removal of homes. Part of this study is to identify how many and precisely which homes. The Committee identified three preliminary locations (alignments) for the drainage improvements. The BBCAC will take a closer look at the alignments at the next meeting (see back for meeting times and locations).

E-Mail ANY of your stormwater related questions or comments to:

Stormwater@cityofdubuque.org

What is the Bee Branch Creek Advisory Committee (BBCAC)?

The Bee Branch Creek Advisory Committee is made up of some of your neighbors, and their goal is to represent your interests as they help determine the details of the solution to alleviate **flooding in the Bee Branch area**. They may seek your input on potential solutions or issues associated with developing a Bee Branch flooding solution. You should feel free to contact them if you have questions or if you would like to convey concerns or provide input.

BBCAC MEMBERS

Dr. Charles Winterwood (Chair)

Jim Lansing

Audrey Morey

Sue Denlinger

Michelle Harry

John Gronen

Wayne Klostermann

David Fuerstenberg

Richard Sullivan

Dan Morgan

Faith Kramer

Frank Miller

Pam Jochum

Irene Waltz

Rita Brothers

Laurie or Joseph Bartolotta



E-MAIL

stormwater@cityofdubuque.org

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Everyone is welcome to attend Bee Branch Citizen Advisory Committee (BBCAC) meetings to learn more about the Bee Branch flooding problem, potential solutions, and how the BBCAC works.

Upcoming BBCAC meetings are **tentatively** scheduled for 6:00 p.m. at Comiskey Park, for the following dates:

DATE	MEETING TOPIC
Mar. 11, 2004:	Alternatives Evaluation
To Be Announced:	Preferred Alternative
May 27, 2004:	Recommendations

If you wish to attend, please contact City Engineering at 589-4270 to verify the meeting times and dates.

A number of other public outreach/input activities will take place as part of the project including public meetings, neighborhood meetings, and possibly a public survey or open house.

QUESTIONS OR INPUT

Questions or input can be directed to any of your neighbors on the BBCAC, including Charlie Winterwood (BBCAC Chair) at 588-2783.

Other Project Contacts:

Tony Zelinskas (WHKS) at 582-5481 or Gus Psihovos (City of Dubuque) at 589-4275.