



Staff Report

TO: City Council
FROM: Jeff Hart, Public Works Director
DATE May 16, 2023
SUBJECT: Drainage at Wellwood Avenue and Eleventh Street

Description Development of Capital Improvement Plan project for drainage at Wellwood Avenue and Eleventh Street.

Background and Analysis:

On March 22, 2023, a resident of Beaumont visited City Hall to express concerns for a drainage issue at the northeast corner of Wellwood Avenue and Eleventh Street. City staff discussed the issue with the resident at the counter and then met the resident in the field, at the stated intersection. According to the resident, Wellwood Avenue was recently inundated with storm water which overtopped the right-of-way, flooding adjacent private properties.

During the field visit, City staff conducted a limited field survey to verify street drainage and observe gutter, driveway, and house elevation relationships. In general, Wellwood has an inverted crown and conveys runoff along the center of the road via a concrete gutter. Eleventh Street has a typical crown and conveys runoff along the curb and gutter on each side of the street. Because of the dissimilar street sections, a transition gutter was constructed to allow runoff from Wellwood to continue to Eleventh. Refer to figure 1 for photo of the intersection and figure 2 for photo of the transition gutter.

The transition gutter was designed to drain nuisance runoff and small storm events. In larger storm events runoff ponds until it can overflow onto Eleventh Street. After a larger storm event, the transition gutter is able to slowly dewater the intersection.

The properties along the west boundary of Wellwood, near the corner of Eleventh have been susceptible to this ponding. Historically, the ponding was limited to 10-year or greater storm events. However, recent ponding has been exacerbated by the construction of rear masonry walls and the lowering of driveways for comfort which increase water intrusion and retention while decreasing the street capacity. Additionally, the house pads are at approximately the same elevation as the top of curb.



Figure 1 - Wellwood Avenue @ Eleventh Street



Figure 2 - Transition Gutter

This regional drainage issue has been identified in the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (RCFC & WCD), Report on Master Drainage Plan for the Beaumont Area, Zone 5, dated July 1983 (MDP) as Line 8. The MDP recommends the installation of a network of underground storm drains along Twelfth Street, Wellwood Avenue, Eight Street, across I-10 freeway, along the Union Pacific Railroad, and ultimately discharging into San Timoteo Creek. The underground storm drain network ranges in pipe sizes from 24-inches to 66-inches with an estimated construction cost of \$6,500,000. Refer to figure 3 for the MDP Line 8 alignment and Attachment A for an MDP exhibit.



Figure 3 - MDP Line 8 Alignment

City staff contacted RCFC & WCD to discuss creating a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) project for MDP Line 8 and funding. The District's public hearing for new projects within Zone 5 is typically scheduled for the beginning of December. Therefore, City staff is requesting authorization from City Council to request a CIP project and funding from RCFC & WCD for the design and construction of MDP Line 8. A City of Beaumont CIP project will be proposed once RCFC & WCD allocates funds to MDP Line 8.

While in the field, City staff identified minor improvements that will slightly increase the capacity of the transition gutter. The resident was present for the survey and subsequent discussion regarding the improvement which were scheduled for May 5, 2023. Additionally, City staff informed the resident about the major improvements needed to address the concern, the associated CIP process, City Council approval, and the time the project would likely take.

Fiscal Impact:

The cost of preparing the staff report is estimated to be \$1,000. There is no cost associated with request for a CIP project. MDP Line 8 may require City funds depending on RCFC & WCD's funding capability. A future item will be presented to City Council to discuss the results of the RCFC & WCD request for the CIP project.

Recommended Action:

Authorize City staff to request a CIP project and funding from RCFC & WCD for the design and construction of MDP Line 8.

Attachments:

- A. Beaumont Master Drainage Plan Exhibit.