



CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS AGENDA ACTION REQUEST

DATE: December 17, 2024

TO: Mark Washington, City Manager

COMMITTEE: Fiscal Committee

LIAISON: Molly Clarin, Chief Financial Officer

FROM: Tim Burkman, P.E., City Engineer 

SUBJECT: **Request for Capital Improvement Fund Budget Amendment – Engineering Services in connection with Backyard Drainage Improvements to Parkway Drive/Waterford Court Area Phase 2**

COVID-19 made the home environment significantly more important than before. Early in the pandemic, Grand Rapids residents were under stay-at-home orders and later many people continued working or studying from home. This made private yards important for fresh air, exercise, and safer socialization. However, backyard flooding in Parkway Drive and Waterford Court prevents residents from using their own property.

The flooding is caused by higher than normal rain levels, higher groundwater levels, increased impervious areas around the site, reduced infiltration rates, and the lack of a direct stormwater discharge point from the drainage district to the Grand River. When flooding occurs, City staff set up temporary equipment to pump down the flood prone areas. This temporary operation involves extending long lengths of 3-inch hoses, which cross driveways and sidewalks. Pumping can be over a long duration and is noisy. A permanent solution is needed.

The proposed project will build a new gravity storm sewer from the east end of the Parkway Drive subdivision to Eastern Avenue, where it will connect to the existing Wells Drain, which is in the Kent County Drain Commissioner's (KCDC) jurisdiction. The new pipe will address flooding and reduce energy consumption and maintenance. City staff has an understanding with KCDC regarding how to accomplish the addition of water to the Wells Drain. Once the improvements have been constructed and connected to the Drain, the City would take ownership of the Wells Drain in Eastern Avenue and 4 Mile Road, which outlets to the Grand River.

The project falls under the Special Assessment policy. Engineering was asked to complete design to refine the budgetary cost before proceeding with the Special Assessment for the Construction phase of the project.

This project has been determined eligible for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) dollars. The following budget amendment in the Capital Improvement Fund will provide the recognition of ARPA funds for this project. Please include this request in your next budget amendment.

<u>Sources/Appropriations</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>Amount (From)/To</u>
4010-447-9000-5280-25088G- 401025088G-9756	ARPA-Lake St Jude	(\$50,000)
4010-447-9000-9880-25088G- 401025088G-9756	ARPA-Lake St Jude	\$50,000

If you have any questions, please advise. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

cc: Kate Berens Scott Saindon Erica Bills
Nicolas Salazar Lorrie Freeman Otniel Kish

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