

MANAGER'S MESSAGE

It has been a busy time for us in the Sanitary Infrastructure Division! While it has taken time to work through the planning and design phases for multiple projects, we have exciting updates to share from across the Division. Sanitary sewer upsizing continues along two projects and construction bids were received for two additional projects with

Since the summer solstice, the combined sewer upsizing project for the 300 and 400 blocks of North Alfred Street has been wrapping up. multiple blocks in the Del Ray neighborhood. with a total number of about 2,500 feet of pipe to be upsized by the end of the summer. Finally, pre-construction public meetings were held for construction contract awards to be issued soon.

ENEWS

Earlier this year, sewer and manhole rehabilitation work was completed in areas east of Commonwealth Avenue. This work was completed utilizing a neighboring jurisdiction's on-call contract. However, that contract did not include rehabilitation of sewer laterals. For houses

constructed before July 1, 1955, sewer laterals from the curb line to the connection to the sewer mainline are the responsibility of the City. The City is working diligently to procure its own sewer rehabilitation contract to rehabilitate City-owned portions of laterals sewers, along with rehabilitating the manholes and mainline sewers. We hope to have this contract in place soon to continue this important work. Over the years regarding wet weather in sanitary sewers, the question I most frequently get asked is "How can I help?" The Sanitary Infrastructure Division webpage provides information to the community on how to best preserve and protect sanitary sewer capacity, along with providing information about City projects. Disconnecting private inflow sources has a real impact as every drop counts. I also like to share two simple phrases that are short but impactful: FOG (fats, oils and grease) clogs, and wipes block pipes! Enjoy the rest of your summer.

Editor's note: The Manager's Message is a periodic editorial authored by senior leaders of the

PROJECT UPDATES LARGE CAPACITY PROJECTS **Project Team Works Toward Construction of Commonwealth, Ashby, Glebe Flood Mitigation Project**

Erin Bevis-Carver, Sanitary Infrastructure Division Chief

Flood Action Alexandria Program.

The City expects the design of a major capital project to mitigate flooding in the area near Commonwealth Avenue, Ashby Street, and Glebe Road to be complete this fall. and construction sequencing plans. The Commonwealth, Ashby, Glebe Flood Mitigation Project will reduce flooding near the infrastructure on Commonwealth to enhance water quality. replace the Mt. Vernon Avenue/Arlington Ridge Road bridge over Four Mile Run. During

The Commonwealth, Ashby, Glebe Flood Mitigation Project will provide flood relief near Dora Kelly School This spring, the City completed test pit field work to confirm underground utility locations. The project team is using this information as they continue relocation designs with utility providers intersections of Commonwealth Avenue and E. Glebe Road, and Ashby Street and E. Glebe Road. The project plans include installing new parallel relief sewers to increase stormwater capacity on Commonwealth and E. Glebe, and a junction to connect the Ashby and Montrose Ave. storm sewer to the new one on E. Glebe. The City will also install a new outfall to discharge flows to Four Mile Run, new inlets along Commonwealth, Ashby, and Montrose, as well as green Recently, Arlington County completed project design and kicked off the construction phase to construction, the bridge will be reduced from four lanes to two and is expected to be complete in summer 2027. While there is no direct overlap in work area between the two projects, the City is proactively

reviewing our construction schedule and sequencing to help reduce cumulative traffic impacts along the corridor, particularly to minimize disruption to W. and E. Reed Ave. and E. Glebe Rd. These roads serve as important connections to US-1 and could experience higher traffic volumes during the bridge construction. As part of this effort, the project team is identifying opportunities to keep work moving forward, including utility relocations and potential culvert construction on Commonwealth Ave. north of W. Reed Ave. The construction schedule will continue to be refined as the construction phase approaches. The project remains on track, with completion of the design stage anticipated this fall as the team finalizes plans and prepares for construction. Coordination with utility providers will remain a priority in the coming months to help ensure smooth implementation. Additional updates will be shared as plans are finalized. The City's goal is to deliver these important flood mitigation improvements efficiently, while minimizing disruption to residents, businesses, and commuters. For more information and stay up to date about the project, please visit the project website or contact the project team directly via the information on the project page. See More Large Capacity Projects →

Progress Continues on Hume Avenue Bypass Project Utility Relocation

Test pits were conducted along E. Raymond Ave. to locate gas mains

City staff are coordinating with several utility providers near Mount Jefferson Park and are one

The Hume Avenue Bypass Project includes installing an alternate storm sewer along Hume Avenue to bypass the existing pipe, as well as new storm sewers and inlets along E. Raymond Avenue to capture additional stormwater. These new sewer systems require significant utility

In July, Dominion Energy completed its relocation work, installing a new overhead power line

Ting is expected to begin relocating fiber lines along Hume Ave., East Raymond Ave., and

relocation along Hume Avenue, East Raymond Avenue, and DeWitt Avenue.

DeWitt Ave. in early 2026. This work is expected to take about three months.

along Hume Avenue to replace the existing underground line.

step closer to completing the relocations.

NEIGHBORHOOD SPOT IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

In June, the City contractor completed test pit operations on East Raymond Ave. to locate gas lines. City staff are working with Washington Gas on a revised relocation design based on these results. Once approved, the relocation design will be finalized and ready for construction. While this project is underway, the City will also be upgrading the sanitary sewer along E. Raymond, and Hume Ave. will be resurfaced. Approximately \$5 million is invested in the project. Design Phase Complete on Edison Street Cul-de-Sac Drainage **Improvement Project**

Work on the Edison Street Cul-de-Sac Project will reduce flooding near the Betty King Entrance to Four Mile Run The City has completed a major milestone in a project to alleviate flooding near Four Mile Run Park and Edison Street as staff kick off the construction phase. City staff have accepted the final project design on the Edison Street Cul-de-sac Drainage Improvement Project. The approximately \$980,000 project includes upgrading the existing storm sewer pipe that collects water from the Edison St. cul-de-sac and discharges into Four Mile Run. Additional inlets will also be added at the intersection of Edison Street and Mark Drive to allow the storm sewer to capture and convey more stormwater. This project, along with the 100 W. Reed Avenue Curb Inlet Improvement Project, received grant funding from the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Community Flood Preparedness Fund (CFPF) grant to accelerate these two portions of the future Edison and Dale Large Capacity project to provide flood mitigation to the Hume Springs area. Water and gas mains will need to be relocated prior to construction starting on the storm sewer upgrades. The water main relocation is expected to be completed during summer 2026. City staff are still working with the gas provider to finalize that relocation schedule. In July, City staff participated in the Hume Springs Civic Association regular meeting to provide

the community an update to the project and an opportunity to ask questions.

Improvement Project

month.

being completed.

Improvement Project

after receiving a state CFPF grant.

Materials from the community presentation are available on the project webpage.

Final Design Under Review for 100 W. Reed Avenue Curb Inlet

Pipes under Hume Springs Park will be upgraded as part of the 100 W. Reed Avenue Curb Inlet Improvement Utility relocation plans are finalized in a project to alleviate flooding near Hume Springs Park, paving the way for the final stages of design. The 100 W. Reed Avenue Curb Inlet Improvement Project includes installing inlets along W. Reed Ave., as well as upgrading the pipes running under Hume Springs Park and Dale Street Community Garden. City staff have been coordinating with municipal utility providers to establish relocation plans for much of this year, a task necessary to make room for the storm sewer upgrades. The City approved the plans by Washington Gas to relocate existing gas mains on Dale St., as well as the plans by Virginia American Water to relocate water mains W. Reed Ave. and Dale St. The construction schedule for this work is being finalized. The City is now developing the final design package and expects to begin final review next

The estimated \$2.3 million project is another component of the Edison and Dale Large Capacity Project to provide flood mitigation to the Hume Springs neighborhood, which was accelerated

construction schedule for this project may be impacted by the work underway for the Mt. Vernon Avenue / Arlington Ridge Road Bridge given the need for alternative traffic routes. The Bridge construction is scheduled to be completed in Summer 2027. Given the amount of work to be done in the right-of-way of W. Reed, the construction start may be delayed. Staff is currently looking at phasing and other approaches that may allow some work to begin prior to the Bridge

As mentioned above for the Commonwealth, Ashby, Glebe Flood Mitigation Project, the

Design Milestone Near on Clifford, Fulton, Manning Storm Sewer

Stormwater storage will be installed underneath the alley between Fulton Street and Manning Street City staff expect to receive the 90 percent design package this month on a project to bring flood relief near the Fulton Street and Manning Street alley. The Clifford, Fulton, Manning Storm Sewer Improvement Project plans include rebuilding the alley to better channel surface flow and improve drainage. Inlets and underground storage will also be installed. The project is expected to cost approximately \$830,000 In June, the City received results from additional soil testing and CCTV footage gathered of the existing storm sewer. This led to modifications to reduce the depth of excavation around the existing pipe. The CCTV footage was also used to determine opportunities for maintenance work on the existing pipe during construction of the improvements.

Fiber relocation will be required before construction can begin. The City is coordinating with Ting

See More Spot Improvement Projects →

FLOODACTION

The City will host a public meeting to address community concerns of tree impacts prior to

Fiber to begin this work in January 2026 and be completed by April 2026.

City staff expect to finish the project design by the end of this year.

Visit the City's interactive project map

alexandriava.gov/FloodAction

Explore the City's flood mitigation projects

advancing the relocation work.

Get the latest project status updates

NEWS

Resilience Plan Survey

as a result.

Waterways

policies and regulations.

remain open through September.

rivers and streams to perform inspections.

that could be prevented," Rahal said.

blockages are then reported for removal.

or visit the City' Flood Map webpage.

or 100-year, storm."

The Flood Action team participated in the Community Cook Out on July 1 to share information about the Flood Resilience Plan The City is seeking community input for the development of its first Flood Resilience Plan. In July, after discussions with the Stormwater Utility and Flood Mitigation Advisory Committee, City staff began holding outreach opportunities to raise awareness of the Flood Resilience Plan and encourage participation of the survey. These events will continue through August.

The survey collects information about past flood experience like the types of flooding, when and where it happened, and any personal impacts, damages, or losses that may have been incurred

Survey responses, as well as other community input, will help the City develop the Plan, which will serve as a roadmap for future flood mitigation efforts to make the City more resilient to flooding issues. This includes capital projects, funding strategies, public communication, and

The City received a \$525,000 CFPF grant to develop the Plan. The grant is a 75/25 match, with the City providing \$175,000 in local matching funds, to bring total project funding to \$700,000.

Since it launched in June, the City has received more than 60 survey responses. The survey will

Downed trees were reported along Homes Run during the annual stream inspections

"It's a big part of how we get stormwater off of property and into the storm sewer, and then out to the Potomac," said Brian Rahal, Senior Stormwater Engineer. "All of the streams that we inspect have a FEMA floodplain delineated across them, and that's for the one percent chance per year,

This one percent, or 100- year storm, is used to designate FEMA's Special Flood Hazard Areas. Inspecting each waterway is an important part of the City's Floodplain Management Program.

"We need to make sure that we have the capacity to carry that, and not cause additional flooding

Completed this summer, stormwater engineers photographed and noted each culvert, storm drain, and any signs of fallen trees or debris creating blocks in the flow of water. These

The inspection work is one part of the City's participation in the FEMA National Flood Insurance

Flood insurance is available to everyone, including residences and businesses. However, it is important not to wait, as most policies have a 30-day waiting period before coverage goes into effect. Property owners are encouraged to speak to their insurance provider for more information

It has been an active start to the 2025 Atlantic hurricane season. Northern Virginia has seen its

Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS), a voluntary incentive program that recognizes communities for going above and beyond the federal minimum requirement for floodplain management. The City currently has a Class 6 Rating, which allows Alexandria

property owners to receive a discount of up 20 percent on flood insurance.

Stay Alert to Summer Storms with City's Rain Gauge Portal

Every year a team of Stormwater Management engineers trek through more than 20 miles of

Each step they pass through a critical part of the city's stormwater system.

The City plans to host a community engagement opportunity for the Plan in October. Once

Annual Stream Inspections Reveal Fallen Trees, Debris in Local

available, information about this event will be available on the City webpage.

Have You Experienced Flooding? Share Your Story through the Flood

share of strong storms and downpours. Since June 1, the National Weather Service (NWS) has issued more than 15 flash flood watches for our region, and more than a half dozen severe thunderstorm watches. According the The Weather Channel, the more than 3,000 warnings issued by NWS this year breaks the record since the warnings began in 1986. But summer storm season is not over. The City's rain gauge portal can help you stay alert. The Alexandria Rain Gauge and Stream Flow Tool, or One Rain, is the City's online resource for rain gauge and stream flow information. Launched in 2021, users can find near real-time data collected at rain gauges corresponding to the City's eight major watersheds. Holmes Run watershed, for example, shows rainfall totals at four gauges, and a map view of where the gauges are located. Each watershed homepage has accumulations of 15 minutes, one hour, and 24 hours. A Home Map K Sites (2) Dashboards Holmes Run Watershed Depth of Flow Map NWS Watches & Warnings Legend Arlington/Falls O 2025-07-17 13:53:03 Church/Alexandria Heat Advisory issued July 17 at 8:40AM EDT until July 17 at 8:00PM EDT by NWS Baltimore MD/Washington DC

*WHAT...Heat index values around 105
expected. *WHERE...Portions of DC,
central, northeast, northern, and
southern Maryland, and central and
northern Virginia. *WHEN....Until 8 PM
EDT this evening. *IMPACTS...Hot
temperature, seet high hersidity may 15-Minute Accumulation emperatures and high humidity ma 0.00 in Links to Resources REPORT PROBLEMS ALEX311 0.00 in 1-Hour Rainfall Map NOTIFICATIONS FROM NWS/NOAA ◆ 2025-07-17 13:52:33 NOAA WEATHER RADIO 0.00 in FEMA FLOODSMART.GOV CITY FLOODMAP WEBSITE Holmes Run @ Van Dorn (20 Access to these measurements and early warning information can help residents be prepared and protect their homes and families from potential flooding. On July 9, Alexandria was hit with a strong storm, under both a severe thunderstorm watch and flash flood warning. The City's rain gauge at Charles Barrett Elementary measured 1.44 inches of rain, as shown in the graph below.

One Rain also shows the stream levels during significant rain events to better understand how

Below is the graph of Four Mile Run stream flow levels on July 9, peaking at 8.89 ft. at around

Access to this real-time information can be a helpful tool as residents prepare for storms.

and expands the rain gauge network across the region to provide a central location for

Staff behind the NoVa Flood Map say this information is critical in preparing for flooding,

Apply for a Reimbursement Grant for Protecting Your Home from

The comfort of having your home protected is priceless. Unfortunately, sometimes the work needed to protect your home from flooding is not. Summer is a popular time for home projects,

> The program is designed to empower homeowners to take action to protect their homes from flooding. Work done on individual properties can be the first line of defense from rising stormwater and can provide a quicker fix

as staff continue developing capital improvement projects across the city.

totaling at least \$50,000.

Homeowners may receive a grant of up to 50 percent of the total project cost of \$10,000, or \$5,000, for installing eligible floodproofing practices. In 2023, the City expanded the program to allow condo or homeowner associations to receive up to 50 percent, or \$25,000, for work completed on common areas

so if floodproofing was on your summer to-do list, now is the time to apply for the Flood

Links to the One Rain portal and NoVa Flood Map are available on the City website.

That's one reason why the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) recently launched its

Following the City's own One Rain platform, the NoVa Flood Map integrates the City's network

they impact local waterways.

own rain gauge platform, the NoVa Flood Map.

synchronized rain data across Northern Virginia.

The program includes a wide variety of eligible practices to meet different floodproofing needs, like sump pumps, utility covers, flood gates or sandbags, window wells, alert systems, or

Installation must be completed before applying for the reimbursement grant. Applications are

understanding climate patterns, and managing water resources.

7:20 pm.

Flooding

Mitigation Grant Program.

property surface grading.

accepted on a rolling basis.



Weir 3 can be seen from Eisenhower Avenue near Lake Cook

The City is working on a project to clear out sediment and improve the flow of water through

The Cameron Run Sediment Removal is a larger scale routine maintenance project which runs from Eisenhower Avenue and I-495 Capital Beltway Bridge upstream to just about Weir 3, near

The weir is designed to collect and trap sediment, preventing it from flowing downstream, which could impact conveyance capacity of the stream and water quality. The build up of sediment

In the spring, the City completed a topographic survey and sediment sampling in the area. These

The next phase of design plans will include the target areas and methods to ensure the sediment removal will be conducted safely and successfully. Once finalized, the City will move forward in

tests showed no pollutants or environmental hazards in the sediment, requiring no special

Last month, the City conducted test pits to locate gas lines and internet cables.

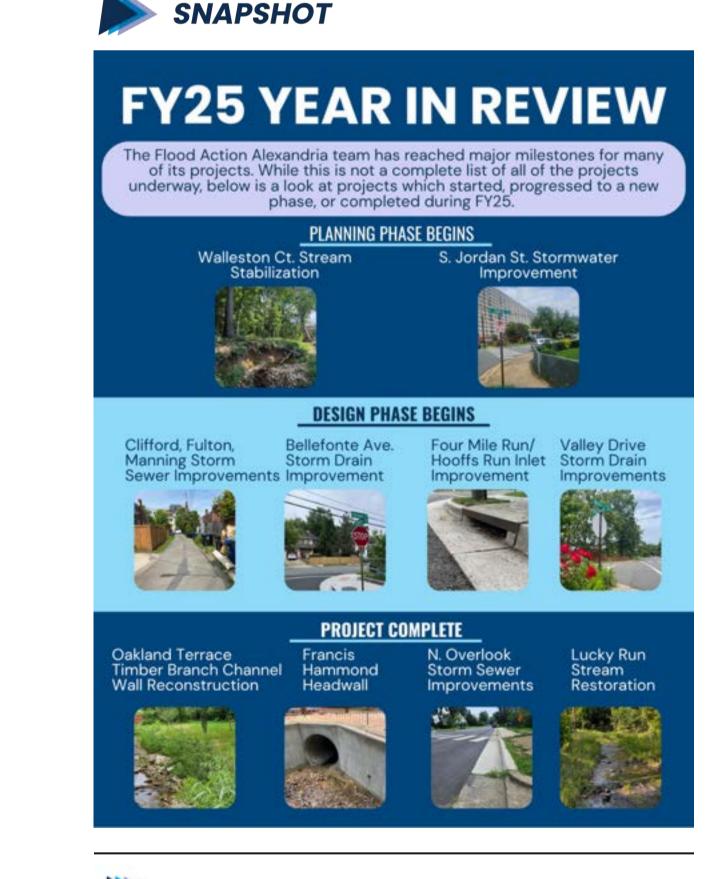
Cameron Run.

handling.

Eisenhower Avenue and Cameron Parke Ct.

procuring a general contractor to perform the work.

needs to be periodically removed.



I live in the Hooff's Run watershed and visit the Rain Gauge and Stream Flow Tool every time there is a major rainstorm. Here is the cool graph that the tool prepared for the rainstorm we had on July 9th, when 1.3 inches of rain fell in less than 30 minutes (I got that information for the rain gauge at nearby Beach Park, also available through the tool). The graph shows how quickly water rises in the culvert. In this case, the water level was within about eighteen inches from the top of the culvert – but quickly subsided, thanks to the

FROM THE FLOOD ACTION ADVISORY GROUP

Small streams flow through almost every neighborhood in Alexandria. In Virginia, we call them "runs", as in Hooff's Run, Taylor Run, Holmes Run, Strawberry Run, and so forth. Whether you call them runs or streams - when Alexandria gets a severe rainstorm, they can overflow their

Fortunately, the Flood Action Alexandria Program has installed rain gauges and stream level monitors in all of our major watersheds. Just go to the "Rain Gauge and Stream Flow Tool" on the Flood Action Alexandria website at Home and click on the link for your watershed. For most watersheds, that will take you to the gauges that measure the rain fall and water level of the

There are water level gauges on Hooff's Run, Cameron Run, Holmes Run, the Potomac River, and two gauges each on Four Mile Run and Backlick Run. And, each watershed has at least one

rain gauge so you can see how much rain is falling in the immediate vicinity.

maintenance that the City has performed to keep the culvert clean of debris.

The Flood Action Alexandria newsletter is produced by City staff. Email us

Real-Time Flooding Information at your Fingertips

banks and threaten to flood our homes and businesses.

streams in your neighborhood – up to the minute!

and low doorways.

at <u>stormwater@alexandriava.gov</u>.

In the old days, only three years ago, I would don my raincoat and trudge down to the Hooff's Run culvert at Linden Street to monitor the water level during a big rainstorm. Thanks to the new Rain Gauge and Stream Flow Tool, I can do that from the dry comfort of my home. If you live near one of Alexandria's runs, I encourage you to check out the tool at Home. Chair, Stormwater Utility and Flood Mitigation Advisory Committee

The Rain Gauge and Stream Flow Tool provides vital real-time information to people who live in a flood-prone watershed. For Hooff's Run, as the water level rises close to the top of the culvert, they get advance warning that it's time to block the stormwater from entering their basements