



# Weekly Reader

Public Works & Engineering Department

June 23, 2023

## Department Updates

The **Street Department** has been **repairing and replacing catch basins** throughout the City. Catch basins are excavated holes in the ground that **accumulate rainfall and other water runoff** from streets and parking lots. The water is then **carried through an underground piping system** to a waterway or retention pond. Their operation is vital to ensure **proper drainage** throughout the City, which is why our Street Department **regularly inspects them and repairs or replaces** any with signs of failure. There are two significant factors that result in the failure of storm drains: **clogged up catch basins and corrosion of construction materials**. Some issues are therefore resolved simply by cleaning out leaves and debris from the catch basin, **but others require more extensive repairs or a complete rebuild** if the material is compromised. This week, **our skilled crew replaced two sinking catch basins on Jennifer Ct** that were causing ponding and erosion issues. Each job entailed **saw-cutting** the existing concrete and asphalt around the structure, **excavating** the area, **removing the failed catch basin and installing a new one**, placing new **adjustment rings** and **concrete collars**, **re-grouting all connections** between the catch basin and sewer pipes, **re-installing the inlet grate**, and pouring **new reinforced concrete** sloped downward toward the catch basin to **ensure proper drainage**. Now we just need some RAIN to make use of them!

The **Water Department** had to replace an important piece of infrastructure as well. This week, they **completed a fire hydrant replacement at the intersection of Mary Ann Ln & South St**. The old fire hydrant had worn parts and was not functioning properly. This issue was discovered during a routine inspection that our Water Department performs regularly for this very reason. With our preventative maintenance program, **concerns are resolved before they become bigger issues**. We're happy to report the new fire hydrant is in working order, **ensuring the safety** of all nearby residents in the event of a fire.



New fire hydrant at Mary Ann Ln & South St

The **Sewer Department** is performing crucial maintenance as well this week. The crew has been **removing all of the air diffusers and debris** from the bottom of the aeration basins so that JLJ Contracting, Inc. can begin the **aeration tank repairs** on Monday, June 26. Once the contractor is finished, the STP crew will **reinstall all the air piping and put the tank back into service**. Additionally, STP staff ordered **55 new brackets with a marine grade coating** to hold the RAS (Return Activated Sludge) lines suspended above the aeration tanks, as the previous brackets were corroding. These new brackets are **specifically designed with high-quality materials to ensure longevity**, which is always desired for important infrastructure such as this. Installation of these brackets will begin next week along with the other repairs. The entire project is estimated to be **completed within 6 weeks**.



Old bracket vs. new bracket

## Project Updates

- **16<sup>th</sup> St & Madison St Reconstruction Project** - All curb has been poured, and all binder has been installed. Concrete aprons and sidewalks within driveways were poured this week. Remaining residential sidewalks will be poured next week. Asphalt patching on Madison St between Division St and 9<sup>th</sup> St began Thursday, June 22. Fine grading of 16<sup>th</sup> St from State St to Washington St was completed this week. Trunk lines for sump pump connections will be installed by early next week. Most parkways have been dug out in preparation for black dirt.
- **2023 Resurfacing Project** - Gallagher Asphalt has completed concrete work at the Public Works & Engineering facility, and paving will begin next week. Strawberry Hill Dr & Peachtree Ln removal work is scheduled to begin next week as well.
- **Briggs St Lift Station Replacement Project** - Work is progressing with J. Russ and Company and Lorig Construction Company, both working as subcontractors for Integral Construction, Inc., as they continue excavating an opening, approximately 50'x50'x48', and installing safety shoring. Excavation and shoring activities are now anticipated to occur through Saturday, July 1, 2023.
- **IDOT IL Route 7 (9<sup>th</sup> St) Resurfacing Project** - Backfilling of curb and sidewalk will be completed by early next week, sod placement will be weather dependent. Two end sections of guardrails will be installed at 9<sup>th</sup> St and Canal St.