

# Sawyer Creek Channel Improvements Contract 12-03



## Public Information Meeting

October 26, 2011  
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
Room O, Oshkosh West High School

# **Sawyer Creek Channel Improvements**

## **Purpose of Meeting**

The purpose of tonight's meeting is to provide you with information about the proposed Sawyer Creek Channel improvements and how this project interacts with the Sawyer Creek Stormwater Management Plan. The Sawyer Creek Watershed has its headwaters approximately three and a half miles southwest of the intersection of 20th Avenue and Claireville Road. The water within the watershed generally runs in a northeasterly direction towards the Fox River. Sawyer Creek enters the Fox River just downstream of the Oshkosh Avenue Bridge.

There will be a brief presentation beginning at 6:00 p.m. The remainder of the meeting will be conducted in an "open house" format. You are invited to inspect the display boards and review the information included with this handout. Please feel free to ask questions or share your comments with any of the City staff present.

There is a public input form attached to this handout for your use. We appreciate your input and ask that you take a few moments to complete the form and deposit it in the box provided, or mail it to the Department of Public Works. A Public Input box is located on the table as you entered the room.

The full presentation is available online at:

[http://www.ci.oshkosh.wi.us/Public\\_Works/Storm\\_Water\\_Utility.htm](http://www.ci.oshkosh.wi.us/Public_Works/Storm_Water_Utility.htm)

## **Background Information**

The City of Oshkosh frequently experiences flooding during rain events. Some of these flooding incidents are severe, as were the June, 2008, June, 2004 and June, 1993 flood events. Other events are not as severe, as were experienced in 1996, 1999 (twice), and 2000. The main cause of the flooding during storm events is the inability of the storm sewer system to effectively convey the runoff.

As development takes place, pervious surfaces (grass and fields for example) are replaced with impervious surfaces (roofs and driveways for example). The higher percentage of impervious surfaces present in a watershed, the greater the amount of runoff generated. From the beginning of development in the City of Oshkosh until 1990, there was no ordinance in place to control the effect of storm water runoff from development. In addition to the increased amount of runoff generated, design requirements have changed dramatically over the past two decades. Previously, storm sewer systems were designed to convey only very small rainfall events, and the larger events were left to flood streets. Current design standards require storm sewers to convey larger storm events before flooding takes place on streets. The combination of lower design standards, increased impervious area within the watershed, and a lack of storm water management regulations prior to 1990 have caused the piping systems that were installed prior to the 1990's to be incapable of conveying the amount of runoff that is now generated.

## **Project Overview**

The Sawyer Creek Channel improvements extend from Koeller Street to the Fox River. The project is necessary because Sawyer Creek has become choked with sediment, and the banks have become unstable in areas because of heavy erosion.

## **Project Purpose and Need**

- Reduce peak flooding elevation (shrink floodplain extents)
- Improve conveyance capacity
- Stabilize eroded banks
- Complement the widening of the Westfield Street bridge
- Improve navigability
- Improve public access to the waterway

## **Proposed Improvement**

- Dredge built-up sediment
- Reprofile natural channel bottom
- Install boulder revetment in heavily eroded areas upstream of Westfield Street bridge
- Create fish habitat near Red Arrow and West Algoma parks
- Install canoe access in West Algoma park
- Remove invasive plant species in Red Arrow park

## **Schedule**

<b>Public Information Meeting No. 1</b>	<b>October 26, 2011</b>
WDNR Public Hearing	March 2012
Final Design	April 2012
Advertise and Bid	May 2012
Construction	June-October 2012

## **Public Comments**

We urge you to talk with the staff members that are present tonight and ask any questions you may have. We also encourage you to complete the attached Public Input form and drop it in the box provided, or return it to the Department of Public Works by November 9, 2011.

For more information, please contact:

James Rabe, P.E.  
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Department of Public Works  
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**Thank you for attending this public information meeting.**

**TO:**

<b>Name</b>
<b>Address</b>
<b>Representing</b>

**Attn: James Rabe, P.E.**

City of Oshkosh

**215 Church Street  
P.O. Box 1130  
Oshkosh, WI 54903-1130**

**Comments:**

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