



Village of Winnetka

Village Council Study Session

September 10, 2024 at 7:00 PM
Village Hall
510 Green Bay Road

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Public Comments**
3. **Discussion**
 - a. East Side Stormwater Evaluation Council Update
4. **Closed Session**
5. **Adjournment**

NOTICE

All agenda materials are available at villageofwinnetka.org (*Governance > Agendas & Minutes*); the *Reference Desk at the Winnetka Library*; or in the *Manager's Office at Village Hall (2nd floor)*.

The Village of Winnetka, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, requests that all persons with disabilities who require certain accommodations to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting or have questions about the accessibility of the meeting or facilities, contact the Village ADA Coordinator, 510 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, Illinois 60093, 847-716-3543; T.D.D. 847-501-6041.



Agenda Item Executive Summary

TITLE: East Side Stormwater Evaluation Council Update

PRESENTER: James Bernahl

AGENDA DATE: September 10, 2024

CONSENT: No

ITEM TYPE: Presentation

ITEM HISTORY:

In the aftermath of severe flooding in 2007, 2008, and 2011, the Village embarked on a course of significant planning, evaluation, and improvements to its storm sewer and sanitary sewer systems. Effective flood risk reduction is a complex undertaking. Many individual components need to be considered for a successful program, including stormwater runoff management, sanitary sewer backup prevention, development management, and floodplain management. All these activities were facilitated and approved through a stormwater master planning process. Due to the scale and severity of flooding in western and southwestern Winnetka, the Village Council prioritized this area for improvements. In 2016, the Council approved a stormwater management plan for west and southwest Winnetka and thereafter has continued to undertake design and construction of stormwater improvements for the benefit of the community under this plan. Given the progress that has been made in western Winnetka, in April 2024, the Village entered into an agreement with Strand Associates, Inc. (Strand); Resolution R-39-2024, to perform a stormwater management study of eastern Winnetka as shown in the attached exhibit, which also has locations where stormwater management and flooding is an ongoing issue to be addressed.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Project Description

The intent of the stormwater management study for eastern Winnetka (the Lake Michigan watershed area) is to improve stormwater management, reduce stormwater flooding, and improve water quality at the Lake Michigan outfalls. This study pursues a holistic approach including consideration of grey and green infrastructure, conveyance, storage, infiltration, individual protection retrofit programs, and a host of other traditional and emerging stormwater management technologies. Although there are limited public open spaces within the Lake Michigan watershed that are owned by the Village or other local governments such as the Winnetka Park District, School District 36, and New Trier High School, the study will identify opportunities for the Village to engage with our intergovernmental partners for joint stormwater management improvements that are also consistent with their policies, needs, and objectives.

The desired outcome of this study is to identify and evaluate a series of creative, holistic, technically and scientifically sound, sustainable, feasible, and cost-effective improvements that will provide flood risk reduction for appropriate levels of protection up to a 100-year storm event. The Village desires to engage in an open, productive, and fact-based dialogue to identify the most appropriate improvement programs, balancing project cost, project benefits, water quality, project feasibility, time-to-implementation, and community values.

Study Progress to Date

Strand has been working with the Village to gather background information including updated utility mapping, topographic mapping, prior improvement drawings, and reports and documentation of prior flooding in eastern Winnetka. With this background information, Strand has updated the prior hydrologic and hydraulic models to reflect existing conditions and has started to identify areas of flooding and stormwater management concerns.

As requested by the Village, Strand has focused its initial evaluations in the Elder Lane sub-area watershed. They performed a comprehensive inventory and source identification of stormwater features and characteristics and developed an understanding of the issues within this sub-area. They have reviewed the prior proposed stormwater improvements and started identifying and considering potential stormwater alternatives to provide flood mitigation and water quality improvements. Their assessment of potential alternatives has included modeling and evaluations of improvement locations, sizes, routing, and associated levels of flood protection.

Council Update

Members of Strand's study team along with Village staff will be present at the September 10, 2024 Council study session to provide an update of project progress to date and the initial findings and potential identified alternatives. After this meeting, Strand will assist the Village in engaging with our intergovernmental partners where potential alternatives within the Elder Lane sub-area watershed could pose an opportunity for joint stormwater management improvements. Strand will also continue their inventory, analysis, and alternatives evaluations in the other three sub-area watersheds.

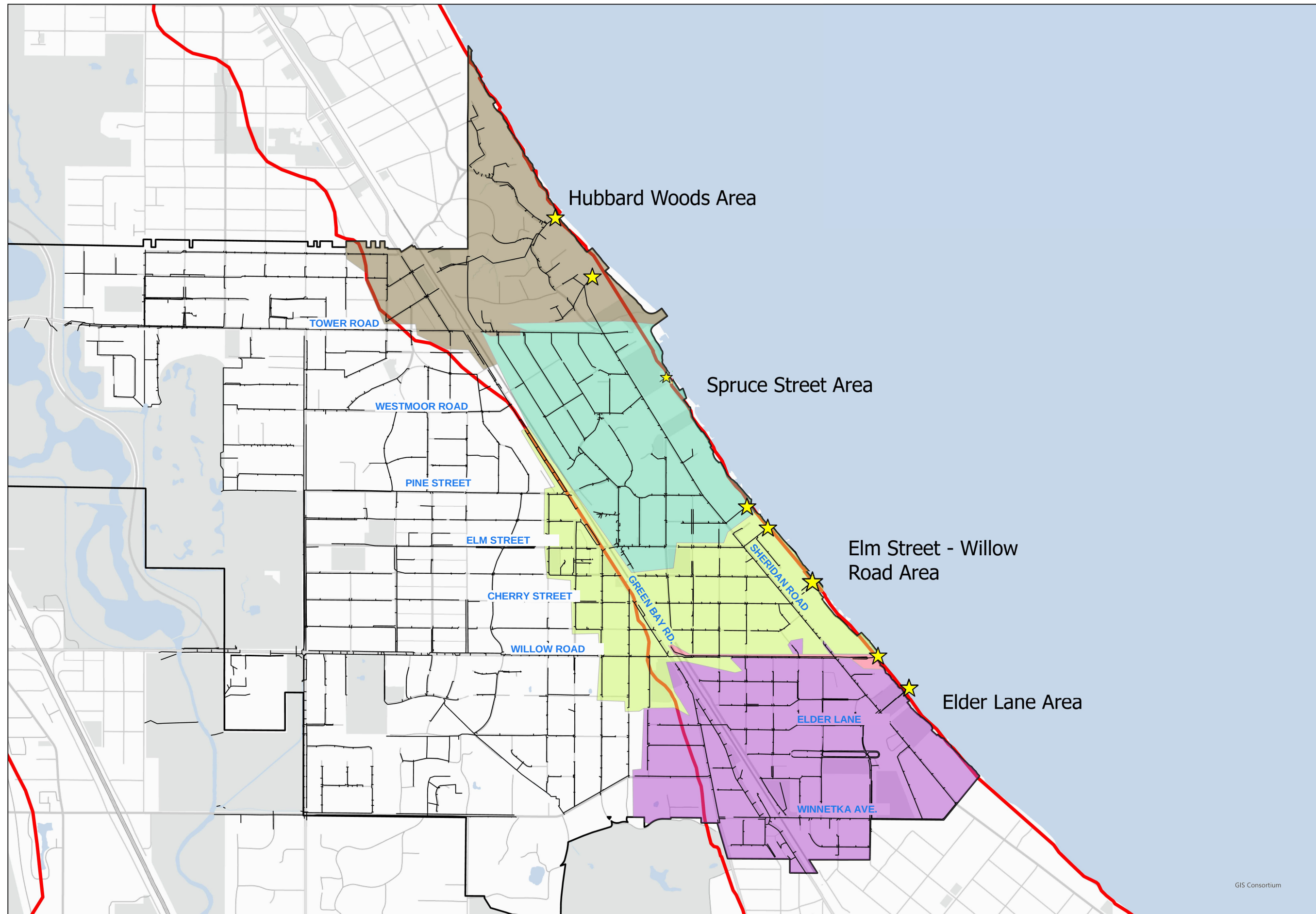
Given the high priority of the Village's stormwater management efforts and the potential community-wide impacts, when initial assessments of the entire eastern Winnetka study area have been completed, the Village will schedule the first of two public open-houses to provide educational and informational materials, present initial evaluations and findings, and share potential stormwater improvement alternatives for public input.

RECOMMENDATION:

Discussion only; no immediate action needed.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Eastern Winnetka Study Area



Eastern Winnetka Study Area

Watershed Sub-Basins

GG3

HH

KK5

CC2

FF3

Storm Sewer

Discharge Points

EXHIBIT 1

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GIS Consortium