

runoff Rundown



After more than a decade of operations since its inception in 2006, the positive impact of the Stormwater Program has been felt significantly all over our city, yet with much work to still be accomplished. The cost to address critical flood hazard needs across the City is in the hundreds of millions of dollars. The 2020 fiscal year budget is \$44.5 million, with roughly half of that dedicated to addressing critical drainage system

improvements and the remainder of the budget going to the maintenance, warning, and development review functions. In short, community needs far exceed program resources.

After receiving input and feedback from the Stormwater Program Stakeholder Group, in October of 2019, staff recommended and City Council approved a 6.5% stormwater fee increase to provide additional revenue. Effective January 1, 2020, the fee increase will provide capacity for roughly \$70M in bonds to expedite the delivery of high priority capital improvements to:

- Mitigate hazardous road overtopping locations, which present the highest weather related life safety risk to the community
- Rehabilitate aging, critical storm drain pipes to minimize the risk of hazardous sinkholes and ensure the pipes continue to effectively convey stormwater
- Restore drainage ditches that are significantly threatening adjacent infrastructure
- Reduce the risk of flooding to homes and businesses

The City of Fort Worth Stormwater Management Program's public safety mission is straightforward:

To protect people and property from harmful stormwater runoff.

The importance of this need is demonstrated by the fact that twenty-one lives have been lost due to flooding since 1986, and many homes and businesses have suffered flooding.

This mission is accomplished through:

- **Maintain** storm drains, pipes, and channels.
- **Improve** the drainage system through construction projects to reduce hazards of flooding and erosion.
- **Warn** the community of the flooding and erosion hazards.
- **Review** of development for compliance with City stormwater standards.



Maintain

Stormwater Management Program crews maintain and rehabilitate city-owned storm drains and drainage pipes, and perform erosion repair, sediment removal, vegetation management, and removal of downed trees and other blockages along city-owned drainage ditches.

However, in general, it is the responsibility of property owners whose lots have bar ditches along the road, to keep their bar ditches free of debris and vegetation, which could slow down or block the flow of water.

The Stormwater Program also provides critical flood protection through storm response. When the threat of flooding occurs, crews are on stand by to be dispatched as and where needed, until the threat of flood risk is over. Pre-storm and post-storm clearing of drainage structures at the most critical locations prone to flooding are also performed as time and resources allow. Crews place barricades to block flooded roadways to reduce the risk to drivers. Sandbags are also made available at two locations for property owners to pick up if they are concerned about the threat of flooding.

Improve

The Stormwater Management Program improves drainage and reduces erosion, through construction of projects that mitigate stormwater hazards for people and property.

Below is information on a project currently in progress which focuses on the program's highest priority: addressing flood risks at roadways prone to hazardous high water overtopping during flash floods.

Keller Haslet Culvert Improvements

The Stormwater Program is improving Keller Haslet Road at the Henrietta Creek tributary crossing, by adding pipes under the road so floodwater flows below instead of over the road, significantly reducing the risk of hazardous flooding.

**ONLY RAIN DOWN THE
STORM DRAIN!**

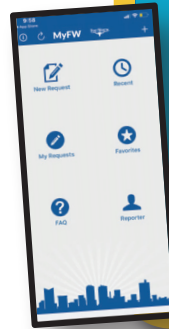


Did you know?

It is illegal in the City of Fort Worth to dump any type of debris into a stream, river or drainage ditch.

Debris can block drainage and cause the flow of water to back up, which increases flood risk.

Debris dumping should be reported to the City of Fort Worth's Code Compliance Department by calling 817-392-1234. Or, use the My Fort Worth (MyFW) app to report drainage issues such as clogged storm drains or flooding.



Keller Haslet Culvert Improvements





Did you know?

FEMA floodplain maps don't show all the flood risks throughout Fort Worth. Due to extensive citywide reports of flooding outside of FEMA floodplains, the Stormwater Program has been working with a stakeholder group on a policy to improve communication about and regulation of non-FEMA flood prone areas.

Warn

Warning is a critical component of the Stormwater Management Program since the gap between citywide drainage improvement needs and resources available to make the improvements means that many chronic flood risks will not be mitigated for the foreseeable future



Did you know?

Each year, more deaths occur due to roadway flooding than from any other weather related hazard when motorists underestimate the force and power of the water and their automobiles are swept downstream. When you see water over the road...whether you are driving or walking, Turn Around, Don't Drown.

The City has installed 54 high water warning flashers at some of the most dangerous road flooding areas. The High Water Warning System is designed to provide real-time flood warning risk levels, in order to protect people from hazardous flood conditions.

Residents can see real-time flood warning information at these monitored road crossings. Check the real-time status of the high water warning flasher system online at: FortWorthTexas.gov/floodwarning



Visit us online at: www.FortWorthTexas.gov/stormwater

Protect what matters.



Know Your Flood Risks

Find out your flood risk before the next storm hits, so you can take steps to protect your home or business. To find your property, enter your address in the City's One Address app at oneaddress.fortworthtexas.gov/
Email StormwaterCS@fortworthtexas.gov for assistance in determining flood risks.



Did you know?

Flood damage to your home is not covered by your regular house insurance, but a separate flood policy is available to all Fort Worth residents.



Don't wait until a rainy day to protect your property! The City of Fort Worth participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), making residents eligible for flood insurance anywhere in the city — located in a FEMA floodplain or not. For more information about flood insurance, visit fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program or contact an insurance agent.



Review

The Stormwater Management Program reviews private development to ensure compliance with City drainage standards. Criteria are based on standards recommended by the North Central Texas Council of Governments.

If you have concerns regarding drainage affecting your home or business, the Stormwater Program can perform an on-site consultation visit, and provide information on opportunities that might exist to reduce flood risks to your property. Contact Stormwater Customer Service at StormwaterCS@FortWorthTexas.gov or call (817) 392-6261.

Stormwater Management Program Master Plan

The Stormwater Management Program has a stakeholder endorsed and Council approved master plan, which identifies priorities and strategies for the next ten years. To learn more, visit FortWorthTexas.gov/stormwatermasterplanupdate/

Property owners in Fort Worth pay a stormwater utility fee determined by the square footage of impervious surface such as rooftops, driveways, or parking lots on each property. The stormwater fees are paid directly into the Stormwater Fund, which is a completely separate fund from the city's general budget and General Bond Program, and is used for the purpose of fulfilling the Stormwater mission.

