

EAST DELAVAN SEWER IMPROVEMENTS

Frequently Asked Questions



What is the purpose of the project?

This project will upgrade the Buffalo Sewer's sewer system along East Delavan Avenue, Florida Street, and Spillman Place. New underground facilities will store rainwater and sewage, (also known as combined sewage), and send it to the Bird Island Wastewater Treatment Facility.

GOALS:

- Reduce the number and volume of Combined Sewer Overflows, also known as CSOs,
- Prevent combined sewage from backing up into buildings or flooding streets during large rain events, and
- Improve the water quality in Scajaquada Creek, Hoyt Lake, and Black Rock Canal.

How does this project benefit me?

This project will support the overall health of the community and protect our environment by:

- Reducing pollution entering our waterways and
- Reducing future flooding events.

It also includes community betterment initiatives, like:

- New trees and revitalized landscaping in the project vicinity,
- New water and sewer pipes, and
- Workforce development opportunities.

When will the construction start and end?

- Construction on Florida Street is planned to start in March 2025 and end in the Fall of 2025.
- Construction on East Delavan and Spillman Place is anticipated to begin in 2026 and last up to 5 years.

Will there be noise during the construction?

Yes, while construction is happening, when you are in the vicinity of the construction activities you will experience more noise than usual.

How will construction affect traffic in the area? What about medical transport?

It is anticipated some roadways will be fully or partially closed during portions of the construction period. Traffic will be redirected or rerouted so you will be able to reach your destination. All traffic will be redirected based on the City of Buffalo guidelines.

How will the construction impact local businesses and services?

Construction won't impact local businesses, and detours will ensure emergency services can access all locations despite any road closures.

Will there be changes to parking or public transportation during construction?

Temporary changes to parking and public transportation may occur during construction, but services will continue with rerouted routes. Updates will be provided in advance.

Will trees be cut down as part of this project?

- On Florida Street, some trees located within the public right-of-way will be removed.
- Buffalo Sewer will plant new trees once construction is completed.
- Working with the City of Buffalo Bureau of Forestry, residents may help determine the species of the new trees.

Are there any community meetings or updates planned to keep residents informed about the progress of the construction?

Community engagement began in August 2024, with updates via council district breakfasts, community events, and a project advisory committee of local residents and stakeholders.

- Interested in joining the East Delavan advisory Committee (EDAC)?
Email: info@clementinegoldgroup.com

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Frequently Asked Questions (continued)

Will construction expose asbestos?

Asbestos pipe is rare in Buffalo, however, a small amount is present in this area. It will be replaced with PVC or reinforced concrete pipe.

Construction contractors who disturb asbestos materials must be certified and licensed according to New York State law, as regulated by the Department of Labor.

During construction, the contractor will follow all local, state, and federal regulations to protect the health of workers and people in the area and mitigate the spread of contaminants into the environment.

[Visit the NYSDOL website for more information about asbestos removal.](#)

Will construction cause rodent problems?

While construction is underway, contractors will be required to implement a pest control plan to monitor and control rodents that may be disturbed in the construction area.

Will either design option increase access to sanitary sewer lines?

No. Access to sanitary sewer lines in the project area will be maintained before, during, and after construction with either design option. The intent of both designs is to reduce water pollution in our city.

How will this project affect air quality?

Buffalo Sewer will monitor air quality before and after construction to ensure the project doesn't negatively impact your neighborhood's air quality.

Workers will use hand-held and tripod-mounted monitors to detect chemical odors. The data will be included in an Environmental Impact Statement which will be available to the public for review and comment.

Will Buffalo Sewer take into account other large-scale infrastructure projects underway in the area? If so, how?

Yes. Buffalo Sewer recognizes that this is not the only major infrastructure project underway in the area. That's why we have elected to complete and publicize an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project, which includes a public process and an analysis of cumulative impacts. This means understanding how the project, in combination with other existing or future construction projects happening at the same time in the neighborhood, might affect various environmental and quality of life conditions.

Buffalo Sewer is actively working with teams from other construction projects also happening in your neighborhood to understand how multiple projects could affect the same community simultaneously. We will estimate cumulative impacts based on publicly available information from projects that are going through a similar environmental review process. We are committed to disclosing potential cumulative impacts within the EIS to inform the community and provide ways to lessen any environmental impacts associated with the project.

Contact us:

If you have any questions or comments about this project, please contact:
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