

September 26, 2013

## **Re: Update #2 on Millbourne Flood Prevention**

The Millbourne Flood Prevention Task Force has been meeting through the summer looking at ways to resolve chronic flooding issues in the neighbourhoods of Lee Ridge, Michaels Park, Tweddle Place and Richfield. The Task Force is made up of 10 community members, the Ward 11 councillor and City of Edmonton drainage staff. See the back page of this update to see the full committee list.

A core long term solution that has been discussed extensively by the Task Force is turning the existing dry pond along 91 Street from a surge pond into an overland flow capture pond and increasing its capacity by approximately four times. This would require removing the berm along 91 Street and replacing it with a noise prevention barrier that will allow water to flow through it into the pond.

An innovative design used successfully in Europe is a living wall. It is an effective noise barrier, aesthetically pleasing, and allows water to pass through. Task Force members favoured this option if issues concerning security, maintenance and suitability in Edmonton's climate can be resolved.

The Task Force looked at other options but felt enlarging the pond and removing the berm was the best option for a number of reasons. Complete details of what is being recommended by the Task Force will be discussed at the next town hall meeting for all interested residents.



*Example of a living wall noise barrier*

**What:** Millbourne Flood Prevention Consultation

**Where:** Leefield Community Hall (7910-36 Avenue)

**When:** November 21, 2013

**Start time:** 7:00 p.m. – presentation followed by Q&As and discussion

A [report](#) and [presentation](#) to the City of Edmonton Utilities Committee by Drainage staff on August 27 highlighted the need for system improvements in at-risk areas within the city. Mill Woods and in particular Millbourne neighbourhoods were noted as priority areas for expanded flood prevention work. Design work will start in 2014 for high priority projects.

In the meantime, temporary drainage pipes have been installed through the berm along 91 Street west of Tweddle Place to provide some interim relief. Manhole covers have been plugged in low lying areas to prevent pooled water from entering the sanitary sewer.

Millbourne Task Force members

- Leigh Makarewicz, North Millbourne Community League
- Karrie Baker, North Millbourne Community League
- Wil Tonowski, Leefield Community League
- Denise Tonowski, Leefield Community League
- Kathy Brower, Tweddle Place
- Carmen Messer, Tweddle Place
- Richard Medlock, Michaels Park
- Philip Richardson, Lee Ridge
- Barb Bonner, Richfield
- Anthony Canada, Richfield
- Ward 11 Councillor Kerry Diotte
- Todd Wyman, Director of Drainage Services for the City of Edmonton
- Godfrey Huybregts, City of Edmonton consultant and Task Force coordinator

The Task Force's mandate is to provide input, advice and counsel to the City of Edmonton concerning flood prevention and damage relief measures for Millbourne area residents that are effective and viable. Millbourne residents who want to receive updates directly by mail or email should contact [todd.wyman@edmonton.ca](mailto:todd.wyman@edmonton.ca)