From:	Julie Leake
To:	Dock, Joel
Subject:	Materials for members of the Development Review Committee related to 15DEVPLAN1187
Date:	Friday, January 15, 2016 12:36:10 PM
Attachments:	Sewer.pdf

Summary of concerns and inquiry outcomes for the 3800 Elmwood Ave. sanitary sewer line

From: Julie Leake, 3804 Elmwood Ave., Louisville, KY 40207 julieleake1@hotmail.com

Date: January 15, 2016

At the Masonic Homes neighborhood meeting in early October, I learned that it is their intention to tie into the sewer in the 3800 block of Elmwood Ave. Because we have a long history of sewer problems on the street, I initiated inquiries with MSD to document these issues. It is not my wish to prevent new development, but I want to make sure this development will not have a detrimental effect on my neighborhood and our home.

October 4, 2015: Attempted to make phone contact David Johnson, engineer with MSD with questions. Left a message requesting a call back because he was unavailable.

October 11, 2015 Made 2nd call and message because I had not heard from him.

October 18 Sent registered letter explaining concerns and requesting the following information:

1. Diameter of sewer in the 3800 block of Elmwood Ave and in the receiving sewer in Chenoweth Lane.
2. Age of these lines
3. Other lines already tied into the 3800 Elmwood line
4. Elevation problems which might make certain homes subject to poor service
5. Repair services made to 3800 Elmwood line to restore or maintain service
6. Factors making above repairs necessary
7. Reason heavy rains cause problems with sanitary sewers

October 20 Received introductory phone call from Joey Ashby, to whom David Johnson had forwarded my case for help.

October 28, 2015-Received the following information from Brad Seich who assisted Ashby with the inquiry:

The line in 3800 Elmwood was constructed in 1951, and therefore, is 64 years old. The receiving line in Chenoweth Lane was constructed in 1950, and therefore, is 65 years old.

There are no other sanitary lines tied into the 3800 Elmwood line.

The line is 7' to 10' deep and the topography of the area is flat.

Repair/maintenance records would have to be obtained through an Open Records Request.

The line is constructed of vitrified clay pipe, which presents potential opportunity for storm water inflow and infiltration during rain events. Other causes for rain water entering the sanitary line could include: leaky pipes/manholes allow storm water and/or groundwater to enter the sanitary system and/or sump pumps which are illegally connected to the sanitary system. Sanitary systems do not have the capacity to convey the additional storm water/groundwater that some experience during rain events.

The information that nothing else ties into the 3800 Elmwood line did not make sense to me, so I began another inquiry concerning how an 8 inch line could be inadequate to serve just 24 homes on our street.

I have lived on Elmwood since 1975 so I observed the renovation of the cottages on the Masonic Home property during the 1980s and watched as trenches were dug across the fields toward Elmwood and Washington Square sewer lines. Elmwood neighbors co-operating to lift the

manhole cover and inspect the sewer during back-up and reduced service episodes observed a deep flow of sewage (6 ft at times) in this manhole, which is at the origin of the line. I asked for clarification on this matter. I also e-mailed an enlarged section of the Masonic Home map that showed lines running from their property to the Elmwood Line.

Mr. Ashby promised to answer this inquiry, but requested time and then requested additional time.

January 11, 2016 I received an email from Mr. Ashby, cc to Brad Selch, that stated the following:

It is clear that Masonic Homes does have connections to the system and we (MSD) will require the engineer on the project to identify those during the preparation of the construction plans. It is possible that some of the slow draining you brought to my attention was due to poorly maintained grease interceptors. I will ask our folks to inspect those facilities to make sure that are being pumped out as needed.

As Karen Scott (engineer with whom I consulted) *explained, capacity in the system, even with the proposed flows, is not an issue if MSD does maintain the system properly.*

I am left with the following concerns:

1)Regarding capacity, as Mr. Selch commented in his October 28th email:

The line is constructed of vitrified clay pipe, which presents potential opportunity for storm water inflow and infiltration during rain events. Other causes for rain water entering the sanitary line could include: leaky pipes/manholes allow storm water and/or groundwater to enter the sanitary system and/or sump pumps which are illegally connected to the sanitary system. Sanitary systems do not have the capacity to convey the additional storm water/groundwater that some experience during rain events.

2)Additionally, the integrity of the line is in serious question. Please see the attached pages obtained through a formal Open Records Request from an MSD work order with comments regarding a major repair and inspection initiated on 11/16/11.

For the reasons of

1) surface/ground water getting into the system and impacting capacity
2) serious questions regarding the integrity of the line documented by MSD workers on site

I am asking that you require the developer to replace the line and the lateral connections up to the property line of the residents before they are allowed to make additional connections to the 3800 Elmwood Ave. line.

Thank you,

Julie Leake, 3804 Elmwood Ave., 40207 julieleake1@hotmail.com