

Sonja Birr

From: Dan Koski
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2020 9:00 AM
To: 'starr gerk'
Cc: Jeremiah Novak; Greg Minikel; Matt Smits; Sonja Birr
Subject: RE: homeowner at 955 N 5th St Manitowoc

Ms. Gerk,

Thank you for letting us know about this issue, and we are definitely looking into this.

Alder Novak, could we please add this to the August Public Infrastructure Committee?

Thanks
Dan

Dan Koski, PE
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From: starr gerk [<mailto:sjgerk@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 8:27 PM
To: Dan Koski
Subject: homeowner at 955 N 5th St Manitowoc

Hello Dan

My daughter recently purchased her first home in Manitowoc this past November. The address is 955 N 5th Street. She relocated from Minnesota after accepting a job at Alliance Laundry Systems. She loves the house and the location. Unfortunately a huge problem has been discovered and it stems from the storm sewers on her street and in front of her property. They do not work in a rain storm and this needs to be addressed immediately so my daughters property doesn't get washed off its foundation.

During every rain storm her property completely floods with water that comes down the street and flows right down her driveway and into her garage and yard. Her garage was completely under water and the water was flowing out from under the foundation of the garage and continued through her yard like a river going towards the lake.

The garage foundation has shifted and cracked over the last few months after being heavily flooded during a rain storm. We observed water running out from under the garage foundation which is very serious and is washing away the very foundation of the garage. It's just a matter of time before it flows into her home.

We spoke with Jeremiah Novak, our alderperson and he told us he received calls from my daughters neighbors about the flooding and told him my daughters house was under water. He has asked us to send him the pictures and videos from the storm which we will. He told us he will assist us in getting the city to look at the problem. It's absolutely obvious that the storm water drains on that street are unable to handle a big rain storm. All of the neighbors have seen it happen over the years and noticed the flooding is getting worse.

I have attached a few pictures that show you the severity of the situation. My daughter is helpless to do anything to protect her property from these raging flood waters that come down her street during a rain storm. She knows when it starts to rain she has to get on her rain gear and go out to make sure the storm drains are all clear of debris but that doesn't even help. She has observed the rushing water going right over the top of the drains and down the street into her yard. The drains were not clogged at all during tonights rain storm. The current storm water system was over capacity and is not able to handle this much rain. In its current condition this system will continue to fail every time.

The only thing that will fix this horrific problem is having the city put in a new storm drain system that can divert the water underground and away from my daughters house. All of the neighbors think something has to be done as soon as possible. My daughter should not have to worry about her house getting washed away every time it rains. We are all helpless to do anything about this serious problem and need the city to fix this by installing a bigger storm water system.

The pictures are proof that a huge problem exists. As her mom, I am worried sick about this situation and hope that by bringing this to your attention that something will be done about it. As a homeowner I told my daughter she should continue to reach out to the alderperson and the city officials until something is done about this problem. We hope that you will consider this to be a high priority and address this asap. In the first picture you can see my daughters truck in her driveway. Very sad to see this.

My daughters contact info is below

Ashley Hunt
955 N 5th St
Manitowoc Wi
920 889 0862

Thank you for your time. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely
Starr Gerk
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Sheboygan Wi
920 946 1472