NEW SEWER CONSTRUCTION IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

May 2018

Dear Resident:

The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District has begun work on construction to reduce sewage overflows into the environment. The Westerly Storage Tunnel (WST) project includes nearly two miles of 25’-diameter rock tunnel, ranging from about 200’ to 250’ feet under the near west side of Cleveland—in the Detroit-Shoreway, Ohio City, and Tremont neighborhoods—as shown on the map inside. Construction began in May 2018 and is progressing on schedule towards a completion date in 2021.

The WST system will control overflows and reduce CSO discharges (see right), providing improved water quality in the Cuyahoga River and a cleaner Lake Erie.

Construction will impact traffic beginning in 2019. We anticipate an eastbound lane closure on the West Shoreway during part of 2019 (see map inside). This will be coordinated with the City and other stakeholders in the neighborhood. Also, traffic may be slowed near the project’s three construction sites. Traffic updates are available on Twitter. You can follow the Sewer District at @neorsd with hashtag #WSTtraffic.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact our Customer Service Department at (216) 881-8247 or at askus@neorsd.org.

Kerry McCormack, Ward 3
Matt Zone, Ward 15

What is CSO?
“CSO” stands for combined sewer overflow. Cleveland’s earliest sewers are combined sewers. Built around the turn of the 19th century, these sewers carry sewage and stormwater in a single pipe.

During heavy rains, when there is a dramatic increase of water flowing through the sewers, some of the combined wastewater and stormwater is allowed to overflow into area waterways (such as Lake Erie and Doan Brook) to prevent urban flooding. Combined sewer overflow harms our environment.

Learn more and see videos at neorsd.org
WESTERLY STORAGE TUNNEL (WST) PROJECT

Alignment of the Westerly Storage Tunnel and location of the three shaft sites

Three Shafts: WST-1, WST-2, & WST-3

Shaft WST-1 will be located north of the West Shoreway, near the Soapbox Derby, in the Detroit-Shoreway neighborhood.

Shaft WST-2 will be located at Tillman Avenue, near the Shoreway and West 45th, in the Detroit-Shoreway neighborhood.

Shaft WST-3 will be located at Scranton and University Roads, in Tremont. This is the mining site, where most of the construction activity will take place.

Potential Community Impacts

During construction, the WST project will have some short-term impacts on the community, including:

- Lane and exit ramp closures and traffic pattern changes, primarily impacting the east-bound West Shoreway and West 45th Street.
- Noise and vibration
- Dust, dirt, and/or mud
- Disruption to community aesthetics

Project Benefits

The project is part of Project Clean Lake, a Sewer District program geared toward meeting Clean Water Act standards and addressing water-quality issues. This is a federally-mandated plan to reduce sewer overflows. The WST system will help control overflows along the Cuyahoga River, reducing pollution discharges by about 285 million gallons in a typical year.

Traffic updates are available on Twitter:
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There will be construction traffic at the WST-1 and WST-3 sites, but no anticipated lane closures. Construction traffic will generally be heavy at WST-3, where all tunnel-mining spoils will be removed and tunnel-construction materials will be delivered.

In Spring/Summer 2019, at the WST-2 site, there will be an eastbound Shoreway lane closure (in orange on the map below), and the off-ramp to West 45th Street will be closed (X) for about five months.