

Things you should know about

THE EUCLID CREEK STORAGE TUNNEL

An update from the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District

Tunnel project to reduce pollution

THE EUCLID CREEK STORAGE TUNNEL is part of a larger network of underground tunnels that are being constructed to drastically reduce combined sewer overflows (or “CSO,” explained in the column at right).

Currently, CSOs in the Euclid Creek area overflow more than 60 times a year. The Euclid Creek Tunnel is the first phase of the Euclid Creek and Dugway Storage Tunnel (ECT/DST) system. When the ECT/DST system is completed, overflows should be reduced to two or less in a typical year of rainfall within the affected service areas.

At Euclid Beach State Park on Lake Erie, additional features have been designed to further reduce CSOs. New relief sewers will also be constructed to decrease flooding problems along Lake Shore Boulevard (east of Euclid Creek) and near Holmes Avenue and E. 152nd Street.

PROJECT LOCATION & DESCRIPTION

The ECT will start in Bratenahl, south of Interstate 90, and continue northeast to the District’s Easterly Wastewater Treatment Plant. There, the tunnel will continue under Lake Erie for about 3000 feet, and pass under the shoreline near Green Creek at East 152nd Street. The tunnel will then head east, following Lake Shore Blvd. and Nottingham Road, and end at St. Clair Avenue (see map below).

The Euclid Creek Storage Tunnel will be located 190 to 220 feet below ground. The tunnel will be 18,000 feet long, with a diameter of 24 feet. It will have the capacity to hold 70 million gallons of combined stormwater and wastewater.

■ continued on back

What is “CSO”?

Greater Cleveland’s earliest sewers (primarily within the City and its inner-ring suburbs) are *combined sewers*. Built around the turn of the 19th century, these sewers carry sewage, industrial waste, and stormwater in a single pipe. During heavy rains, there is a dramatic increase of water flowing through the combined sewers. When this happens, control devices may allow some of the combined wastewater and stormwater to overflow into area waterways—such as Lake Erie and Euclid Creek—to prevent urban flooding. This event is called a *combined sewer overflow*, or CSO, and harms our clean water environment.

How will this project help my neighborhood?

The Euclid Creek Storage Tunnel is part of a larger network of storage tunnels that will be constructed underground to drastically reduce the number of CSOs each year, ensuring a cleaner environment for you and your Collinwood neighbors.

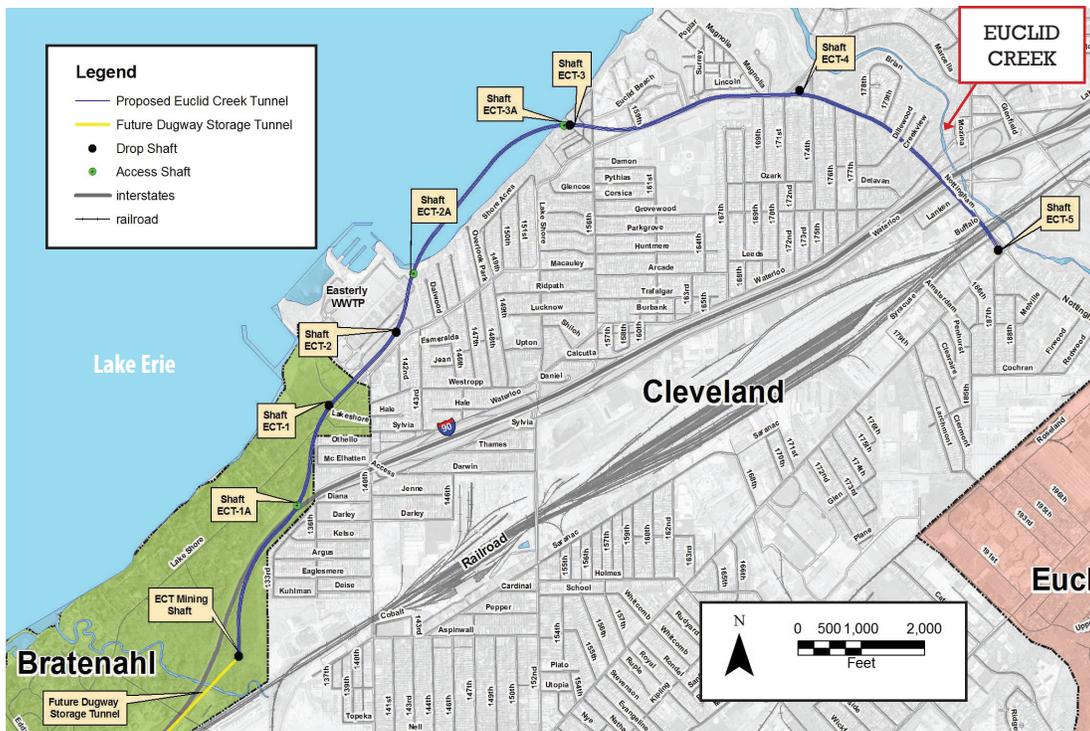
How will this project impact me?

As with any large construction project, there will be some inconveniences, but we will work with your local government to notify you of our progress and try to minimize interruptions as much as possible.

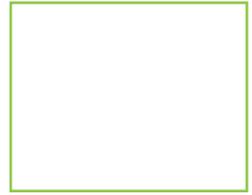
How much does the program cost and when will it be completed?

This \$204 million project should be completed in 2015.

EUCLID CREEK TUNNEL PROJECT LOCATION MAP



Tunneling for this project will occur 190-220 feet below ground and residents will only see construction equipment at six street-level shafts.



EUCLID CREEK STORAGE TUNNEL

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During construction, NEORSD will maintain a full-time presence at a field office near the construction site.

www.neorsd.org

■ Tunnel project *continued*

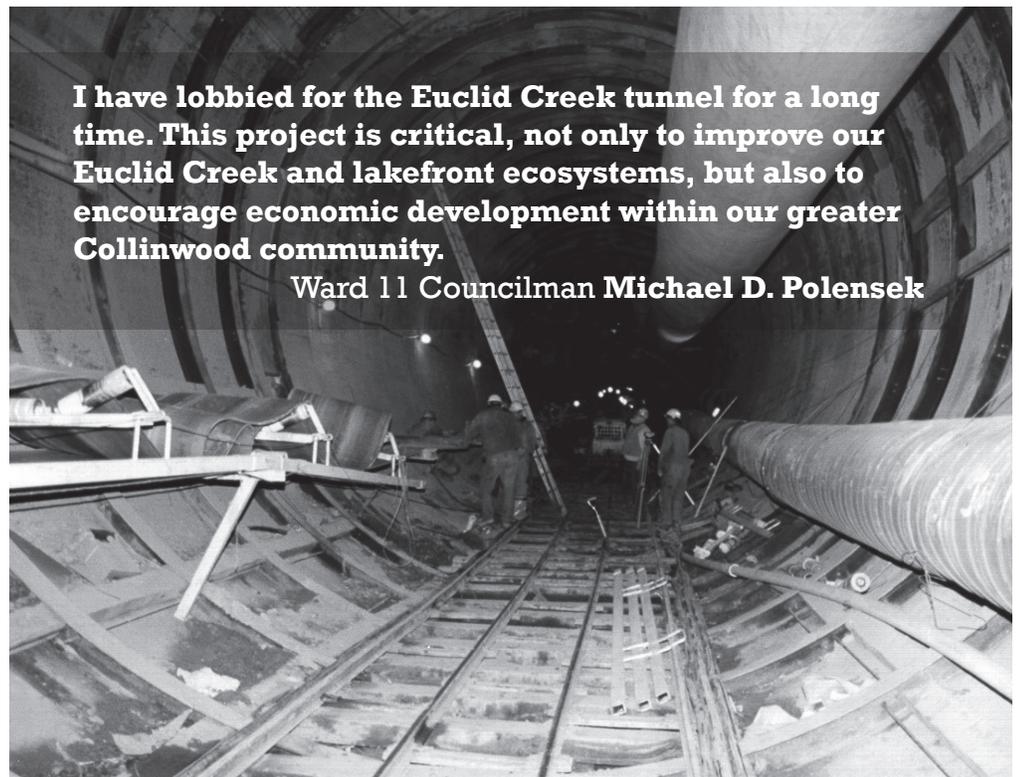
After each heavy rainfall, combined sewage stored in the tunnel will be pumped to the Easterly Wastewater Treatment Plant for treatment.

In addition to the tunnel, a large mining shaft, five drop shafts, and several maintenance access shafts will be constructed.

PROJECT COST & SCHEDULE

The estimated cost of construction for the Euclid Creek Storage Tunnel is \$204 million.

Design resumed in January 2009, and is expected to be ready to advertise for bid in July 2010. The Euclid Creek Storage Tunnel will be under construction for four years and should be completed by 2015. ■



I have lobbied for the Euclid Creek tunnel for a long time. This project is critical, not only to improve our Euclid Creek and lakefront ecosystems, but also to encourage economic development within our greater Collinwood community.

Ward 11 Councilman **Michael D. Polensek**

Another of the District's projects, the Mill Creek Tunnel, can store up to 72 million gallons of overflow from the Mill Creek Interceptor (which serves 12 communities, including Cleveland, Cuyahoga Heights, and Garfield Heights). Thanks to the Mill Creek Tunnel, annual CSO from the Interceptor will be reduced by 97%.