

Phillips Dr. Neighborhood Committee

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06/01/2024

Dear Council President Cameron,

Greetings and Happy New Year to you and the council.

We appreciate the work that the city has done thus far for our neighborhood which has a long history of problems. Since 1999, homeowners of the Phillips Drive neighborhood have been issuing concerted complaints to the City about flooding, property damage, and other environmental and public safety hazards due to improper water drainage. Problems and complaints began to be filed over 30 years ago during Mayor Al Lavender's term. Work has finally begun, in 2023, over twenty years after our concerted advocacy for a solution began and we are so greatly appreciative of this focus on our neighborhood.

The project is taking longer than projected and we have become aware that more funding has been sought, for example, to supplement the budget for the neighborhood liaison. We are also aware of changes required to the plan after the original infrastructure was exposed, for example at the bridge in the lowest point of the neighborhood. *We are aware these requests are being met with resistance* and humbly request the council speak about their thoughts on this project.

We wish to advocate to the council for the completion of our project in a manner that addresses the problems we started with and not in a manner that simply brings the project to an end without fully addressing these problems.

We are looking forward to the update on the project which has been scheduled at the Sr. Center on January 17th, at 6PM. We cordially invite every councilor to come and hear about the project's progress, how the city is addressing the new timeline; as well as, to hear from the neighborhood.

Drainage issues continue to plague the neighborhood. We have had recent flooding, property damage and safety hazards due to the water volume in the streets this fall, winter, and now have freezing water on the street. We need the work to finish and to be done correctly to stay safe and dry in our own homes.

Regards/Sincerely/Best,
Philip Cootey

On behalf of: The Phillips Drive Neighborhood Committee