
Tuesday, August 20th, 2024

Dear Ward 3 Residents,

This past weekend, Mississauga faced an unprecedented rainstorm, with the City receiving more rainfall in a short period than ever before. I know such storms can bring significant stress and inconvenience, impacting our homes, properties, and lives.

From August 17 to 18, our City saw varying amounts of rainfall from 6.2 mm up to as much as 170 mm in some areas – leading to high water levels and major disruptions on roads, creeks, and highways. This only serves to show the unpredictability of these types of storms and range of impacts our City can see.

As Councillor, I would like to ensure that all residents are safe as that is a top priority. Please note that over the past years as Councillor, I have advocated and taken parameters to ensure that flooding in Ward 3 is corrected and that staff mitigate and explore measures to ensure the reduction of flooding as much as possible. This work includes the Dixie-Dundas Flood Mitigation Project, the Little Etobicoke Creek Flood Evaluation Study, and integrated road projects on roads such as Burnhamthorpe, Rathburn, Bloor and Dundas. Additional local watermain and sanitary replacements have taken place throughout Ward 3 to address the mitigation of flooding and improve the overall infrastructure.

I would also like to highlight additional initiatives, projects and efforts the Region of Peel has undertaken since the 2013 flooding event through my advocacy and action:

1. **Ponytrail by-pass** – completed in 2019 the project involved a major new 1200mm sanitary bypass along Rathburn Road, Ponytrail Drive south to Briarcrook Cres. to alleviate sanitary system constraints.
2. **Bloor Street, Bridgewood Drive sanitary system improvements** – completed in 2017 this project included replacement of the existing sanitary sewer to the Etobicoke creek
3. **Region of Peel and City of Mississauga - Cross connection sub committee** was established to identify cross connections between the sanitary and storm system and correct all occurrences. New standards for review and construction were completed and numerous cross connections were eliminated
4. **Maintenance hole “candy canes”** which reduce inflow into sanitary sewers – large stainless steel “candy canes” were installed along new sewer to permit proper ventilation and reduce inflow into ventilation system during high rainfall events.

The Region also has major sanitary system improvements in the design phase:

1. **Little Etobicoke Creek sanitary relief sewer** – a new interconnecting relief sewer is planned for construction in 2025 along Burnhamthorpe Road from the Little Etobicoke Creek to the Cawthra relief sewer to reduce surcharging during high I&I events.
2. **Cawthra Relief sewer extension** – the existing Cawthra trunk relief sewer is proposed to be extended to Queensway and a new Trunk sewer is proposed along Queen street from Hurontario to Etobicoke creek. These new trunk sewer provide additional capacity for growth and surcharge relief during high rainfall and I&I events.

As the Councillor, and as a City, we are taking stormwater management seriously. In 2024, the City of Mississauga allocated \$33.7 million for stormwater improvements, focusing on projects along Cooksville Creek, Etobicoke Creek, and erosion control initiatives. Since 2016, we have invested over \$231.5 million in stormwater infrastructure. Our 10-year plan includes an additional \$340 million for ongoing upgrades and maintenance to enhance our resilience against future storms. And, we remain committed to continued investments in further enhancing our stormwater infrastructure to withstand future weather events like this one. These investments include stormwater ponds, new pipes in the ground, and repairs to creek and river banks to prevent erosion. All of these have been ongoing efforts that I have supported and advocated for on behalf of Ward 3 residents to ensure the safety and wellbeing for all and as Councillor for Ward 3, I remain committed to working closely with my colleagues to urge the province to activate the [Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians \(DRAO\) program](#).

For more information and to learn more, I encourage you to visit the following links:

- <https://www.mississauga.ca/projects-and-strategies/environmental-assessments/dixie-dundas-flood-mitigation-study/>
- <https://www.mississauga.ca/projects-and-strategies/environmental-assessments/little-etobicoke-creek-flood-evaluation-study/>
- <https://www.mississauga.ca/projects-and-strategies/city-projects/dundas-connects/>

As Mississauga experienced a significant storm on July 16th, 2024, I brought a motion to City Council on Wednesday, July 31st, 2024, that unanimously successfully passed. In my motion, I acknowledged that the City has and continues to invest strategically and heavily in storm water management and climate mitigation through funding of the Capital Plan by the Storm water Charge for initiatives such as Cooksville Flood Mitigation projects, Lisgar Storm water Pumping Stations, the Little Etobicoke Creek Flood Evaluation Study and the Dixie-Dundas Flood Mitigation projects and there are many potential strategic investments that can be made for storm water mitigation. My motion stressed the urgency for staff to report back to Council in September based on the findings related to the July 16th storm event and provide commentary on immediate, short term, mid-term and long-term actions the City should consider in regard to matters in and outside the Capital Plan.

In light of the August 17 and 18th storms aftermath, I have reiterated to staff the urgency of having a report come to council in September with actionable items that could support residents and businesses. I would like to remind all residents to promptly report any unsafe conditions by calling 311. This includes safety hazards such as fallen trees, drainage problems, or flooding caused by the recent weather. For issues related to power outages or electrical hazards, please contact Alectra directly. If you are experiencing a power outage, here are some important safety tips: Do not attempt to turn off electricity if any water is present. This can be extremely dangerous. If water has risen above your electrical outlets, baseboards, or furnace, call Alectra immediately at 1-833-253-2872 to report the issue and ensure your safety.

If your home or basement has experienced flooding, please take the following steps:

1. **Contact Your Insurance Company:** Notify your insurance provider as soon as possible to report the damage and begin the claims process. They can guide you on the next steps and help with recovery and repair.
2. **Report to the City of Mississauga:** Inform the City of Mississauga about the flooding. This helps us monitor the situation and provide any necessary assistance or resources.
3. **Report to the Region of Peel:** Also notify the Region of Peel to ensure that the Regional authorities are aware of the flooding and can coordinate any additional support or services.

Additionally, the Peel Region Waste Management team has developed the following plan for the collection of flood waste debris in Peel:

- **Pre-Step:** Residents should contact their insurance providers to resolve any claims related to flood damage.
- **Curbside Pickup (Primary Method):** Residents can place their flood-damaged materials at the curb for collection. Residents must call Peel Region's Customer Contact Centre at (905) 791-9499 to request for flood-related waste collection. This will help us efficiently manage the collection process. This collection method will be advertised on all of Peel's platforms and we encourage you to share through your channels as well.
- **Community Recycling Centres (CRCs) – Alternative Only:** While the primary method to use is curbside collection service, CRCs are also available as an alternative. Residents can take flood waste materials to these centres, where disposal fees will be waived. Residents must clearly state that the material is flood-related waste. To manage the influx of materials, we ask that you refrain from publicly advertising the CRC option. This will help prevent an overload of non-flood-related waste being claimed as flood debris.

I am currently working on planning a community meeting to properly address flooding in Mississauga and Ward 3, where various City and Regional staff will be attending to answer questions and support the entire community.

Lastly, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all first responders, City and Regional staff, and crews for their diligent efforts in managing the flooding caused by this weekend's storm. Special recognition goes to those who worked tirelessly to address the rising waters in Little Etobicoke Creek north of Burnhamthorpe.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we work to address the impacts of this storm.

Warm regards,



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