

Cole Creek CSO 202 Sewer Separation Phase 1 and 2

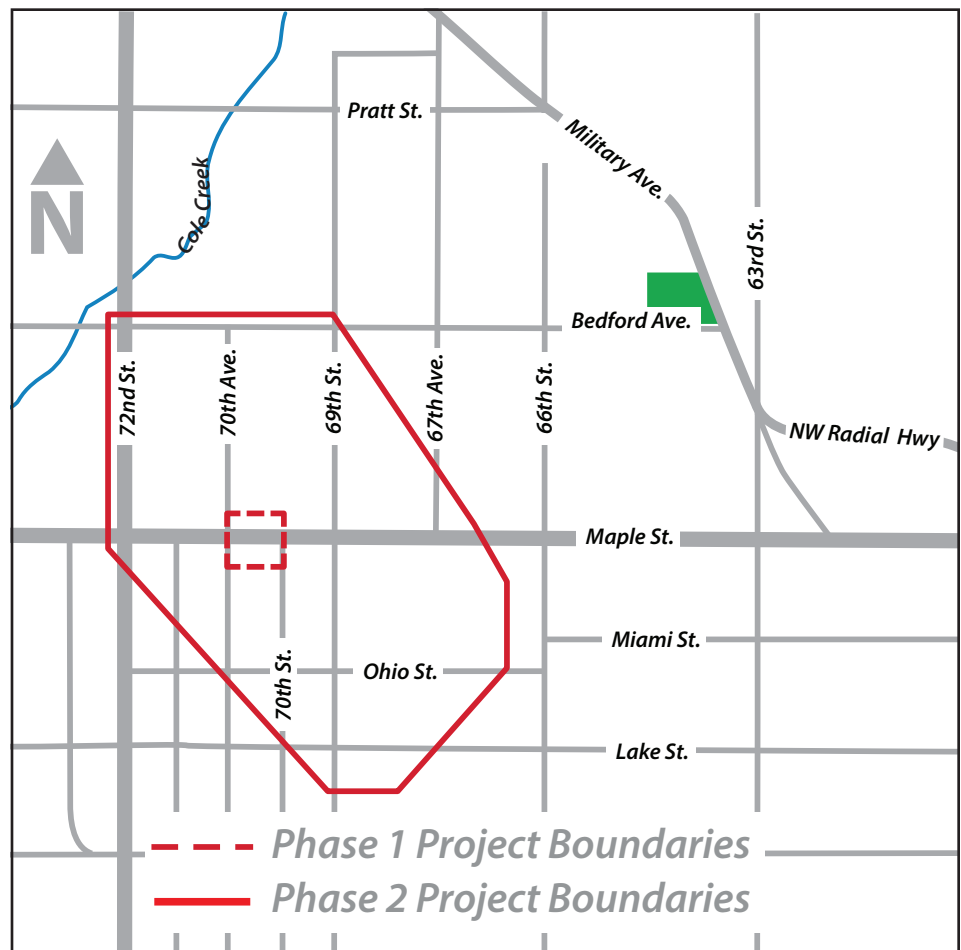
The Cole Creek CSO 202 Sewer Separation, Phase 1 and 2 Project includes construction of both sanitary and storm sewers to provide sewer separation to 101 acres in the area.

This project is located in the Cole Creek Basin and is bounded on the north by Bedford Avenue; on the east by 67th Avenue; on the south by Lake Street; and on the west by 72nd Street or Cole Creek. This project includes construction of both sanitary and storm sewer to allow for conversion of the existing combined sewer to either storm sewer or sanitary sewer.

The primary objective of the Cole Creek CSO 202 Sewer Separation Project is to separate combined sewers in the area and eliminate CSO 202 without increasing the stormwater discharge to Cole Creek, and reduce basement back-ups.

This project will reduce the amount of stormwater entering the existing Cole Creek Interceptor, thereby increasing capacity in the interceptor during storm events for the conveyance of sanitary flows.

Preliminary design was completed in spring 2018. Final design is being coordinated with the City of Omaha's 72nd and Maple Intersection Improvements Project. Construction is anticipated to take place for Phase 1 in 2019. Final design for Phase 2 is expected to be completed by Summer 2020. Construction for Phase 2 is expected to begin in 2021.



PROJECT SCHEDULE:

Currently in final design; Phase 1 construction anticipated in 2019; Phase 2 construction expected in 2021.



PROJECT LOCATION:

In the Cole Creek Basin, from Bedford Avenue to Lake Street and from 67th Avenue to 72nd Street.



Omaha’s wastewater infrastructure includes a combined sewer system. This system collects rainwater runoff, domestic sewage and industrial wastewater into a pipe conveyance system. In times of severe wet weather, the system has the potential to reach or exceed capacity causing backups or overflow to nearby streams, creeks and the Missouri River without treatment, causing potential risk to human health, wildlife and the environment. In 2006, in an effort to comply with Environmental Protection Agency and the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) water quality requirements, the City of Omaha initiated the Clean Solutions for Omaha (CSO) Program to study, plan and update infrastructure to improve and ensure water quality in the community.

As a result, Omaha and its CSO Program are among more than 772 U.S. cities required by federal mandate to improve water quality in local rivers and streams.

IMPROVED WATER QUALITY HAS BENEFITS

Updating infrastructure dating back to the 1860s certainly creates significant challenges, but not without benefit. Aside from improving water quality for the community, projects offer opportunities for additional neighborhood enhancements including new streets, curbs, pedestrian ramps compliant with the American Disabilities Act and driveway approaches. New trees, plants and other green infrastructure features, such as bioswales, rain gardens or ponds for water retention add beauty and recreational features to some projects.

FUNDING THE PROGRAM

The CSO Program is primarily financed by 30-year revenue bonds issued in increments periodically, as approved by the Mayor and City Council. Sewer fees will be used to pay off the bonds—60% from residential customers, 30% from industrial and commercial users, and 10% from regional customers who use the City’s sewer services.

RATEPAYER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Recognizing that increased sewer use fees may become a hardship for some residents, in 2011 the City took a proactive role to identify and implement a Ratepayer Assistance Plan to help low and fixed income households. Ratepayers are eligible if they qualify and receive Lower Income Heat and Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) benefits from other local utilities. The Ratepayer Assistance Program helps keep administrative costs to a minimum while providing the maximum benefit to those who need it. **For assistance or to apply for Nebraska LIHEAP, call 800-383-4278.**

JOB CREATION: LOCAL LABOR AND MATERIALS

The City and the CSO Program actively encourage local labor and the use of locally purchased or locally available materials. Through the City’s Small and Emerging Small Business (SEB) Program, businesses of all sizes have the opportunity to bid or work on CSO Program contracts and projects. **For more information about Small and Emerging Small Business opportunities, call 402-444-5055.**



A City of Omaha Public Works Initiative
Report Street Flooding and Sewer Backups: **402-444-5332**
Contact the CSO Program Hotline: **402-341-0235**
Email: **Info@OmahaCSO.com**