

City of Detroit


CITY COUNCIL

GABRIELA SANTIAGO-ROMERO
COUNCIL MEMBER, DISTRICT 6

MEMORANDUM

TO: Gary Brown, Director
Detroit Water and Sewerage Department

Ron Brundige, Director
Department of Public Works

FROM: Council Member Gabriela Santiago-Romero 

DATE: October 22, 2024

RE: Oregon St Drainage Concerns

A resident of Oregon St. reached out to my office to share that there are no catch basins on their block, and that multiple households on the block had been suffering from recurring flooding issues. In May 2023, the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) confirmed with my office that there are no catch basins on the 5500 block of Oregon St, 48204, and that storm runoff needs to go to the neighboring blocks. It was also shared at that time that when DWSD has sewer condition assessments in that neighborhood, they would review the infrastructure for possible upgrade. Residents of the affected community have reached out again recently to express that they have dealt with recurring flooding due to a lack of nearby drainage infrastructure. I have concerns regarding this ongoing issue, and what further damage that delays in infrastructure upgrades may cause to neighboring homes, and the vitality of this neighborhood.

Please provide a response to the following:

1. Has this block ever had catch basins? If so, when were they removed, and what were the reasons behind their removal?
 - a. If there have never been catch basins on this block, is there a specific reason why that has been the case?
2. Are there any existing plans to review or upgrade drainage infrastructure within this block?
3. Is there a minimum spacing requirement or standard for the placement of street drains to ensure adequate drainage, and prevent excessive gaps between them?

Please do not hesitate to contact my office if you have any questions. Thank you.