



## Meeting Minutes

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### Crystal Vista South Study Area Open House

Date and Time of Meeting: September 12, 2017, 7:00 PM

Location: City Hall

Attendees: See sign-in sheet for attendance

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Mike Magnuson began by introducing himself and the other staff members present. He outlined the process of identifying solutions for the flooding issues in this area. He said that the purpose of the meeting is to meet with the residents and listen to their issues. The City is meeting with each area separately because each area has a unique set of issues. He said the residents live out there, and are more attuned with the issues of the area.

Mike reviewed the recent rainfall events that the City has been experiencing this summer, and put them in historical context. Mike emphasized that the rainfall totals over the past two months have far exceeded other recent rain events in the past 20 years or so.

Mike then reviewed the topography of the area. He said that the area is relatively flat, which means water does not drain quickly out of the area. Mike said this is also challenging because in order to drain water from the area quickly, the stormwater has to be stored somewhere. Creating large basins may not be practical because they could fill up with groundwater.

Mike described how modern developments manage stormwater. He said that there is not a comprehensive drainage system in this area. Mike noted there were several pocketed areas of flooding. The residents agreed that even small rainfalls can fill these areas with water quickly.

One resident expressed a lot of frustration that the City continued to allow the building of new houses in this area. She said that this area only recently experienced flooding. She said that many of the pockets that used to hold water were filled in with new houses. She said that there have been flooding issues for years, and there has been no action from the City in helping this area. The resurfacing of the road a few years ago made this problem much worse.

Mike said that staff would be taking all the information gathered and develop workable solutions which would be presented for discussion and endorsement. The final product would be a prioritized list of potential projects that would be presented to City Council.

One resident asked if it was possible to divert some stormwater to the Briarwood storm sewer. Mike said it was possible, but would have to be looked at carefully. There was some discussion among the residents about the feasibility of putting detention ponds in this area.

One resident expressed concern about the addition of more impervious area in the watershed, in particular the Park District's new proposed facility on Briarwood north of Route 176. The resident said that he had been planting native vegetation in his yard. Another resident suggested planting native vegetation in the parkways of Ivy Lane and Dolo Rolo Vista.

One resident said that this area was not treated as equitably as other areas of the City. The resident said other areas of the City receive more services than this area. Mike stated that this is not true. All areas of the City are being treated equally as part of this effort. There is no preference in one area over another

There was some discussion about how FEMA determines the floodplain of an area, and how this affects flood insurance requirements.

One resident said that there was a lot near her house, which was a low point. She is concerned that a house will be built there, which will further reduce the area ability to drain water.

There were discussions on drainage of individual lots.

Mike asked the residents to make sure their sump pumps are not connected to the sanitary sewer. He said that the sanitary sewer is not designed to handle that kind of load. He said that the Public Works department can help determine if a house's sump pump is connected to the sanitary sewer.

There was some discussion about the cost of adding storm sewers, curbs, and gutters to this area. The general consensus is that it would be very expensive. Mike said that it is an option that could be looked at. There was also some discussion about ditches and swales handling drainage. Mike said both will be considered. One resident asked how this would be funded. Mike said that would have to be looked at by the City Council.

During the meeting, Mike had been taking down ideas on the whiteboard. Mike reviewed the categories and the items under each category. They were:

Problems/Issues:

Flooding from minimal rains  
Lack of solutions  
Filling of lots  
Road paving increased runoff  
No storm sewers/ditches  
Trench drains do not work  
New development/infill

Concepts/Solutions:

Ditches & stormwater  
Meter sanitary sewer to stop inflow and infiltration  
Create storage on vacant lots or easements on properties  
Less impervious area  
Rain gardens, high uptake plants  
Median on Ivy Lane/Dolo Rosa Vista  
Lower the level of the lake

Mike wrapped up the meeting by thanking everyone who attended and said there would be follow-up with tonight's discussion when the City was able to develop some more specific solutions for the area.



# CRYSTAL VISTA SOUTH AREA MEETING - 9/12/17

## SIGN-IN SHEET

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