

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Mill Creek Interceptor Sewer Project is one of many City projects aimed at updating the City's sewer and wastewater treatment infrastructure and reducing Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs).

A portion of the City's sewer system runs through Mill Creek Park and is a Combined Sewer - meaning it collects both wastewater from our homes and buildings and rainwater from our land. When it rains a lot, this mix of water can overflow into Mill Creek and its smaller streams, Calvary Run and Bears Den Run.

Right now, there are 18 places where these overflows can happen. Most of them (15) go directly into Mill Creek, while two flow into Calvary Run and one into Bears Den Run. The City's Mill Creek Interceptor Sewer Project lays out a four-part plan to reduce the amount of combined sewer overflows entering our waterways by installing larger diameter pipe and culvert. The four parts are based on location and connections to the existing system and will be implemented at different times.

PROJECT TIMELINE

- PRELIMINARY DESIGN

In this phase, engineers analyze geography, population, and water use to draft initial pipe layouts and sizes, estimate costs and construction time, and assess environmental impacts. This early planning helps identify potential issues, allows community input, and ensures the sewer system will be effective and durable in the long term.
- FINAL DESIGN

In this phase, engineers make detailed plans that show exactly how the sewer will be built. This includes choosing the right materials and figuring out the best way to put everything together. Final design makes sure the sewer system will last a long time and work properly. A well-designed sewer system, from start to finish, makes life better for all the people who live in the area.
- CONSTRUCTION

During construction, the Contractor builds the project based on the plans developed during Final Design.

PROJECT UPDATES

TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY
Before any major construction begins, surveys are essential to ensure proper design and planning. Topographic surveys map out the land's contours, elevation changes, and existing features so designers know where infrastructure can go, and where it can't go.

- Findings**
- The survey was completed that determined elevations and key features to develop a basemap from which to complete the final design

CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY
Cultural resources surveys are conducted before sewer projects to identify and protect historically significant items, such as Native American artifacts or historic buildings. Doing this early ensures that construction doesn't harm important cultural heritage.

- Findings**
- The project is located within the Mill Creek Park Historic District.
 - The project will not affect any previously documented archaeological sites**
 - Additional research is still being completed to ensure minimal effects to specific historic elements.*

GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATIONS
Geotechnical investigations study the soil and rock beneath the surface using drilling and testing. These investigations help engineers understand ground strength, composition, and water impact. This early analysis allows for safer, more accurate designs and cost estimates, ensuring long-lasting and stable construction.

- Findings**
- Geotechnical subsurface investigation program consisted of 31 soil borings to depths ranging from 5 to 85 feet BGS, and 16 of 31 soil borings were converted into groundwater monitoring wells. An additional soil boring "OW-1" was installed to support the design of a pump well.
 - Additional research is still being completed and findings will be updated*

WILDLIFE STUDIES
Wildlife studies assess how construction might impact local animals and plants, especially rare or protected species. Conducting these studies early helps minimize harm to ecosystems and supports responsible development that balances human needs with environmental protection.

- Findings**
In 2024, a bat mist-net survey captured:
- Tricolored bats
 - To avoid impacts to these species, project related tree removal will only take place during the winter when bats are not using the trees.
 - No rare, threatened, or endangered aquatic species were identified in the project area streams.

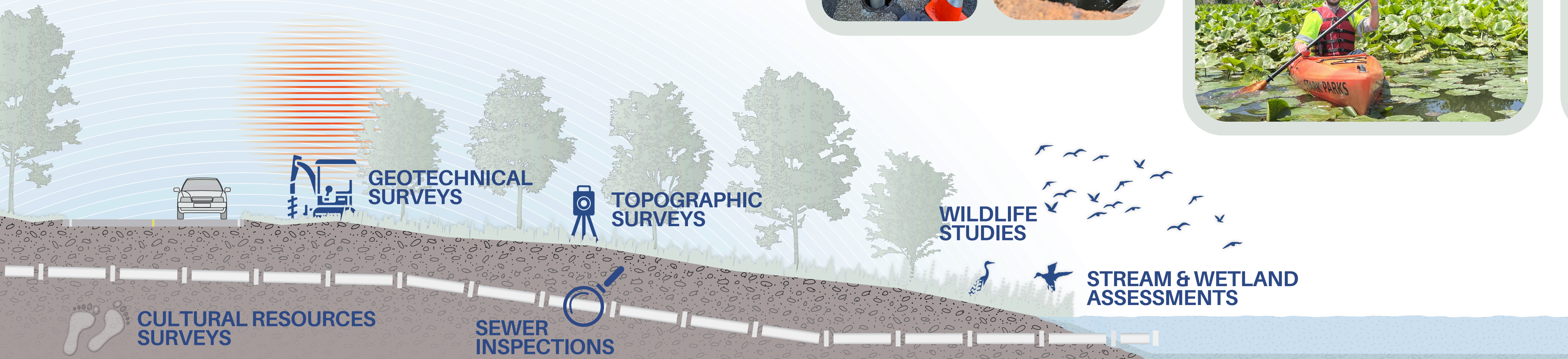
SEWER INSPECTIONS
Sewer inspections use cameras to check underground pipes for issues like cracks, blockages, or tree root intrusion. These inspections help engineers understand the current condition of the sewer system, plan repairs or replacements, and avoid costly problems during construction by adjusting designs early.

- Findings**
- Televised approximately 32,000 lineal feet of sewer pipe
 - Completed 19 regulating chamber investigations
 - Completed manhole investigations



STREAM AND WETLAND ASSESSMENTS
Assessments provide valuable insights into the health and functionality of our streams and wetlands. These studies inform land use decisions, ensuring that development projects consider their impact on these sensitive areas. For this project, these assessments will let the project team know what steps should be taken to avoid or minimize impacts to stream and wetlands.

- Findings**
- 2 small wetlands were found within the study area but should not be impacted.
 - 2 streams cross the study area and some will be temporarily impacted during construction.



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