

ONE PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT KNAPP & EAST BELTLINE DEVELOPMENT STORMWATER RUN OFF TO BE DRAINED IN GRAND RIVER, ADA TOWNSHIP

Ada residents are encouraged to attend the one and only public meeting where the Drain Board for the Knapp's Corner Drain Drainage District will consider any and all evidence and comments presented to it relating to a petition to make improvements to and extend the Knapp's Corner Drain. The petition for the drain project will drain overflow of stormwater into the Grand River in Ada Township. The stormwater will come from the extensive development that has happened along East Beltline and Knapp. Stormwater contains salt from the parking lots and other rooftop runoff. The proposed plans redirect stormwater runoff from the Knapp Corner Drain into the Cook Drain, which flows into the Grand River in Ada Township along Grand River Drive between Three Mile and Four Mile Roads.

Ada Township filed a lawsuit in August 2024 relating to a petition to make improvements to and extend the Knapp's Corner Drain. Ada Township alleged that it was entitled to notice of the petition in order to present its objections to the proposed drain extension. Ada Township residents will have an opportunity to speak during the public comment section of the public meeting.

One Public Meeting:
Thursday, May 29 – 1:00 PM
Kent County Drain Commission Office
775 Ball Ave NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Background:

- Since 2010, the Knapp's Corner Drain Drainage District and the Kent Count Drain Commission has been working to manage runoff from the large development near Knapp and E. Beltline in Grand Rapids Township.
- This runoff largely from parking lots contains high levels of salt and sediment and has led to damage of wells for resident in the Dunnigan Ave area, resulting in these homes needing to be connected to public water.
- Currently, the excess water is trucked to the Grand River in Ada Township and dumped using an access point at the Knapp Street boat launch which the Drain Commission has authorized.

Ada's Commitment to transparency and Right to Be Heard:

- Last summer, the Kent County Drain Commission informed Ada Township of plans to install a permanent pipeline in the Township, a departure from the previous plan of piping the water to the west.
- Drain Commissioner Ken Yonker presented to the Ada Township Board, but at the time did not inform the board that the drain board had scheduled a meeting for a final plan decision on the project.
- The Township became aware of the drain board decision to move forward with the project, and to preserve Ada Township's commitments to transparency and rights, Ada Township filed a lawsuit.
- The Township's settlement of the lawsuit resulted in the scheduling of a public meeting to allow Ada Township and its residents an opportunity to present arguments and evidence in support of the objections to the proposed drain extension.
- We have provided three maps for you to click on and see the area of water run off as well as the planned pipeline and draining area of the stormwater.
- Please note, our Township engineer indicates that the amount of water the pipe is designed to drain at peak flow will equal about two open fire hydrants each time.

Make Your Voice Heard:

- We encourage you to attend this one-time public meeting of the Drainage Board for the Knapp's Corner Drain to ensure that Ada Township can have as much public input as possible about this critical situation that will could impact the Grand River and surrounding area.
- While we cannot guarantee the outcome of this meeting, Ada Township is doing its best to ensure ongoing transparency and open dialog on this matter with Ada residents.

We hope to see you on Thursday, May 29 at 1:00 PM.

Stay informed, share your voice, plan to attend!