

CITY OF WEST LAFAYETTE

W E T W E A T H E R P R O G R A M

Downtown/Waterfront Drainage Improvements

Along North River Road near the downtown West Lafayette waterfront, this historic business and residential district offers residents and visitors alike many activities such as shopping, eateries, and community festivities.

Many new commercial developments have been springing up in the area putting a strain on the existing stormwater drainage system. The current system lacks capacity to accommodate the large amounts of stormwater runoff from these new buildings in the area. This stormwater runoff flows into the Wabash River carrying oil from cars, trash and other pollutants that are harmful to the Wabash River and aquatic life.



Improving Water Quality



To improve stormwater drainage in the downtown area, the City of West Lafayette is considering various improvements including the installation of additional stormwater drains, sewer piping and manufactured water quality structures designed to filter stormwater and remove pollutants. Detention basins also may be used to remove pollutants from stormwater.

Essentially shallow ponds, the detention basins will help manage the excess runoff by storing the stormwater and then slowly releasing it to the storm sewer. These basins will help treat polluted water and improve water quality in the surrounding area.

Accommodating Continued Development

Highlights

Project: Drainage improvements

Estimated Project Cost: \$500,000

Status: Planning

Project Benefits:

- Improved stormwater drainage
- Reduced stormwater runoff
- Improved quality of stormwater entering the Wabash River
- Increased capacity for future development

These drainage improvements will reduce stormwater runoff and also accommodate additional stormwater from future development in the downtown area.

The Downtown/Waterfront Drainage Improvements project is part of West Lafayette's capital improvement program to improve the water quality of the Wabash River and other local streams and to address poor drainage conditions. The projects will reduce chronic flooding and satisfy the requirements of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management.

