



December 21, 2017

Re: Whitely Neighborhood Project

The Muncie Sanitary District, among its many responsibilities, manages storm water throughout its territory. When finances allow, the District attempts to address neighborhood flooding issues as part of that obligation. A successful example of one recent such project can be seen in the McKinley Neighborhood.

Eliminating flooding problems can necessitate the acquisition of properties in the affected area. If the MSD purchases a property, by law, they are only allowed to pay an average of two certified appraisals or broker price opinions.

Long-standing flooding issues exist in certain portions of the Whitley neighborhood. This year, the MSD had initiated a project to address those issues. Several residents in the affected area of the Whitely neighborhood have come forward to oppose the District's efforts. The MSD has repeatedly assured the residents of the City that they will not invoke its powers of eminent domain to obtain properties. If owners do not want to sell, we will not force them. As a result of the opposition to our efforts by the property owners in the affected area, the MSD Board of Directors has decided to suspend its efforts to rectify the flooding issues at this time.

Should the property owners in the affected area decide, in the future, that they are interested in selling their property in order to resolve the flooding issues; the MSD will certainly consider revisiting this project. However, at this time, the MSD has ceased actively pursuing the acquisition of properties in the affected area of the Whitely neighborhood.

Thank you,

Muncie Sanitary Board of Commissioners

