



Southeast Seminole Heights Flooding Relief Project

About The Project - Questions and Answers

September 2021

What is the Southeast Seminole Heights Flooding Relief Project?

The Southeast Seminole Heights Flooding Relief Project involves designing and building a major stormwater conveyance system to improve drainage and reduce flooding of roadways, homes and businesses. This work is part of the City's ongoing commitment to invest in neighborhoods by upgrading essential infrastructure.

Why is the project needed?

The project is needed to reduce flooding in residential and commercial areas of Southeast Seminole Heights and improve wet-weather driving conditions on hurricane evacuation routes.

What does the project include?

The project includes designing, permitting and constructing conveyance systems to route stormwater away from roads and properties to relieve periodic flooding. Improvements include new box culverts, a new outfall at the Hillsborough River, and new storm sewer inlets, pipes and associated interconnections to the existing storm sewer network.

Who is responsible for the project?

The City selected Wade Trim and David Nelson Construction to design and build the project. Wade Trim/David Nelson Construction has assembled a top-notch design-build team with specialized expertise to successfully design, permit and construct the Southeast Seminole Heights Flooding Control Project.

Are other improvements occurring at the same time?

Yes. Construction is being coordinated with other City departments to achieve additional community benefits. Crews will install new drinking water pipelines to replace aging or inadequate pipelines in the area, reducing the potential for future water main breaks and leaks. Additional fire hydrants will be installed to improve fire protection. Transportation improvements are planned for Central Avenue between Osborne Avenue and Hillsborough Avenue to enhance vehicle, pedestrian and bicycle safety.

Is the City installing curbs and gutters in the area?

Yes. The City is adding gutters and curbs at the edge of pavement to improve stormwater conveyance in all areas where stormwater improvements are made. Those areas include West Crest Avenue, East Frierson Avenue, parts of Central Avenue, East Hanna Avenue, East Caracas Street, East Ellicott Street, North 10th Street, North 12th Street and East Chelsea Street. Granite curbs located inside the historic district will be removed, stockpiled, protected, and reset. Granite curbs outside the historic district that are disturbed by utility construction will be replaced with concrete curbs per City standards.

How much will the project cost?

Construction of the Southeast Seminole Heights Stormwater Project will cost approximately \$39 million, which includes \$29.1 million for stormwater improvements, \$8.9 million for water improvements and \$556,000 for transportation improvements.

How is the project being funded?

Funding is provided by the City's Capital Improvement Program. Additionally, the Southwest Florida Water Management District is co-funding approximately \$15.8 million of the eligible stormwater-related construction cost.

Will the project raise my property taxes?

No. This project is being funded through the City's Capital Improvement Program with Southwest Florida Water Management District co-funding helping to offset the eligible construction costs.

How are you engaging the community in this project?

The City and its design-build team is committed to working with businesses, schools, churches and residents as this project moves through design and construction. We've already distributed doorhangers about the project and held one-on-one meetings with residents and business owners who requested them. We're working with the three neighborhood associations to deliver regular updates, and also communicating with Hillsborough High, Seminole Heights Elementary, and area churches and businesses to address their safety and access concerns. A public meeting prior to the start of the construction will offer additional opportunities for residents to learn about the project and have their questions answered.

How can residents stay up to date on the project?

We have a number of ways that the public can stay up to date on the project, including a dedicated website (seminoleheightsstormwater.com) and a dedicated project hotline (813-580-5313). We will also distribute door hangers in advance of construction activities on specific streets.

Who can I contact if I have questions or concerns about my property?

Residents may call the project hotline at (813) 580-5313 or email projectinfo@seminoleheightsstormwater.com at any time before or during construction. Additionally, once construction starts, an on-site community representative will proactively work with residents to resolve specific concerns.