

Storm Flood Relief (SFR) Program

Northern Liberties Project Phases 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6

About the Storm Flood Relief (SFR) Program

The PWD Storm Flood Relief (SFR) Program has been on-going since 2005. The objective of the program is to minimize the occurrence of flooding on streets and in basements due to rain events in parts of the City that have historically experienced flooding. This goal is accomplished by increasing the capacity of the sewer infrastructure to move water away from residences and businesses.

Flooding is typically caused by:

- Local drainage issues – sewer pipes in the building or on site are blocked or undersized.
- Insufficient trunk sewer capacity – pipes in the street are not large enough to carry the water away.

The Northern Liberties SFR Project consists of six phases which include the installation of over one mile of box sewer, pipe sewers of various diameter (from 12" to 60"), and seven underground chambers.

Coordination with SEPTA, PECO, PGW, and telecommunications companies, such as Verizon and Comcast, is ongoing during this work. This cooperative approach minimizes inconvenience and potential future service disruptions during construction.



FIGURE 1. Rendering of completed PWD facilities beneath Laurel Street.

Project Facts

Work will be conducted along Laurel Street, Germantown Avenue, and Master Street in the Northern Liberties section of the city.

The project will provide more reliable sewer service and reduced flooding risk.

Work will be staged to minimize impacts to the surrounding neighborhood.

Project Timeline:

Phase 1: Completed in 2010

Phase 2: Construction 2014-2016

Phase 3: Completed in 2015

Phase 4: Construction 2014-2016

Phase 5: Construction 2016-2017

Phase 6: Construction 2017-2018

As a part of this project, the sidewalk, curb, and street will be restored, and new ADA-compliant ramps and pavement will be installed, improving the safety, functionality, and aesthetics along the streets where work is taking place.

Philadelphia Water has attended various community meetings to inform the public of SFR project goals, and how the project will benefit the communities. This has allowed for community input on the project.



FIGURE 2. Construction activities for the Northern Liberties SFR Project showing an open cut installation of a box sewer.



FIGURE 3. The Northern Liberties SFR Projects will have a Green Streets component. Recessed planter beds depicted above filter storm water from the roadway before being discharged to the Delaware River.

Frequently Asked Questions

With all construction there is a level of inconvenience. We are working to minimize construction impacts. Please refer to the following Frequently Asked Questions for more information.

Q. Will I lose water service during construction?

A. Minor disruptions of water service are anticipated during construction, resulting in the loss of water service for 1-2 hours while house connections to new pipes are made and for 4-8 hours while water main connections are completed. Residents will be notified when water service outages are anticipated.

Q. How will construction affect traffic, sidewalk access, and parking?

A. Street parking will be restricted. Temporary “No Parking” signs will be installed before the start of work stating the dates and hours that the areas will be closed. Local vehicular traffic, pedestrian access, trash collection, and deliveries will be maintained. Any cars left on streets where work is scheduled to take place will be towed to a nearby public street. Project personnel will be available to direct you to your car.

Q. What are the hours of construction?

A. Typical construction hours will be from 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM but can vary seasonally.

Q. How dusty will my street be during construction?

A. All construction work is subject to dirt and dust. We apologize for any inconvenience. At the end of each work day, the Contractor will be responsible for keeping the site clean. Efforts will be made to minimize the dust caused by work within your neighborhood.

Q. Will trees be protected during construction?

A. A tree specialist will assess all trees on these streets prior to construction to identify measures to protect trees.

Q. Will SEPTA service in the area be affected?

A. The Route 25 bus running along Frankford Avenue likely will be detoured. For up-to-the-minute changes in SEPTA service please visit www.septa.org/alert/system-status.html or contact SEPTA by phone at (215) 580-7800.

Triple Bottom-Line Analysis

Social Equity

- Aligned with PWD’s Green City, Clean Waters program which reduces the amount of run-off into the sewers
- Improved sidewalks and ADA ramps

Environmental Benefits

- Fewer sewer back-ups
- Decreased run-off from Green Infrastructure component

Economic Gains

- Minimize property damage and inconvenience caused by flooding and pipe breaks

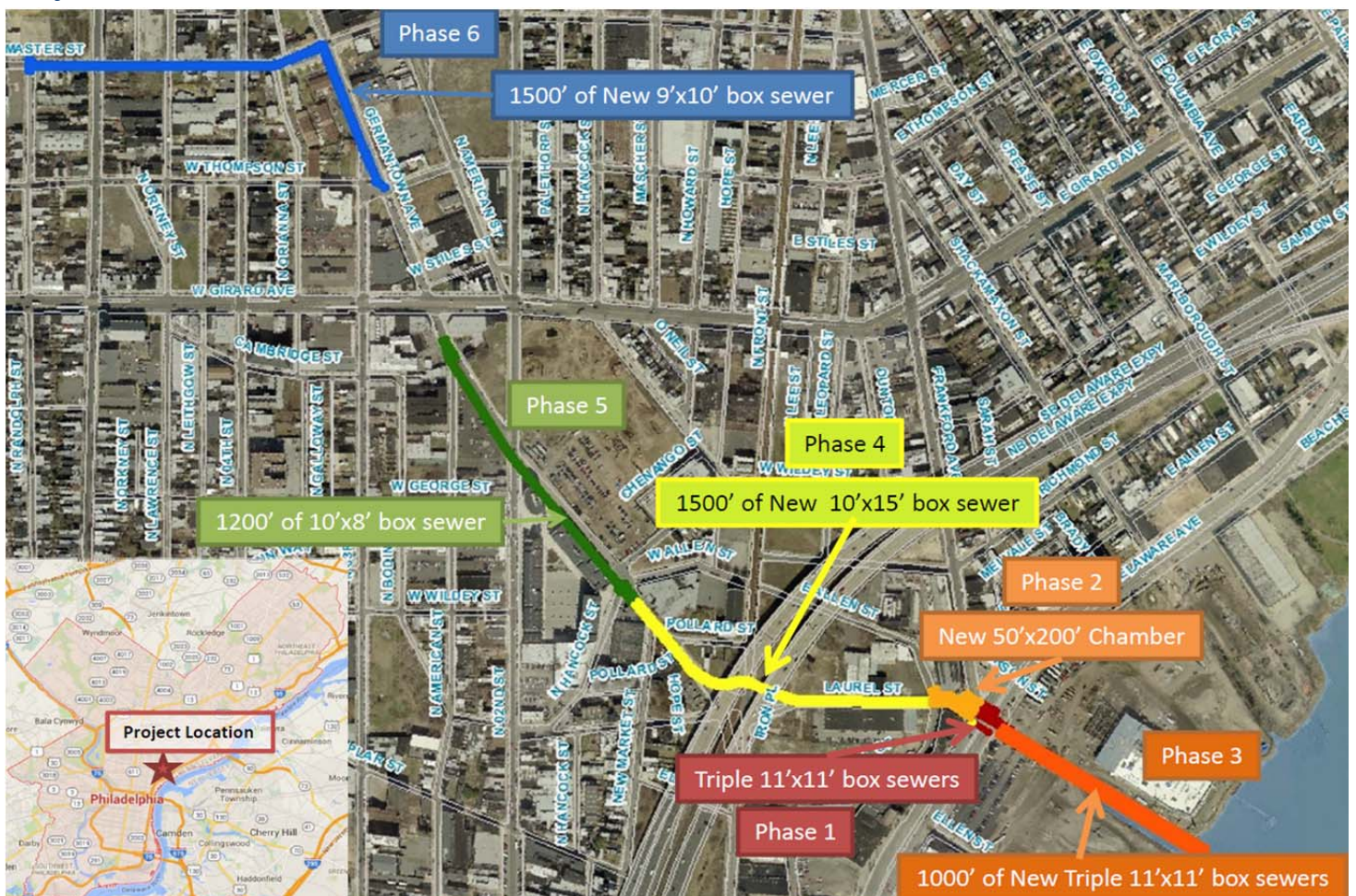
Leadership

- Routine communication with the public through PWD-led community meetings.
- Collaboration with SEPTA, PECO, PGW, Verizon, and Comcast

Technological Innovation

- Project management software
- Hydraulic modeling performed during project planning
- Laser Scanning
- 3D BIM Modeling

Project Locations and Details



Questions?

Contact **Philadelphia Water** at (215) 685-6300

Or visit: <http://www.phillywatersheds.org/alerts>