

Stormwater

Growing Problems, Possible Solutions



Fall 2021



SPEAKERS

Stormwater

01

Public Affairs

02

Engineering



MEETING TECH

Stormwater

- Participants are in listen-and-view mode
- Q&A Button to ask questions
 - Type your question using Q/A icon at the bottom of your screen at any time (even before the Q/A portion has begun).
 - Everyone can read all questions posed and you can "Upvote" questions you want answered.



AGENDA

Summer 2021

01

**Our Mission,
2 Utilities in 1**

02

**Growing
Problems**

03

**Possible Solutions &
Current Outreach**

04

**Learning From
Our Customers**

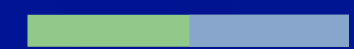
01

Our Mission:

To protect the public's health, safety, and water environment by responsibly providing wastewater and stormwater management.

01

2 Utilities in 1



Wastewater and Stormwater

MSD Project Clear is 2 Utilities in 1

What is the difference?

Wastewater

Any water that goes down a drain in your home or business



Stormwater

Any precipitation that reaches the ground



2 UTILITIES
IN one

MSD Project Clear is 2 Utilities in 1

What do we do?

Wastewater

Services include:

- ✓ Cleaning and repairs of existing wastewater system
- ✓ Compliance with environmental regulations
- ✓ Major new improvements

Stormwater

Services include:

- ✓ Cleaning and repairs of existing storm sewers
- ✓ Compliance with environmental regulations
- ✗ **No funding for new improvements**

2 UTILITIES
IN one

MSD Project Clear is 2 Utilities in 1

How are they funded?

Wastewater

Services are funded by:

- Monthly sewer bill

Stormwater

Services are funded by:

- A property tax assessment

2 UTILITIES
IN one

MSD Project Clear is 2 Utilities in 1

Why not use wastewater funds for stormwater problems?

Wastewater

Funds collected to address **wastewater** problems cannot be used to address stormwater problems

Stormwater

Funds collected to address **stormwater** problems cannot be used to address **wastewater** problems

2 UTILITIES
IN **one**

Didn't Voters Approve a Stormwater proposal in 2016?

Prop. S equalized existing stormwater services and funding

- ✓ Cleaning and repairs of existing storm sewers
- ✓ Equalization of services across service area
- ✓ Increased inspections and repairs of stormwater sewers
- ✗ However, the 2016 vote provided no funding for major improvements to the system, which would address serious problems like flooding and erosion

2 UTILITIES
IN one

Growing Stormwater Problems



Stormwater Problems

Flooding and Erosion

- Stormwater events can overwhelm both natural and constructed systems when rain falls too fast.
- Stormwater problems arise when natural systems cannot quickly absorb it, or too much of it falls onto “impermeable” surfaces like roads, driveways, parking lots, sidewalks and rooftops.
- The two largest stormwater problems in the St. Louis region are **flooding** and **erosion**.



Stormwater Problems

Flooding





Stormwater Problems

Erosion



Growing Problems

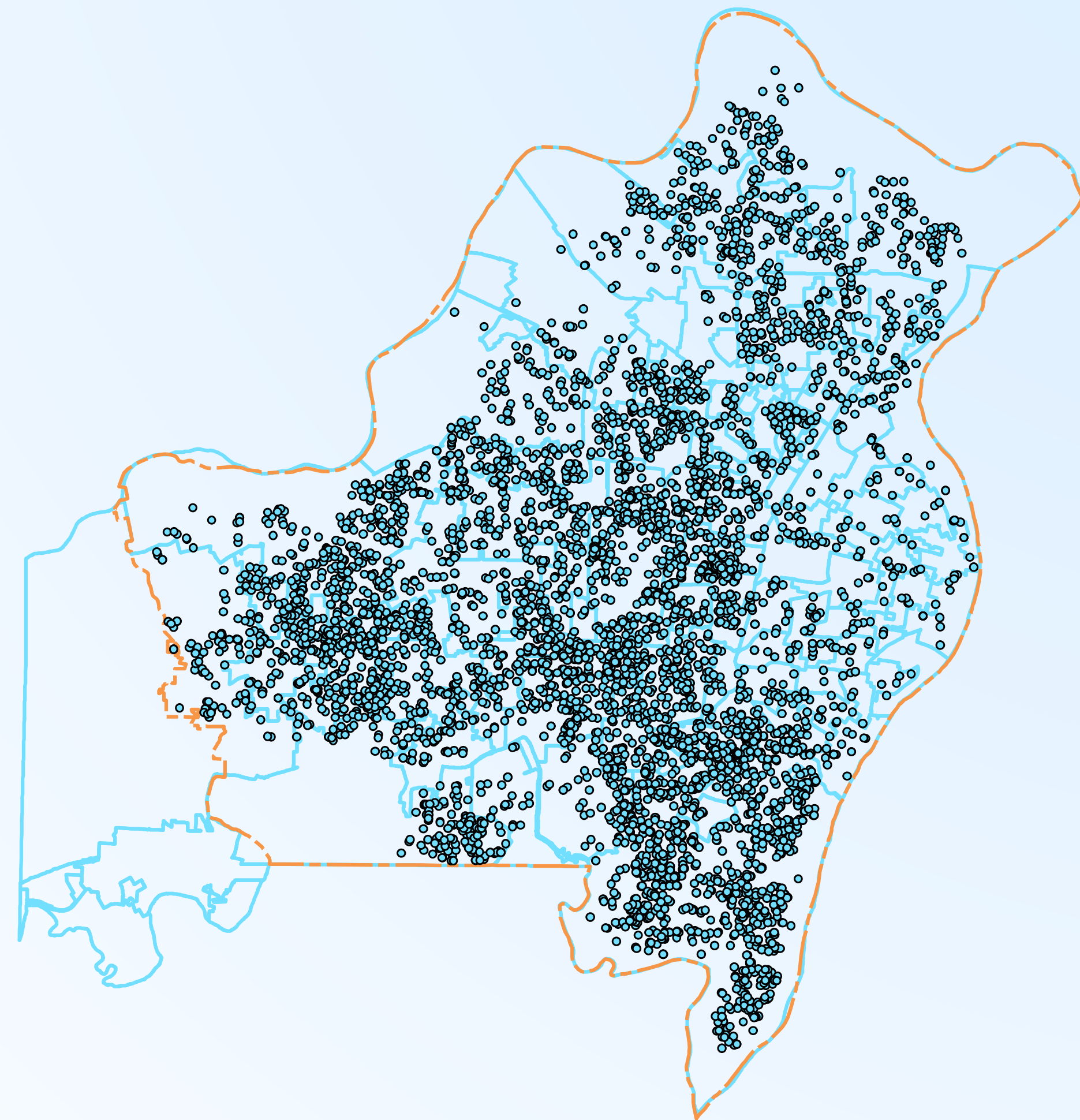
More than 3,500 Stormwater Service Requests Identified by Customers from 2018 to 2021

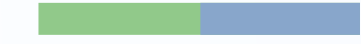
From 2018–2019 requests rose by more than

100%

Although there is no funding source to build them, we have documented the need for new stormwater solutions totaling more than

\$500 million





Stormwater Stories

More than Numbers

Possible Solutions & Current Outreach

Some Possible Solutions

- Creek bank stabilization
- Increased system capacity
- Green infrastructure/rainscaping
- Purchase of frequently-flooded properties



Why Isn't This Being Addressed?

No funding source

- MSD Project Clear operates and maintains public storm sewers.
- But we have no funding to address 500+ identified stormwater improvement projects.
- Previous attempts have failed to address these problems, most recently in 2019 when voters narrowly rejected a proposal to fund increased stormwater services.

Why Reach Out Again?

3 Reasons to Research, Examine and Engage the Public

3

Strength and frequency of stormwater problems continue to rise:

- Stormwater problems rarely get better over time.
 - In the last 10 years alone, customers have reported more
 - We expect this trend to continue, making current problems
 - If left unaddressed, they probably get worse.
- Of those, more than half, or 3,500 requests to address stormwater problems have been in just the last 3 years.

Learning From Our Customers



KEY GOALS & QUESTIONS



Key Goals

Stormwater Outreach

- 1 Ensure our customers understand the nature of stormwater problems in the region, the projected growth of these problems, and some of the possible solutions.
- 2 Through research, and stakeholder and public engagement, get answers to several key questions.
- 3 Use the analysis of our outreach to determine whether we should put to voters a new proposal to fund stormwater solutions.

5 Key Items We Want to Learn

Stormwater Outreach

- 1 Do our customers see a need to address stormwater problems like localized flooding and erosion?
- 2 Do our customers want MSD Project Clear to provide stormwater solutions?
- 3 Are our customers willing to pay for stormwater solutions?
- 4 If so, how much are they willing to pay?
- 5 If willing to pay, would our customers prefer to pay for stormwater solutions via impervious area tax or property tax?

Thank You for Your Attention!

For more information or to register for an upcoming Stormwater Virtual Town Hall, scan the QR code or visit msdprojectclear.org/townhalls.



And thank you for helping us to fulfill our mission to protect the public's health, safety, and water environment by responsibly providing wastewater and stormwater management.