

This was distributed on the Rosemont Listserv in August 2024

Subject: Hooff's Run culvert is handling bigger storms without flooding

Hi Neighbors,

In May, the City completed significant repairs and improvements to the culvert that carries Hooff's Run under the sidewalks, playgrounds, and homes along lower Commonwealth Avenue. The repairs included bigger inlets, improved venting, and access, combined with a program of routine maintenance and inspection.

Last month's storm was the first serious test of the culvert since the repairs.

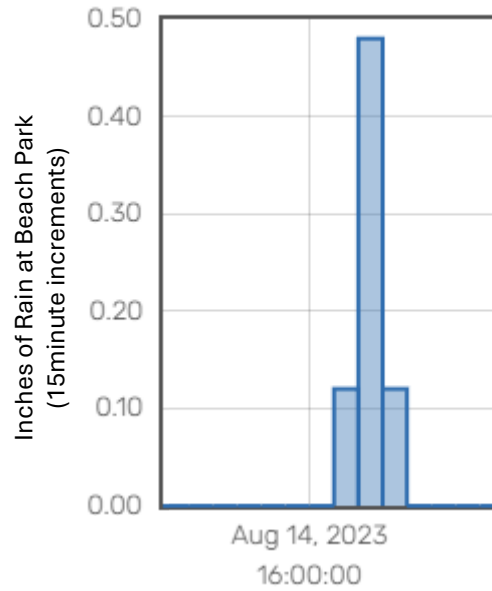
The storm on July 22nd dropped 1.16 inches of rain in just 45 minutes. Before the repairs, that amount of rainfall would have filled the culvert and overflowed into the neighborhoods. Instead, water flowed out so quickly that there was two feet of "headroom" in the culvert.

Compare that to a comparable storm the year before, when the culvert came within inches of overflowing. On August 14, 2023, a storm dropped 0.72 inches of rain in 45 minutes. The surging stormwater was six feet deep in the culvert with no "headroom" if the rain worsened.

For those of you who like charts and graphs, the following page presents the data in more detail. All the data is from the rain gauge at Beach Park and the depth gauge inside the culvert near Linden Street. At the City's Flood Action website, you can monitor these gauges in real-time at [Home \(onerain.com\)](https://www.onerain.com)

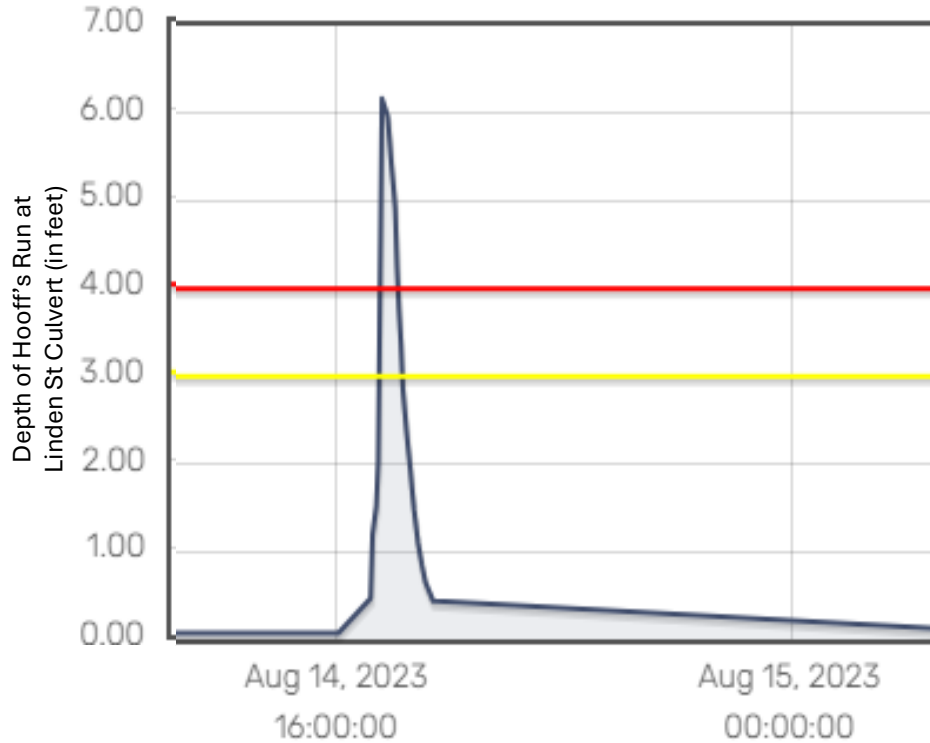
Although this is good news, these improvements are just the beginning of the work financed by your Stormwater Fee. The multi-year project to create substantially more capacity – and perhaps re-route some of the flow – is being designed. Stay tuned for more updates as the design is developed.

Before Hooff's Run Improvements

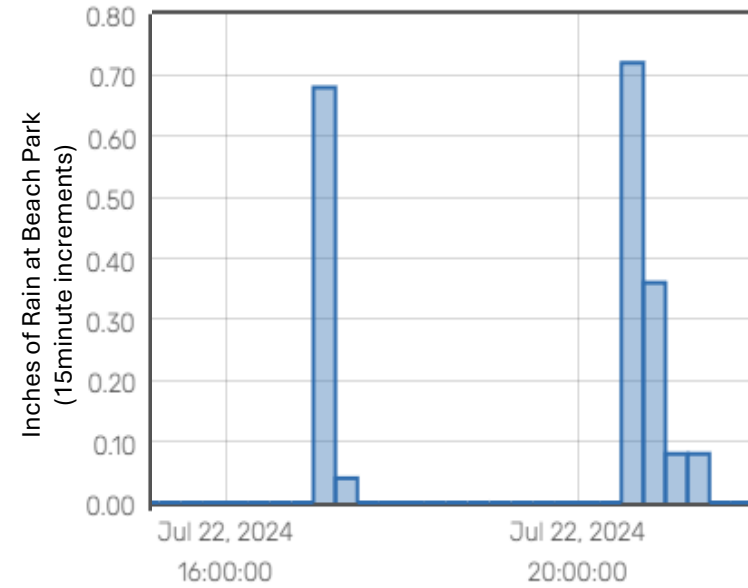


At 4pm on August 14 2023, we saw 0.72 inches of rain in 45 minutes

The depth of Hooff's Run at Linden Street was over 6 feet



After Hooff's Run Improvements



At 8pm on July 22 2024, we saw 1.16 inches of rain in 45 minutes

The depth of Hooff's Run at Linden Street never exceeded 3 feet

