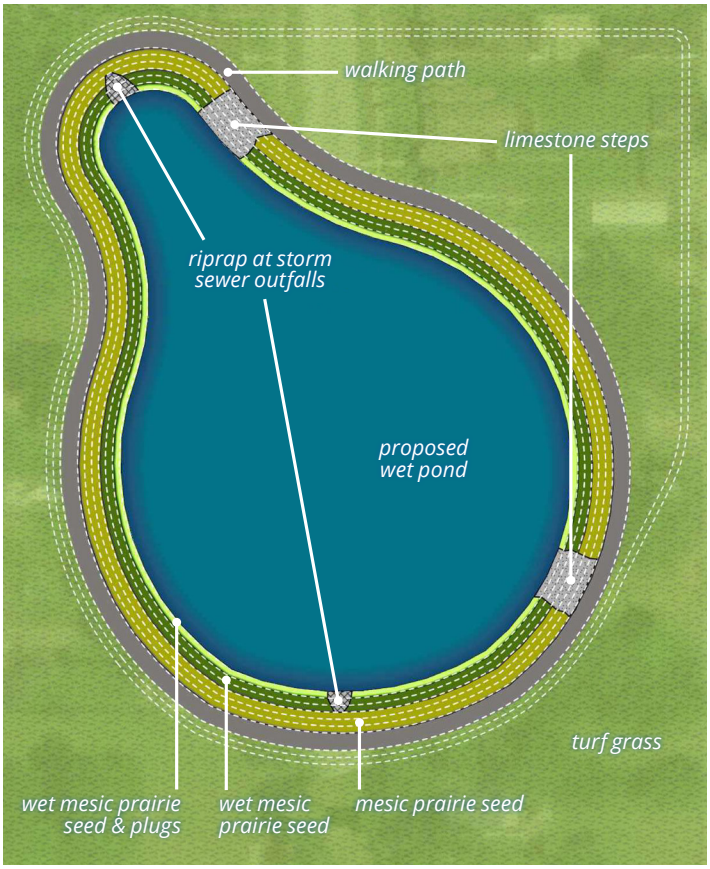
Harvey Central Park Stormwater Detention Basin

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago's (MWRD's) Harvey Central Park Stormwater Detention Basin project will provide flood relief for the city of Harvey. This project will reduce flooding to approximately 209 homes during a 100-year storm event.



Proposed Harvey Central Park Stormwater Detention Basin on Myrtle Avenue between 153rd and 154th Street.

Project Description

The project involves the construction of a new detention basin and open green space on 4.4 acres along Myrtle Avenue between 153rd and 154th Street. New separate storm sewers will be installed along 153rd Street and on eight side streets (Paulina Street, Marshfield Avenue, Ashland Avenue, Vine Avenue, Myrtle Avenue, Loomis Avenue, Lexington Avenue, and Turlington Avenue) between 153rd and 154th Street to convey flows to the storage basin. The system will discharge into the new Wood Street storm sewer system.

The MWRD is leading funding efforts for the project with an estimated construction cost of approximately $13 million.

Background

MWRD retained a consultant to study the nature and extent of the existing flooding problem in the city of Harvey and identify potential solutions to address the flooding. The study area was approximately 1,560 acres and consisted primarily of residential neighborhoods along with a mix of commercial, industrial, institutional, and open spaces such as parks and vacant parcels. Under the current conditions, 1,494 structures are impacted during the 100-year storm event. This project was designed to help alleviate these flooding problems.

Benefits

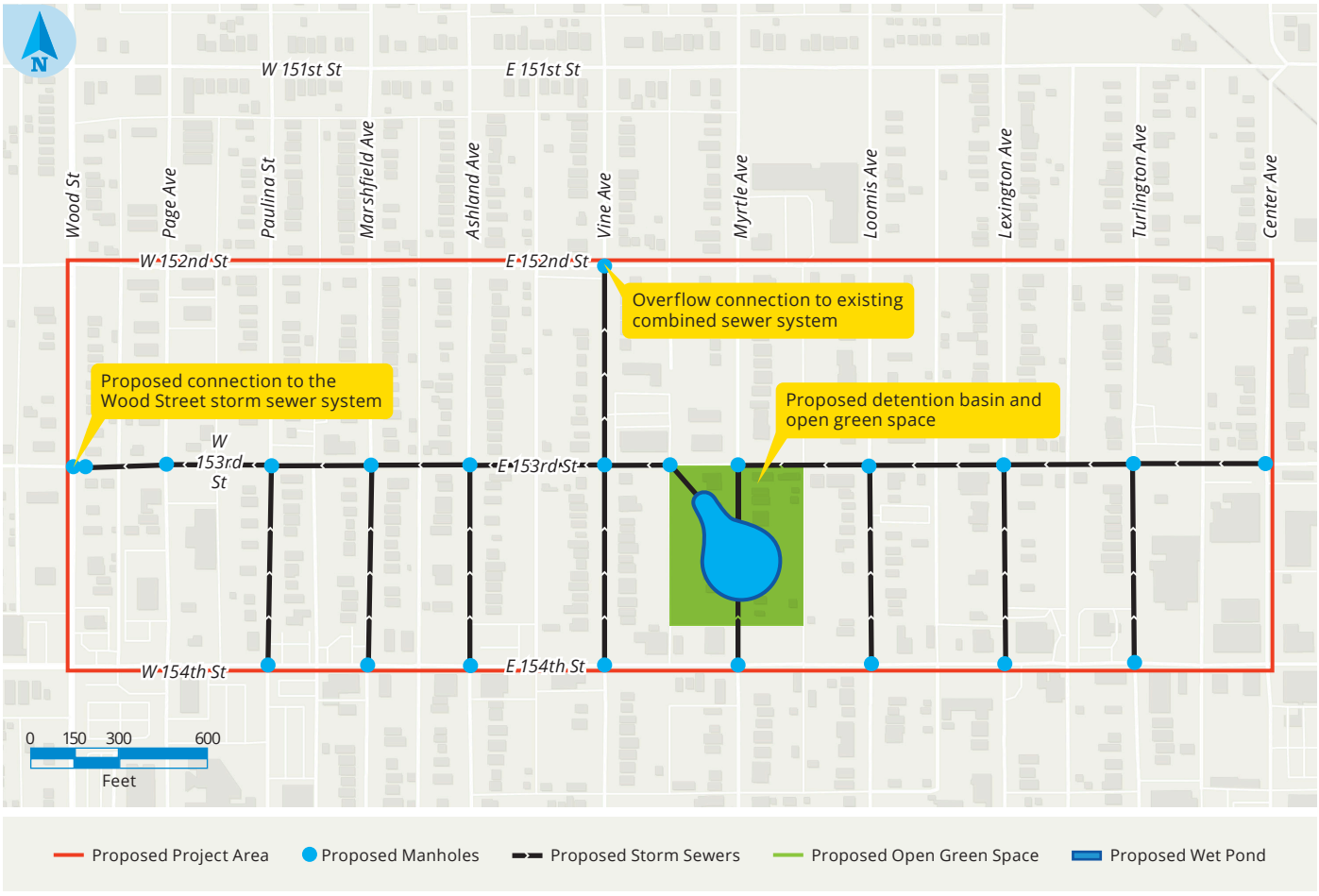
During the 100-year storm event, 209 structures will benefit as a result of the project. This project will reduce flows to the existing combined sewer to free up capacity in the areas downstream and reduce flooding in those areas as well. The reduced flow will also reduce the hydraulic grade line in the system and potentially reduce basement backups.

In addition to mitigating flooding, the project will improve the quality of life further by providing a dual-use open-water pond and open green space, including new walking paths and other recreation improvements.

Project Timeline

The project is currently under design and construction is anticipated to begin in 2026. The construction is expected to take approximately 2 years.

Project Location Map & Green Space Features



Limestone Steps

Native Plants

Walking Path