



NEWS Release

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Drainage Projects in the City of Rockport

There has been a lot of discussion in the community regarding drainage projects in the City of Rockport. Our local economy is dependent upon ecotourism, and the City has long understood the protection of our waters is of the utmost importance. This understanding predates the recent environmental concerns currently being voiced in the community. The City was a founding member (2011) of the Aransas County Storm Water Advisory Committee and has remained an active member through today. <https://www.aransascounty.org/stormwatermgmt/e-docs/FINAL20110308%20Open%20House%20-%20AC%20SWMP.pdf>.

The City further understands our obligation to residents to do our best to protect our homes and businesses from flooding. While not mutually exclusive, the fact is Rockport, as a peninsula, is surrounded by water on three sides and as mother nature grants us rain, sometimes in torrents, the resulting water inevitably flows to the bays and harbors surrounding the City. The City strives to provide safe and efficient ways to convey this water through our community to help prevent flood damage to our neighborhoods, churches and businesses. Today, the City is spending over \$12 million, which includes \$9.8 million in federal grants, on nine different drainage projects located throughout the City. <https://www.Cityofrockport.com/810/Capital-Improvement-Projects>. All these projects meet or exceed all local, state, and federal requirements.

Through our subdivision ordinance, the City requires Best Management Practices (BMP) of development projects to meet retention and/or detention calculations of stormwater runoff flows before the water enters the storm water drainage system. These detention/retention basins slow the waters down and allows for some sedimentation to leave the waters before entering the storm water drainage system. The design of drainage system for the new city hall project does include BMPs.

To further keep sedimentation and/or debris from leaving construction sites, our ordinances require all residential and commercial construction projects to provide a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPP). This includes putting up silt fencing, wattles, and other barriers to keep construction "dirt" out of the stormwater drainage system

Each development project must submit an engineered certified drainage plan that meets the requirements of the City of Rockport Drainage Master Plan. The plan must certify that the project will not cause an "Adverse Effect" on surrounding properties.

All submittals of engineered drainage plans are reviewed by the City's engineering firm who either verify the validity of the plan or make recommendations for corrections or additions to the plan which must be adhered to in order to be approved for permitting.

Depending on the location or funding source for some construction projects, there are other requirements such as environmental assessments and permits that must be obtained. All such projects constructed by the City have obtained, when required, these environmental assessments and the City projects, again meet or exceed all local, state and federal requirements.