This edition of Streamline highlights MSD’s response to the February/March 2018 Flood.

From mid-February to mid-March Louisville experienced its worst flood in 20 years. The cleanup continues at hundreds of homes and businesses, and MSD has its share of cleanup to complete as well. It is our mission to provide flood protection for our community.

**OUR VISION**
Achieving Safe, Clean Waterways for a Healthy and Vibrant Community

Geese swim on Rowan Street on the “wet side” of the floodwall.

Protecting our community from rising waters

On February 12, as Ohio River levels started to climb upward, most of our community was unaware of the planning taking place by MSD Flood Protection staff as they mobilized to protect our community. Staff began closing underground floodgates the next day, and planning to put flood pumping stations and closures in as the water levels were rising. Flood pumping stations push inland water up and out into the river. The first of these stations went into service on February 15.

- Floodgates are underground and out of site. They close off large drainage pipes that carry rainwater out to the river. Pumps take over the job of pushing water out that normally flows by gravity.

- The floodwall roadway closures are openings in the floodwall that cars and pedestrians can normally pass through. As waters rise, the openings are closed to keep the river out of the city. The first of those were installed on February 23 at 10th and 27th streets. Eventually, MSD had a total of six floodwall roadway closures in place during this flooding event.

By February 23, all 16 of MSD’s flood pumping stations were in full service, 150 floodgates had been closed, and 29-miles of floodwall and earthen levee were keeping the river out of our city.

But, the worst was yet to come with the most rain recorded in Louisville for February and a swollen Ohio River. On Saturday evening, February 24, Louisville Metro was inundated with heavy rains. Most areas received 2-3 inches, with some getting as much as 4 inches of rain. All 16 flood pumping stations operated at full capacity for a four-hour period, pumping out a total of 8 billion gallons per minute. River levels rose 2.3 feet over the span of 12 hours.

A crane is used to lower pieces of the floodwall roadway closure across Bingham Way.

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Damage Sustained
While all of MSD’s 16 flood pumping stations remained in operation during the flooding event. Some pumps experienced damage during the flood event, mostly due to their age and the extreme amount of stormwater.

- **Beargrass Creek Flood Pumping Station (FPS)** — which was put into service in 1954 — experienced a tremendous amount of debris and trash, which piled up on the inland side of the facility. The decision was made to keep the trash in place till the waters began to recede. Crews worked for two days to clear the debris.

- **Paddy’s Run FPS** — which was put into service in 1953 — had one pump fail, leaving this station with five working pumps protecting and serving the area.

- **Pond Creek FPS** — which was put into service in 1989 — lost one of its four pumps during the event, leaving three pumps available for full capacity. Each pump at this station can push 450,000 gallons of water per minute out to the river.

- **Upper Mill Creek FPS** — which was put into service in 1979 — also lost one of its three pumps due to motor damage.

Other flood pumping stations sustained damage due to flooding in the lower levels. Those issues did not impede the operation of the pumps.
Rescue assistance provided
During the overnight hours of February 24, MSD personnel constructed a temporary gravel road to assist the Lake Dreamland Fire Department with the evacuation of some area residents.

Improvements made...more needed
Many comparisons were made with this flood and the one that took place in March 1997. MSD has built more than 1 billion gallons of stormwater storage since that 1997 flood. This storage protected hundreds of homes. Additionally, MSD has bought and removed — with federal, state and MSD dollars — approximately 300 homes that repeatedly flood.

“Nine of MSD’s flood pumping stations are more than 65 years old — “museum quality and age,” and were built in the decades after Louisville’s Great Flood of 1937, which covered two-thirds of the city.”
— MSD Chief of Operations
Brian Bingham
Next steps
MSD Flood Protection staff continues inspection, evaluation and repair of our flood protection system. They work year-round to maintain 16 flood pumping stations — nine of which are more than 65 years old — 150 floodgates, and 29-miles of floodwall and earthen levee. You may even see them practicing the installation of each floodwall roadway closure once every three years.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers built the system after the city’s two highest floods of record in 1937 and 1945. MSD has been responsible for the Flood Protection System since 1987.

For more information on our flood protection system visit: LouisvilleMSD.org/what-we-do/flood-protection.
Flood response requires “all hands on deck”

During flooding, many MSD employees from various departments join with our Flood Protection staff to keep our city safe. The job is 24/7 till the work is done.

**Leadership Response Team**

- Brian Bingham
- Tony Parrott
- Marc Thomas

**Flood Protection Staff**

- Dane Anderson
- Terry French-Marzian
- Danny Janssen
- Calbert Kelsey
- Mark Moats
- William Phillips
- Roderick Pulliam
- Steve Williams

- Tom Armistead
- Walt Furton
- Calbert Kelsey

- Chris Bullock
- Donzah Graham
- Gillis Knight

- Patricia Capito
- Richard Grigsby
- William Phillips

- JP Carson
- Ken Hudgins
- Roderick Pulliam

- David Ciez
- Eric Hotell
- Steve Williams

**Flood Pump Station/Emergency Response Team**

- Nick Age
- Michael Fitzer
- Wolfie Miller

- Joey Ashby
- Brandon Flaherty
- Diana Mosby

- Darryl Ayo
- Lonnie Gaines
- David Mulloy

- Tim Barrett
- Horace Gather
- Jermaine Murphy

- Jordan Basham
- Tony Groe
- Jeff Nailey

- Frank Becht
- Billy Gagnie
- Lori Perkins

- Sheila Beard
- Darrell Goodwin
- Scott Porter

- Jamar Blewings
- Chris Gregoire
- Paula Purfoy

- Jess Bond Jr.
- Adonis Henderson
- Ronnie Richard

- Yo-zette Borges
- Tim Hinkle
- Angela Sanchez

- Brian Bradley
- Joel Keutzer
- Matt Schaaf

- David Cole
- Sharlie Khan
- Robin Shaw

- Chad Collier
- Kellen Kukoly
- Ron Scherer

- Scott Davidson
- Levy Levitz
- Ken Stallings

- Sharon Dawson
- Nelson Little
- Michael Steinbock

- Jason Dempster
- Charles McCutcheon
- Ellis Swanson

- Josh Dickerson
- Tim Exley
- John Telman

- Scott Doss
- Mike McGehee
- Joe Wagner

- Eugene Downs
- Nicole Mardis
- Cathy Woosley

- Chris Duke
- William Marshall
- Gary Zollman

- Gerald Dunlap
- Jalyn Marshall

- Glenn Eilers
- Jacob Mathis

**Floodwall Closure Team**

- Mike Anderson
- Nenine Hannah
- Damon Rhodes

- Derry Baker
- Fred Holton
- Ryan Satram

- Pat Beasley
- Damien Hughes
- Shawn Sisk

- Casey Bowlin
- Walter Jackson
- Darryl Smith

- Dillon Brown
- Calbert Kelsey
- Ron Smith

- Da’rius Calloway
- James Krebs
- Troy Smith

- Ronald Cheesser
- Robert Lamar
- LesCrawn Thomas

- Chad Creebree
- Garland Lindsay
- Greg Thornton

- Matt Davis
- Whitne McFadden
- Rick Tobin

- Derrick Diggins
- Danny McGee
- Johnathan Trumble

- Dwayne Edwards
- Eric McKinney
- Trevor Williams

- Dustin French-Marzian
- Ricky Mills Sr.
- Willie White

- Larry Gardner
- Brett Parsons
- Phillip Weaver

- Stephan Gazaway
- Kenny Patton
- Troy Wethington

- Kenny Gibson
- Will Phillips
- Travis Westmoreland

- Tadd Gilmore
- Anthony Porter
- Rontay Winston

**Sandbag Team**

- Kenny Gibson
- Mike Doron
- Pat Busby

- Chris Huelisman
- Tyler Smith
- Bobby Oliver

- Mike Young
- Adam Bader
- Koye Keller

- Brian Prinz
- David Reynolds
- Glen Cooper

- Uriah Maudlin
- Kurt Manley
- Val Wilburn

**Dispatch/Operations Control**

- Yvonne Austin
- Brent Conley
- Sherry Peters

- Joinese Brittle
- Tony Morrison

**Emergency Road Construction**

- Pat Beasley
- Terry French-Marzian
- Leshawn Thomas

- Chris Bullock
- Darryl King

**Technical Assistance**

- George Anderson
- Scott Davidson
- Mark Keller

- Mike Brael
- Josh Dickerson
- Ben Merry

- Eddie Brown
- Darryl Evans
- Steve Robbins

**Media/Community/Governmental Relations**

- Zach Baird
- Sheryl Lauder
- Chad Williamson

- Kelley Dearing-Smith
- Wes Sydnor

**Customer Relations**

- Cassandra Anderson
- Jesmond Gentry
- Barbara Roberson

- Julie Blanford
- Helen Givens
- Marya Summers

- Tashonda Claycomb
- Lanita Grimes
- Charlotte Wittfield-Baker

- Tracey Crawley
- Johorine Hamilton
- Stacey Witten

- Leila Cunningham
- Connie Rhodes

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Customer **Compliments**

The Lake Dreamland Fire Protection District would like to extend our appreciation for a job well done by creating an access road during the recent flooding event.

**JP Carsone** provided invaluable service to the community, he and his crew of **Patrick Beasley, Chris Bullock, Terry French-Marzian, Darryl King** and **Leshawn Thomas** created an access road to allow emergency vehicles to access the area in the event of a police, fire or medical emergency. The professionalism displayed by Carsone and his staff was exemplary. MSD went above and beyond to protect the citizens of Louisville Metro, especially the 10 families along South Overbrook Drive during this time of flooding.

— Freddie L. George Jr., Colonel
Fire Chief
Lake Dreamland Fire Protection District

Just a quick note to say "nice job" by MSD during the recent flooding — it’s a huge task, and you all did a great job keeping the city safe!

— Peter J. Cinotto
Deputy Director, Kentucky
USGS Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Water Science Center

I wanted to send a message of gratitude for all you have done for us with our drainage issues due to heavy rains. Thank you to **Joe Exely** and **David Johnson** for taking our concerns so seriously and assuring no flooding at the Visually Impaired Preschool Services facility. This past week has been a severe test of the solution, and I wanted you to know that when I came by on Saturday to check things out, the drainage was working 100 percent.

We are grateful for your hard work to protect our school. Sending positive thoughts of sunny skies in the days ahead.

— Diane M. Nelson
Executive Director
Visually Impaired Preschool Services

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Early Sunday morning, as a result of the excessive rainfall, we had a drain in our basement laundry room back up, creating a standing water situation. The water drained out after a few hours, but I was not sure if the water contained any sewage and what could have caused the backup. I requested that someone with MSD take a look and advise on how to proceed. I was extremely impressed with the attention and speed with which MSD handled my request.

Thank you to **Latrod Bivens, Darrell Goodwin** and **Marya Summer**. You guys are awesome.

— Mark Rosenthal
Upcoming Events

MARCH 27
MSD Board Meeting
1 PM, Open Session, 700 West Liberty Street

APRIL 6
MSD Supplier Diversity Program Orientation
9 AM, 700 W Liberty Street

APRIL 10
MSD Audit Committee Meeting
4 PM, 700 W Liberty Street

APRIL 12
MSD Personnel Committee Meeting
2 PM, 700 W Liberty Street

APRIL 23
MSD Board Meeting
1 PM, Open Session, 700 West Liberty Street

You can help Improve our waterways by...

Composting grass clippings, and decreasing your use of fertilizer and pesticides.

Rainwater flows over rooftops, lawns, parking lots and roadways as it travels to storm drains and ditches. This water accumulates pollutants along its journey—such as lawn chemicals, oil, litter and pet waste—which flow directly to our waterways.