



**CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS**  
**Committee of the Whole Agenda Communication**

**Meeting Date:** 4-8-2024

**Prepared By:** Dennis Carr – City Engineer

**Agenda Item:** Washington Park Berm/Jackson St Ped Bridge Update

**Discussion:** In September of 2022, staff discussed the Jackson Street pedestrian bridge replacement with the City Council. Subsequently, the citywide stormwater study identified a priority project to add a berm in Washington Park to reduce downstream flows and flooding impacts to the homes along the channel. The berm project would allow for the pedestrian bridge to be replaced with a culvert.

Staff had presented this berm project to both City Council and the Park District Board. Staff has updated Council several times on the discussion and the approval by the Park District to allow the construction of the berm project. Staff budgeted for the Jackson Street ped bridge in the FY 24/25 budget because there was no determination during budgeting process. However, the Park District has approved and while the funds are in the budget, there will not need to be a new pedestrian bridge constructed.

The addition of the berm in the park reduces the storm flows which will allow a simple culvert to be installed in place of the pedestrian bridge. The culvert will be installed wide enough to allow a possible extension of Jackson to Hamilton at a future date if Council desired.

The Park District has asked that the berm not be installed until after the Good Neighbor Days Frisbee Golf Tournament in June. They asked that we finish the berm before the Ledgestone tournament in August as well. The Park District did approve of the tree removal that was done in preparation for the berm project.

To keep the cost of the berm minimal, City staff intends to haul dirt from either the Nofsinger realignment project or the Dieble Road yard beginning in early June. The City will then pay a daily rate for a union operator from a local excavation company on a time and material basis to shape and compact the berm as City staff does not have the equipment or expertise for large scale dirt grading. Stark Excavating believes the shaping and compaction will take roughly one week.

The City agreed to provide a Facebook press release closer to June to alert the community of the joint effort between the City of Washington and the Park District to assist in stormwater remediation efforts in the area around Washington Park.

**Fiscal Impact:** Staff has included \$150,000 in the budget for the Jackson Street pedestrian bridge. Staff plans to use a portion of these funds to pay for the culvert pipe, sidewalk, and union operator to complete the Washington berm project.

**Action Requested:** No action requested.