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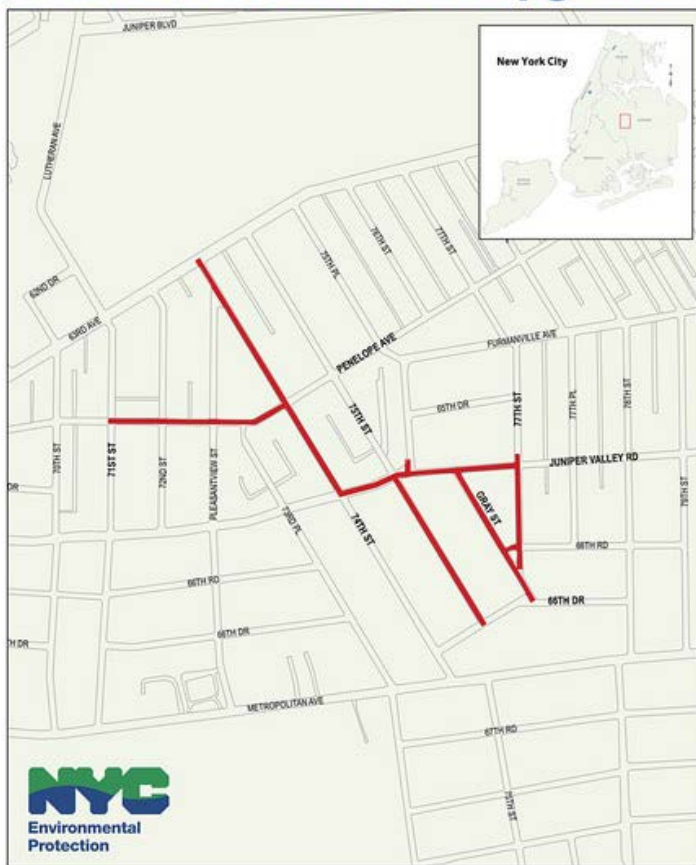
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City to Begin \$22 Million Project to Build New Sewers and Reduce Flooding in Middle Village

More Information

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Middle Village Sewer and Water Main Upgrade



Construction of New Catch Basins and Sewers Will Improve Drainage and Reduce Flooding

A Map of the Project Area is Available on [DEP's Flickr Page](#)

The New York City Departments of Environmental Protection (DEP) and Design and Construction (DDC) today announced that a \$22 million construction project will break ground this month along Penelope Avenue in the Middle Village

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neighborhood that will help to reduce street flooding and sewer backups. The work will take place on Penelope Avenue, as well as streets to the north and south, from 71st Street to 77th Street. Construction will include the installation of 70 new catch basins and nearly a mile of new, larger sewer lines to drain stormwater from the roadways in the area. While the roadway is opened to install the sewers, more than 1.1 miles of existing water mains will be replaced with new ductile iron pipes that will improve the reliability of the drinking water delivery system. DEP is funding the project and DDC is managing the construction, which is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2018.

“This \$22 million investment in Middle Village will allow us to build bigger sewers, some more than 6-feet in diameter, that will help to reduce flooding and improve the quality of life for residents,” said **DEP Acting Commissioner Vincent Sapienza, P.E.** “Additionally, the installation of new ductile iron water mains will help to ensure a reliable supply of drinking water for the neighborhood.”

“Middle Village’s drinking water system is going to be stronger and more resilient than ever” said **DDC Commissioner Feniosky Peña-Mora**. “In addition, once these larger sewers are installed the neighborhood can take pride and comfort in knowing that their infrastructure can dependably keep streets clear during storms.”

“The project to construct new sewers along Penelope Avenue will bring much needed relief to Middle Village residents who have suffered through flooding and other effects of poor drainage for far too long,” said **Senator Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr.** “I look forward to working closely with the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Design and Construction as this project gets underway and throughout the process to ensure we do everything possible to minimize any short term inconvenience for the long term improvement for our local residents. I thank these agencies for their dedication to improving the quality of life for millions across New York City one project at a time.”

“I thank the Departments of Environmental Protection and Design and Construction for announcing a \$22 million investment designed to improve the sewer system on Penelope Avenue in Middle Village,” said **Assemblyman Andrew Hevesi**. “This money will be used to replace existing water mains with ductile iron pipes to improve the drinking water delivery system. These improvements will provide more reliable access to water for our neighborhood and will mitigate the environmental, financial, and personal costs that are accrued through damages caused by flooding. I sincerely thank and commend the DEP and DDC for their efforts on this project.”

“Portions of Middle Village, like many communities in Western Queens, have long suffered from the flooding caused by outdated sewer infrastructure. This announcement about the \$22 million project along and adjacent to Penelope Avenue is great news for Middle Village residents,” said **Assemblywoman Margaret Markey**. “I want to thank DEP and DDC for embarking on this work to change these conditions. I am grateful that new catch basins, additional fire hydrants and renewed lines for drinking water are other bonuses of this construction that will improve safety and the quality of life in our community.”

“For far too long, Middle Village and the surrounding communities have been greatly burdened by flooding and inadequate sewer infrastructure. This \$22 million project will not only improve water flow but ultimately provide the much-needed relief local residents need for a better quality of life,” said **City Council Member Elizabeth Crowley**.

The project includes the construction of 4,681 linear feet of sewers, up to 78-inches in diameter, and 70 catch basins to improve drainage and alleviate sewer back-ups. In addition, 5,900 linear feet of 8- and 12-inch water mains will be replaced with new ductile iron pipes to improve the distribution system and fire protection within the area. Work will also include the installation of 20 new fire hydrants, 39 manholes and the reconstruction of 17,700 square feet of sidewalks and the planting of 45 new trees.

DEP manages New York City's water supply, providing more than one billion gallons of water each day to more than nine million residents, including eight million in New York City. The water is delivered from a watershed that extends more than 125 miles from the city, comprising 19 reservoirs and three controlled lakes. Approximately 7,000 miles of water mains, tunnels and aqueducts bring water to homes and businesses throughout the five boroughs, and 7,500 miles of sewer lines and 96 pump stations take wastewater to 14 in-city treatment plants. DEP has nearly 6,000 employees, including almost 1,000 in the upstate watershed. In addition, DEP has a robust capital program, with a planned \$14 billion in investments over the next 10 years that will create up to 3,000 construction-related jobs per year. This capital program is responsible for critical projects like City Water Tunnel No. 3; the Staten Island Bluebelt program, an ecologically-sound and cost-effective stormwater management system; the city's Watershed Protection Program, which protects sensitive lands upstate near the city's reservoirs in order to maintain their high water quality; and the installation of more than 820,000 Automated Meter Reading devices, which will allow customers to track their daily water use, more easily manage their accounts and be alerted to potential leaks on their properties. For more information, visit nyc.gov/dep, like us on [Facebook](#), or follow us on [Twitter](#).

The Department of Design and Construction is the City's primary capital construction project manager. In supporting Mayor de Blasio's lenses of growth, sustainability, resiliency, equity and healthy living, DDC provides communities with new or renovated public buildings such as such as firehouses, libraries, police precincts, new or upgraded roadways, sewers, water mains in all five boroughs. To manage this \$10 billion portfolio, DDC partners with other City agencies, architects and consultants, whose experience bring efficient, innovative, and environmentally-conscious design and construction strategies to city projects. For more information, please visit nyc.gov/DDC.

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