



Water & Sewerage
Department

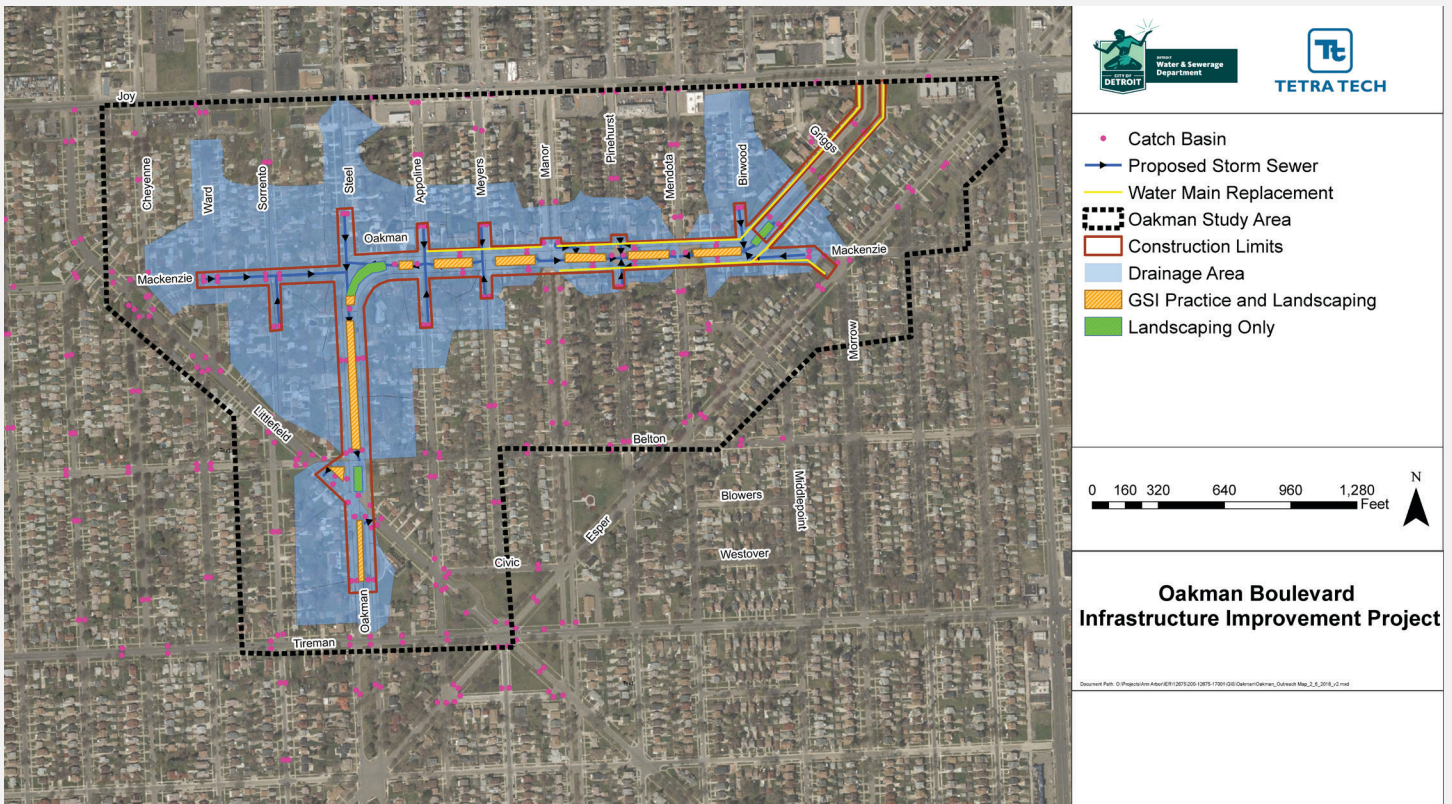
Oakman Boulevard Water and Sewer Upgrades: Project Overview

What improvements will DWSD make to Oakman Boulevard?

The Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) is undertaking an \$8.6 million project to upgrade the water and sewer infrastructure on Oakman Boulevard between Joy Road and Tireman Avenue. The upgrades include:

- 1. Bioretention (rain gardens) in the median.** Bioretention features look similar to rain gardens on the surface, but underneath are designed and engineered to slowly soak up stormwater. The project includes installing bioretention features on nine medians in the project area. The conceptual bioretention designs shown in the map below reflect input from community residents during community meetings held in May and July 2017.

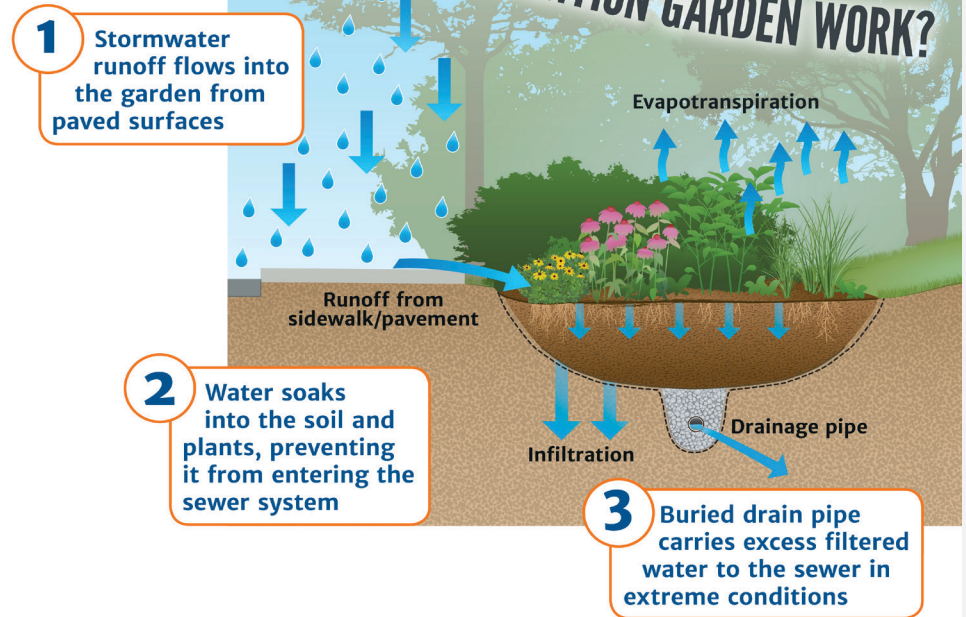
- 2. Subsurface stormwater storage.** DWSD will install underground boxed-shaped chambers beneath eight of the bioretention areas in the median to temporarily store stormwater and slowly release it to the combined sewer system.
- 3. New storm sewer pipes and structures.** DWSD will install new storm sewers where there are currently no pipes. In some locations, DWSD is re-routing catch basin connections to the combined sewer lines to new storm sewer pipes that will flow into the Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) practices in the Oakman Boulevard median.
- 4. Water main improvements.** DWSD will replace older water mains that are prone to breaks.
- 5. Lead service line replacement.** If lead service lines are found, DWSD will replace these these pipes with copper with owner/occupant permission.



What are the expected project benefits?

This project will help alleviate local flooding in the neighborhood, reduce the amount of stormwater entering the combined sewer system, and beautify the neighborhood. It will also improve water service and reduce the potential for water main breaks.

HOW DOES THIS BIORETENTION GARDEN WORK?



What are the potential landscaping changes to the Oakman Boulevard median in the project area?

DWSD knows that the residents in the Oakman Boulevard project area take great pride in the boulevard medians. The proposed landscape design for the medians reflect residents' desire for a combination of beautiful, healthy trees and plantings that give the area a planned and manicured appearance.

Proposed GSI on Medians in Oakman Boulevard Infrastructure Improvement Project Area



Existing Conditions



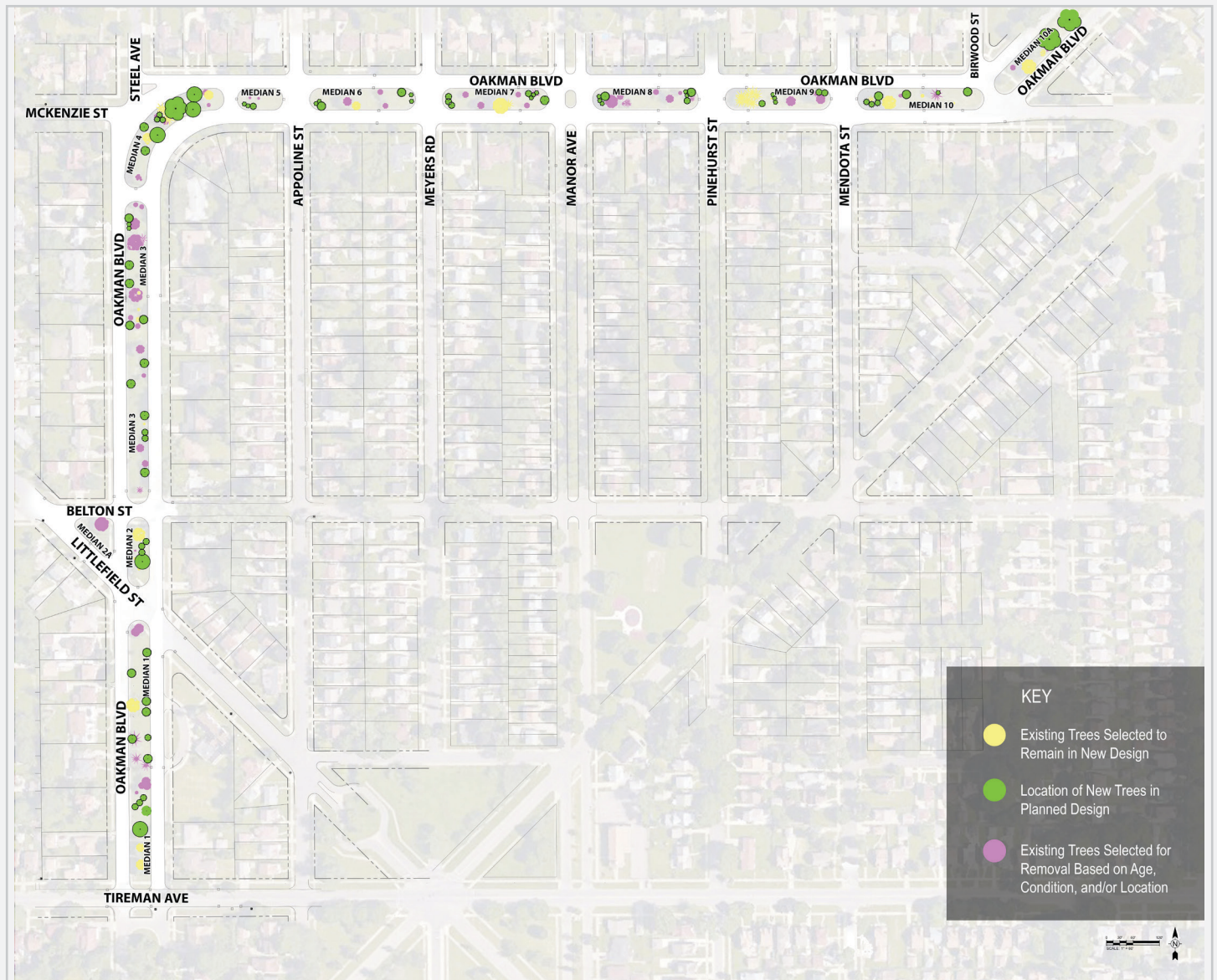
Rendering of New Landscaping Design and Underground Stormwater Storage Area (section view; approximately three years after planting)

The images on the previous page show a section of the median on Oakman Boulevard with existing vegetation and the new landscaped area approximately three years after DWSD has completed this project.

To achieve residents' desired landscape in the medians, DWSD worked with the city's forestry department to identify existing trees and vegetation that are damaged, in poor condition, or near the end of their lifespan. DWSD designed around as many existing high-quality trees and shrubs as possible. In some limited areas, DWSD will have to remove existing vegetation due to the space needed for a stormwater practice.

The majority of the existing median trees were not intentionally planted, but are the result of natural seeding. Many of these trees are being removed and replaced with more appropriate street trees to achieve a cohesive landscape design for the neighborhood.

At the end of the project, DWSD will save 21 existing trees that are in good condition, plant 78 new trees and 465 shrubs, and relocate at least one existing tree.



Summary of Changes to Vegetation in Oakman Blvd. Medians in the Project Area

Median Location	Stormwater Practice	Planned Vegetation Removal	Removal Rationale	Trees Saved and Planted
1 (Tireman to Littlefield)	Bioretention and Subsurface Storage	13 Shrubs 8 Trees	Some shrubs have dead branches, others cleared for new landscaping Pine trees with broken tops Ornamentals near end of life	3 Saved 13 Planted
2A and 2 (Littlefield and Belton)	None; landscaping only	4 Shrubs 4 Trees	3 shrubs removed to make room for new trees One tree hit by lightning and damaged but could attempt to save Ornamentals next to light, dead branches, or near end of life	3 Saved 4 Planted
3 (Belton to curve south of Mackenzie)	Bioretention and Subsurface Storage	6 Shrubs 18 Trees	Existing shrubs and trees in poor shape, dying branches, or near end of life	13 Planted
4 (Curve)	None; landscaping only	1 Shrub 18 Trees	Poor condition to make room for new vegetation	5 Saved 9 Planted
5 (Steel to Appoline)	Bioretention and Subsurface Storage	2 Trees	Very tiny crabapples	3 Planted
6 (Appoline to Meyers)	Bioretention and Subsurface Storage	3 Trees	Ornamentals near end of life	1 Saved 6 Planted
7 (Meyers to Manor)	Bioretention only	1 Shrub 5 Trees	Ornamentals in poor shape Spruces not in good shape due to proximity to maple and trunk with bad curve	1 Saved 1 Relocated 8 Planted
8 (Manor to Pinehurst)	Bioretention and Subsurface Storage	10 Shrubs 10 Trees	Ornamentals near end of life Shrubby unplanned growth	0 Saved 8 Planted
9 (Pinehurst to Mendota)	Bioretention and Subsurface Storage	1 Shrub 2 Trees	Ornamental in poor shape	7 Saved 8 Planted
10A and 10 (Mendota to Birwood)	Bioretention and Subsurface Storage	4 Shrubs 1 Tree	Ornamentals in poor shape Shrubby unplanned growth	4 Saved 7 Planted

Who can I contact about the project?



For questions about the GSI median features and storm sewer line replacement on Oakman Boulevard, contact Barry Brown II, Engineer, DWSD Stormwater Management Group, at Barry.Brown@detroitmi.gov or 313.267.1276

For questions about the water main and lead service line replacement on Oakman Boulevard, contact Mazin Malallah, DWSD Field Engineering, at Mazin.Malallah@detroitmi.gov or 313.999.3180.

Please also visit DWSD's Stormwater web page at:
www.detroitmi.gov/How-Do-I/Find/Storm-Water.