

Mason Creek

Problem

- Creek is gradually filling with sediment.
- Navy runway restricts flow – (culvert and gate system) but also protects against high tide.
- Flooding has occurred: Into home(s) 2 times in 10 years (Floyd, Ernesto) with very heavy rain. Other flooding is on yards, more frequently.
- Wetlands delineation issue – mowing.
- Community wants dredging, cleanup, flood relief..

Actions

- Community seeking to form non-profit group to seek State assistance.
- City Actions:
 1. Engaged consulting engineer and City staff to evaluate problem.
 - Study included:
 - Water Quality Samples
 - Depth Sounding
 - Tides Tracking
 - Outfall Condition Survey
 - Navy Gate Design & Procedures
 - Ditch Study – Margaret Avenue
 2. Held 3 community meetings.
 - Community not satisfied with response.
 3. Continuing Actions
 - Macro wetlands analysis
 - Education program being implemented
 - Cleanup – Clean the Bay, Increased street sweeping
 - Outfall repairs, Margaret Avenue ditch repairs
 - Work with Navy during future storms

Summary

- Much of the creek has become/is wetlands.
- General dredging not permitted by State, Corps of Engineers (based upon attempts in other areas of city).
- Potential dredging possible for drainage, recreation.
- Navy gate restricts outflow at heavy rains but protects from more frequent high tides.
- Navy gate design and procedures have been reviewed in detail, are written and are excellent.

June 26, 2007

- Implementing education program for entire watershed, outfall repairs, clean up efforts (volunteers)
- Finalize remaining study items within a month.
- No further meetings planned.