

Update on Storm Drain Pipe Failure

- This project has spanned multiple days for multiple reasons including equipment failure, flooding, aggressive alligators, and perhaps a few other minor hiccups.
- The attached pictures tell the story best and here are the words behind the pics;
- Photo 1 shows the hole on 8/25; note the grey electrical conduit, purple irrigation main, heavy root coverage and water. What you don't see is at least one additional electrical conduit and at least one bare wire - likely cable TV coax. We know there are 2 additional large irrigation mains here so utility locating will be needed prior to further digging;
- Photo 2 shows the vac truck setup with the diver's truck behind it. This location is on the far side of the pond right beside the golf driving range-approximately ¼ mile north of the structure we're working on.
- Photo 3 shows the area (where the man is working) that the water discharges into the pond. This pond had an aggressive gator in it which had to be removed.
- Photo 4 is back along Five Oaks Dr; the truck is suctioning the manhole so the diver can enter and plug the water flow to our failed structure.
- Photo 5 shows the rubber bladder which is inserted into the pipe and inflated to stop the water flow. There are 2 of these in use: one at the pond end and one in the manhole noted above. (These plugs are a separate cost item: As it stands, they cost \$650 each to install & remove later; they are now on a daily/weekly/monthly rental clock which is relatively inexpensive.)
- Photo 6 shows the truck suctioning the actual failed manhole to expose the failure which is covered by several feet of water.
- Photo 7 has the truck removing the rock (placed by TOHO) as well as the mud in order to gain access to the fail point. Note: the obstructions all around and over the area needing to be exposed; to the left of the suction tube you can see a smaller pipe being held by a worker. It is spraying high pressure water to blast everything loose for suction. Directly under that small pipe is the failure.
- Photo 8 shows the exposure of the failed pipe. It is the black plastic with gaps and cracks in it behind and to the right of the suction tube.
- Photo 9 shows the overall failed pipe; keep in mind it is 48" in diameter; the top of it is about 7' below ground level so the bottom is 11-12' below ground. Getting to it will require excavating that deep in every direction. Note: the pipes right near it which complicates access for repair as people need to get down there. This depth will require shoring to prevent cave-ins.
- Photo 10 is a close-up of the above.
- This exposure of the problem concludes our initial contract with Brownies which was about \$5K. Additionally, we have a clock running on the plugs which will likely total somewhere between \$3-4K.
- Gerhard and I have been on-scene every day and additionally I've met with our Insurance Adjuster who has opened a claim and is awaiting this information so a coverage decision can be made. We have many of these and need to consider a funding mechanism for future needs should insurance not provide assistance.

Signed:

Steve Berube

Steve Berube
Board Chairman

For cost of follow-up work, see [Brownies Proposal](#).

