HOWELL
MICHIGAN

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: 611 E. Grand River • Howell, MI 48843 (517) 546-3502 • FAX: (517) 546-6030

October 8, 2010

Dear Resident,

Let me introduce myself. My name is Shea Charles and I am our City Manager. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and to communicate directly with you regarding the recent road project.

The City of Howell has re-constructed the streets in the area of Piety Hill and the area between Prospect Street and Byron Road. Both of these areas are part of a three-year, $23 million, program to rehabilitate approximately 30% of the City's local streets that were in desperate need of repair. Simply put, the roads and the underground infrastructure in your neighborhoods were failing. The original design that has been implemented by the City addresses four major concerns, expressed by residents, during numerous community input processes that were held in 2008. These concerns included high-traffic speeds, flooding, replacing aging water mains and sanitary sewers, and providing an appropriate level of parking for a typical single family home owner, in your neighborhood.

Starting in the Fall of 2009 and into the Spring of 2010, concerns were expressed by a group of residents about the constructed streets in the first year. These concerns included the reduction of parking capacity, the depth of various swales and the types of drain covers that were used.

The City responded to the concerns by creating an ad hoc committee comprised of Howell City Council members. The ad hoc committee was charged with the responsibility of gaining additional public input, reviewing the current street design, and then recommending modifications, if needed, to the Mayor & City Council.

In September, the ad-hoc committee finished the public meeting portion and reported back to the Mayor & City Council. Their report found that the storm water system is working as designed; and the parking capacity for a typical single family home owner is appropriate. During the review it was noted that most of the on street parking is used by residents living in multi-unit rentals that do not have enough parking on their property.

The ad-hoc committee also reviewed a number of cost estimates to modify the constructed areas with the results ranging between $415,000 - $8.4 million. These options were found to be cost prohibitive.

The Mayor & City Council then asked the ad hoc committee to provide a list of swale areas they felt were in need of adjustment The committee then walked with City Staff on Friday, October 1st to identify these areas. A list of the areas identified will be presented to City Council on October 11th. City Staff and Design Engineers are in the process of developing cost estimates for the modifications that the ad-hoc committee felt was needed. A list of these modifications is enclosed. I anticipate no action will be taken by Mayor & City Council at this meeting other than to review the list as they will be awaiting a formal cost estimate.

Mayor & City Council has approved a contract for the replacement of the installed "bee-hive" covers to a lower profile dome cover. Fonson Inc. of Brighton is the contractor for the cover replacement and will complete this work by the end of this calendar year.

Over the last few days, you may have received information from individuals not affiliated with the city, stating that you can "fill-in" a swale. This information is incorrect. Please do not fill in your swale, they were designed to address the flooding that has historically been a problem in your neighborhood. City Ordinance, Section 1020, prohibits the damaging of the City's public right-of-way. As each swale is designed to handle storm water, filling the swale constitutes damage and is prohibited. If you have a specific concern about your swale, please contact me directly and I will be sure the ad-hoc committee is made aware of your concerns. One of the members of the ad-hoc committee will follow up with you directly.

You can find additional information at the City's website www.cityofhowell.org. If you have any additional questions please feel free to call me at 517-546-3502 or e-mail at citymanager@cityofhowell.org.

Sincerely,

Shea Charles
City Manager

**October 6, 2010 Staff Walk-Through**
**Review walk of October 1st Ad Hoc List**

**Items To Be Addressed In Future Adjustment Contract - Spring 2010**

| I.D. | House No. | Street Name | Issue |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |
| 1 | 322 | State Street | Add parking Bay on south side of Higgins |
| 2 | 204 | Higgins Street | Add parking Bay, east side of State Street |
| 3 | | NE corner, State & Higgins | Review swale grade at CB. |
| 4 | 419 | North Michigan | Add Driveway to existing Driveway |
| 5 | 509 | North State Street | Raise Catch Basin/ re shape Swale on Monroe |
| 6 | 607 | North State Street | new top soil, seed & matting |
| 7 | 619 | North State Street | Retaining wall around tree - Talk to Owner |
| 8 | 703 | North State Street | Review grades from Trees to road - Talk to Owner, seems ok w/ wall |
| 9 | 717 | North State Street | Review grades from Trees to road - Talk to Owner |
| 10 | 717 | SE corner, State & Madison | Review drainage pattern in curb line. Not getting to spillway |
| 11 | 714 | North State Street | Discuss with home owner about swale - if change shallow at base of trees. |
| 12 | 121 | Madison | Review drainage pattern at NW corner Madison & State Street |
| 13 | 915 | North Michigan | Review swale depth along Thompson, across from 202 Madison |
| 14 | 814 | North Court | Thompson Street Side review grass in Spring |
| 15 | 814 | North Court | Court Street side - review swale depth |
| 16 | 721 | North Court | Review swale depth and grass growth |
| 17 | 304 | Summit | Grass Growth - Too wet? |
| 18 | 310 | Summit | Grass Growth & swale depth |
| 19 | 622 | North Barnard | Swale grade around trees |
| 20 | 418 | Summit | Swale Depth & shape |
| 21 | 415 | Summit | Swale Depth & shape, review drainage coming from 621 north Barnard |
| 22 | 610 | Bates Street | Swale grade |
| 23 | | Bates Street ROW on Lake | Review Drainage Pattern |
| 24 | 417 | Lake | Swale Grade from Trees |
| 25 | 409 | Lake | Swale Grade from Trees |
| 26 | 427 | Lake | Swale Grade from Trees |
| 27 | 320 | Lake | Swale Grade from Trees |
| 28 | 321 | Lake | Drainage pattern review |
| 29 | 313 | Lake | Drainage pattern review |
| 30 | 308 | North Court | Swale Grade from Trees |
| 31 | 303 | North Court | Drainage pattern review |
| 32 | 309 | North Court | Drainage pattern review - H2O goes down driveway |
| 33 | 318 | North Court | Review swale around trees (Spoke with homeowner this day) |
| 34 | 315 & 321 | Higgins | Review swale grade off of street, at CB's |

**Work To Be Done By Dan's Excavating As Part Of Their Punch List - before end of 2010**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 717 | North State Street | change bee-hive at corner to flat cover |
| 328 | Lake | Drainage Structure at NW corner of Lake & Barnard |
| | NW corner | Street sign, cb cables |
| 309 | Tompkins | Concrete from in walk |

**Work To Be Done By City DPW Forces**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 822 | Spring Street | Sign Relocation |
| 309 | Court Street | Grind old Stump from tree |
| | | |