

Cambridge Basin



Data Gram #3 October 29, 2004

From the Port Orange City Council. The purpose of the Data Gram is to keep residents impacted by storms and flooding informed on what is taking place to resolve citizen questions and concerns.

- During the special meeting held October 21, the City Council authorized an expenditure of funds totaling over \$1 million for engineering design of drainage improvements and the lining of Storm Water Pipes in Hamlet. Additionally, the Council approved of the contract with Carol Allen for Ombudsman services, and awarded the environmental testing bid to REMTECH, Inc. The City is applying for additional funds and awaiting financial assistance from the state to make the drainage improvements in the basin as well as other areas affected by the flooding. The project is entitled the Cambridge Basin Drainage and Water Quality Project or the SWIM project.

Cambridge Basin Timeline

1. October 21, 2004 - City of Port Orange City Council approved design contracts for drainage improvements for the Cambridge Basin. The Council also approved survey contract to determine finish floor elevations for homes located in the Cambridge Canal area that experienced flooding during the hurricanes.
2. October 21, 2004 to July 2005 - Design Period for Cambridge Canal.
3. November 2004 - Complete State Hazard Mitigation grant application & cost-benefit analysis of Cambridge Basin.
4. November 15, 2004 - Submit application to SJWMD for the Storm Related Water Quality Project (Cambridge).
5. November 16, 2004 - First Reading Drainage Bond Ordinance.
6. December 14, 2004 - Second Reading Drainage Bond Ordinance.

2005 Projects:

January/February	- Bond Rating Meeting
March/April	- Market Bonds
August/September	- Engineering Design Completed & Plans submitted for Permit Review to St. John's River Water Management District
October	- Receive Bids for the Cambridge Basin Projects
November/December	- Target to Begin Construction

- Also at the special meeting, Port Orange authorized the necessary survey work to determine base floor elevation of homes located in the Woods and Cambridge Area. This information is necessary to assist in the stormwater modeling. After February of 2005, the City will identify the eligible homes and notify the owners. If anyone needs assistance with their hurricane related insurance issues, call the State of Florida Department of Financial Services (FLDFS), 1-800-227-8676. Residents can also visit their interactive

website at www.FLDFS.com and check out the “Service Point” page, request assistance on-line, and verify that a company or adjuster is licensed to transact business in Florida. The Department of Financial Services has staff at the FEMA disaster Relief Center at the Sunshine Mall in South Daytona. For insurance issues not related to the storm, residents can call the FLDFS help line at 1-800-342-2762. The Storm line will be available Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. and the regular help line will run Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. For issues that can be handled by the Insurance Commissioner’s office, contact Tom Gallagher at 386-323-0900.

- The City has retained the services of Carol Allen to serve as the Ombudsman to assist residents affected by the storms. The Ombudsman’s services are offered at no charge. You can leave a voice mail for Ms. Allen at 386-506-5556.
- Port Orange has hired the Holly Hill based environmental consultant, REMTECH, Inc., to test for fecal coliform contaminants. The consultants should begin base line testing on November 1 and are expected to finish on or before November 19, 2004. Once completed, the City will review the results to determine whether additional testing is required. To arrange an appointment please call 386-506-5501.
- The following is Congressman Feeney and State Senator Lynn’s contact information:

<p>Congressman Tom Feeney 1000 City Center Circle Second Floor Port Orange, FL 32129 386-756-9798; 386-756-9903(fax) tom.feeney@mail.house.gov</p>	<p>Senator Evelyn Lynn 140 South Atlantic Avenue Suite 201 Ormond Beach, FL 32176 386-676-4000; 386-676-4002 (fax) lynn.evelyn.web@flsenate.gov</p>
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- Two weeks ago, the City Council approved of a Utility Bill Relief (UBR) Program and is adopting the appropriate rate resolution for those homeowners who are still receiving utility bills. The program works as follows:
 1. If the unit has been determined to be uninhabitable by either the City or FEMA or is completely destroyed, the resident is eligible for our utility bill relief program.
 2. In those months were there is no water usage, there will be no utility bill.
 3. When a contractor makes repairs, a bill will be generated if water is used.
 4. When all repairs and final inspections have been completed, normal utility billing will resume.

After six months, the City Council will review the UBR program to determine if the needs to be extended. The City Council has indicated they are willing to make adjustments if situations come up that are not addressed by the program. If you have any questions or concerns about billing, please call 386-506-5501.

- If you have photographs of flooding in the Cambridge Area, it would be beneficial to the City's engineering design consultant. Also, it would be beneficial to the City as we prepare various grant applications. If you have photographs of flooding during storm events before Frances, those would be helpful, too. If you are willing to share those with our consultants, please contact the City Manager's Office at 386-506-5501.
- For health questions: contact the Volusia Health Department at 386-822-6215 or visit their web site at <http://www.volusiahealth.com>.
- On Thursday, October 28, 2004, Senator Evelyn Lynn sponsored a meeting of Cambridge and Woods subdivision residents. Representatives from FEMA, National Flood Insurance Program, Volusia County Health Department, State Department of Financial Services, and the City of Port Orange were present to answer specific questions. The meeting was taped. Should you desire a copy of the tape, please contact Shirley Kelly at 386-506-5560. There is a small cost associated with the duplication of the tape. The City will also have CD copies available next week. Again, a small duplication charge applies. Finally, we have attached a copy of the information and handouts provided at the meeting. A specific list of questions covered in the meeting by Senator Lynn is attached.

For questions about information contained in this Data Gram, please contact the Mayor's office or the City Manager at 386-506-5501.