



CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

ADMINISTRATION

MEMORANDUM

\*\*\* FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY \*\*\*

**TO:** Bruce K. Walden, Chief Administrative Officer

**FROM:** William R. Gray, P. E., Public Works Director

**DATE:** December 9, 2004

**RE:** *Scottswood Drainage Improvements Update*  
*St. Joseph Drainage District Letter of Understanding*

Representatives from Champaign County; Urbana Township; St. Joseph Drainage District No. 3; Urbana Park District; Champaign County Regional Planning Commission; Berns, Clancy, and Associates; and the City of Urbana have been meeting to discuss the implementation of the Phase I improvements. These improvements include a 48-inch diameter storm sewer beginning at the existing St. Joseph Drainage District tile just south of Washington Street and east of the Prairie Green Apartments, traveling west along the south side of Washington Street and then north into Weaver Park. Berns, Clancy, and Associates are preparing the plans and specifications. Construction is anticipated to begin the spring of 2005. The Phase I construction cost is estimated to be \$800,000.

Funding for this work is partially funded by a \$350,000 Community Development Assistance Program grant. The balance will come from Champaign County and a drainage district assessment levied by the St. Joseph Drainage District Commissioners. The Urbana Park District is contributing land in Weaver Park for the detention/retention basin site. The City of Urbana have contributed with funding a financial feasibility study, engineered the drainage study, and cleaned and televised the Scottswood subdivision storm sewers, the total valued at over \$75,000. The Regional Plan Commission staff is administering this project.

One important ingredient to this project is the desire of the St. Joseph Drainage District to detach or shed their facilities, ditches, and structures west of High Cross Road (Illinois 130). This 1900-acre land area is largely urbanized and the District believes the ownership and maintenance responsibilities appropriately lie with the City. District Commissioners, their engineer, and their attorney have been meeting with City staff to develop a Letter of Understanding, which would be the framework for a future detachment agreement between the two parties. These details are being finalized and both parties are hopeful the Letter of Understanding will be completed this month. The Commissioners desire to have this letter in final form and signed prior to their levying a drainage assessment to the benefiting area for this Scottswood Drainage Improvement.