

Executive Summary

The City of Brookings Master Drainage Plan analyzes the existing stormwater infrastructure, with the primary objective of developing and prioritizing projects to be implemented over the next ten years.

The City's stormwater system collects runoff from rooftops and paved surfaces like sidewalks, driveways, streets, and parking lots and transports it to nearby creeks and rivers.

The planning team conducted an in depth analysis of the City's stormwater infrastructure. The City was divided into five different drainage areas designated as Central, Medary, SDSU, Southwest, and I-29S. It was found that potential flooding impacts were greatest in the Central, SDSU, and the Medary drainage areas. These areas were the focus of the analysis. It was also found that infrastructure throughout the City is generally undersized for the current storm events experienced by the City, leading to frequent flooding.

From the analysis, key projects were identified to reduce the potential for flood damages. These projects include upsizing key drainage infrastructure to increase conveyance in the Central and SDSU drainage areas, most notably within the Village Square area. While others focus on increasing storage in the Medary drainage area, south of 20th Street.

The management of this system has many benefits for the community, including maintaining and improving water quality, reducing flood risks, supporting resident safety, and lessening damage to public and private property.

As the plan is used to guide the next ten years, key objectives include:

- Address and reduce the potential for flooding throughout the City
- Update a non-biased process for prioritizing improvement projects that make responsible use of the City's financial resources
- Reduce the City's impact on downstream communities
- Develop a resilient plan that addresses flooding, while considering environmental and social benefits.

As an ever-evolving plan that can be updated as the values of the community change, the objectives are set to guide the City in creating a more resilient community committed to improving water stewardship.

