

City of Fremont Update

Date: July 16, 2021

To: City Employees/ City Boards/ Mayor & City Council

Stormwater System Handles 4+ Inches of Rain

After Fremont received more than 4 inches of rain in less than one hour on Saturday afternoon, City streets, storm drains, and stormwater ditches performed remarkably well conveying the storm water out of town. The picture on the right is the stormwater ditch along North Clarmar Avenue.

This particular stormwater ditch is an old channel of the Rawhide Creek and at one time, drained stormwater from the 16th Street ditch. Concerned that too much stormwater was draining into the ditch and that water was sitting in the ditch, the City split the 16th Street ditch from the Clarmar ditch and partially filled the ditch with dirt, so Clarmar ditch stormwater would flow and drain south and 16th Street stormwater would flow and drain north to the Rawhide Creek. That is how it is today. The open ditch along Clarmar goes briefly underground in pipes under Military Avenue,

before it dumps into the 5th Street ditch at the intersection of Clarmar and 5th Street. From there, the stormwater flows east down the 5th Street ditch to the warm water ditch at the corner of 5th Street and North Luther Road. The warm water ditch then carries the stormwater out of town to the east and to the Elkhorn River.



Fire Department Trains on Grain Bin Rescue

In the picture on the right are some of the firefighters from the City and neighboring fire departments that took part in the grain bin rescue training held at Rosenbauer Aerials in Fremont.

Suffocation from grain bin engulfment is a leading cause of death in grain bin accidents. According to authorities, deaths related to grain bin engulfment rose by 27% from 2018 to 2019; and the number through 2021, continued to trend higher too.

Due to the number of grain bin engulfments, the Oklahoma State University built a grain engulfment and confined space rescue simulator in 2017. The simulator from the Oklahoma State (shown in the picture above) was what was used in the training in Fremont. Here are a couple of facts from the training:



There is no job so important and no service so urgent that we cannot take the time to do the work safely!

Flowing grain behaves like quicksand.

- In 4 seconds, an adult can sink knee-deep in the suction of flowing grain. At this point, he or she can't free themselves without help.
- An adult can be completely buried (engulfed) in 20 seconds. Most engulfed victims do not survive.
- A person buried to the waist in grain requires a force equivalent to their own body weight plus 600 pounds to free them.
- The force required to remove a person buried under grain can exceed 2000 pounds.

City Sends Utility Crews to Help OPPD with Storm Damage

The Friday night, July 9th, storm that gave Fremont some much-needed rain, proceeded southeasterly and hit Omaha with 90 mile per hour winds leaving electric customers all across Omaha without power. Mike Royuk, the City's Electric Distribution Manager, said OPPD called him for help after the storm knocked out the power to more than 180,000 OPPD customers. Mike dispatched two crews to Omaha on Saturday and Sunday to help restore power.

Thanks to lineworkers: Jim Jorgensen, Kent Deming, Dillon Hanson, Conner Jenkins, Chris McManus, and Brad Wentz for spending their weekend helping OPPD restore power. The picture on the right (a pole top with transformer was snapped off from the severe wind) is some of the storm damage they found and fixed.



The City is part of the group of Cities and utilities that signed a mutual aid agreement, so we can get help or provide help to others in emergency situations. Per the agreement, anyone providing assistance will be reimbursed by the utility receiving the assistance. We have asked for mutual aid as well as provided mutual aid to another utility several times in the past 5 years. Mutual aid is a great way to respond to situations like what Omaha experienced this weekend.

Keene Memorial Library Chamber Coffee

Librarian, Laura England-Biggs, will be hosting the Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce coffee next Tuesday, July 20th, from 9 to 10am. The coffee is a great way to show off our Library and especially our expansion plans to members of the Chamber of Commerce.

\$26 billion - The amount that proposed legislation would spend on repairs to the country's 90,000 dams to increase safety and power generation capacity.

2.4% - The amount of America's gross domestic product that is applied to infrastructure. In comparison, the European Union applies 5 percent towards infrastructure, and its 9 percent in China.

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