Preserve with Additional Parcels
PANAMA CITY SW PIPE LOCATION

# Bay PRP 2014-033
Restore ACT Project

Bay County Conservancy
Profile of Ditch and Wetlands
N.T.S.

# Bay PRP 2014-033
Restore ACT Project  
Bay County Conservancy
DRAINAGE DITCH AND BERM
Study to illuminate P.C. flooding situation

By BEN KLEINKE
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Local & State

Panama City — City commission-
ers approved an engineering study Tuesday to find out more about flooding around Petoskey and Hastings bays.

Public Works Director Neil Frasell named two areas where the most probable flooding occurs near the bay:
- Residences on Chippewa Avenue experiencing flooding in their basements.
- Areas near 30th Street around the railroad tracks prone to flooding.
- The intersection of St. Andrews Boulevard and Petoskey Avenue also has experienced flooding during severe storms.

A $125,000 study from Amsden & Mydevil, which provides Panama City with extensive information about navigation and wet conditions, and provides suggestions on how to improve drainage. These would address improving drainage methods, ditches and pipes to direct water, or even purchasing property in a particularly troublesome area and turning the land into a park.

"No city needs a $125,000 park," Frasell said. "Our neighborhoods, businesses and property owners benefit. Nothing that we do is more important than that."

The study will simulate 25, 50 and 100-year storms using models to find out how much water could collect in these areas. It also will determine in how much time the bay might rise, which would allow the city to react to the rising water levels.

After the study is completed, the city will send a report to the Federal Emergency Management Agency to update flood plain maps for the city.

Sinking sewer rates
A consideration for the study is improving the city’s standing with the Community Rating System, which could lower homeowners’ insurance rates for the city.

City Manager Roy Frasell said economists are scheduled to present an analysis of the city in February. Frasell said the study likely will be completed this fall, too late to affect 2015 insurance premiums for Panama City Public Works, which usually has its capital improvement budget between $1 million and $1.5 million, has one large drainage project and is looking within the next few weeks to replace signs on 10th Street, which will cost about $30,000.

In other business Tuesday:
- City attorney Scott Ziemer and city manager said they expect to have a final memorandum of understanding for the commission on its master plan project approved at the Feb. 11 meeting.
- Today, Shick was appointed to the Downtown Improvement Board to replace Pam Pittman, who resigned to open a new business.

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