

July 24, 2011

I am devastated by the loss suffered by residents caused by bad weather over the past week. Please know we will do and are doing whatever we can to help residents in the short term and stand ready to assist them.

After years of very little maintenance and repair of our sewer system, in 2008 the city entered into a partnership with the Cuyahoga County Sanitary Engineer where we are spending about 4 million dollars a year through a sewer assessment program to clean, televise, identify problems and make capital improvements to our sewer system. Since then we have cleaned sewers in much of the city and have completed several relining, reconstruction and maintenance projects that has given relief to various areas of the city. We are making slow but steady progress in this endeavor.

However, we have a long way to go as the weather events of the last week can attest. Although we are making improvements because of this new program, it is apparent that we must stay with the plan but perhaps try to speed up some of the capital projects to help the system.

Over the next few days we will continue to assess affected areas and determine what problems need to be addressed.

Mayor Dean DePiero