City of Ripley

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To the Citizens of Ripley

Dear Ripley Community,

Last night's flooding brought hardship, worry, and unexpected damage to many homes, businesses, and streets throughout our city. As your city administration, our hearts are with every family and neighbor who faced rising water, property loss, or disruption. Ripley has always been a community that stands together, and in moments like these, that strength becomes even more visible.

We want you to know that addressing this issue is not only a priority it is a responsibility we take seriously. The severity of the flooding has reinforced what many of you have expressed for years: our stormwater, sewer, and drainage systems need a thorough and professional evaluation. In response, the City of Ripley is issuing a **Request for Proposals (RFP)** to bring in qualified engineering firms to conduct a comprehensive assessment of our sewer lines, storm drains, and related infrastructure.

This evaluation will help us understand the root causes of the flooding, identify weaknesses in the system, and provide clear recommendations for both immediate and long-term improvements. We also want to be transparent about the realities we face. Infrastructure projects of this scale are costly, and while we budget responsibly each year, our local resources can only stretch so far. Major upgrades to sewer and drainage systems often require significant outside funding, and grants play a crucial role in making these improvements possible.

As we move forward, we will be actively pursuing every available grant opportunity state, federal, and emergency relief to help us address these long-standing issues without placing an undue burden on our taxpayers. These processes take time, and they require detailed engineering reports, cost analyses, and coordination with multiple agencies. But we are committed to doing this work the right way, with diligence, transparency, and a clear plan for the future.

To those who suffered damage, please know that we see you, we hear you, and we are committed to communicating openly as we take each step. As proposals come in and engineers begin their work, we will share updates with residents so you remain informed throughout the process. Your patience, your resilience, and your willingness to stand together as a community mean more than words can express.

Ripley has weathered many challenges, and each time, we have come out stronger because we face them together. Last night's flooding was difficult, but it does not define us. What defines us is our determination to improve our city, our commitment to one another, and our belief in a safer, stronger future for all who call Ripley home.

With respect and commitment, The Administration of the City of Ripley

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