

# Lick Run Project Update Sustainable Deconstruction Efforts

# **Lick Run Project: A National Model**

The Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSD) is implementing a solution to significantly reduce combined sewer overflows (CSOs) into the Mill Creek by 2018.

The \$193 million Lick Run project on Cincinnati's west side is an integral part of this solution and is being viewed by the U.S. EPA as a national model for integrated watershed planning. The project will reduce CSOs, as well as improve water quality, create new jobs and provide opportunities for community revitalization.

The Lick Run Project includes a Valley Conveyance System (VCS) in the Cincinnati neighborhood of South Fairmount to convey stormwater directly to the Mill Creek, mostly through a naturalized urban waterway. It also includes underground storm sewers, stormwater detention basins and naturalized aboveground waterways to transport stormwater to the VCS.

The project will eliminate an estimated 624 million gallons of CSOs into the Mill Creek during a typical year of rain. Design of the VCS is anticipated to take three years, with construction estimated to begin in 2016.

### **Demolition for Lick Run**

As part of the Lick Run project, MSD is purchasing and demolishing residential and commercial buildings in South Fairmount through 2015.

The properties — located between Queen City and Westwood avenues from Old Queen City Avenue to the Mill Creek — are being acquired to create space for the urban waterway.

Up to 76 buildings will be demolished in total. Twenty buildings were demolished in fall 2013, and an additional 20 will be demolished by summer 2014. MSD is funding the majority of demolitions but the Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority is providing assistance through Moving Ohio Forward grant funds.



20% Off Discount Coupon for Salvaged Materials

### **Deconstruction in Action**

To reduce the amount of demolition debris sent to the landfill, MSD is soft stripping the structures prior to demolition to salvage reusable building materials and deconstructing the buildings during demolition for recyclable materials and additional reusable building materials.

This past fall, MSD's contractor, Building Value, LLC, a Northside-based nonprofit that specializes in deconstruction, performed soft stripping on 14 buildings and fully deconstructed six buildings.

Building Value and the Cincinnati Reuse Center in South Fairmount are offering the salvaged materials for resale to the public at a 20% discount.

Salvaged items, many of them antiques, included:

- Windows and doors
- Wooden railings and spindles
- Decorative corbels and wood rosettes (from door frames)
- Tin ceilings
- Sinks and commodes
- Kitchen cabinets
- Heaters and furnaces
- Bannisters
- Fireplace mantels



Deconstruction of a building in South Fairmount

- Pine wood flooring
- Decorative wood, tin and brick details from facades and porches
- · Ceramic chimney pots
- Wrought-iron fencing and gates

To date, about 361 individual items, 512 feet of wooden railing and wrought-iron fencing and 3,780 square feet of tin ceiling and pine wood flooring were salvaged during the soft stripping. An additional 3.1 tons of reusable materials were removed during deconstruction.

Recyclable items removed during deconstruction included:

- 4.5 tons of metal
- 1,250 tons of concrete
- 12.7 tons of lumber

# **Job Training**

Through the Lick Run project, MSD enables hands-on job training for local workers. Building Value offers a workforce development program to provide training for workers with barriers to employment. To date, soft stripping and deconstruction work has provided more than 1,000 hours of training to 14 associates, most of whom will graduate to full-time jobs at local construction companies.





Trainees softstripping buildings for reusable materials



Soft stripping the exterior of a building in South Fairmount

## From Vacant to Viable

MSD is also working with Keep Cincinnati Beautiful on its "Future Blooms" program which stabilizes and improves vacant lots in Cincinnati. The program addresses the low morale perpetuated in a community when buildings are removed. When buildings are demolished in South Fairmount, Keep Cincinnati Beautiful will grade, plant grass seed, plant trees where needed and install a low-lying fence and signage. This program will serve as an interim measure until the Lick Run project begins construction in 2016.

# **Budget Breakdown**

MSD is 18% under budget on the demolition of the first 20 buildings, due in part to its partnership with the Port Authority. The Port used Moving Ohio Forward grant funds to demolish one of the 20 buildings.

Estimated cost to demolish 20 buildings: \$815,000

Cost to MSD: \$667,000.



Salvaged materials available for resale to public

### **Need More Information?**

For more information contact:

MSD Engineering Customer Service Line at (513) 557-3594 or MSD.Communications@cincinnati-oh.gov

Visit www.projectgroundwork.org/lickrun