

INFRASTRUCTURE

The physical hardscape features of the neighborhood; sidewalks, curbing, streets and alleys, lighting, reclaimed and potable water, sanitary sewers and storm drainage are known as infrastructure. These features need some form of enhancement based upon the assessment made by the consultant and the resident's survey comments. Most of the asphalt and brick streets are in good condition and should be monitored for potholes and minor repairs. The streets were laid out in a grid pattern, typical of development in the early 1900s. There are several streets that break the grid and are slightly offset, typically on the east/west avenues. The two institutional land uses, St. Paul's Catholic Church and Euclid Center / Euclid Student Services take up several blocks, re-routing the regular flow of traffic.

All the original streets in Euclid/St. Paul's were street brick surfaced. Most of the brick streets were eventually covered with asphalt. The neighborhood is less than 50% exposed brick streets (see page 35). All of the streets are two lane with one or two way traffic and parallel parking on one or both sides. Most of the streets are 24 and 27 feet wide, with a few streets 20 feet and 33-34 feet wide. Four streets are one way, 12th Street North and 14th Street North, and 18th Avenue North and 19th Avenue North. According to the 2001 Neighborhood Survey, maintaining and enhancing Neighborhood Character is a primary concern of the neighborhood residents, which includes keeping the current brick streets in good repair per the City of St. Petersburg's Engineering Standards and Details for Brick Surface Roadway, and restoration by removing the existing asphalt to expose the original brick beneath (if funding becomes available). By City-wide policy, all brick streets not paved over are to be preserved. Per City resolution, brick streets which have been paved over may be converted back with majority approval of adjacent neighbors. Restoring the original

brick streets may be possible if fifty-one (51%) percent of the owners of abutting property petition the City, as set forth in City assessment policy, requesting that the abutting property owners be assessed the total cost of converting the existing asphalt street back to brick. If the existing street needs repair, and City Council approves the petition as being in the best interest of the City.

Most of the streets have 5 - 6 feet wide cast-in-place sidewalks on both sides, with a 5 to 10 feet wide landscape strip between the sidewalk and the street. Most of the original sidewalks are standard color, concrete hex block, with some colored hex blocks laid out in patterns. Not all sidewalks in the neighborhood are connected or complete. It is recommended that on a block by block basis, sidewalks which are primarily cast-in-place concrete, in-fill pavement should also match the cast-in-place concrete, and similarly, a block-long area of predominantly hex block should be in-filled with standard color hex block pavers. The City has not made a complete inventory of sidewalk conditions in the Euclid/St. Paul's Neighborhood. Although the hex block pavement is not a smooth surface for roller blading and pushing baby strollers, for the historical significance, hex block sidewalk should be repaired and preserved whenever possible in accordance with the City of St. Petersburg's preservation policy and the Engineering Standards and Details for hex block sidewalk replacement and hex block color pattern.

The City uses the standards below to designate hexagon block sidewalk districts:

- (1) Evidence of approval of the owners of two-thirds of the lineal front footage of property abutting the sidewalks (right-of-way) within the area designated in the application at the time the application is submitted to City staff.
- (2) The hexagon block sidewalk preservation area contributes an aesthetic or cultural interest and value which enhances the

character of the City.

(3) A proposed hexagon block sidewalk preservation area shall contain a minimum of four abutting city blocks or a minimum of 1,500 lineal feet of sidewalk. Preservation areas should contain at least 66 percent of the total lineal feet in hexagon block sidewalk after measuring all sidewalks along the streets within the proposed district.

A sidewalk survey has been completed by the residents as part of the Neighborhood Plan process to indicate where sidewalk improvements are needed (see Neighborhood Sidewalk Inventory in the Appendix). The original granite curbing remains on some streets, replaced by poured-in-place concrete curb.

The alleys are either asphalt, brick, or soil and typically about 15 feet wide (see page 36). Most of the alleys run in an east/west direction. The paved alleys should continue to be maintained by the City. The dirt alleys should be asphalt paved only with the permission of residents on a case-by-case basis. Alley pavement is not a free service, and costs would be assessed to the immediate property owners. Some alleys are clear of vegetation and others are overgrown. Trimming of dense vegetation in the alleys could be done as a project of the Neighborhood Association with assistance in picking up debris by the City, or a City-provided service on an “as-needed” basis.

The Euclid/St. Paul’s Neighborhood is eligible to participate in the City of St. Petersburg’s Historic Landmark Index Program. A study of the neighborhood could be made by a committee of the Neighborhood Association to determine whether certain areas of the neighborhood meet the criteria for Historic Landmark Index. To protect important architectural, historical, and cultural resources, the City of St. Petersburg allows

designation of historic landmarks, such as, a significant concentration of hexagon block sidewalks within a neighborhood. Once designated, all exterior alterations require design review approval by either staff or the Historic Preservation Commission through issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness permit. The landmark designation process requires approval of an ordinance by the Historic Preservation Commission and City Council.

The neighborhood has an underground storm water drainage system in place. Several areas of flooding after heavy rain have been identified by the 2001 Neighborhood Survey, which will require further input from residents and the attention and action of the City as follows; the alley at 15th Avenue North (East of 15th and 16th Streets), some areas from 22nd Avenue to 20th Avenue, and some areas of neighborhood survey sections 1 and 4 (see Survey Zones Map on page 12).

Reclaimed water lines are in place on some Euclid/St. Paul’s streets. Current policy allows for hook up to reclaimed water if the property is located along an existing reclaimed water main line. Previously, residents could petition to have the main line extended, however, petitions are no longer being accepted for extension requests. Reclaimed water is not a limitless resource and is sometimes unavailable.

EUCLID/ST. PAUL'S NEIGHBORHOOD EXISTING ALLEY TYPES

16th Street



9th Avenue

22nd Avenue

LEGEND OF EXISTING ALLEYS

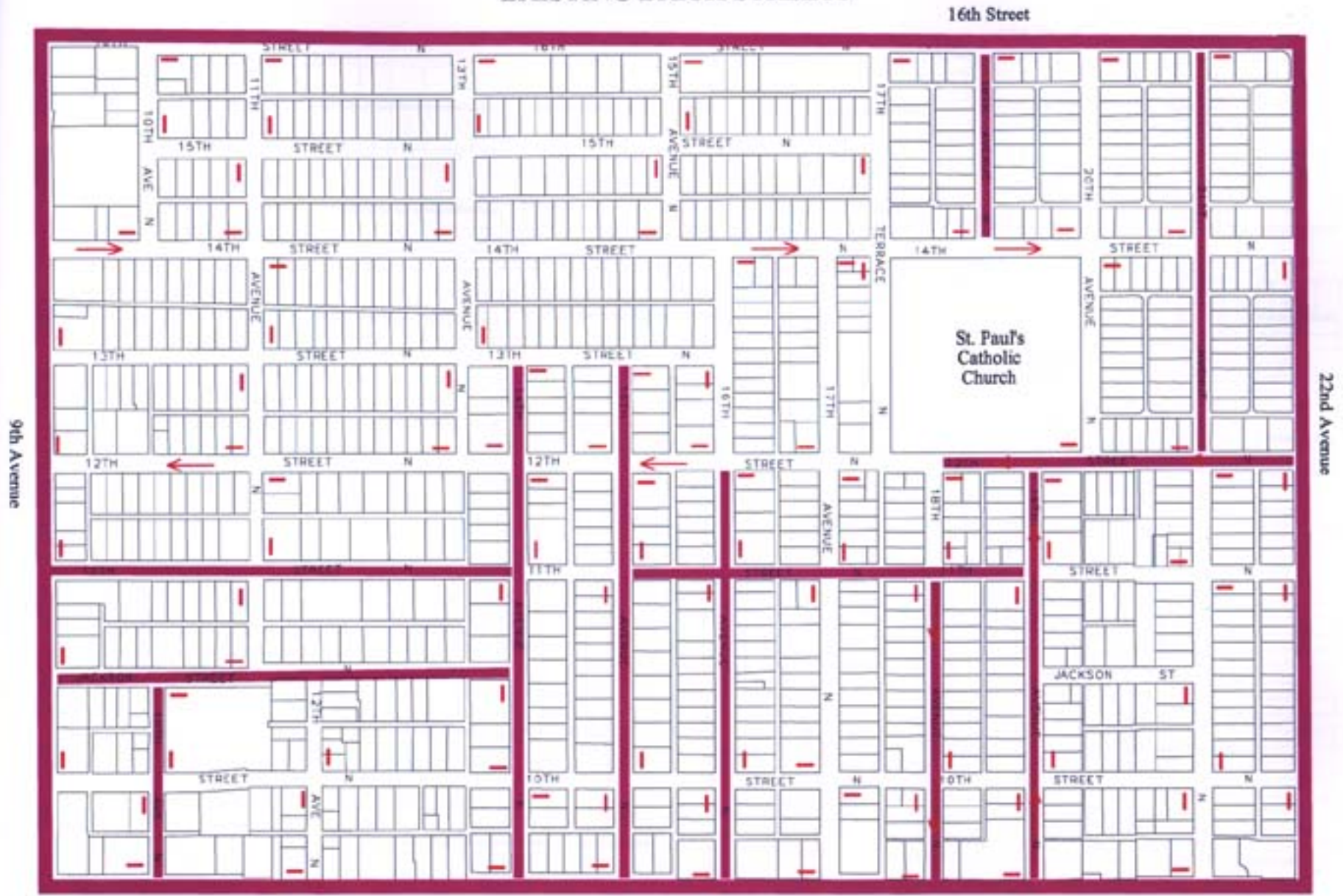
- CEMENT ALLEYS
- ASPHALT ALLEYS
- BRICK ALLEYS

9th Street

Not to Scale



EUCLID/ST. PAUL'S NEIGHBORHOOD EXISTING BRICK STREETS



LEGEND OF EXISTING FEATURES

- STOP SIGNS
- ONE WAY STREETS
- BRICK STREETS

9th Street

Not to Scale



EUCLID-ST. PAUL'S RECLAIMED WATER MAP



9th Avenue

22nd Avenue

16th Street

9th Street

— Reclaimed Water Main Line

Not to Scale



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ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMARY

Issues

1. Safety of pedestrians from the neighborhood to the surrounding commercial businesses and within the neighborhood's rights-of-way.
2. Improve the alleys on an "as requested" basis by the adjacent residents through asphalt pavement, drainage repairs, and vegetative clean-up projects.
3. Improve the vegetative quality of the neighborhood.
4. Drainage in specific neighborhood areas retain storm water run-off.
5. Sidewalk system in some places are not continuous or are in need of repair.
6. City to fund extension of the reclaimed water line in the neighborhood..

Recommendations

1. Work with the City of St. Petersburg and the Dr. Martin Luther King Street Business Association to promote and establish a plan which includes median landscaping as a pedestrian protection zone and as a beautification tool on 9th Street North.
2. Create a committee to inform and request of the appropriate City of St. Petersburg officials and departments to schedule infrastructure needs.
3. Preserve and maintain the existing hex block sidewalks, granite curbs, and brick streets in all locations, even if sporadically located. Hexblock Preservation Areas must

be designated. Request that the City in-fill with these historical materials whenever a repair project occurs adjacent to existing hex block sidewalks, granite curbs, and brick streets.

4. Work with the City to provide regular maintenance of existing drainage structures or make improvements to alleviate seasonal, short-term flooding.
5. Improve the sidewalks by repairing or replacing cracked concrete walks and hex block sidewalks, and linking any existing walks that are not continuous.
6. Improve storm sewers and drainage in reported problem areas of the Neighborhood.
7. As funding becomes available, extend reclaimed water lines throughout the Neighborhood.