

Feds, City team up on new flood prevention strategy

Extracted from [Alex MacPherson, Saskatoon StarPhoenix](#)

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Vehicles stuck in the intersection of Broadway Avenue and Taylor Street after a massive rainstorm in August 2017.

[Liam Richards / Saskatoon StarPhoenix](#)

Two summers ago, a pair of massive rainstorms overwhelmed Saskatoon's aging storm water system, causing widespread flooding on the City's east side.

Saskatoon Mayor, Charlie Clark, on Friday said he's optimistic that \$54 million in new funding, from the City and Federal Government, for storm water infrastructure upgrades, over the next nine years, will make such events more rare.

"It's City infrastructure that's not keeping up to the current climate dynamics. These are some of the signs of what a changing climate means for a city and why it's important to ... mitigate and adapt to some of those climate impacts."

The money — \$21.6 million from Ottawa's Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund and \$32.4 million from the city — will cover the cost of new dry ponds, underground storage and additional storm water pipes in older neighbourhoods.

Around \$5.7 million of the investment will cover **the excavation of a portion of W.W. Ashley Park to serve as an additional catch basin** for the surrounding area in times of heavy rainfall. That work is expected to get underway this summer, according to the City.

Another portion of the money will pay for **sports field upgrades at Aden Bowman Collegiate**, a decision that was necessary to maintain green space in the community, Clark said, noting the City's contribution won't be added to property taxes.