



## Residents speak minds

Continued from Page 1  
 persons living north of them contribute to the problem and so should contribute to the cost of a solution.  
 Under the approved plan, the storm drain would be connected only to those houses in the low area. But the houses in the higher area would be charged 50 percent of the cost of the new drain. Plans call for both areas to be connected to the drain, but not immediately. The majority in attendance opposed the idea of paying for a drain that wouldn't help them.  
 Rhael "Rocky" Tardiff told council members he's lived four years at a house at 2325 Liberty and his basement's flooded four times and his taxes have increased four times.  
 Each resident (who is supposed to pay 30 percent of the assessment) living north of the flood area should pay full share, said Tardiff, "because I'm getting his water." He likened the situation to raking leaves from a neighbor's tree.  
 Louis Doyle of Schulte Street said the city should schedule a vote on the issue for everyone living in the 100-acre district.

Some already suffering with flooded basements.  
 "Forget the whole thing for a while," was the advice of Marty Holland, a resident of Casa. "Times are tough," he told the council, "and the cure is a little strong."  
 Dave Hickey found raw sewage flowing in his basement more than once.  
 "I'm not excited about paying an assessment, but I want to live in Farmington, and I'm willing to pay for it," he said.  
 When members of the public were informed that much of the property in the district is owned by the city, and all taxpayers would pay the city's share of that assessment, Anne Teppo grabbed the microphone and accused the council of "double-dipping" the residents.

DEADMAN REPLIED that assessing all taxpayers is standard procedure any time city property is included in a paving or drainage project.  
 The flood area doesn't include all of Alta Loma No. 4 subdivision, said Bill Corliss of Wilmarth Street. When residents bought those houses, Corliss said, they all paid the same for sewer hookups, but only a portion are now being asked to pay for sewer separation.  
 The builder connected houses on the east end, where Corliss lives, to a 1929 sewer line, which is causing all the trouble, Deadman explained. Other houses were connected to a new line that is working fine, he said.  
 When the public hearing ended, Mayor Alton Bennett told the residents re-opening at 10:45 p.m. he was pleased with the public's approach to a costly and confusing problem that has troubled the city for years.  
 Corliss again, it drives people of Farmington are able to discuss a problem, disagree, and still maintain their order and their cool," Bennett said.

In a survey of residents about flooding problems, 267 homeowners were sent questionnaires. 158 returned the survey; 42 reported experiencing flooding, while 114 said they hadn't.  
 Teppo claims city officials aggravated the flooding problem through years of neglect. She told council members all residents of the city should pay to fix the drainage system, not just per-

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