



## NEWS RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**

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### **Stormwater Authority of the city of Chester Installs New Catch Basin at Chester Fire Headquarters, Saves City Money on Street and Fire Truck Repairs**

*Chester City officials credit SAC with saving the City thousands of dollars in street and vehicle repair costs, after an old, defunct catch basin that caused damage to fire trucks was relocated.*

**Chester, Pa.** — [The Stormwater Authority of the city of Chester](#) (SAC), is pleased to announce the relocation and installation of a new catch basin in front of Chester Fire Headquarters that will save the city of Chester thousands of dollars on fire vehicle maintenance repairs.

Thanks to SAC's *Catch Basin Retrofit Program*, crews were able to fix an old, defunct catch basin located at the entryway to the fire station on 14<sup>th</sup> Street. The *Catch Basin Retrofit Program* is a strategic initiative designed to help SAC identify catch basins throughout the city of Chester that need maintenance or complete restoration.

"We had a few conversations with city officials and Fire Commissioner Rigby about their concerns," said Dr. Horace Strand, Executive Director for the Stormwater Authority of the city of Chester.

Due to road damage, the old catch basin became partially collapsed, creating a safety hazard for city vehicles and local traffic traveling along the high-traffic roadway. "It's important that this catch basin was relocated because of the wear and tear it was causing to the fire trucks responding to calls," said Commissioner Rigby. "Our trucks were taking a lot of abuse and had to be repaired much more frequently because we are in and out of the station all day."

Through proper planning and project development, SAC discovered there was no flood solution for this section of the roadway. Crews were able to install a new catch basin and bicycle-safe grate 50-feet to the right of the entryway of the station and connect it to the existing drainage system to help control flooding. A slab top and asphalt covering were installed where the old, damaged catch basin was located to provide a smooth surface for the fire trucks.

Annually the city of Chester allocates money for city vehicle maintenance repairs in its budget. In 2021, the city allocated \$75,000 to the Bureau of Fire for vehicle maintenance. "We anticipate that the city will save thousands of dollars on vehicle maintenance because this catch basin was fixed," said Councilman William Morgan, Director of Finance for the city of Chester. "We saved money on street repairs in this area and future vehicle repairs. We are grateful for the partnership we have with the Stormwater Authority."

As a newly-created municipal authority, SAC was established by Chester City government to plan, finance, build, operate and maintain capital in green Stormwater infrastructure within the city of Chester. SAC is committed to community engagement to increase awareness centered around stormwater education and public health.

To date, SAC has repaired/restored 90 percent of the 1,700 catch basins located throughout the city.

“Proper maintenance of catch basins is crucial to our drainage system and helping the proper flow of stormwater,” said Dr. Strand. “As we move through the different stages of building a stronger stormwater infrastructure, we are confident that residual impacts will continue to save the city money and help to create a stronger, safer community.”

### **About Stormwater Authority of the city of Chester**

The Stormwater Authority of the city of Chester (SAC) was established in 2016 by the city of Chester to plan, finance, build, operate and maintain capital in green Stormwater infrastructure within the city of Chester. SAC is committed to creating a long-term 30-year operation and maintenance program that will; revitalize the community and create low barrier to entry-level jobs and economic impact opportunities; provide public education and outreach opportunities around water quality and more sustainable development and preservation; increase property values and promote development opportunities in key community corridors through the repair, rehab, and retrofit of existing outdated infrastructure; and create value through collaboration and crosstalk amongst public and private sector entities that result in aligned goals and interest to benefit the city of Chester. For more information visit, [www.chesterstormwaterauthority.com](http://www.chesterstormwaterauthority.com).

For more information about this press release, please call (610) 570-2208 or email [aessentialconsulting@gmail.com](mailto:aessentialconsulting@gmail.com).

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