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Mobile maps stormwater system, looks to fix flooding problem

by Andrea Ramey

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(WPMI) Mobile maps stormwater system, looks to fix flooding problems

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MOBILE COUNTY, Ala. (WPMI) — After a heavy downpour, South Ann St. can look lil and cars cause waves of water to come crashing into the hair salon Melissa Witt w

"I have to take a brush and push the water back out on the street," said Witt.

"We have sandbags to try to prevent it, but it still comes down," said Witt.

The flooding that happens there is not unique. It occurs throughout town.

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"We know flooding is an issue," said Mobile's Programs and Project Management Director Jennifer Greene.

Now, the city, using a \$2.7 million Restore Act grant, is undertaking the massive effort mapping its entire stormwater system to try and find solutions.

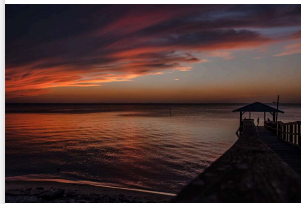
"It's going to provide a lot of information for future projects for stormwater infrastructure," said Greene.

Crews started last week documenting the 36,000 different water features like inlet storm drains in the city, and it's expected to take 18 months to complete. Greene says she already knows problem spots, like South Ann Street, but having a complete picture of the city will help better calculate what needs to be addressed.

"We have 200-year-old infrastructure in the city. So, how we address the old infrastructure and the new infrastructure, this project is really going to build a baseline of information

A future that fortunately for Witt includes improving the drainage on South Ann Str is set to begin there in four to six weeks.

"It definitely needs some work here," said Witt.



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