Dancing with the Models. SWMM and Physical Models used to Optimize Design of the Cemetery Brook Drain Tunnel

City of Manchester, New Hampshire

Tatyana Dudiac, CDM Smith

Shawn Lavoie, CDM Smith

Laurie Locke, CDM Smith



Annual Conference & Exhibit January 26-29, 2025 | Boston



January 27, 2025



Integrating Physical Model Testing with SWMM Analysis



Agenda

Introduction

1.

- 2. Project Overview
- 3. SWMM Modeling Analysis
- 4. Physical Model Testing and Results
- 5. Conclusion
- 6. Acknowledgements

Introduction

- Manchester Wastewater Treatment Facility: 72 MGD
- Existing Combined Sewer System
 - 385 miles of sewer
 - 50% "combined" system
 - 5 brooks feed into sewer system
- Cemetery Brook is the largest of five brooks that contribute to combined sewer overflow discharges to Merrimack River.
- Removal of the Cemetery Brook, along with sewer separation, is one of the primary objectives of the city's Long-Term Control Plan
- Recommended construction of a new Cemetery Brook Drain Tunnel (CBD)



Project Overview

- Purpose: Redirecting Cemetery Brook and implement sewer separation
- 2 ¼ Mile Long from Merrimack River to Mammoth Road mostly along a city owned abandoned railroad corridor
- Components: underground 12-ft internal diameter stormwater tunnel with 7 drop shaft structures, and outfall with energy dissipation



Receiving Sha

Cemetery Brook

Receiving Site

Proposed Tunnel Profile in the 25-yr Design Storm



Modeled Design Elements





SWMM Modeling Analysis

- Conceptually size the future tunnel system
- Simulate post-separation runoff responses
- Determine flow rates for various design storm events
- Size future separation pipes

Hydraulic criteria for future separation drains and the tunnel:

- Design storm include 12-13% for climate change
- Minimal surcharge during 10-year design storm
- No flooding during 25-year storm

SWMM Modeling Limitation

- SWMM model has limitations on complex structures and the interaction of tunnel flows with these drops
- SWMM simulates free pipe discharge at the connection of collection system piping to the drop shaft vortex inlet structure
- In real life vortex structures can generate backwater effects
- To verify concept pipe sizes and investigate complex behavior within structures during various design storm events, a scaled physical model was built in the lab by Clemson Engineering Hydraulics, Inc. (CEH)



What is a physical model of hydraulic structures?

Laboratory based reduced scale hydraulic model



Why to build a physical model?

- Design and validate performance of hydraulic structures
- Reduce risk and project cost
- Visualize hydraulic behavior in otherwise unobservable locations

Physical Model Testing Lab Overview Clemson Engineering Hydraulics, Inc. (CEH)



Physical Model Testing

Clemson Engineering Hydraulics constructed a physical model at a 1:9.3 scale

Key components of the prototype:

- 200 feet of tunnel upstream and 300 feet (prototype) downstream of the drop shaft connections
- In-line and off-line drop shaft lines
- ✓ De-aeration chamber
- Outfall

Purpose:

- ✓ Validate modeled tunnel and collection system pipe sizes
- Assess hydraulic performance under different conditions
- Analyze the vortex structure efficiency to get flow into the tunnel
- Investigate corrective adjustments to the tunnel design

Drop Shaft Schematics



- 10-yr storm with min surcharge
- 25-yr no street flooding
- Included climate change volume
- Checked tunnel performance under up to 100-yr storm conditions

Overview of Drop Shafts



In-line

Drop Shaft



Off-line Drop Shaft



Hydraulic Jump





Physical Modeling Testing Results

- Validated the SWMM model's predictions and confirmed key parameters such as peak flows, depths, and pipe sizes
- Identified hydraulic phenomena, the formation of hydraulic jumps, which prompted design modifications
- Developed hydraulic rating curves to improve SWMM drain model
- Enhanced the overall reliability of the project's design

Mutual exchange of information between physical and computational models



Checked tunnel performance under up to 100-yr storm conditions







Conclusion

- The tunnel project will improve stormwater management and reduce CSO events
- The integration of SWMM and physical models enhanced reliability of the tunnel design and increased confidence in the long-term success of the City's infrastructure
- Our goal is to ensure the effectiveness and sustainability of City's infrastructure for years to come

Acknowledgements and Thank You

Presenters:

City of Manchester, New Hampshire

— Tatyana Dudiac, P.E. CDM Smith

dudiact@cdmsmith.com

- Shawn Lavoie, P.E. CDM Smith

lavoiesd@cdmsmith.com

Clemson Engineering Hydraulics Lab team

f in 🗶 🖸 🞯

Find more insights through our water partnership at cdmsmith.com/water and @CDMSmith





- Baseline test the off-line deaeration chamber enters the tunnel at 90 degree.
- As a result, air bulking and surcharge in the tunnel



- One of the tests the collection pipes enters the tunnel via in-line drop shaft at a 45-degree angle with a metal plate placed inside the tunnel (not a final design configuration!).
- As a result, less air and surcharge in the tunnel



Outfall performance in the 25-year and 100year storms with baffled block for energy dissipation to reduce bank erosion



- Hydraulic jump in the outfall pipe when Merrimack River is at a 100-year water level.
- Hydraulic jump is in the opposite direction of the flow

