

# Persistent Delays and Transparency Concerns Mar Allen Street Sewer Project in New Britain

NEW BRITAIN, CONNECTICUT, UNITED STATES, March 2, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The [City of New Britain](#) is currently embroiled in a contentious struggle to advance Phase 2 of the Allen Street sewer upgrades, a critical infrastructure project that has hit a standstill due to the Connecticut State Delegation's ongoing inaction. This project, essential for remedying chronic flooding, sanitary sewer backups, and the dilapidation of road surfaces and sidewalks, has been a high priority since its inception in 2013. Despite the pressing need, evidenced by an estimated completion cost of \$6 million, efforts to secure necessary state funding have been met with silence, a situation that exacerbates environmental and public health concerns across the community. The issue has been extensively covered in a [recent article](#) by the New Britain Journal, shedding light on the residents' growing frustration and the dire need for state intervention.

In addition to infrastructure delays, the city faces hurdles in transparency and communication with state officials. The New Britain Journal has voiced increasing alarm over the delayed Freedom of Information (FOI) response from State Senator Lopes' office, specifically concerning inquiries about the Allen Street Sewer Issue. Despite multiple follow-ups since the initial request on October 26, 2023, there has been a conspicuous lack of comprehensive reply, a situation detailed in another report by the Journal. This delay not only hampers journalistic efforts to inform the public but also casts a shadow on the office's commitment to transparency and accountability.

Compounding the issue, a thorough analysis of FOI requests aimed at State Representative Peter Tercyak's office has unveiled significant discrepancies in the release of legislative communications. Crucially, information detailing legislative priorities for New Britain, which includes the Allen Street Sewer upgrade, was found to be missing in the documents provided by Rep. Tercyak's office. This gap in transparency, highlighted in a [focused investigation](#) by the New Britain Journal, underscores the essential nature of transparency in democratic governance. The withholding of information on projects with substantial community impact, such as the Allen Street Sewer upgrade, not only erodes public trust but also impedes meaningful public discourse and civic engagement.

These issues spotlight the broader challenge of ensuring that elected officials adhere to principles of transparency and accountability, particularly in the dissemination of information critical to public welfare and safety. As the City of New Britain continues its advocacy for the completion of the Allen Street Sewer project, the response—or lack thereof—from the State

Delegation remains under intense public scrutiny. The stagnation of such a vital infrastructure initiative, coupled with transparency concerns, serves as a stark reminder of the imperative for proactive state involvement in local projects, especially those with far-reaching environmental and public health implications.

The ongoing saga of the Allen Street Sewer project not only affects the immediate community but also raises important questions about the role of state governments in supporting municipal infrastructure projects. As the public awaits decisive action from their elected representatives, the importance of clear communication and transparent governance has never been more evident. The resolution of these issues will not only address the pressing infrastructure needs of New Britain but also set a precedent for how state and local governments collaborate on critical projects, with implications for communities across Connecticut and beyond.

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