



TO: Zionsville Town Council

FROM: Lance A. Lantz, DPW Director *LL*

DATE: June 5, 2025

SUBJECT: Drainage Easement Encroachment Request – 11651 Ansley Ct.

The DPW does not generally support drainage easement encroachments to best preserve their functions, character, and protect them from alterations that could interfere with the flow of stormwater, damage to infrastructure, or create impacts on or to adjacent areas. There should be highly unique situations or extreme hardships before considering any exception to the rules and regulations.

When asked to consider relief from the ordinance, staff visits and reviews a site for three criteria to determine how essential the drainage easement(s) is or are to the stormwater system function:

- Presence of underground pipes 12” or larger.
- Shaped or graded overland conveyance (swale or ditch).
- Identified as an overland flood routing or staging area.

In this instance, there is a 24” concrete storm sewer pipe running along the southwest side property line within the side yard easement, and no structures should be placed within this easement. Should the council be inclined to acknowledge a partial request, the DPW would not object to an encroachment into the rear yard drainage easement, generally depicted by the red line in the image below, subject to the provision that the post holes within the rear yard easement are hand dug and inspected by Stormwater Div. staff prior to post placement.

