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Hidden river will flow in the open after 200 years

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DUBLIN City Council plans to 'open' an underground river flowing through DIT's Grangegorman campus, which will act as a storage device for flood waters.

The river, one of 23 underneath the city, has not been exposed in 200 years but could help provide protection against flooding by storing rainwater before releasing it into the River Liffey.

"We think it's possible to uncover that river, and leave it open in the Grangegorman lands," city engineer Tom Leahy said. "In the future, we're talking about flooding being an inconvenience rather than a disaster."

The move is part of a range of measures being proposed to help stop widespread fluvial (river) flooding in the capital.

Other measures include installing roof barrels on buildings to store water, with developments in 'at risk' areas being obliged to install electrics in the roof space to avoid damage in the event of floods.

Porous pavements and more green spaces where water will be allowed to settle before naturally draining away could become a feature.

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