



ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

1021 NORTH GRAND AVENUE EAST, P.O. BOX 19276, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62794-9276 • (217) 782-3397

JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR

JOHN J. KIM, DIRECTOR

Project Summary and Preliminary Environmental Impacts Determination

Date: MAR 05 2024

Loan Applicant: City of Bloomington
IEPA Loan Project Numbers: L176805, L176806

To all interested persons:

Section 662.330 of the Illinois Procedures for Issuing Loans from the Public Water Supply Loan Program requires that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) conduct an assessment of the environmental impacts of proposed public water supply projects to be funded with loans. This review is carried out in conjunction with the State's review of the applicant's project plan.

Prior to final approval of the project plan, the public's comments are sought regarding environmental impacts of the proposed project. Unless new information obtained through the public comment process causes reconsideration, the Agency will approve the project plan at the close of the public comment period.

The applicant will make the attached Project Summary and Preliminary Environmental Impacts Determination (PEID) available for public inspection. Within 60 days of receiving this letter, the applicant must conduct a public hearing regarding both the PEID and project planning. Advertisement of the hearing must be made at least 10 days in advance. The advertisement must include the purpose of the project along with the date, time, and location of the hearing. A comment period of at least 10 days shall be provided after the hearing in which written comments may be submitted to the loan applicant or to the IEPA contact person identified in the attached document.

For information purposes only, a copy of this document is being provided to your local newspaper of record.

Your interest and participation in this process are appreciated.

Sincerely,

Gary Bingenheimer, P.E.
Manager
Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section
Bureau of Water

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Attachment

2125 S. First Street, Champaign, IL 61820 (217) 278-5800
1101 Eastport Plaza Dr., Suite 100, Collinsville, IL 62234 (618) 346-5120
9511 Harrison Street, Des Plaines, IL 60016 (847) 294-4000
595 S. State Street, Elgin, IL 60123 (847) 608-3131

2309 W. Main Street, Suite 116, Marion, IL 62959 (618) 993-7200
412 SW Washington Street, Suite D, Peoria, IL 61602 (309) 671-3022
4302 N. Main Street, Rockford, IL 61103 (815) 987-7760

Project Summary and Preliminary Environmental Impacts Determination (PEID)

The following project summary and environmental assessment has been prepared by the IEPA to assist the loan applicant in complying with the public notice requirements. Information in this report was obtained, in part, from the following sources: Locust Street Water Main Replacement Project submitted October 4, 2023, by Clark Dietz, Inc., on behalf of the City of Bloomington, and, in response to requests for additional information, correspondence dated February 27, 2024, also prepared by Clark Dietz, Inc.

Part I – Project Information

Project Name: Locust/Colton WM Phase 8 & 9

Loan Applicant: City of Bloomington (City)

County: McLean

Project Numbers: L176805, L176806

Current Population: 78,864

Future Population (30 year): 119,449

Number of Service Connections: 28,593 Residential Connections

Project Description: The City owns, operates, and maintains its own drinking water system. The City is supplied water from the Lake of Bloomington and Evergreen Lake. Lake Bloomington is an impoundment of Money Creek and is located 15 miles north of the City while Evergreen Lake is located 6 miles west of Lake Bloomington. Water is piped through a 30” (inch) diameter water main to the Water Treatment Plant at Lake Bloomington, while the water from Lake Bloomington is withdrawn and treated at the water treatment plant located on the northwest shore of the lake.

The City's water treatment facility has a 22.5 million gallons per day (MGD) capacity. As raw water enters the plant it goes through various treatments to make sure the water stays within water quality standards. The work done includes softening, clarification, flocculation, sedimentation, stabilizing pH, taste control, odor control, filtration and disinfection. Afterwards the water is sent to the high service pump station.

The high service pumps at the water treatment plant provide 45 MGD capacity to deliver water to customers in the Lake Bloomington vicinity and to the water storage facilities near customers in the City of Bloomington. The ground storage tanks, elevated storage tanks and underground storage reservoirs have a combined capacity of 21 million gallons. There are 5 pump stations that distribute water to their designated pressure zone. In terms of distribution, 93 miles of water main distribute water to the City of Bloomington, The Bloomington Township Public Water District, the Village of Hudson, the Village of Towanda, Bridgestone and other retail customers. As for the City of Bloomington, its water distribution system includes 445 miles of water main ranging in size from 2 to 42 inches. The water main are approximately one-third cast iron and two-thirds ductile iron. The average demand within the City is 9.5 MGD and 0.9 MGD outside of the City limits. The maximum daily demand is 18.0 MGD. The project is split into two phases, phase 8 and phase 9. Phase 8 (L176805) involves approximately 3,400 feet of water main will be replaced with 8” diameter pipe throughout the City and will be done in conjunction with phase 8 of the

combined sewer overflow (CSO) elimination project. As for phase 9 (L176806), it involves the replacement of approximately 2,100 feet of water main with 8” diameter water main throughout the City along with new connections to existing pipe along Colton Avenue.

Project Justification: The City is in the middle of a multiple phase project to construct and replace 17,650 feet of water mains and additionally relocate service connections in certain locations. This project is taking place at the same time as the Locust Street CSO sewer shed to reduce construction costs and impacts to the local residents. The existing pipes in the project area are 4” to 6” and range from 20 to 130 years old, with a length-weighted average age of over 90 years. Water main less than 8” in diameter occasionally experience less than adequate flow conditions during periods of high demand. The age of the pipes can influence surface roughness and therefore affect flow through the system due to frictional losses. The proposed improvements to the distribution mains will improve conveyance throughout the system and address existing system deficiencies.

Project Location: See attached map for project locations.

Project # / Phase	Start Construction	End Construction	Cost Estimate
L176805	March 2025	November 2025	\$4,222,000
L176806	March 2026	November 2027	\$3,094,000

Part II – Environmental Review and Impacts

Project construction impacts: Temporary adverse environmental impacts such as construction-associated noise, blowing dust, air emissions, traffic disruption, and soil erosion may occur during construction.

Consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966: The City of Bloomington submitted project information to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and multiple tribal organizations with registered interest in Mclean County, including the Osage Nation Historic Preservation Office (ONHPO), for consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA. In a letter dated January 4, 2024, SHPO returned a determination of no further concern. Review by the ONHPO is still underway. If the ONHPO determines that a cultural resources survey is necessary, that survey will be completed before project design is finalized. Any required additional mitigative measures will be incorporated into project design.

Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR): The City also submitted project information to the IDNR EcoCAT website to determine compliance with the Illinois Endangered Species Act, Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act, the Illinois Wetlands Act, and Title 17 Ill. Adm. Code Parts 1075 and 1090. The Department has concluded that adverse effects are unlikely.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE): No construction will occur at or near a body of water that will require review from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Part III – Project Affordability for Residents and Utility Customers

The City of Bloomington is proposing to finance this project with multiple loans from the IEPA Public Water Supply Loan Program (PWSLP). Loans totaling \$7,316,000 with an estimated interest rate of 1.81% for a thirty (30) year period, would have an annual repayment of approximately \$316,219. The current loan program interest rate is 1.81%. The interest rate adjusts annually on July 1st. All loans are subject to the interest rate in effect at the time a loan agreement is issued. The final loan and annual repayment amounts will be based on the as bid project costs, and the loan terms in effect on the date the loan agreement is issued.

The loan program rules include provisions for incentives such as reduced interest rates, partial principal forgiveness (a reduction in the amount of principal borrowed that would otherwise have to be repaid), and extended repayment periods for qualifying applicants. The criteria used to determine incentive qualification are found in Sections 662.210 and 662.250 of the Procedures for Issuing Loans from the PWSLP, which is available on the Agency's website. The final decision for incentive qualification will be determined at the time a loan agreement is issued using updated Census Bureau and Department of Labor data. The Agency adjusts qualifying criteria annually on July 1st.

Using current data, Bloomington is eligible to receive a 30-year loan term and no principal forgiveness. A rate increase will be necessary to repay the debt service associated with this loan.

Source of Loan Repayment: user rates

Current Average Monthly Residential Cost of Service: \$29.06 per month

Projected Average Monthly Residential Cost of Service: \$59.86 per month

Average Monthly Residential Water Use: 600 cubic feet

How is the monthly residential rate/cost of service calculated?

Bloomington measures usage in cubic feet and bills monthly. Current monthly charges are a water use charge of \$4.01 per 100 cubic feet and a \$5.00 meter service fee. An average system customer, consuming 6.00 x 100 cubic feet per month, would have a monthly bill that equates to: $\$4.01 \times 6.00 + \$5.00 = \$29.06$

The City has revised their water and sewer rates. The water rates will effectively double in the next 3 years and then increase by 3% annually, resulting in a cost of \$59.86 per month for the average user.

Median Household Income (MHI): \$69,003

Percentage of MHI needed to pay the projected average annual residential cost of service:

1.04%

Financial evaluation of the proposed project: To evaluate the costs of the proposed project for the community, a percentage comparison of the MHI to the average, annual cost for water service

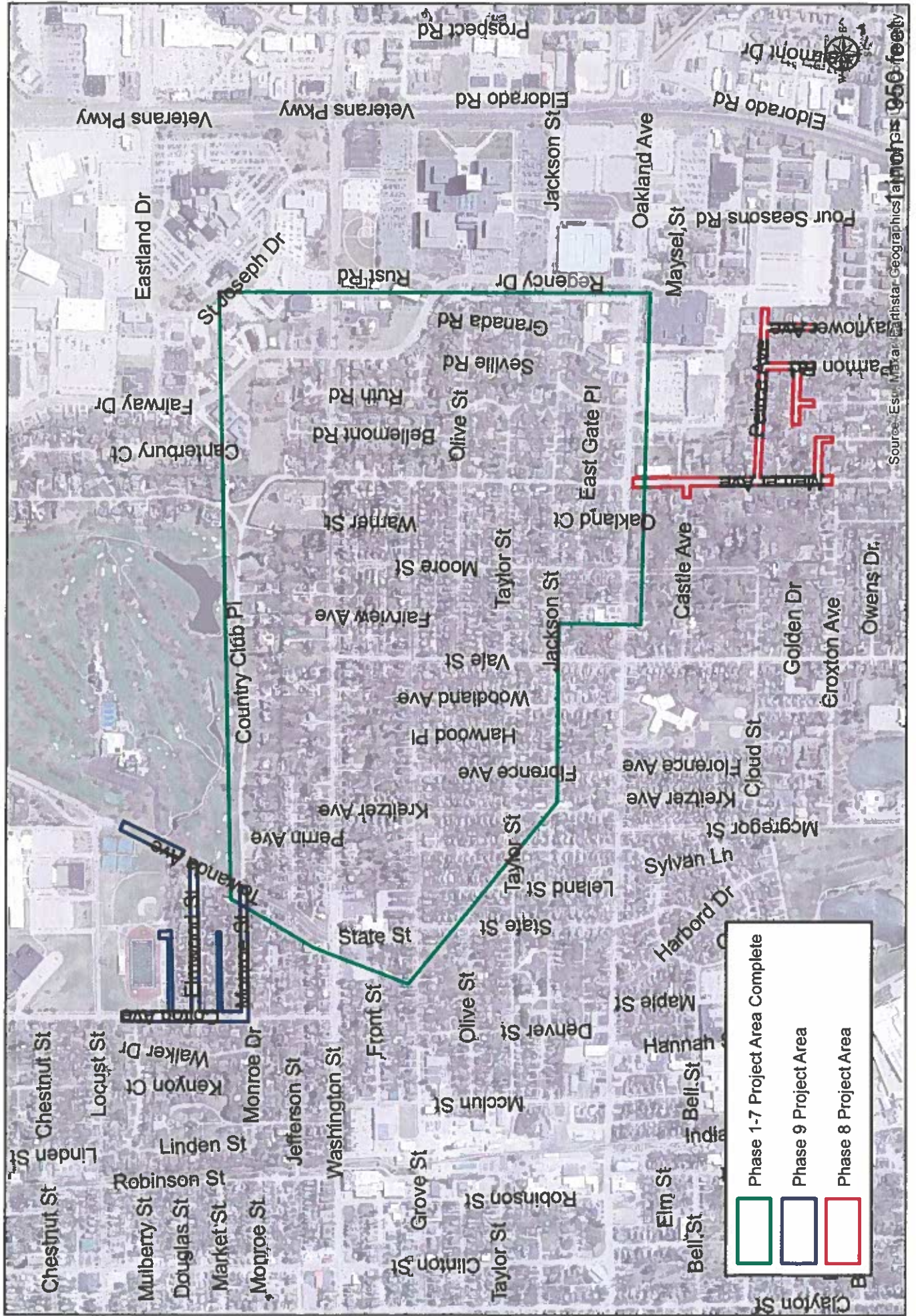
is utilized. The MHI listed above is from the current fiscal year's census information. The proposed annual water cost of \$718.32 is 1.04% of the MHI for the City. The percentage is for comparison only and has no impact on whether a project qualifies for funding from the IEPA. The percentage comparison and MHI are two of several criteria used to determine whether a loan project qualifies for interest rate reductions or principal forgiveness.

Public comments are invited on the proposed project. For further information contact:

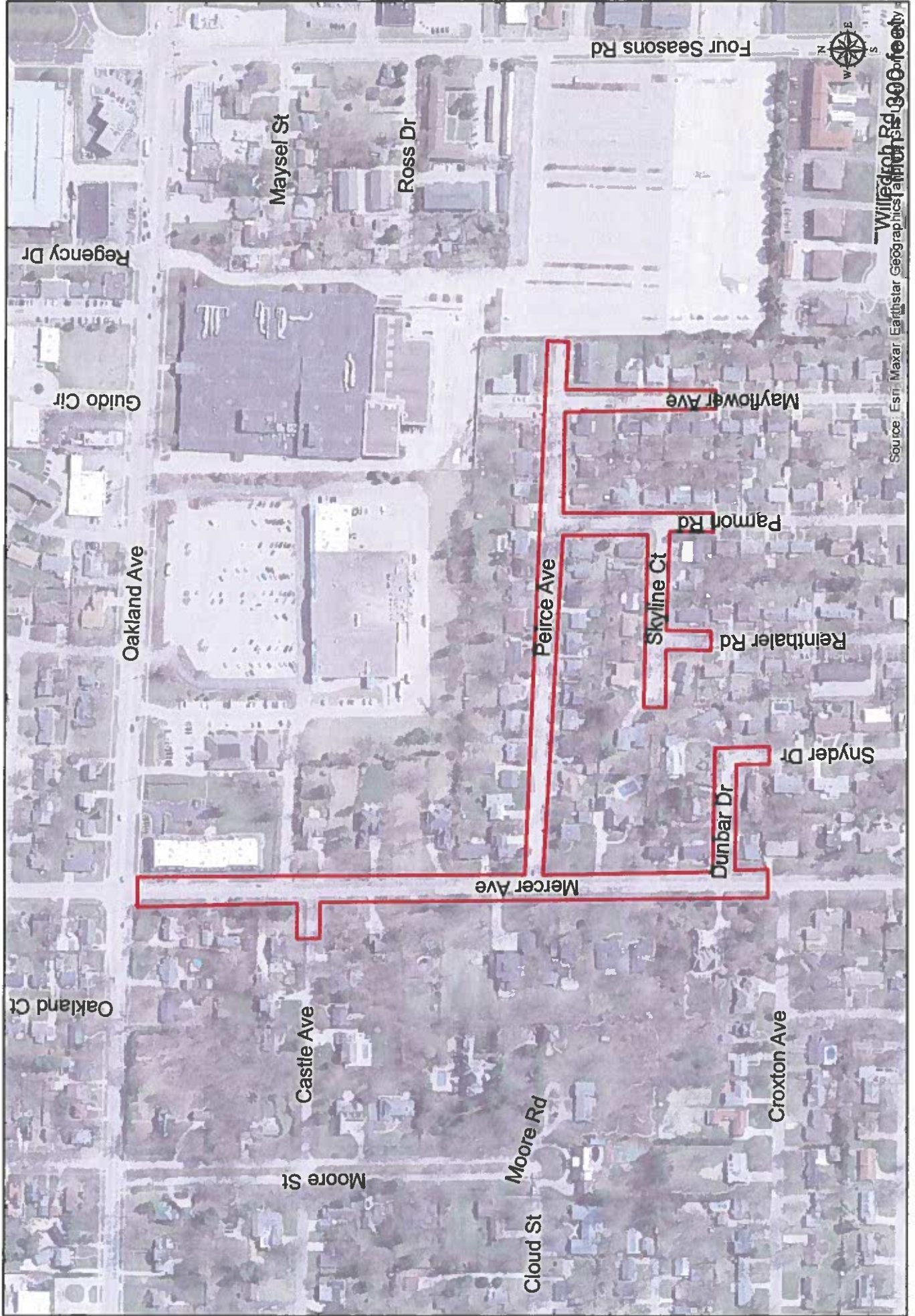
Devin McReynolds, Project Manager
Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Bureau of Water
1021 North Grand Avenue East
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276
(217)782-2027

City of Bloomington

Locust St Water Main Replacement Project



City of Bloomington Locust St CSO Elimination/ Water Main Replacement Phase 8 Project Area



Mailing List – Environmental Review

Project: Bloomington

L17: 6805, 6806

Check entities to receive Preliminary Environmental Impacts Determination/Notice of Categorical Exclusion. Agencies may be omitted if they have already provided an unconditional written sign-off on the planning.

_____ Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (SHPO)

_____ Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Office of Realty & Environmental Planning (for rare/endangered species, natural areas, and Interagency Wetlands Policy Act)

_____ Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Office of Water Resources (for lakes, rivers and stream crossings, floodway/floodplain construction)

_____ Illinois Department of Agriculture

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Check Appropriate Regional Office

_____ Rock Island District _____ St. Louis District _____ Chicago District

Designated 208 Areawide Planning Agency – Check Appropriate Agency

_____ CMAP

_____ GERPDC

_____ SWIPC

Green Infrastructure Coordinator: _____ Chris Covert

IEPA Field Office (Champaign)

Loan Applicant

Mboko Mwilambwe

City of Bloomington

115 E. Washington Street P.O. Box 3157

Bloomington, IL 61702-3157

(Continued on Back)

Local Newspaper of Record

The Pantagraph

205 North Main Street

Bloomington, IL 61701

Consulting Engineer

Chris Gutkowski

125 West Church Street

Champaign, IL 61820-3510

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Other Interested Parties

LL ~~WPA~~ City Clerk

BCE: Chron File

Planning File

Scan to Devin McReynolds

Project Manager: Devin McReynolds

Date: 2/26/24

Copies of the Preliminary Environmental Impacts Determination/Notice of Categorical Exclusion have been mailed to the above entities.

Signed: Devin McReynolds Alan August

Date: 2/26/24

3/5/24

