



# State Revolving Fund Loan Programs

## Drinking Water, Wastewater, Nonpoint Source

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### ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

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#### HAMMOND SANITARY DISTRICT

#### SCHOON DITCH PHASE 3 CONSTRUCTION, CSO ELIMINATION PROJECT

#### STATE REVOLVING FUND PROJECT # WW 12 45 11 10

**DATE: February 16, 2012**

**TARGET APPROVAL DATE: March 19, 2012**

#### I. INTRODUCTION

The above entity has applied to the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Loan Program for a loan to finance all or part of the wastewater project described in the accompanying Environmental Assessment (EA). As part of facilities planning requirements, an environmental review has been completed which addresses the project's impacts on the natural and human environment. This review is summarized in the attached EA, which can also be viewed at <http://www.in.gov/ifa/srf/>.

#### II. PRELIMINARY FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FNSI)

The CWSRF has evaluated all pertinent environmental information regarding the proposed project and determined that an Environmental Impact Statement is not necessary. Subject to responses received during the 30-day public comment period, and pursuant to Indiana Code 4-4-11, it is our preliminary finding that the construction and operation of the proposed facilities will result in no significant adverse environmental impact. In the absence of significant comments, the attached EA shall serve as the final environmental document.

#### III. COMMENTS

All interested parties may comment upon the EA/FNSI. Comments must be received at the address below by the approval date above. Significant comments may prompt a reevaluation of the preliminary FNSI; if appropriate, a new FNSI will be issued for another 30-day public comment period. A final decision to proceed, or not to proceed, with the proposed project shall be effected by finalizing, or not finalizing, the FNSI as appropriate. Comments regarding this document should be sent within 30 days to:

**Max Henschen**  
**Senior Environmental Manager**  
**State Revolving Fund -- IGCN 1275**  
**100 N. Senate Ave.**  
**Indianapolis, IN 46204**  
**317-232-8623; mhensche (at) ifa.in.gov**

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## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

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### I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address:	<b>Schoon Ditch Phase 3 Construction CSO Elimination Project</b> Hammond Sanitary District 5143 Columbia Avenue Hammond, Indiana 46327
SRF Project Number:	WW 12 45 11 10
Authorized Representative:	Dr. Michael T. Unger, District Manager

### II. PROJECT LOCATION

The Schoon Ditch Phase 3 Construction CSO Elimination Project will occur in Munster, Lake County. The project area is bounded by Schoon Ditch to the south, Ridge Road (Route 6) to the north, Greenwood Avenue to the west and Baring Avenue to the east. See Figure 1.

### III. PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

The project area is served by combined sewers. The project will install storm sewers to remove storm water from the combined sewers; the remaining sanitary flow will be treated at the wastewater treatment plant, and four combined sewer overflows (CSOs) into Schoon Ditch (CSOs 015, 016, 018 and 019) will be eliminated. The storm water will be diverted to four new storm water outfalls into Schoon Ditch. The project is part of the District's approved Long Term Control Plan (LTCP). A Long Term Control Plan is a phased approach for control of combined sewer overflows that requires the District to develop and submit an approvable plan to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management that will ultimately result in compliance with the Indiana water quality standards and Clean Water Act requirements.

### IV. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project will install approximately 12,610 feet of 12- to 36-inch storm sewers with related inlets, manholes and pavement restoration.

## V. ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS, AFFORDABILITY AND FUNDING

### A. Selected Plan Estimated Cost Summary

<u>Item</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Schoon Ditch Sewer Separation	\$ 2,583,335
Contingency	\$ 258,334
<b>Total Estimated Construction Cost</b>	<b>\$ 2,841,669</b>
<b>Non-Construction Items**</b>	<b>\$ 458,331</b>
<b>Total Estimated Project Cost</b>	<b>\$ 3,300,000</b>

\*\*includes legal, accounting, construction engineering, and construction observation fees.

- B. The District will borrow approximately \$3,300,000 through a 20-year SRF loan at an interest rate to be determined at loan closing. Monthly user rates and charges may need to be analyzed to determine if adjustments are required for loan repayment.

## VI. DESCRIPTION OF EVALUATED ALTERNATIVES

In addition to the selected alternative described above, the District evaluated the "No Action" alternative. The "No Action" alternative was rejected because it would not allow the District to meet the goals in the LTCP and eliminate four CSO Outfalls.

## VII. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES

### A. Direct Impacts of Construction and Operation

Disturbed and Undisturbed Areas: The proposed storm sewers will be installed under streets.

Structural Resources (Figure 2): Construction and operation of the project will not alter, demolish or remove historic properties. If any visual or audible impacts to historic sites occur, they will be temporary and will not alter the characteristics that qualify such properties for inclusion in or eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. The SRF's finding pursuant to the Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act is: "no historic properties affected."

Plants and Animals: The proposed project will not affect wooded areas or state or federal-listed endangered species.

Prime Farmland: The proposed project will not cause a conversion of prime farmland.

Wetlands: The project will not affect wetlands.

100-Year Floodplain (Figure 3): Only the storm sewer outfalls will be in the Schoon Ditch floodplain.

Surface Waters: The project will not adversely affect waters of high quality listed in 327 IAC 2-1-2(3), Exceptional Use streams listed in 327 IAC 2-1-11(b), or Natural, Scenic and Recreational Rivers and Streams listed in 312 IAC 7-(2), Salmonid Streams listed in 327 IAC 2-1.5-5(a)(3), or waters of Outstanding Rivers list.

Groundwater: The project will not have an impact on the groundwater in the area. No sole source aquifers will be affected.

Air Quality: Dust and noise will be temporary impacts of construction activities.

Open Space and Recreational Opportunities: The proposed project construction will neither create nor destroy open space and recreational opportunities.

The construction and operation of the proposed project will not affect National Natural Landmarks or the Lake Michigan Coastal Zone.

## **B. Indirect Impacts**

The District's Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) states: *The Town of Munster and HSD, through the authority of its council, planning commission or other means, will ensure that future development, as well as future collection system or treatment works projects connecting to SRF-funded facilities will not adversely affect archaeological/historical/structural resources, wetlands, wooded areas, or other sensitive environmental resources. The town will require new development and treatment works projects to be constructed within the guidelines of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, IDNR, IDEM, and other environmental review authorities.*

## **C. Comments from Environmental Review Authorities**

This document is the first notice to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the IDNR Environmental Unit, and the IDNR Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology.

## **VIII. MITIGATION MEASURES**

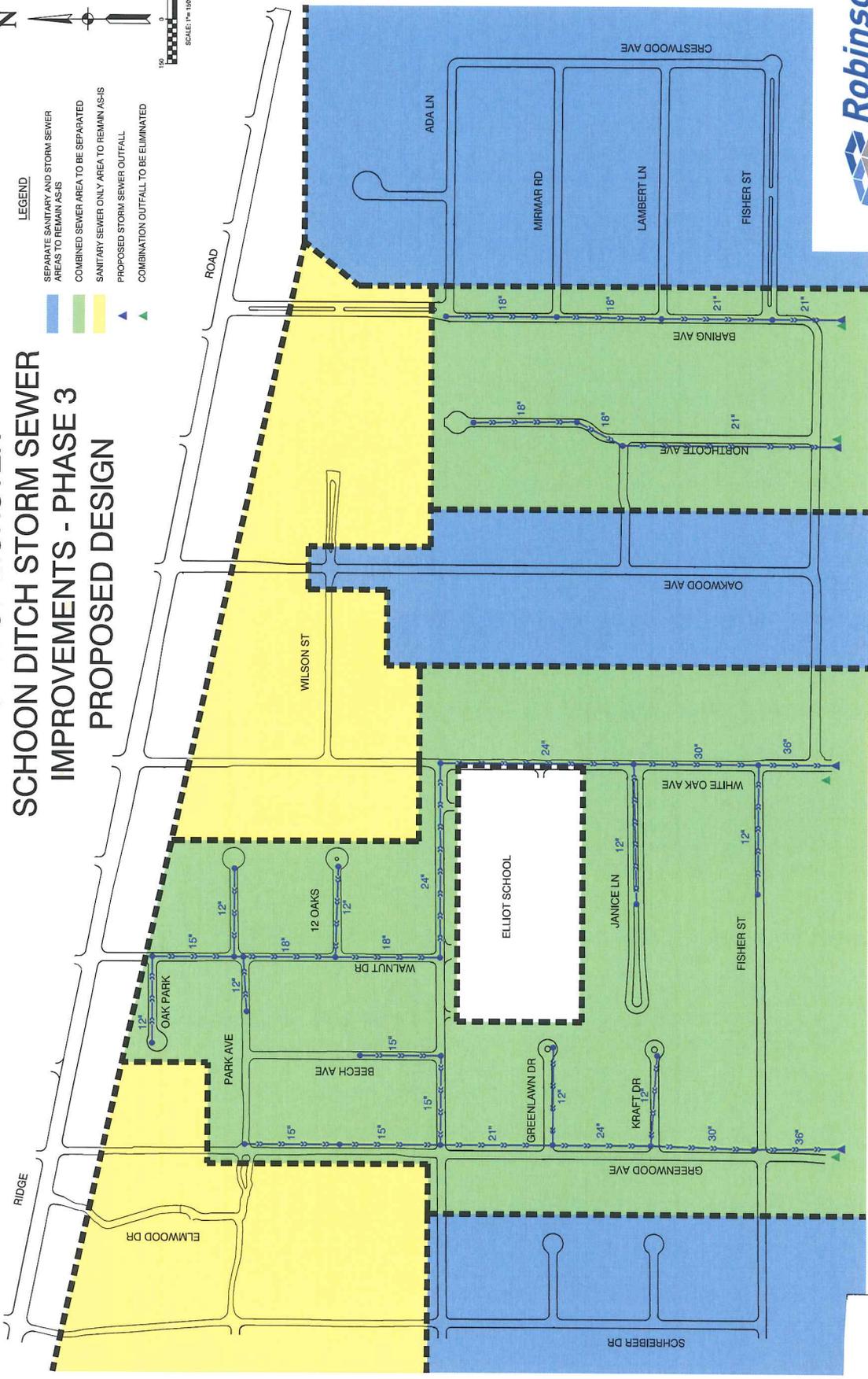
The District's PER states: *The project will be implemented to minimize impacts to non-endangered species and their habitat. Mitigation measures cited in comment letters from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be implemented.*

## **IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The District held a properly noticed public hearing on January 10, 2012 at the District Office at 5143 Columbia Avenue to discuss the Schoon Ditch CSO Elimination project. The District did not receive written comments during the 5-day public comment period following the public hearing.

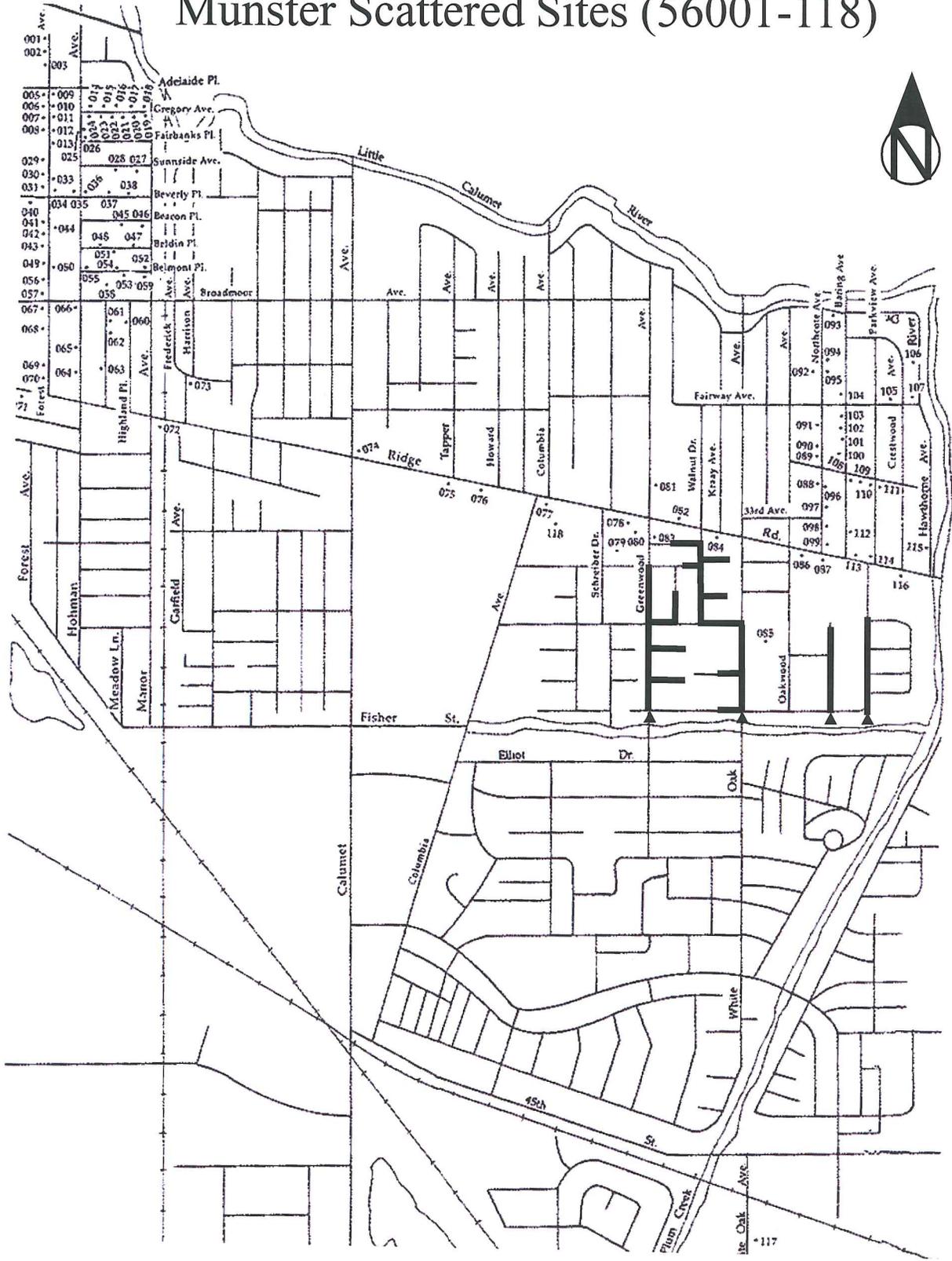
# TOWN OF MUNSTER SCHOON DITCH STORM SEWER IMPROVEMENTS - PHASE 3 PROPOSED DESIGN

- LEGEND**
- SEPARATE SANITARY AND STORM SEWER AREAS TO REMAIN AS-IS
  - COMBINED SEWER AREA TO BE SEPARATED
  - SANITARY SEWER ONLY AREA TO REMAIN AS-IS
  - PROPOSED STORM SEWER OUTFALL
  - COMBINATION OUTFALL TO BE ELIMINATED



**FIGURE 1**

# Munster Scattered Sites (56001-118)

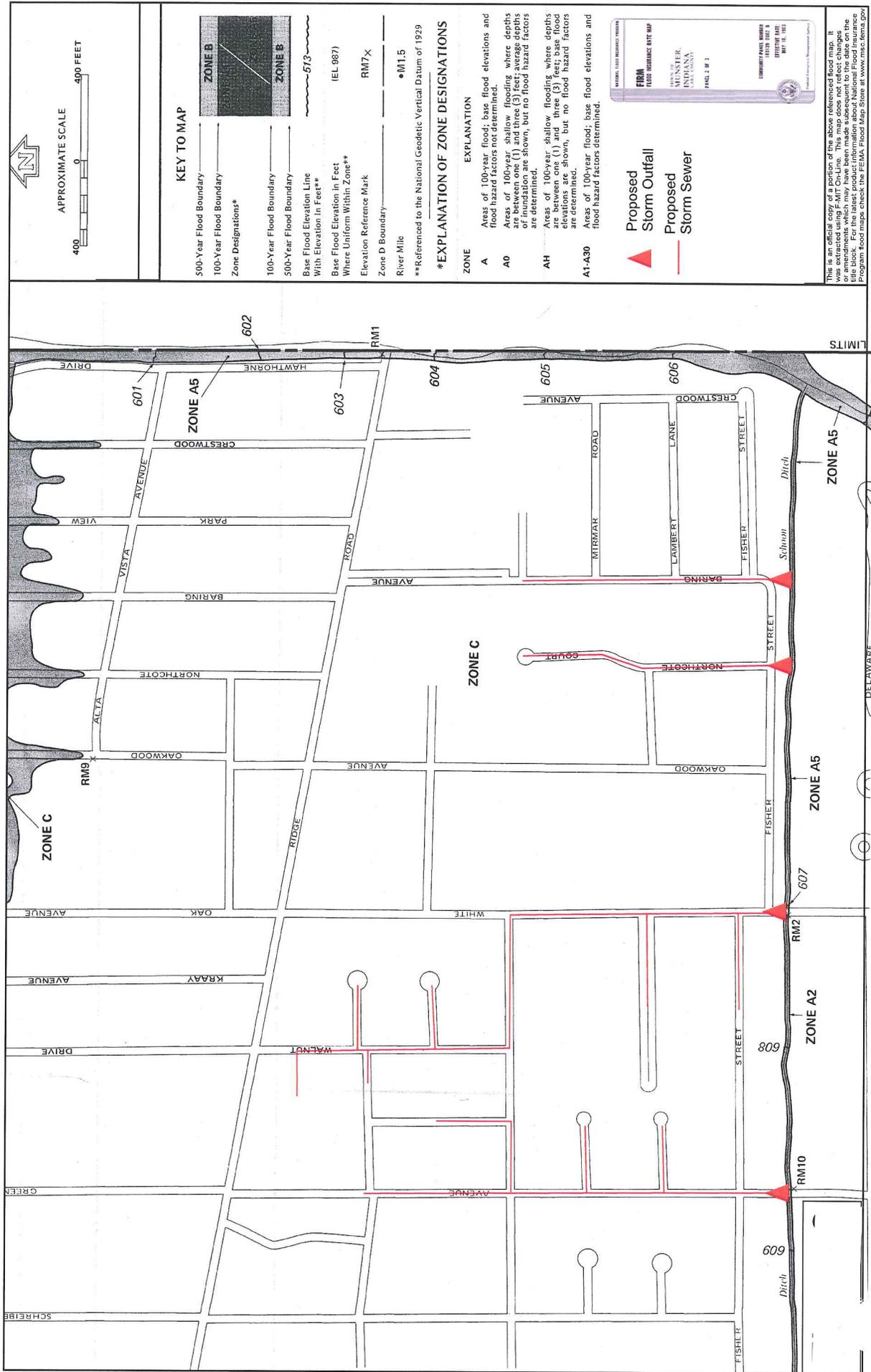


### Map Legend

- Proposed Sewer
- ▲ Proposed Storm Outfall

Sanitary District of  
Hammond, Indiana  
Schoon Ditch Phase III

**FIGURE 2: from Lake County Interim Report  
Historic Sites and Structures Inventory**



This is an official copy of a portion of the above referenced flood map. It was extracted using F-MIT On-Line. This map does not reflect changes to the flood map since the date of the last update. For the latest information about National Flood Insurance Program flood maps, check the FEMA Flood Map Store at [www.msc.fema.gov](http://www.msc.fema.gov)

