



State Revolving Fund Loan Programs Drinking Water, Clean Water, Nonpoint Source

PRELIMINARY DECISION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS, ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

CITY OF ELKHART
OAKLAND A - PLANNING AND DESIGN FOR PROJECTS C, D, AND E – ADDENDUM 3
SRF Project WW 22 16 20 05

Date: April 20, 2026

Pursuant to IC 5-1.2-3, the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program has determined that the project described here and in the addendum to the City of Elkhart Preliminary Engineering Report will have no substantial negative environmental impact. Therefore, the SRF is issuing a preliminary decision of Categorical Exclusion (CE) from the requirements of substantive environmental review.

How were environmental issues considered?

The National Environmental Policy Act requires agencies disbursing Federal funds to include environmental factors in the decision-making process. A summary of the project is attached for your review. The SRF's preliminary review has found that the proposed project does not require the preparation of either an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement.

Why is additional environmental review not required?

Our environmental review has concluded that significant environmental impacts will not result from the proposed action. In the absence of significant comments, the attached CE shall serve as the final environmental document.

How do I submit comments?

Comments can be submitted to:

State Revolving Fund
100 N. Senate Ave., IGCN 1275
Indianapolis, IN 46204
publiccomments@ifa.in.gov

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address: Oakland A - Planning and Design for Projects C, D, and E – Addendum 3
City of Elkhart
1201 S. Nappanee St.
Elkhart, In 46516

SRF Project Number: **WW 22 16 20 05**

Authorized Representative: Timothy Reecer, Assistant Director of Public Works

II. PROJECT LOCATION

This element of the project is for planning and design. As such, no locations will be affected. See **Figure 1.10**.

III. PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED

Three projects will be designed for the City of Elkhart’s sewer system, storage tank, and Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). These projects will support long-term environmental sustainability goals and demonstrate the City’s commitment to proactive infrastructure investment and responsible watershed management.

Project C: CSO 15 – Willowdale Area Sewer Separation (Design):

Storm sewer inlets located in the Willowdale neighborhood will be separated from the sanitary network. The project includes the design of approximately 15,000 linear feet of storm sewer with new inlets, manholes, and a retention bioswale. Approximately 13,000 linear feet of cast iron water main will be replaced due to anticipated construction damage from installation of the new storm sewer. Roadway and sidewalk will also be replaced.

Project D: CSO 15 – Riverside Drive Storage Tank (Design):

The project includes the design of a linear storage tank, intercept structure, and approximately 90 feet of 16-inch pipe to connect the storage tank to the existing river crossing. The proposed linear storage tank will significantly reduce the frequency and volume of overflows at CSO 15 by providing critical wet-weather storage capacity during peak storm events. By capturing and temporarily storing combined sewer flows that would otherwise discharge directly to the river, this project will improve local water quality and protect aquatic habitat.

Project E: WWTP Capital Project – Digesters and Dewatering Building (Design):

This project includes a preliminary design for replacement of lids to all three digester buildings and improvements to dewatering building. An assessment will be conducted to determine if the proper replacements should be membranes or metal. In addition, an assessment of the existing dewatering building will be carried out to determine what improvements are needed. Pumps and other mechanical equipment will be thoroughly

evaluated, and determinations will be made on replacements or other methods to create more efficient operations.

IV. ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS, AFFORDABILITY, AND FUNDING

The total cost of this project is estimated to be approximately \$1,930,100. The City of Elkhart intends to finance the project with funds from an existing loan from the Drinking/Clean Water SRF Loan Program.

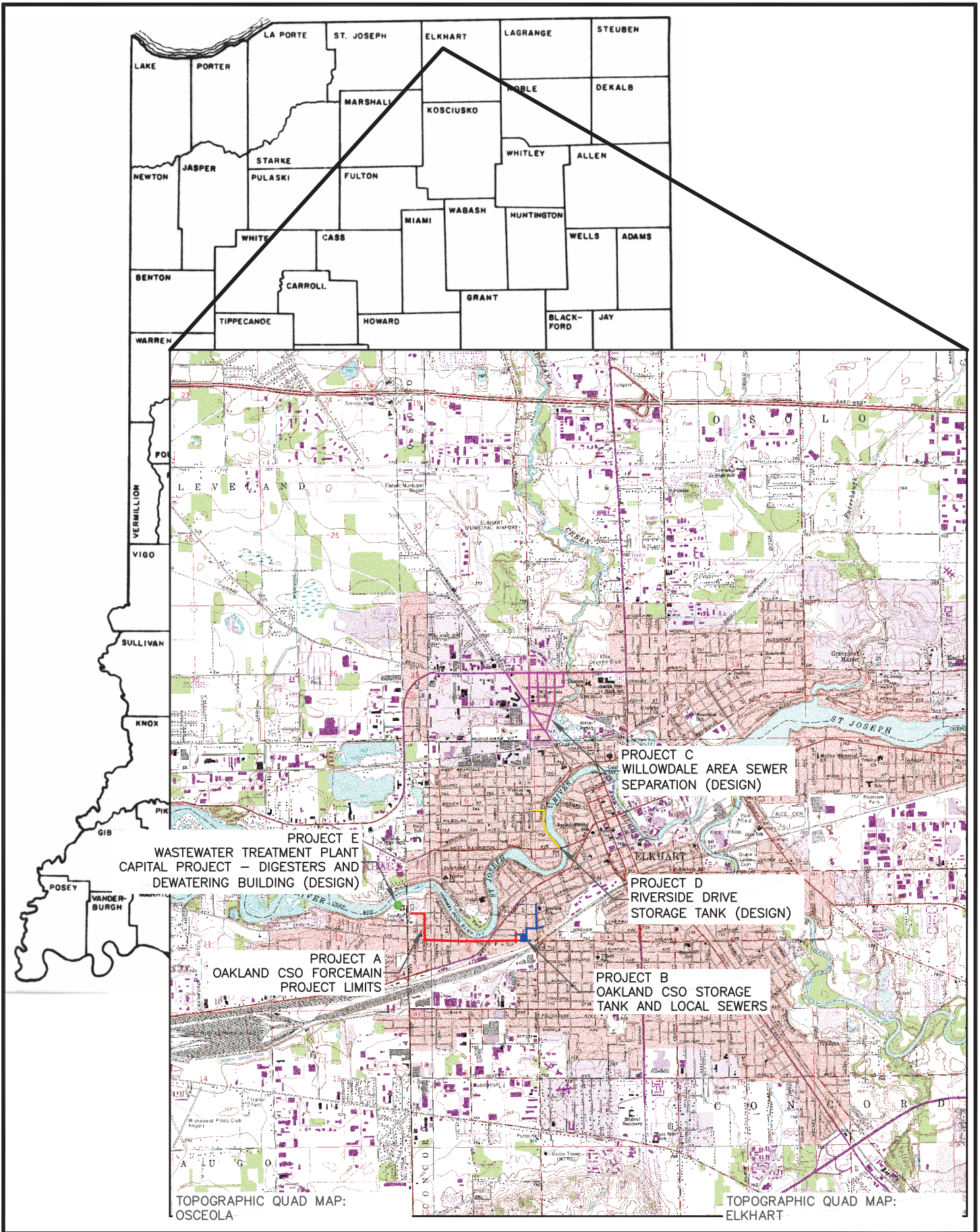
V. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES

The proposed project will not affect streams, floodplains, wetlands, wooded areas, or other sensitive environmental resources and will not convert prime farmland.

The scope of work for this project is the planning and design of the Willowdale Area Sewer Separation, Riverside Drive Storage Tank, and a Digesters and Dewatering Building. Consistent with 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1) in the implementing regulations of the National Historic Preservation Act, the SRF has determined that the proposed undertaking is not a type of activity that has the potential to cause effects to historic properties.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A public notice was published on April 4, 2026, in the Elkhart Truth. No written comments were received following the notice for this project.



CITY OF ELKHART, INDIANA
 AMENDMENT NO. 3 MARCH 18, 2026

FORCE MAIN PROJECT
 STATE LOCATION MAP

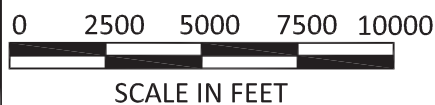


FIGURE 1.10