



**State
Revolving
Fund**

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 FORT WAYNE
LEAD SERVICE LINE AND WATER MAIN REPLACEMENTS
SRF Project DW 25 10 02 00**

Date: January 9, 2026

Pursuant to IC 5-1.2-3, the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program has determined that the project described here and in the City of Fort Wayne's 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:

Jenni Curry
Environmental Section Manager
State Revolving Fund
100 N. Senate Ave., IGCN 1275
Indianapolis, IN 46204
463-261-6943
jecurry@ifa.in.gov

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address: Lead Service Line and Water Main Replacements
City of Fort Wayne
200 East Berry Street, Suite 250
Ft. Wayne, IN 46802

SRF Project Number: **DW 25 10 02 00**

Authorized Representative: Matthew Wirtz, Deputy Director of Utilities

II. PROJECT LOCATION

The proposed project is located in Allen County, Wayne and Washington Townships, Fort Wayne West 24k USGS Quadrangle, Township 30N, Range 12E, Sections 3,10-11; and Township 31N, Range 12E, Section 35. See **Figures 5-1, 5-1a through 5-1c**.

III. PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

This project will address the replacement of lead service lines in underserved areas of the City. The proposed project is broken into two phases. Phase I will replace approximately 810 lead service lines in the identified census tracts 11 and 20. Also included in the replacement is approximately 68,700 linear feet of 6" diameter through 16" diameter HDPE water main, along with project related appurtenances. Phase II will replace approximately 585 lead service lines in the identified census tracts 10 and 5. Existing water main will be replaced with approximately 40,300 linear feet of 6" diameter through 16" diameter HDPE water main will , along with project related appurtenances. Both phases will use directional drilling for installation.

IV. ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS, AFFORDABILITY, AND FUNDING

The total cost of this project is estimated to be approximately \$32,260,280. The City intends to finance the project with a loan from the Drinking Water SRF Loan Program for a term and annual fixed 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.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES

The environmental impacts will be minimal. All project activities will take place in areas previously disturbed by existing service lines. The proposed project will not affect streams, floodplains, wetlands, wooded areas, or other sensitive environmental resources and will not convert prime farmland.

Construction and operation of the project will not alter, demolish or remove historic properties. If any visual or audible impacts to historic properties 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 Section 106 of the National Preservation Act is: "no historic properties affected."

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A properly noticed public hearing was held on April 29, 2025, following the noon Board of Public Works and Stormwater meeting at the City of Fort Wayne Council Chambers, 200 East Berry Street, Room 035, Fort Wayne, IN 46802. There were no questions about this project during the hearing. No written comments were received in the 5-day period following the hearing for this project.



LSLR - Census Tract 11

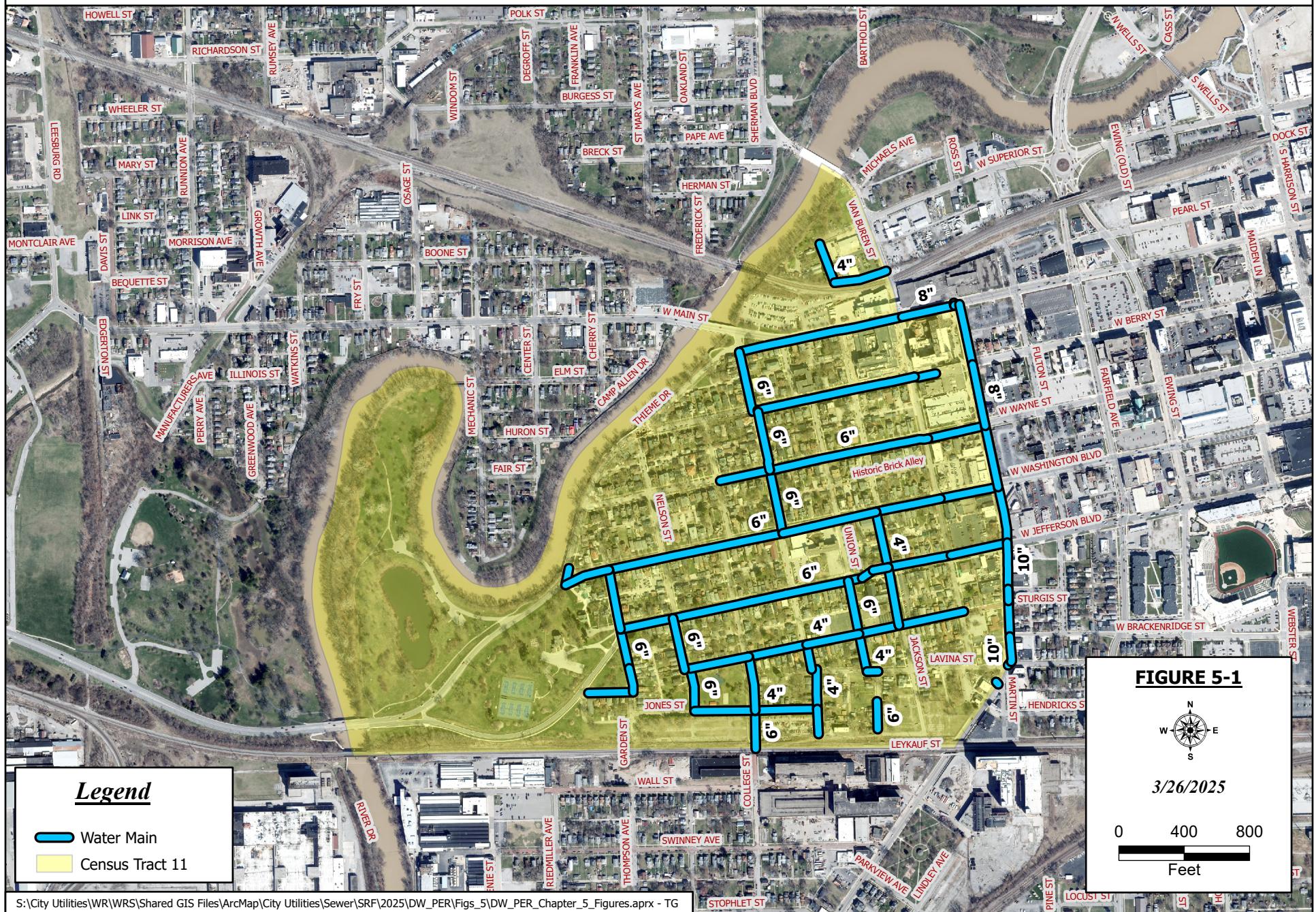
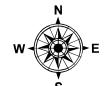


FIGURE 5-1

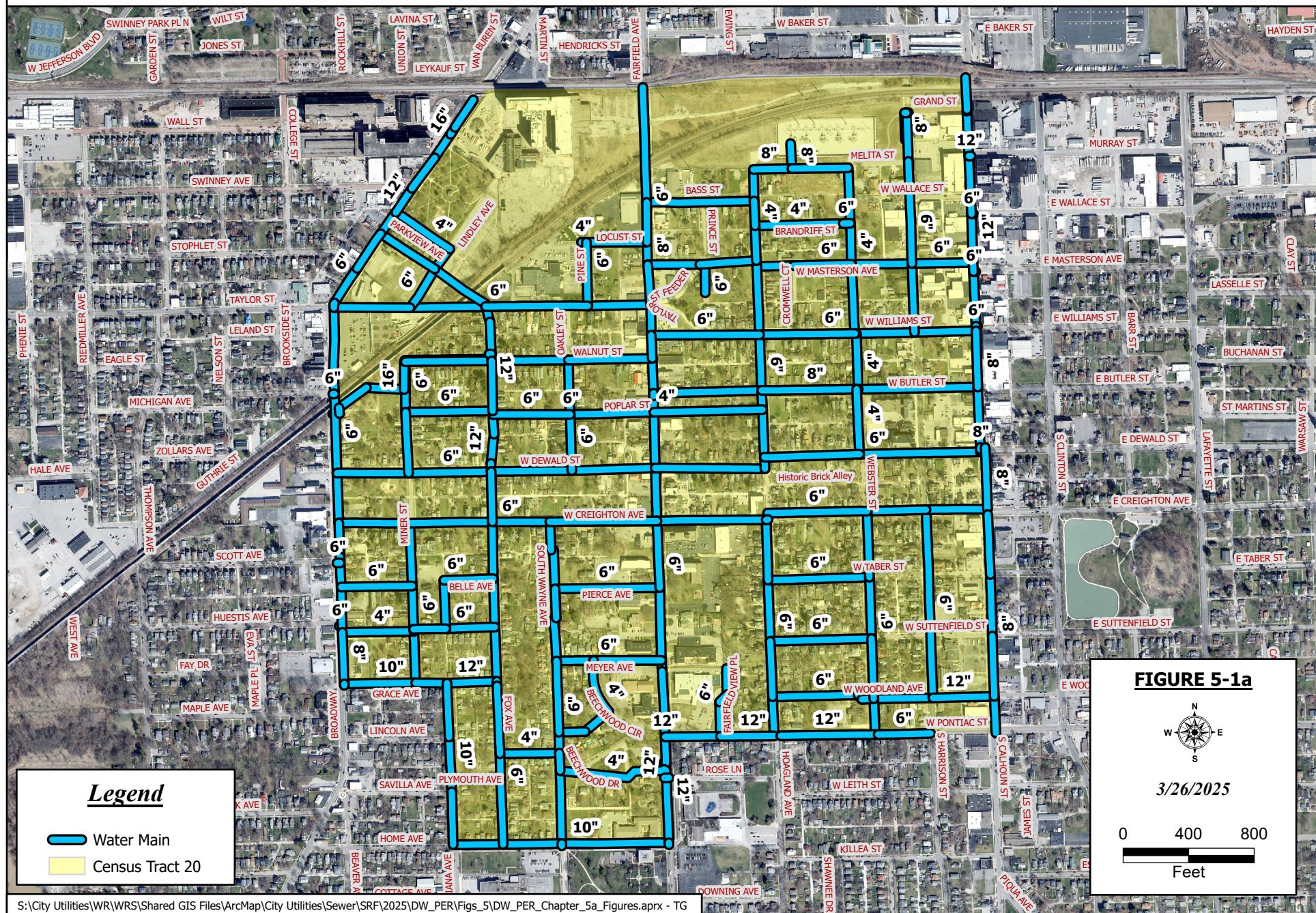


3/26/2025

A horizontal scale bar with tick marks at 0, 400, and 800. The segment between 0 and 400 is filled black, while the segment between 400 and 800 is white. Below the bar, the word "Feet" is centered.



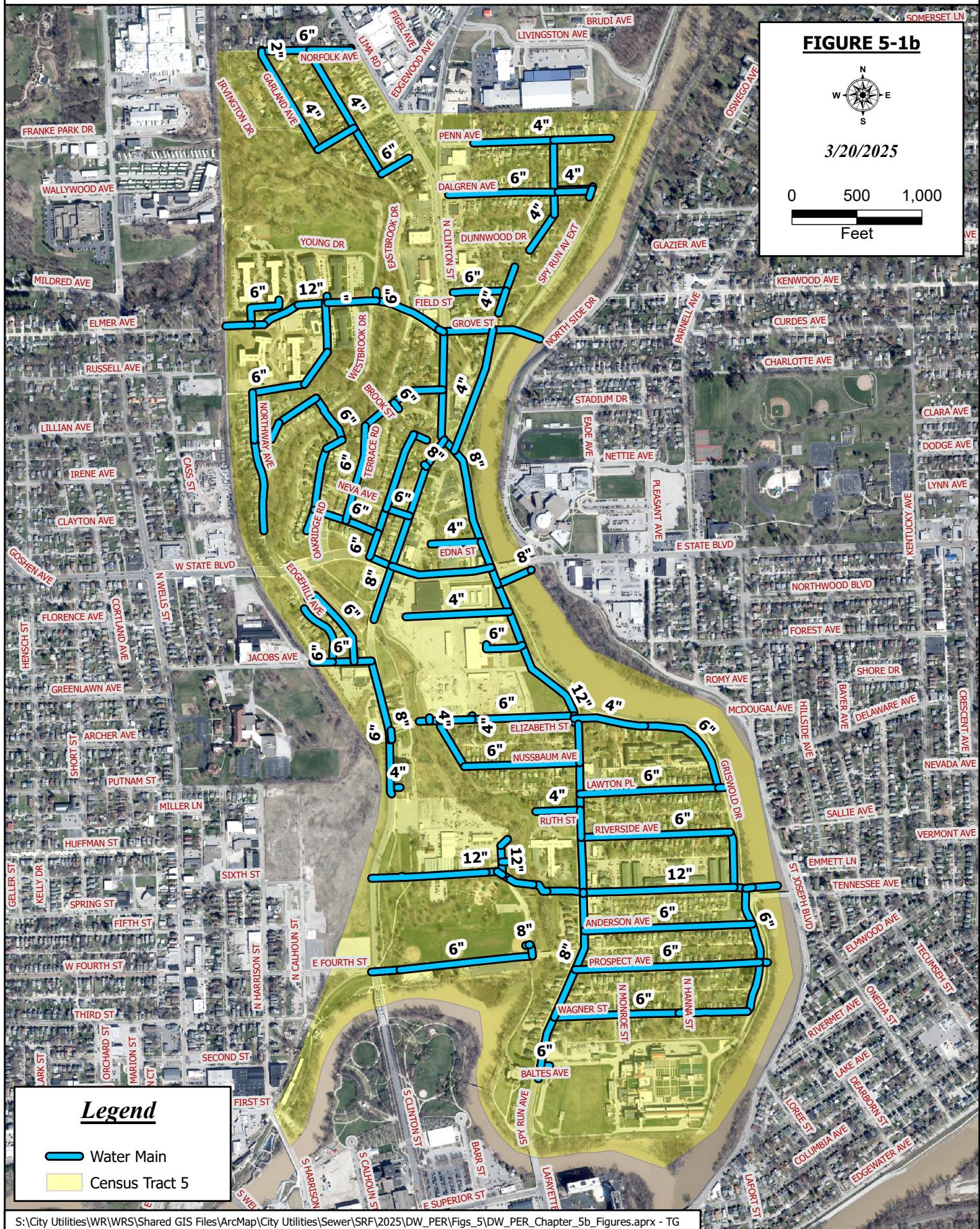
LSLR - Census Tract 20



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LSLR - Census Tract 5





LSLR - Census Tract 10

