



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

Posted: 071320

Reposted: 072820

Project Summary and Notice of Categorical Exclusion from Detailed Environmental Review

Date:

Loan Applicant: City of Belleville

IEPA Loan Project Numbers: L175445, L175833 and L175834 (East Creek I & I improvements)

To all interested persons:

Section 365.330 of the Illinois Procedures for Issuing Loans from the Water Pollution Control Loan Program requires that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) publish a Notice of Categorical Exclusion for proposed water supply projects which by their nature are of such limited scope as to have little or no potential for having negative environmental impacts related to their construction. Prior to granting its approval of the plan, the Agency requires that the public be granted an opportunity to comment as to whether in fact the project should be precluded from the formal environmental review process and public hearing.

The IEPA has reviewed the above cited project plan and concurs with the applicant's finding that the proposed project is technically appropriate and cost effective. Unless new information provided through the public comment process causes a reconsideration, the Agency will approve this planning at the close of the public comment period.

The applicant is required to public notice that the Agency has issued the attached Notice of Intent to Issue a Categorical Exclusion, make this document available for public inspection, and allow 10 days for public comment. During this comment period, written comments may be provided to the applicant or directly 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,

Heidi Allen
Pre-Construction Unit Manager
Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section
Bureau of Water

HA:CLN:Belleville L175445 CE cover letter

Attachment

4302 N. Main Street, Rockford, IL 61103 (815) 987-7760
595 S. State Street, Elgin, IL 60123 (847) 608-3131
2125 S. First Street, Champaign, IL 61820 (217) 278-5800
2009 Mall Street Collinsville, IL 62234 (618) 346-5120

9511 Harrison Street, Des Plaines, IL 60016 (847) 294-4000
412 SW Washington Street, Suite D, Peoria, IL 61602 (309) 671-3022
2309 W. Main Street, Suite 116, Marion, IL 62959 (618) 993-7200
100 W. Randolph Street, Suite 4-500, Chicago, IL 60601

Notice of Intent to Issue a Categorical Exclusion

In accordance with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) Loan Rules, Title 35, Subtitle F, Chapter II, Part 365.330 (State Environmental Review), the IEPA has determined that the proposed project, described below, may be excluded from a detailed environmental impacts review. The Agency may categorically exclude certain types of projects from environmental review if no potential for negative environmental impacts exists. Environmental sign-offs have been received from all applicable agencies, therefore this project is categorically excluded from a detailed environmental review.

This report is based on information submitted to the IEPA by the City of Belleville. Sources of information include the following documents: East Creek I & I Improvements planning information with September 21, 2016 cover letter by Gonzales Companies, LLC; the October 2018 Letter Report by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for the Belleville, Illinois East Creek Sewer Separation Project, with December 18, 2018 USACE cover letter; the April 2019 East Creek I & I Improvements Facilities Plan Supplemental Information, with April 17, 2019 cover letter by Gonzalez Companies, LLC, that was submitted in response the July 6, 2017 IEPA planning review letter; the December 23, 2019 email and attachments from Gonzalez Companies, LLC in response to the July 11, 2019 email request for additional information; the January 17, 2020 email and Environmental Checklist with attachments from Gonzalez Companies, LLC; and the February 17, 2020 email and attachment from Gonzalez Companies, LLC.

Part I – Project Information

Loan Applicant: City of Belleville

County: St. Clair

Project Name: East Creek I & I improvements

Project Number: L175445 sewer separation and stormwater storage basins (Project 1)
L175833 LaSalle Street sewer replacement (Project 2)
L175834 sewer lining and manhole and point repairs (Project 3)

Current Population: 46,943

Future Population (20 year): 53,703

Project Description: The planning report includes three projects that will occur over a five-year period. Project 1 (loan number L175445) consists of combined sewer collection system separation and stormwater detention improvements to parts of the City of Belleville. The project will occur over a period of three years and will be bid and managed by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) as a single project with three construction contracts. The proposed work for each construction contract includes: construction of an approximately 134,400 cubic feet capacity B-Street stormwater storage basin and approximately 1,120 feet of 72-inch diameter and 364 feet of 48-inch diameter storm sewer relief pipe that will flow to the B-Street basin for contract 1; construction of an approximately 388,700 cubic feet capacity Orbon Place stormwater storage basin; approximately 3,700 feet of 12 to 48 inch diameter new stormwater collection pipe that will discharge to the Orbon Place basin; and conversion of the existing combined sewer to sanitary sewer for contract 2; and construction of approximately 3,400 feet of 12 to 48 inch

diameter new stormwater collection pipe that will also discharge to the Orbon Place basin; and conversion of the existing combined sewer to sanitary sewer for contract 3. The work will include; new sanitary sewer where necessary; new manholes; repairs to existing manholes; junction boxes; concrete channel; tree removal; fencing; and construction site restoration.

Project number 2 (loan number L175833) consists of the replacement of part of the LaSalle Street sewer, which includes: removal and replacement of existing sewer pipe and manholes with approximately 540 feet of 12-inch diameter PVC sewer pipe; three new manholes; sewer laterals; and construction site restoration.

Project number 3 (loan number L175834) consists of sewer lining manhole and point repairs, which includes: Cured-In-Place-Pipe (CIPP) sewer lining of approximately 11,000 feet of 6 to 24-inch diameter existing sewer pipe; sewer cleaning and video recording; point repairs; service and lateral re-connections; lining and repairs to approximately 71 manholes; and construction site restoration.

Project Location: The project 1 locations include the following: The proposed B-Street detention stormwater basin will be located on City owned property immediately upstream of the existing B-Street Pump Station that is near 501 Hecker Street. The proposed Orbon Place stormwater detention basin will be located approximated 500 feet north of the B-Street basin. New storm sewer will be constructed along several routes mainly to the north and north west of the two proposed basins. Project 2 will take place along LaSalle Street between Dewey Street and Sherman Street (IL Route 161). Project 3 will take place at various locations within the City of Belleville shown by the shaded area of the Project 3 map. See the attached maps for project locations.

Project Justification: Parts of the project area are served by combined sanitary and storm sewers. The sanitary sewer system often surcharges and overflows during rain events, which can also cause sewer back-ups. Parts of the project area have inadequate surface water drainage, high inflow and infiltration (I&I), deterioration and/or structural deficiencies in sewer pipes and manholes, and flat or adverse slopes in certain sections of sanitary sewer. The East Creek I&I improvements project are a series of projects that will reduce the amount of stormwater entering into the City of Belleville's wastewater collection system and treatment plant. The proposed improvements are part of the City's Long-Term Control Plan and are necessary to comply with the Section H, Item 14 of Special Condition 15 of the City of Belleville National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. IL0021873. The projects will remove I&I within the collection system, which will reduce the potential for overflows within the downstream collection system. The sewer separation design will remove approximately 59 acres of drainage area from the City's combined sewer system.

Estimated Construction Start Date: March 2021

Estimated Construction Completion Date: December 2025

Project Cost Estimate: \$12,380,510 (total for projects 1, 2 and 3)

Part II – Project Affordability for Residents and Utility Customers

The estimated costs for each project are:

Project 1 (L175445) sewer separation and stormwater storage basins:

Construction	\$8,015,373
Contingency (10%)	\$801,537
Design Engineering	\$705,373
<u>Construction Engineering</u>	<u>\$352,676</u>
Total Project 1	\$9,874,959

Project 2 (L175833) LaSalle Street sewer replacement:

Construction	\$196,667
Contingency (10%)	\$19,667
Design Engineering	\$17,307
<u>Construction Engineering</u>	<u>\$8,653</u>
Total Project 2	\$242,294

Project 3 (L175834) sewer lining and manhole and point repairs:

Construction	\$1,837,057
Contingency (10%)	\$183,706
Design Engineering	\$161,661
<u>Construction Engineering</u>	<u>\$80,831</u>
Total Project 3	\$2,263,257

The City of Belleville intends to finance part of the proposed project with a loan from the IEPA Water Pollution Control Loan Program (WPCLP). A \$12,380,510 loan, at an interest rate of 2.0% for a twenty-year period, would have an annual repayment of approximately \$751,571. If the annual loan repayment amount is divided between the City's approximately 17,451 sewer service customers, each customer would pay \$43.07 per year, which equals \$3.59 per month. The City also indicates that they expect approval for a \$2,500,000 grant from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and possibly additional grant funding in the following years for a total of \$7,500,000. Any grant funding that is obtained for the project will reduce the loan repayment amount.

The FY2020 loan program interest rate is 2.00%. 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 loan program rules include provisions for incentives such as reduced interest rates, partial principal forgiveness, and extended repayment periods for qualifying applicants. The criteria used to determine incentive qualifications are found in Section 365.210 and 365.250 of the Procedures for Issuing Loans from the WPCLP, which is available on the Agency's website. The final decision for incentive qualifications will be determined at the time a loan agreement is issued using updated Census Bureau and Department of Labor data. Using current data, the City of Belleville is eligible to receive a 20-year loan term and an environmental discount interest rate reduction of 0.2%. The Agency adjusts qualifying criteria annually on July 1st and the community specific information is also subject to change.

A \$12,380,510 loan with an interest rate of 1.80% for a twenty-year period, would have an annual repayment of approximately \$737,580. If the annual loan repayment amount is divided between the City's 17,451 sewer service customers, each customer would pay \$42.27 per year, which equals \$3.52 per month.

If the City is able to obtain a \$2,500,000 USACE grant, and that amount is subtracted from the estimated project cost of \$12,380,510, it would leave \$9,880,510 to be funded with an IEPA loan. A \$9,880,510 loan with an interest rate of 1.80% for a twenty-year period, would have an annual repayment of approximately \$588,641. If the annual loan repayment amount is divided between the City's 17,451 sewer service customers, each customer would pay \$33.73 per year, which equals \$2.81 per month.

Source of Loan Repayment: The City of Belleville proposes to repay the loan with the existing sewer user charge revenue. On December 2, 2013, the City of Belleville passed Ordinance No. 7732, which increases their sewer charges and rates by 8% each year until the year 2026, and then by 1% each year until the year 2046. These sewer charge and rate increases are intended to pay for necessary sewer collection and treatment system improvements and a portion of the sewer service revenue will be used to pay for this project.

Current Average Monthly Residential Cost of Service: An average residential customer of the Belleville wastewater system reportedly uses approximately eight (8) 100 cubic feet units of water per month, which equals 5,984 gallons, and currently pays \$56.66 per month for sewer service.

How is the monthly residential rate/cost of service calculated? Belleville's current 2020/21 residential sewer user charge system is based on a monthly minimum charge of \$10.21, plus a volume charge per 100 cubic feet (748 gallons) unit of water metered. The rate for 1-3 units is \$5.10 per unit. The rate for 4-16 units is \$6.23. For an average residential user who uses 8 units (5,984 gallons), this calculates to: $\$10.21 + (3 \times \$5.10) + (5 \times \$6.23) = \$56.66/\text{month}$. Commercial customers or outside the City limits customers pay different sewer rates.

Projected Average Monthly Residential Cost of Service: In five years when construction is complete, if the ordinance increases are added to the current average sewer user charge, an 8-unit per month sewer customer would pay \$83.25 per month for sewer service.

Number of Customers or Service Connections: The Belleville wastewater treatment system serves a total population of approximately 46,943. There are approximately 17,451 total sewer service customers, which includes 16,465 residential and 986 commercial accounts. There are 450 customers that pay the outside the City limits rate.

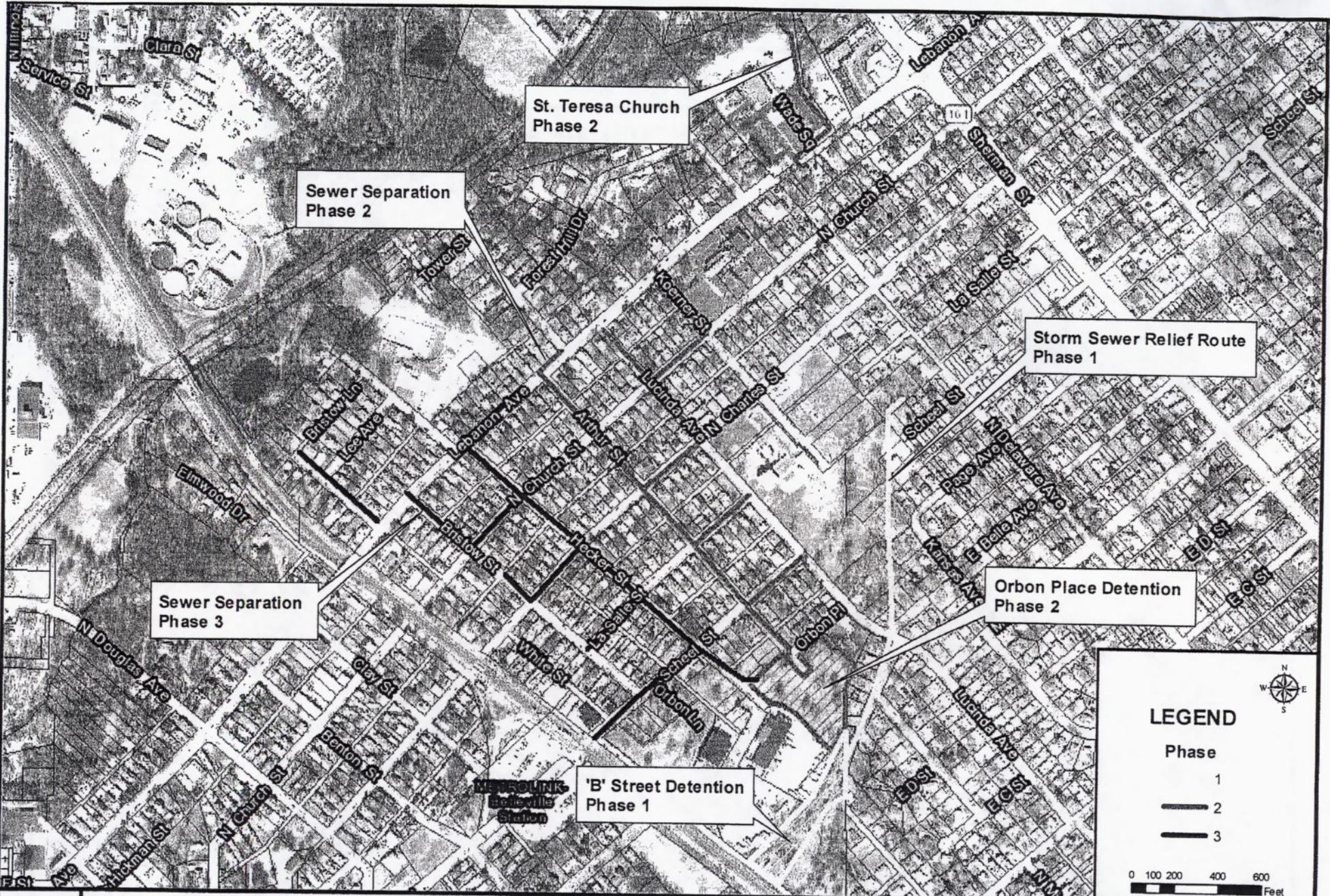
Median Household Income (MHI): The MHI for Belleville is \$45,945. The MHI for St. Clair County is \$53,681.

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 sewer service is utilized. The MHI listed above is from the current fiscal year's census information. The current annual sewer service cost of \$679.92, is 1.48 % of the Belleville MHI. When construction is complete, the cost of sewer service will be 2.17% of the average user's median

household income. 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:

Lanina Clark, Project Manager
Bureau of Water, IFAS
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
1021 North Grand Avenue East
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276
(217) 782-2027



PROJECT NO
16-235-06

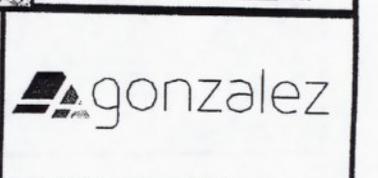
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EAST CREEK I&I IMPROVEMENTS - PHASES 1, 2 & 3

**COMBINED SEWER SEPARATION
CHARLES STREET SEWER REPLACEMENT
"B" ST. STORM SEWER**

GONZALEZ COMPANIES, LLC

525 W. Main Street
Suite 125
Belleville, IL 62220
(618) 222-2221
www.gonzalezcos.com

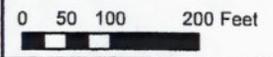




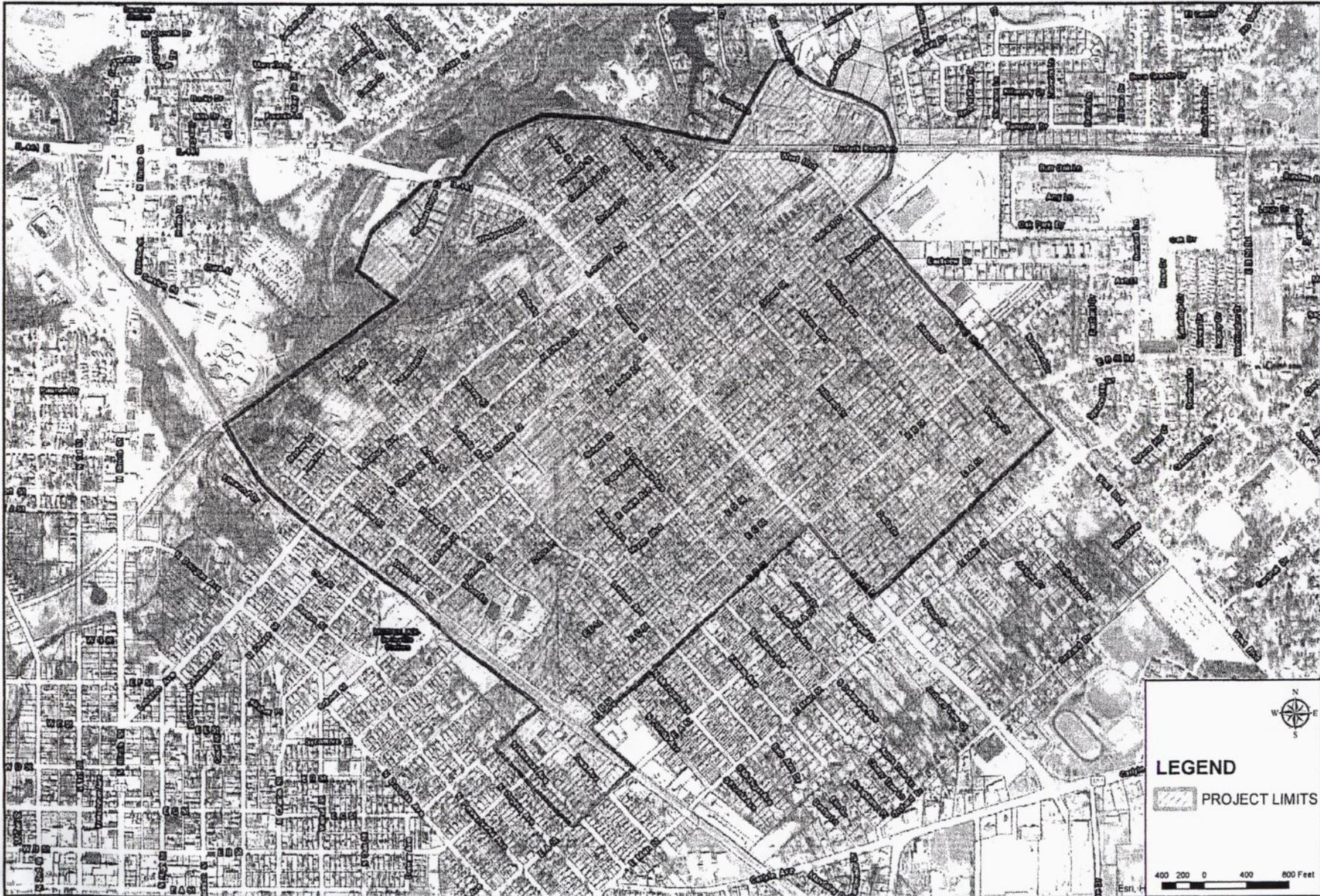
LaSalle Street
Sewer Replacement



LEGEND
LaSalle Sewer Replacement



PROJECT NO. 14-218	B	EAST CREEK I&I IMPROVEMENTS - PHASE 2	GONZALEZ COMPANIES, LLC	
DATE 06/24/14		LASALLE STREET SEWER MAIN REPLACEMENT	525 W. Main Street Suite 125 Belleville, IL 62220 (618) 222-2221 www.gonzalezcos.com	



GONZALEZ COMPANIES, LLC

535 W. Main Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70820
(504) 232-2221
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EAST CREEK I&I IMPROVEMENTS - PHASE 3

CIPP SANITARY SEWER LINING
SEWER POINT REPAIRS
AND MANHOLE REHABILITATION

C

LEGEND

 PROJECT LIMITS

400 200 0 400 800 Feet

PROJECT NO. 14-218 DATE 06/24/14