



Public Notice

**U S Army Corps
of Engineers**
Huntington District

In reply refer to Public Notice No.
200300745

Issuance Date:
June 15, 2005

Stream:

Closing Date:

Unnamed Tributary of the Tuscarawas River **July 15, 2005**

Please address all comments and inquiries to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District

ATTN: CELRH-OR-F Public Notice No. (reference above)

502 Eighth Street

Huntington, West Virginia 25701-2070

Phone: (304) 399-5210

PUBLIC NOTICE: The purpose of this public notice is to inform you of a proposal for work in which you might be interested. It is also to solicit your comments and information to better enable us to make a reasonable decision on factors affecting the public interest. We hope you will participate in this process.

REGULATORY PROGRAM: Since its early history, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has played an important role in the development of the nation's water resources. Originally, this involved construction of harbor fortifications and coastal defenses. Later duties included the improvement of waterways to provide avenues of commerce. An important part of our mission today is the protection of the nation's waterways through the administration of the Corps Regulatory Program.

SECTION 404: The Corps is directed by Congress under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344) to regulate the discharge of dredged and fill material into all waters of the United States, including wetlands. The intent of the law is to protect the nation's waters from the indiscriminate discharge of material capable of causing pollution and to restore and maintain their chemical, physical and biological integrity.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The following application has been submitted for a Department of the Army Permit under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. This notice serves as the Corps of Engineers' request to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) to act on Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the following application:

APPLICANT: Alpine Design, Inc.
10589 Cleveland Avenue NW
Uniontown, OH 44685

LOCATION: The proposed project is located on approximately 68.5 acres of agricultural land located east of Uniontown, in Lake Township, Stark County, Ohio. The proposed development will impact the Tuscarawas River (approximate river mile 125.6) and an unnamed tributary of the Tuscarawas River, as well as several wetlands adjacent to the streams. The proposed project is located at latitude 40° 59' 2.5" and longitude 81° 22' 52.8".

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED WORK: The applicant proposes to construct a residential development called Whispering Creek consisting of 85 residential sub lots. There are six Category 2 wetlands totaling 22.3 acres and two perennial streams totaling approximately 3720 feet located on the property. The applicant proposes to place fill in 4.246 acres of wetland W-2 and 1.459 acres of wetland W-4, for a total wetland fill area of approximately 5.7 acres. Approximately 520.8 feet of stream would be impacted by the proposed project. Four new culverts are proposed to provide access to the site. The existing culvert crossing on the Tuscarawas River would be replaced with a concrete box culvert; the culvert on the unnamed tributary to the Tuscarawas River would be replaced; and one culvert would be placed in wetland W-4 to access building sites on the east side of the proposed development. Additionally, approximately 340 feet of the unnamed tributary in wetland W-2 would be relocated into a channel 485 feet long. A culvert would be placed in the relocated stream channel to allow construction of a proposed residential drive. The applicant has avoided impacts to approximately 16.6 acres (74%) of wetlands and 3,200 feet (86%) of stream channel located at the site.

MITIGATION PLAN: To offset wetland impacts associated with the project, the applicant proposes to purchase 11.5 acres of mitigation credits at an approved wetland mitigation bank located in the Tuscarawas River watershed. To mitigate for stream impacts, the applicant proposes to establish a buffer 20-30 feet wide adjacent to all open water areas and plant woody vegetation on approximately 600 feet of the unnamed tributary. The woody vegetation would be planted on both banks of the tributary located upstream of the proposed culvert and west of wetland W-4.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: A Section 401 Water Quality Certification is required for this project. The applicant has submitted a Section 401 Water Quality Certification application to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA). It is the applicant's responsibility to obtain the certification from OEPA.

ALTERNATIVE ANALYSIS: This project is not considered to be water dependent; therefore, the applicant is required to show that other less damaging practicable alternatives are not available that would achieve the applicant's goal. The applicant has submitted an alternatives analysis which indicates that there are no other vacant or agricultural properties in the Uniontown area with county water, sanitary sewers, and enough acreage to construct a viable residential development currently available. No permit will be issued until our review of the alternatives analysis clearly shows that upland alternatives are not available to achieve the applicant's goal.

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES: The applicant has provided a Cultural Resource Literature Review for the proposed development. The report states that no National Register of Historic Places or Ohio Historic Inventories sites have been documented within or adjacent to the proposed development site. A copy of this public notice will be furnished to the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office for their review. Comments concerning archeological sensitivity of the project area should be based upon collected data.

ENDANGERED/THREATENED SPECIES REVIEW: The project is located within the known or historic range of the following candidate, threatened, or endangered species:

Indiana Bat (E)
Bald Eagle (T)
Eastern Massasauga (C)

The Huntington District has consulted the most recently available information. The applicant has proposed to avoid cutting trees with exfoliating bark between April 15th and September 15th. With the implementation of avoidance and minimization measures, the project is not likely to adversely affect the Indiana Bat or designated Critical Habitat. Because the only known Bald Eagle nest within the county is not located within ½ mile of the project, the project will have no effect on this species or designated Critical Habitat. The applicant has also proposed to limit clearing and construction activities in the emergent wetland portion of wetland W-4 to the summer season when temperatures are over 65° F to avoid impacts to the Eastern Massasauga, a federally listed candidate species. With implementation of the seasonal and temperature restrictions, the project is not likely to adversely affect the Eastern Massasauga. This public notice serves as a request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for any additional information they may have on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1972 (as amended).

PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW AND COMMENT: Any person who has an interest that may be adversely affected by the issuance of a permit may request a public hearing. The request must be submitted in writing to the District Engineer on or before the expiration date of this notice and must clearly set forth the interest which may be adversely affected and the manner in which the interest may be adversely affected by the activity. This application will be reviewed in accordance with 33 CFR 320-331, the Regulatory Program of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and other pertinent laws, regulations, and executive orders. Our evaluation will also follow the guidelines published by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to Section 404(b) (1) of the CWA. Interested parties are invited to state any objections they may have to the proposed work. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit that reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors that may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; of those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Written statements on these factors received in this office on or before the expiration date of this public notice will become a part of the record and will be considered in the final determination. A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest.

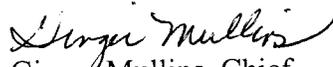
SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS: The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. For accuracy and completeness of the administrative record, all data in support of or in opposition to the proposed work should be submitted in writing setting forth sufficient detail to furnish a clear understanding of the reasons for support or opposition. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

CLOSE OF COMMENT PERIOD: All comments pertaining to this Public Notice must reach this office on or before the close of the comment period listed on page one of this Public Notice. If no comments are received by that date, it will be considered that there are no objections.

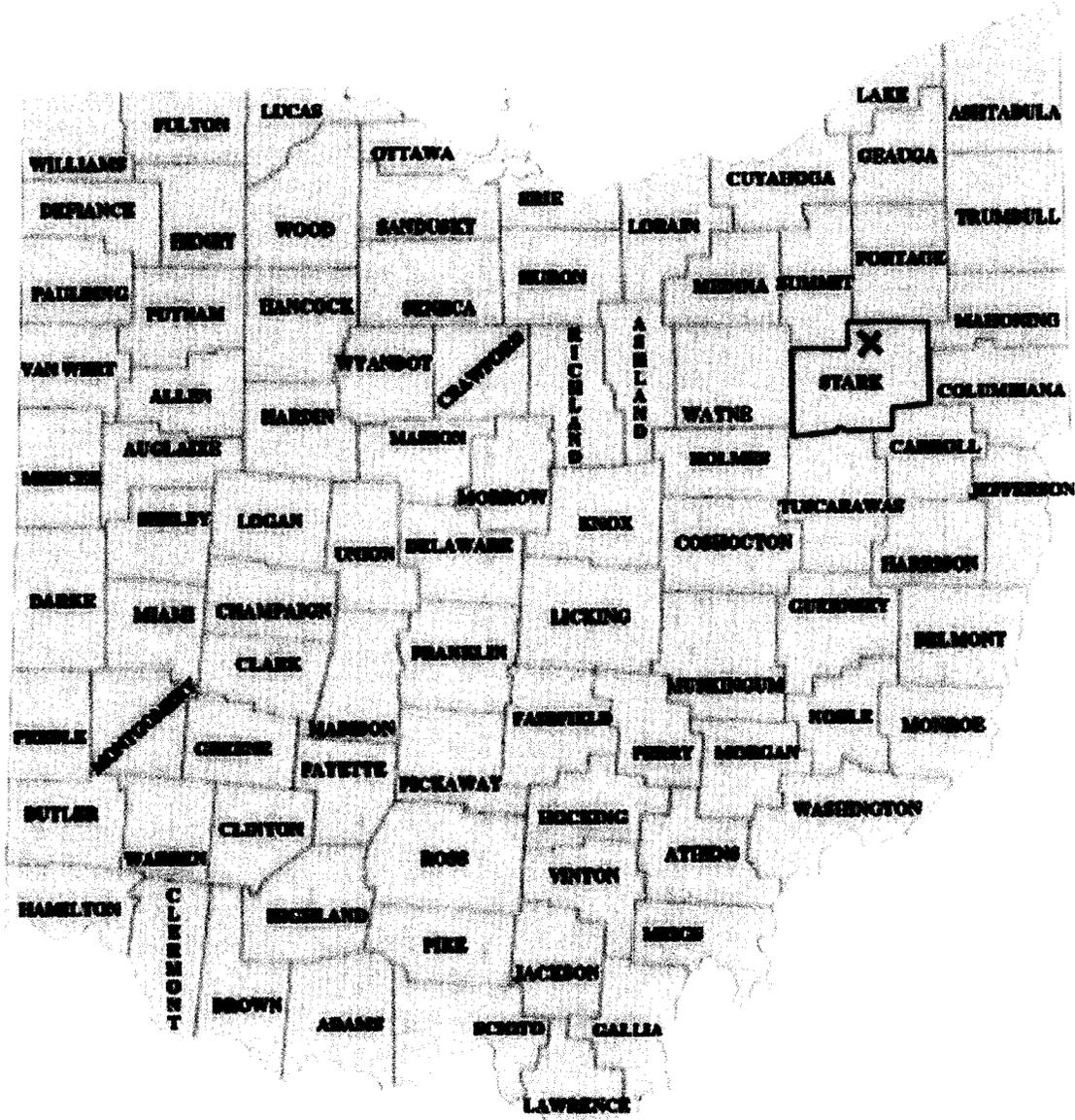
Comments and requests for additional information should be submitted to:

Mr. Mark T. Agricola
Project Manager, CELRH-OR-FN
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, West Virginia 25701-2070.

Please note names and addresses of those who submit comments in response to this public notice may be made publicly available. Thank you for your interest in our nation's water resources. If you have any questions concerning this public notice, please contact Mr. Mark T. Agricola of the North Regulatory Section, Dover Regulatory Field Office, at (330) 364-6177.


Ginger Mullins, Chief
Regulatory Branch

(O)

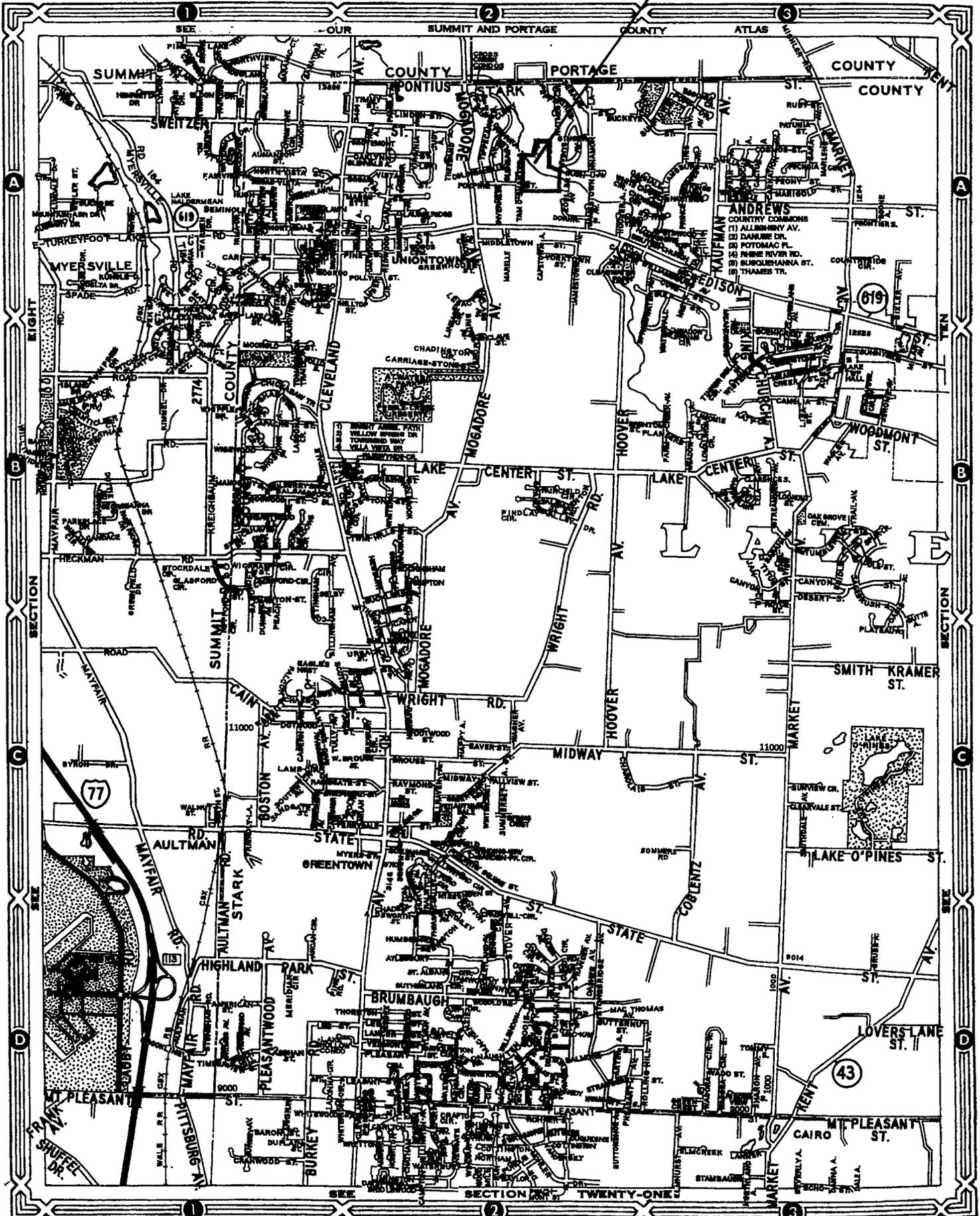


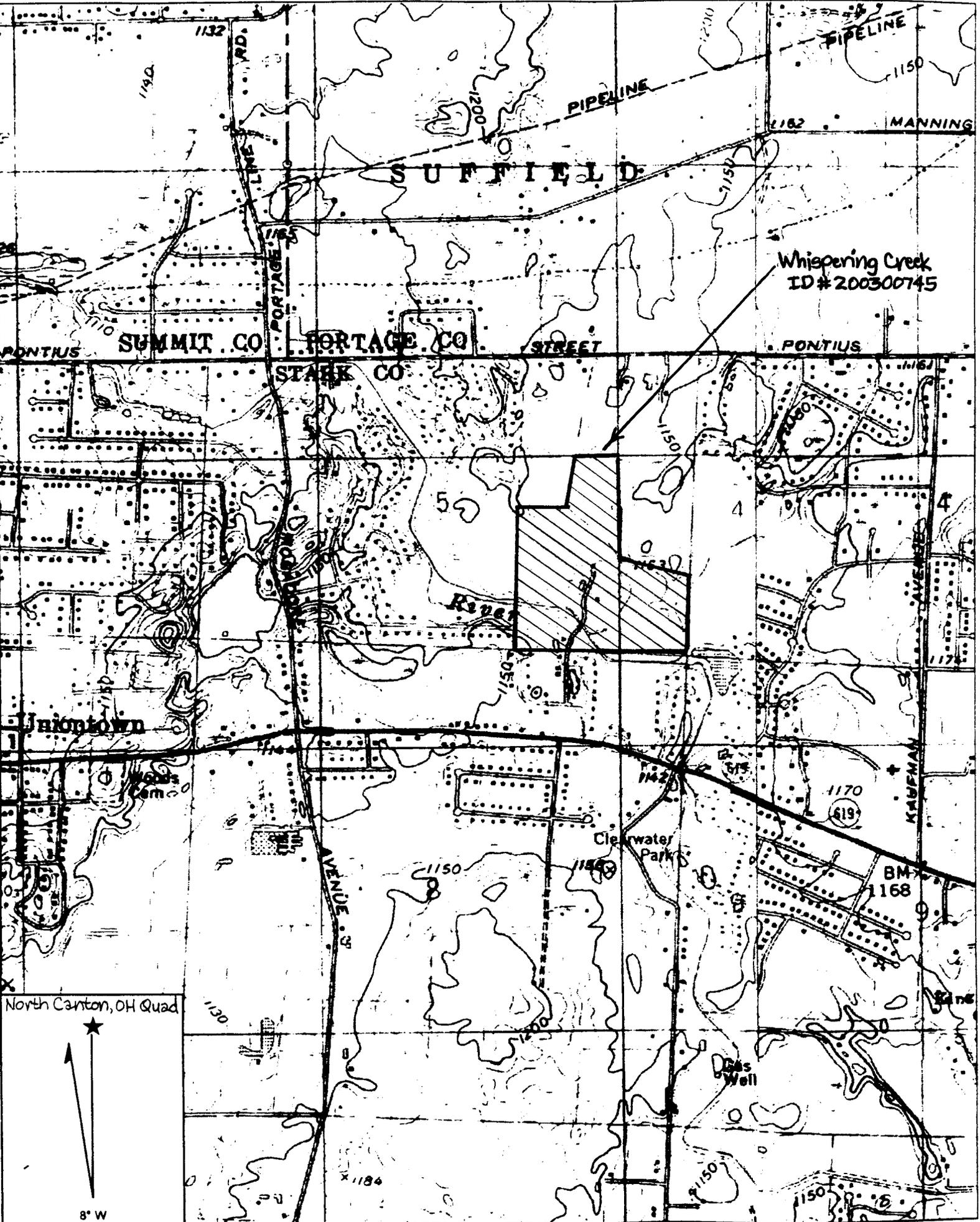
Whispering Creek

Tuscarawas River – ID #200300745

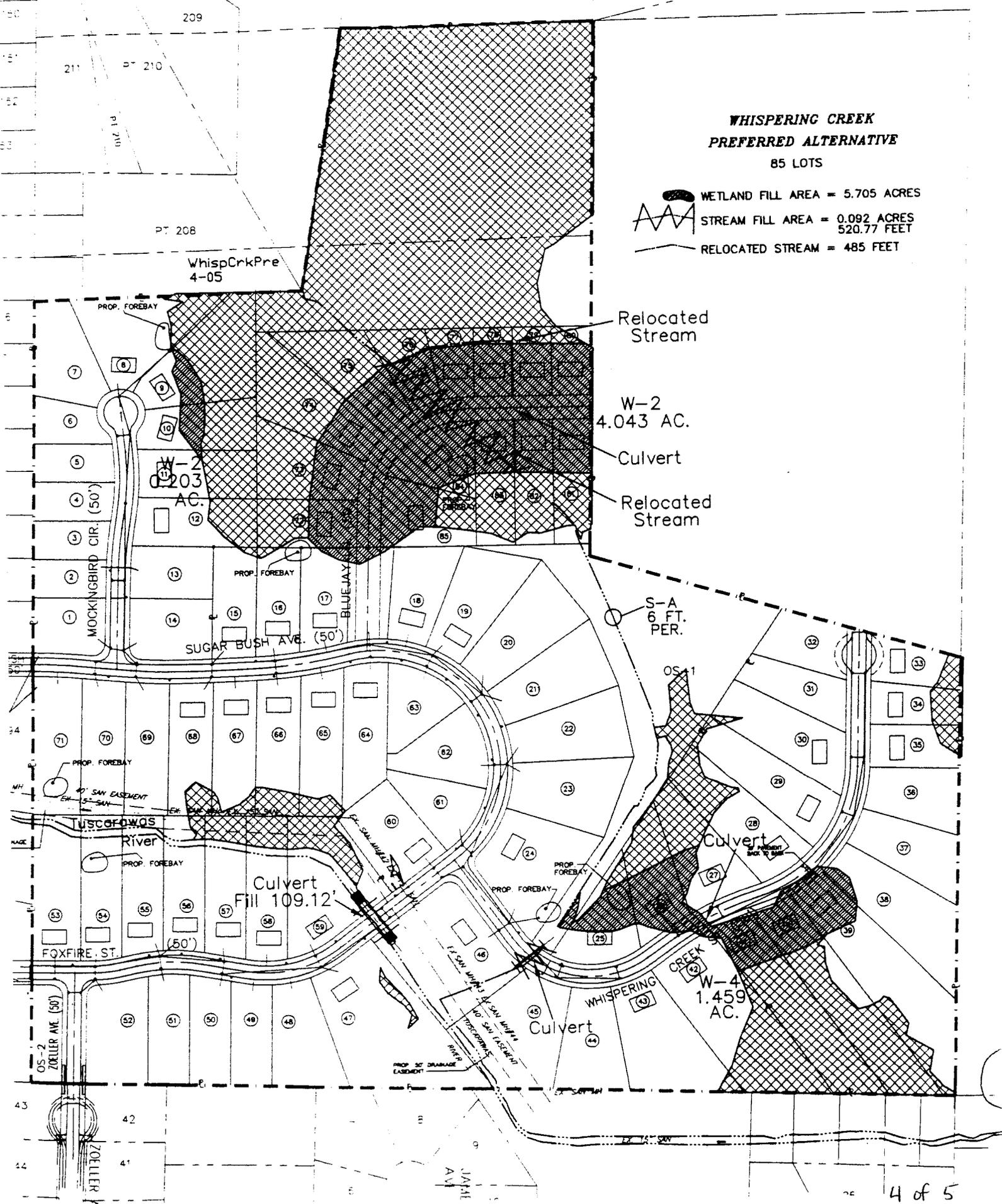
SECTION No. 9

Whispering Creek location





North Canton, OH Quad
8° W



**WHISPERING CREEK
PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE**

85 LOTS

-  WETLAND FILL AREA = 5.705 ACRES
-  STREAM FILL AREA = 0.092 ACRES
520.77 FEET
-  RELOCATED STREAM = 485 FEET

WhispCrkPre
4-05

Relocated
Stream

W-2
4.043 AC.

Culvert

Relocated
Stream

S-A
6 FT.
PER.

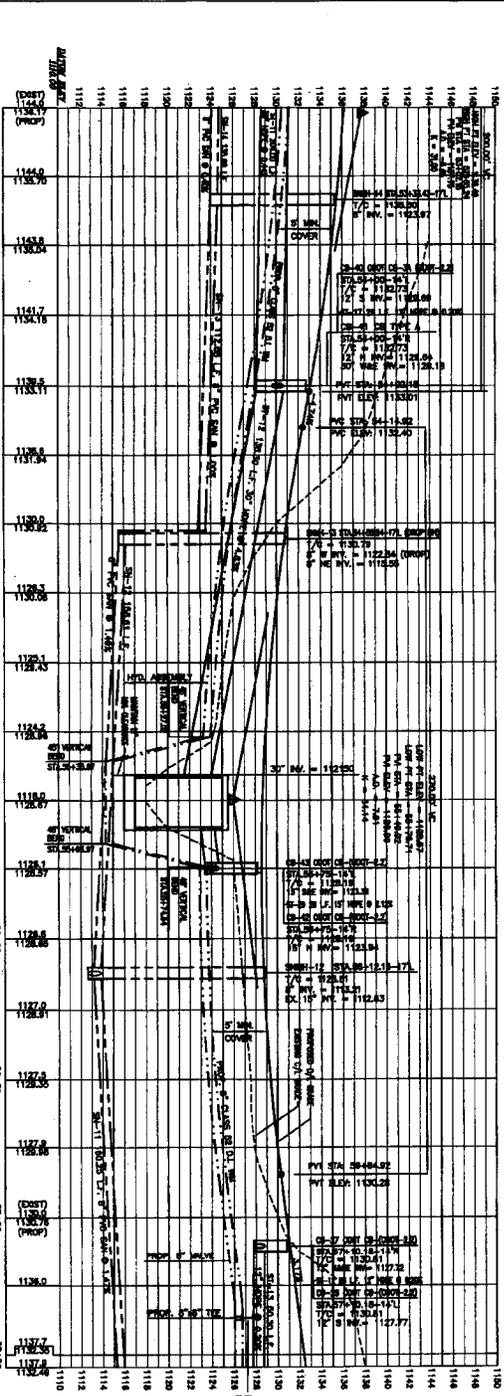
Culvert
Fill 109.12'

Culvert

Culvert

W-4
1.459
AC.

I:\MapInfo\Drawings\Drawings\2005\05-01\05-01-01\05-01-01-01.dwg STA 53+00 - RES. DWG. 1/17/2005 2:49:25 PM SHARP/PLG WZ80 BCLG 8424 9095



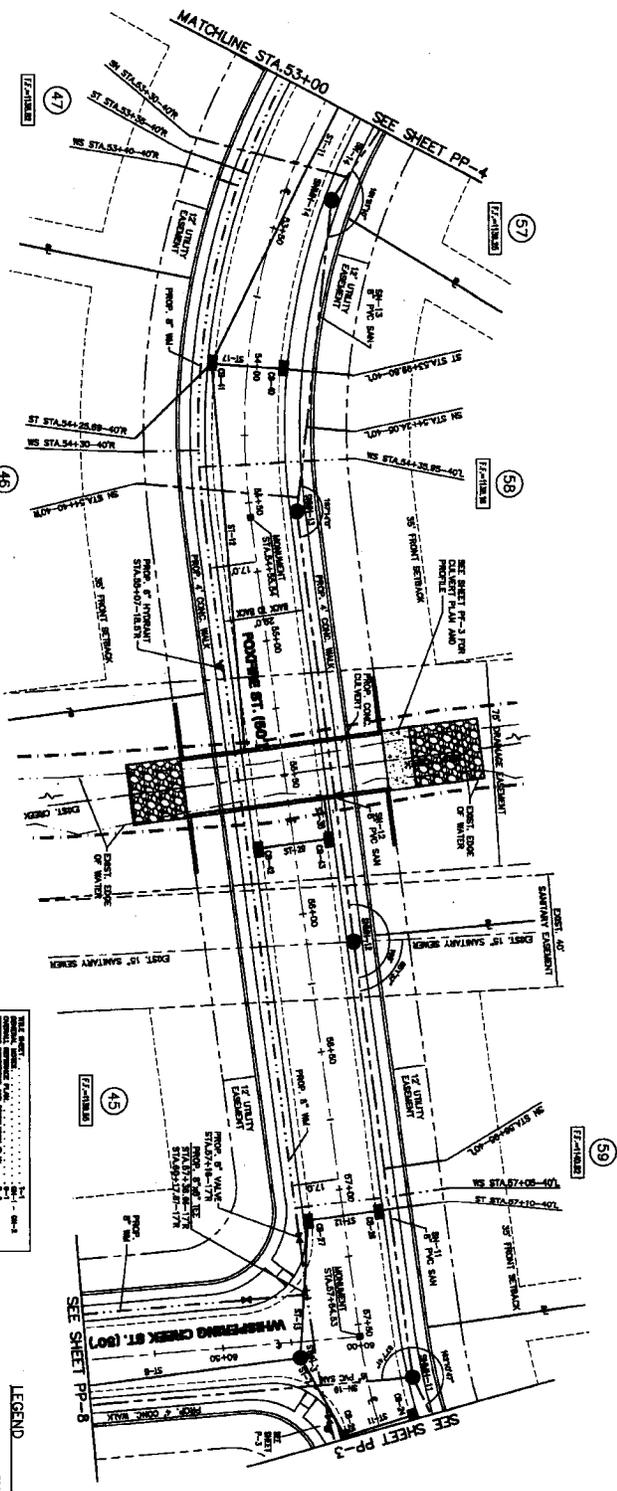
SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION
(Symbol)	PROPOSED STONE CURB
(Symbol)	PROPOSED SANITARY EXHIBIT
(Symbol)	PROPOSED WALKWAY
(Symbol)	PROPOSED SIDE WALK
(Symbol)	PROPOSED HVA ASSEMBLY
(Symbol)	PROPOSED CURB AND GUTTER
(Symbol)	PROPOSED CATCH BASIN
(Symbol)	PROPOSED MANHOLE
(Symbol)	NO. 40 ASP.

LEGEND

- PROPOSED STONE CURB
- PROPOSED SANITARY EXHIBIT/PROPOSED MANHOLE
- PROPOSED WALKWAY
- PROPOSED SIDE WALK
- PROPOSED HVA ASSEMBLY
- PROPOSED CURB AND GUTTER
- PROPOSED CATCH BASIN
- PROPOSED MANHOLE
- NO. 40 ASP.

GRAPHIC SCALE
1" = 20' H.L.

3 WORKING DAYS BEFORE YOU DIG
CALL TOLL FREE 1-800-369-2794



Tuscarawas River Crossing

ORIGINAL SUBMITTAL

RLC 01/06/05

PROJECT NO.
04020

REVISION NO.
PP-5

PROJECT
WHISPERING CREEK PHASE 1
RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT
BRIMFIELD, OHIO

DRAWING
PLAN AND PROFILE

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PREPARED BY:

RMCN GROUP, LLC

8851 CROSBY ST., UNIONTOWN, OHIO 44685 (800) 244-8088

REVISIONS

DATE
01/06/05

