

PUBLIC NOTICE

December 7, 2020

United States Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Regulatory Branch
7400 Leake Avenue
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118

(504) 862-1577
Project Manager
Patricia Clune
Patricia.R.Clune@usace.army.mil
MVN 2020-00910-CE

Interested parties are hereby notified that a permit application has been received by the New Orleans District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to: [] Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of March 3, 1899 (30 Stat. 1151; 33 USC 403); and/or [X] Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (86 Stat. 816; 33 USC 1344).

PROPOSED WIDENING OF SOUTH CHOCTAW DRIVE IN EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH

NAME OF APPLICANT: City of Baton Rouge, c/o CK Associates, 8591 United Plaza Boulevard, Suite 300, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809.

LOCATION OF WORK: In Baton Rouge, Louisiana along South Choctaw Drive between North Flannery Road and Central Throughway (Latitude: 30.470297, Longitude: -91.029026 and Latitude:30.470669, Longitude:-91.010922) in Baton Rouge, East Baton Rouge Parish, within the Amite River in hydrological unit (HUC 08070202), as shown on the attached drawings.

CHARACTER OF WORK: The applicant has requested Department of the Army authorization to clear, grade, excavate and deposit fill and/or aggregate material to widen South Choctaw Drive between North Flannery Road and Central Throughway. The proposed roadway will be approximately a mile and half long and will expand to four 12-foot wide travel lanes, sidewalks and closed drainage systems on either side of the roadway. The total right-of-way will be 40 feet wide. The proposed project will include the filling of 0.06 acres of herbaceous wetlands and 1.35 acres of non-wetland waters of the U.S. with 5,029 cubic yards of earthen fill, 3,375 cubic yards of a stone base, 4,188 cubic yards of concrete.

The applicant has stated that the project has been designed to avoid and minimize direct and secondary adverse impacts to the maximum extent practicable. As compensation for the unavoidable wetland impacts, the applicant proposes to mitigate in-kind wetland credits from a Corps approved mitigation bank located in the watershed.

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit will close **20 days** from the date of this public notice. Written comments, including suggestions for modifications or objections to the proposed work, stating reasons thereof, are being solicited from anyone having interest in this permit and must be mailed so as to be received before or by the last day of the comment period. Letters concerning the Corps of Engineers permit application must reference the applicant's name and the Permit Application Number, and be mailed to the Corps of Engineers at the address above, **ATTENTION: REGULATORY BRANCH**. Individuals or parties may request an extension of time in which to comment on the proposed work by writing or e-mailing the Corps of Engineers Project Manager listed above. Any request must be specific and substantively supportive of the requested extension, and received by this office prior to the end of the initial comment period. The Section Chief will review the request and the requestor will be promptly notified of the decision to grant or deny the request. If granted, the time extension will be continuous to the initial comment period and, inclusive of the initial comment period, will not exceed a total of 30 calendar days.

Corps of Engineers Permit Criteria

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, 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 which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among 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.

The U.S. Army 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. Any comments received will be considered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine whether to make, 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 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.

The New Orleans District is unaware of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places near the proposed work. The possibility exists that the proposed work

may damage or destroy presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, historical sites, or data. Copies of this notice are being sent to the State Archeologist and the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Our initial finding is that the proposed work would not affect any species, nor affect any habitat designated as critical to the survival and recovery of such species, listed as endangered by the U.S. Department of Interior. Utilizing Standard Local Operating Procedure for Endangered Species in Louisiana (SLOPES), dated October 22, 2014, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Office, the Corps has determined that the proposed activity would have no effect on any listed species.

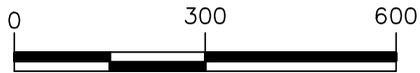
This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal would result in the destruction or alteration of up to 0 acres of EFH utilized by various life stages of red drum and penaeid shrimp. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial adverse impact on EFH or federally managed fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

If the proposed work involves deposits of dredged or fill material into navigable waters, the evaluation of the probable impacts will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. You are requested to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interest in the matter.

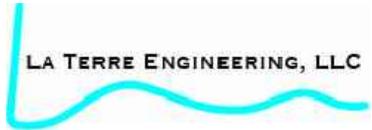
John M Herman
Chief, Central Evaluation Section
Regulatory Branch

Enclosure



- PROJECT AREA
- WETLANDS TO BE IMPACTED (0.06 ACRES)
- NON-WETLAND WATERS OF THE US TO BE IMPACTED (1.36 ACRES)
- NON-WETLANDS

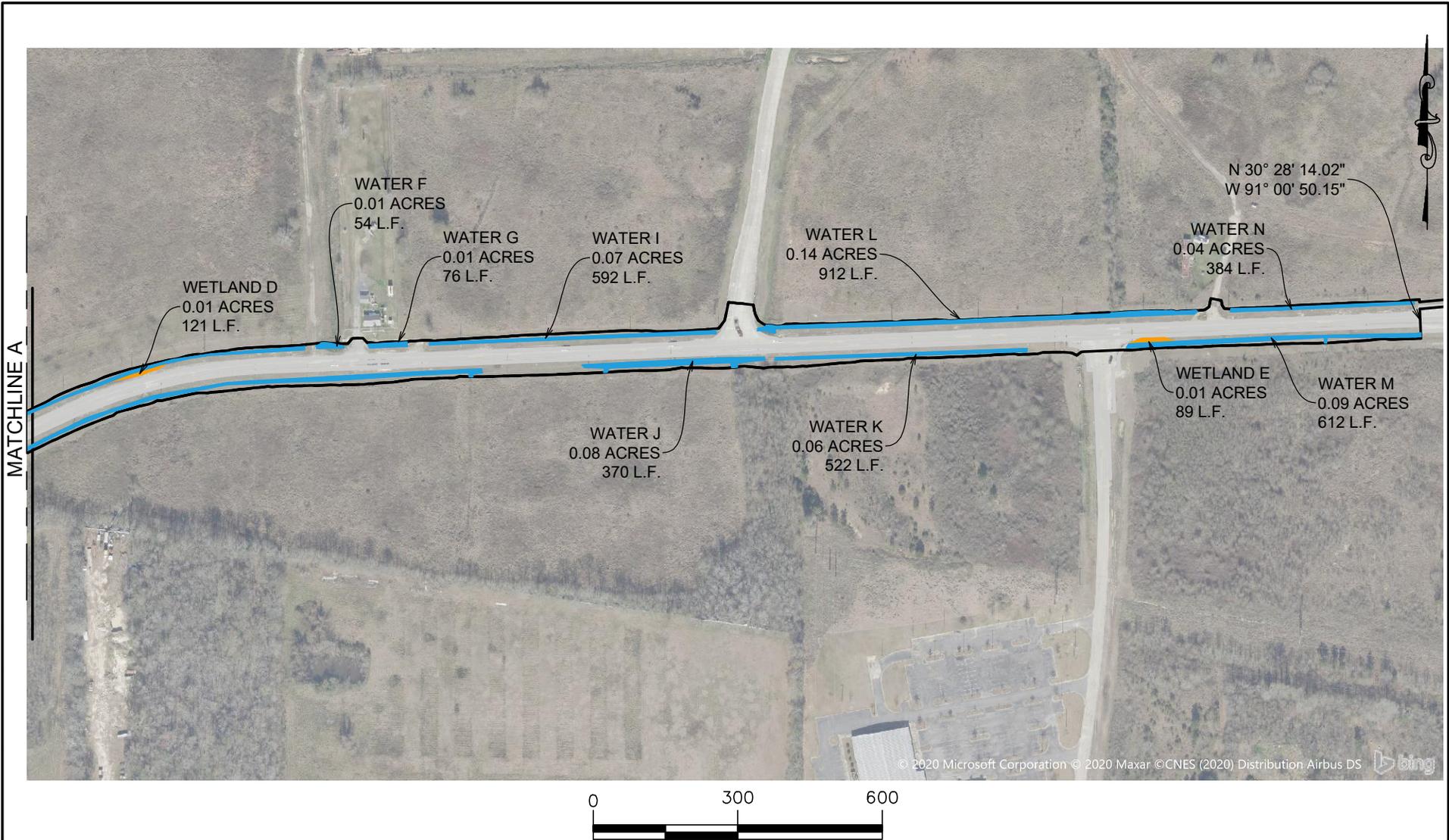
FILL VOLUMES
 EARTHEN FILL: 129.07 CY WETLANDS, 4,900.00 CY NON-WETLAND WATERS OF THE US
 CONCRETE: 364.88 CY WETLANDS, 3,823.33 CY NON-WETLAND WATERS OF THE US
 STONE BASE COURSE: 305.07 CY WETLANDS, 3,070.00 CY NON-WETLAND WATERS OF THE US



WETLAND PERMIT
 For
 City Parish Improvements
 East Baton Rouge Parish

EXISTING CONDITIONS
 NOVEMBER 2020

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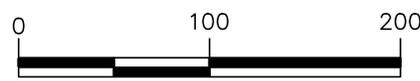
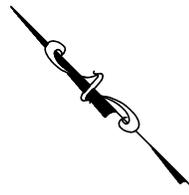
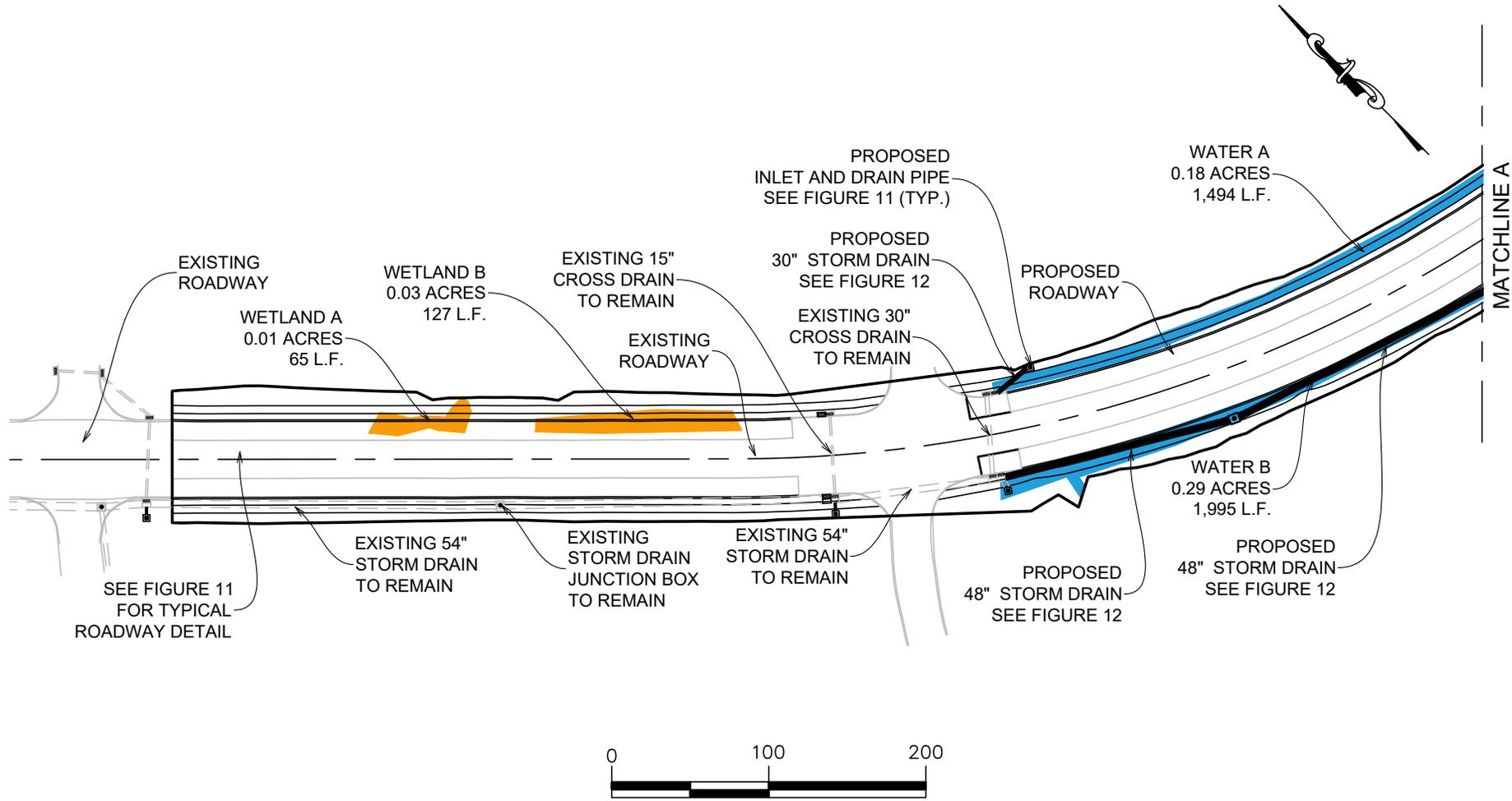


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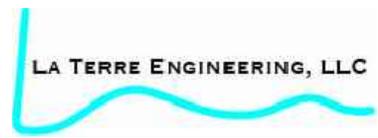
EXISTING CONDITIONS
 NOVEMBER 2020

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 Figure

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- PROPOSED DRAIN STRUCTURES



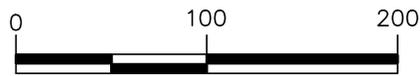
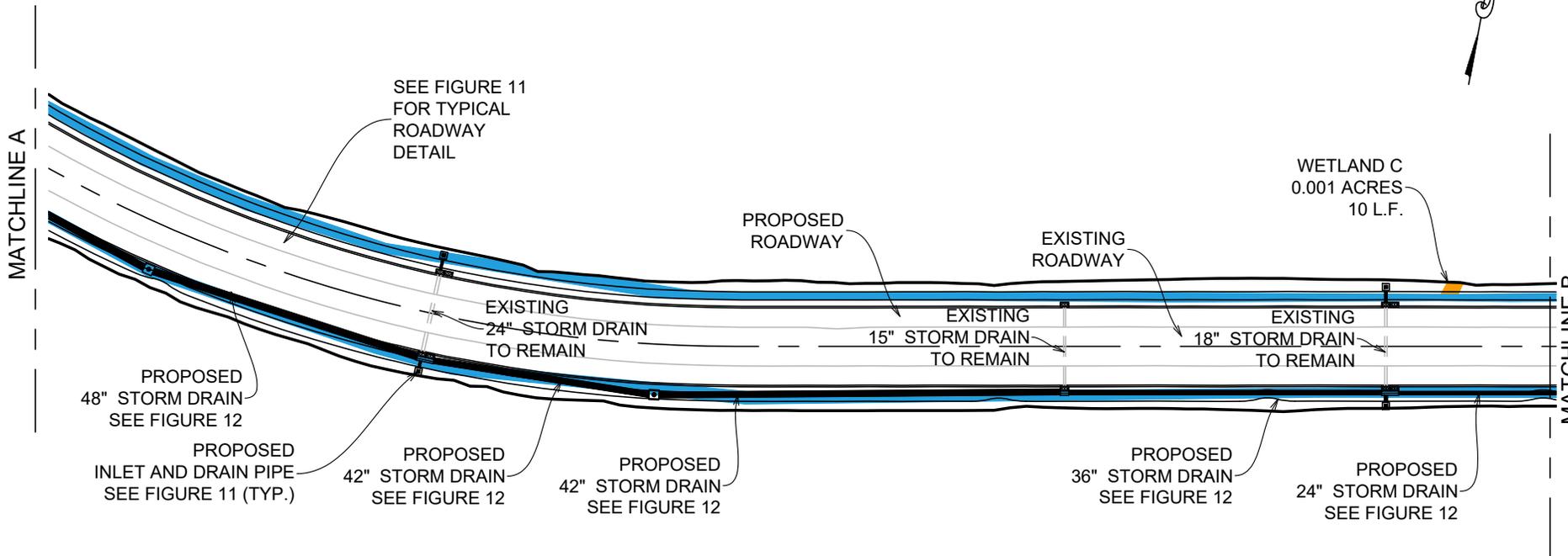
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PLAN VIEW
OCTOBER 2020

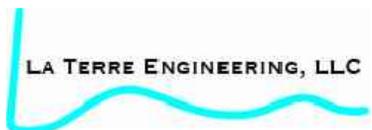
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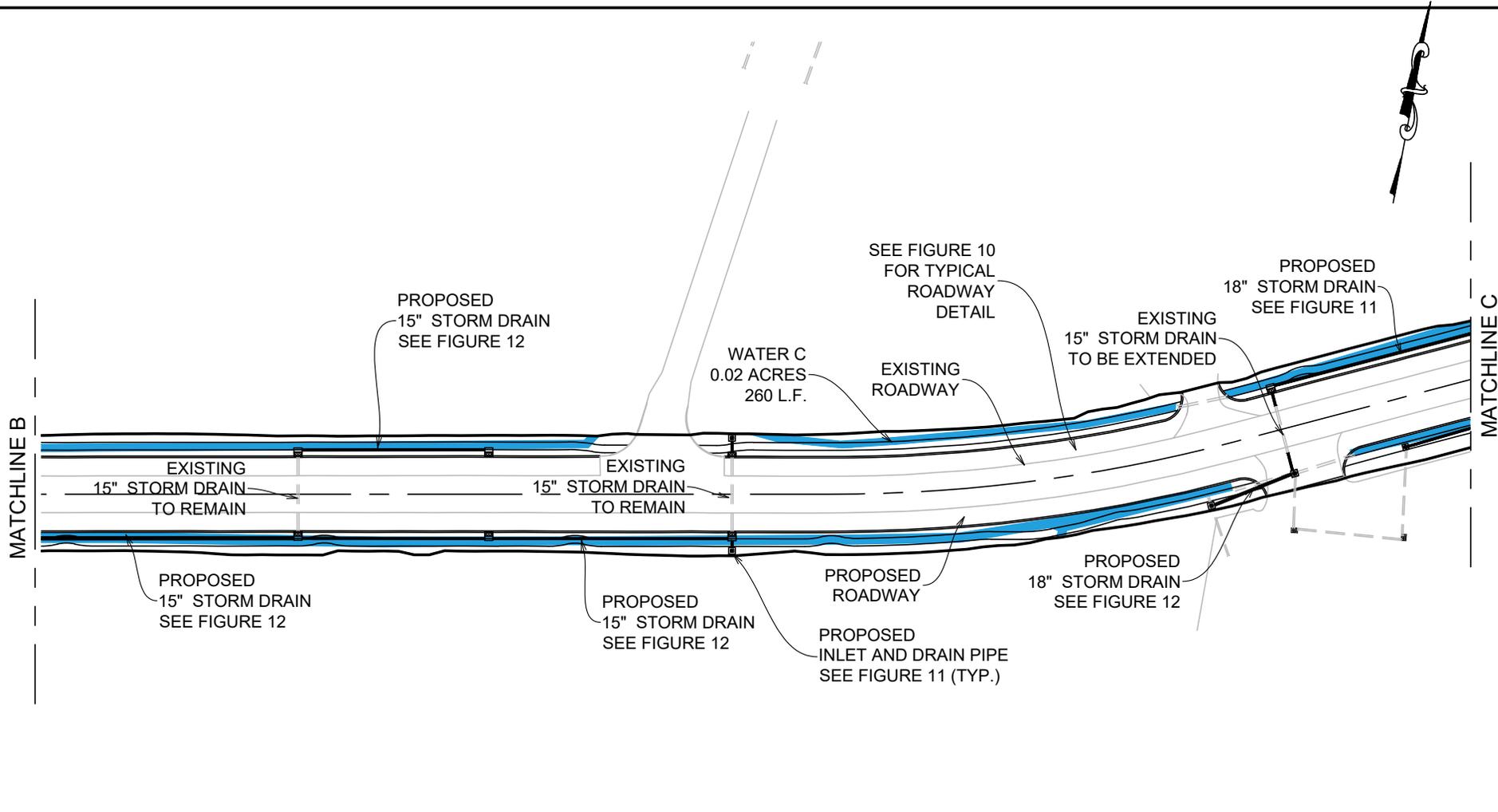
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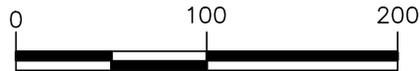
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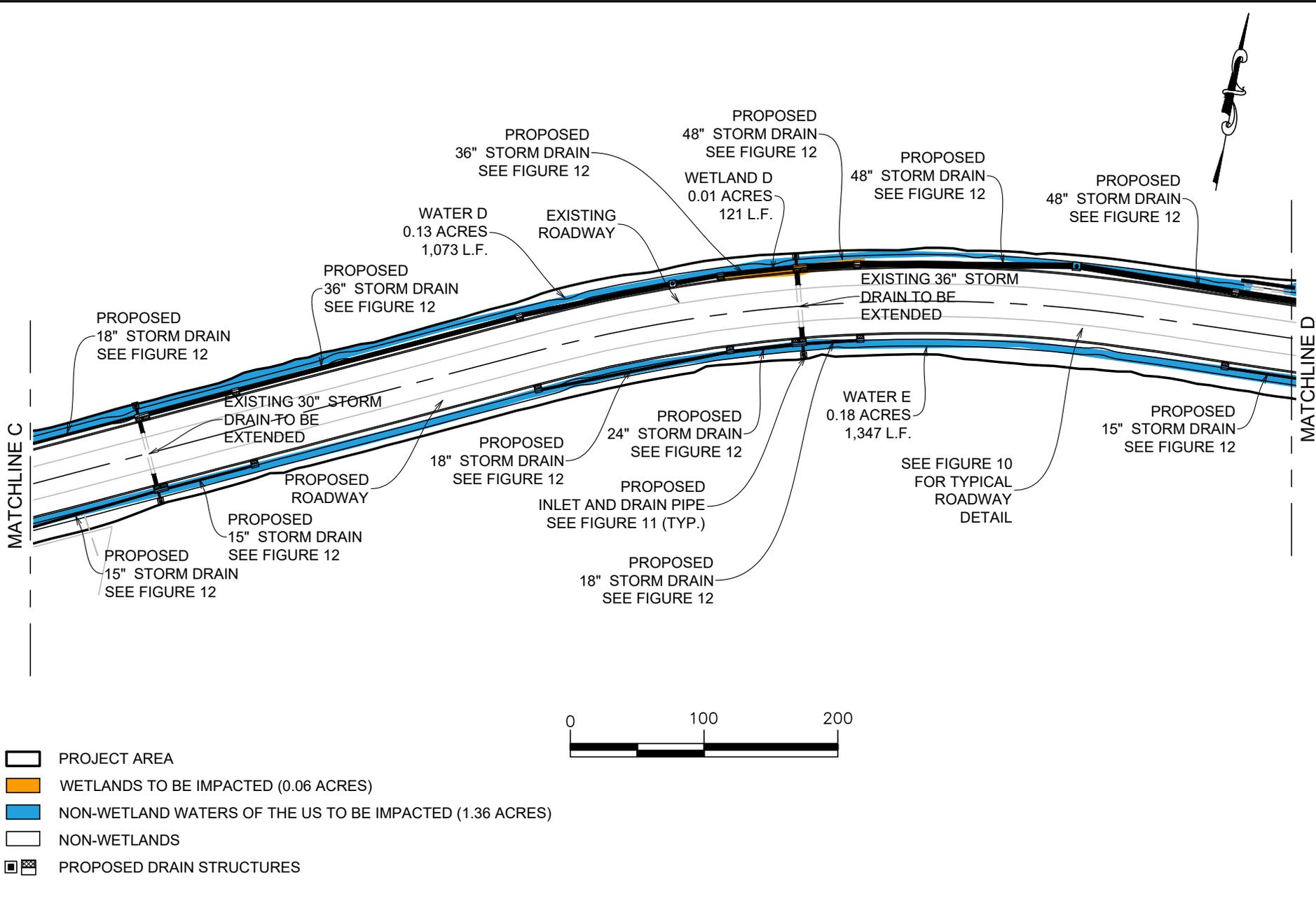
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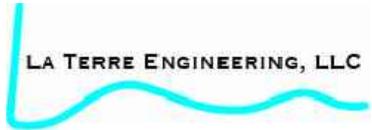
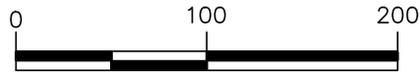
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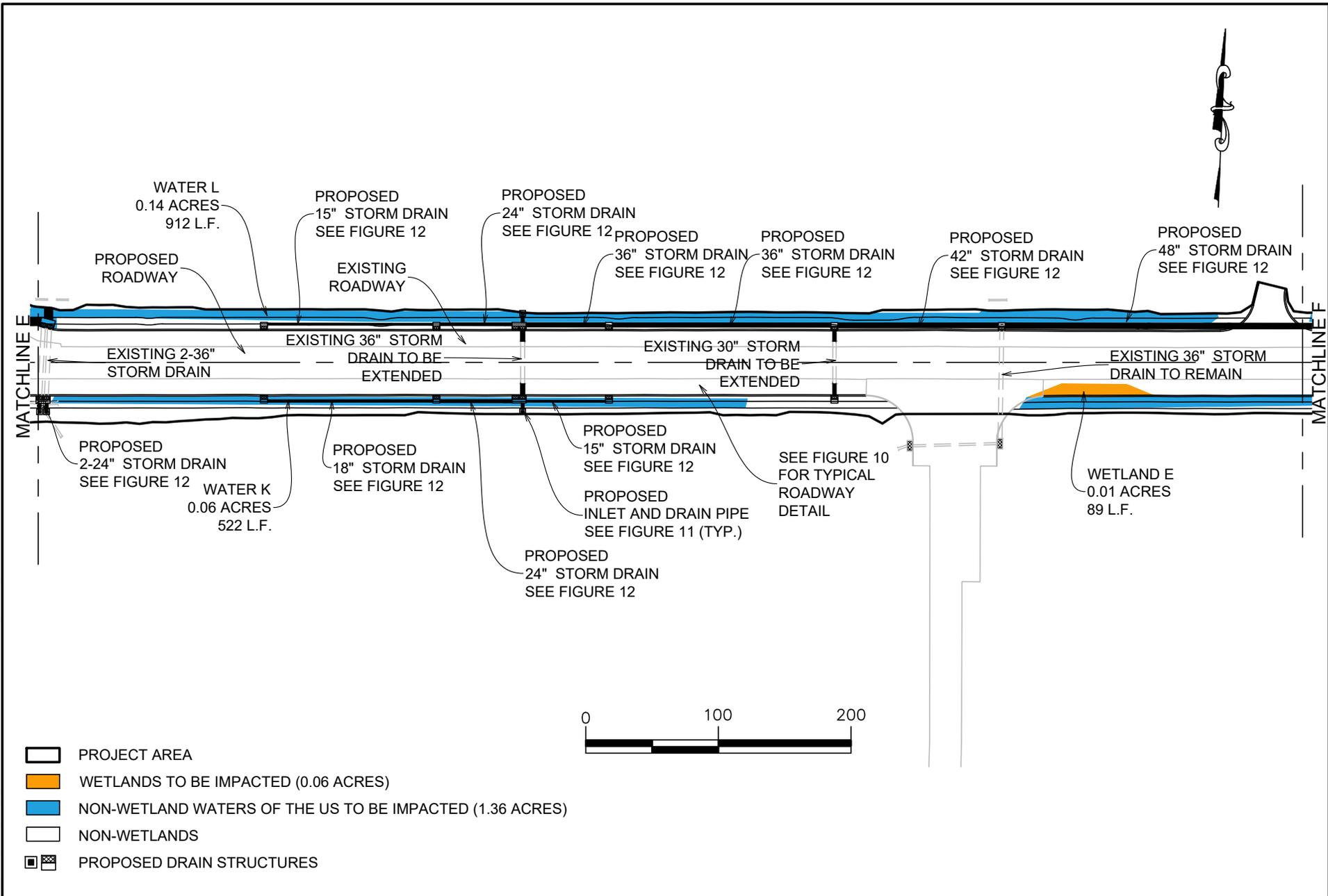
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Figure

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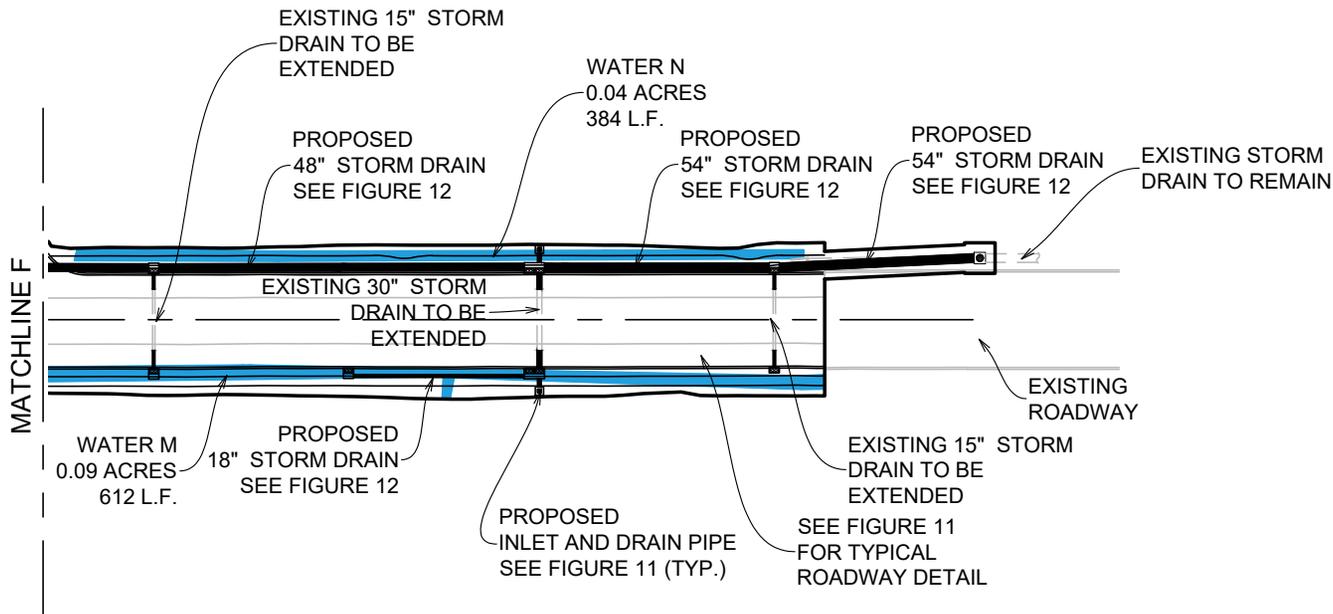
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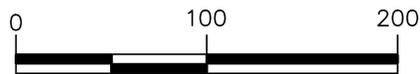
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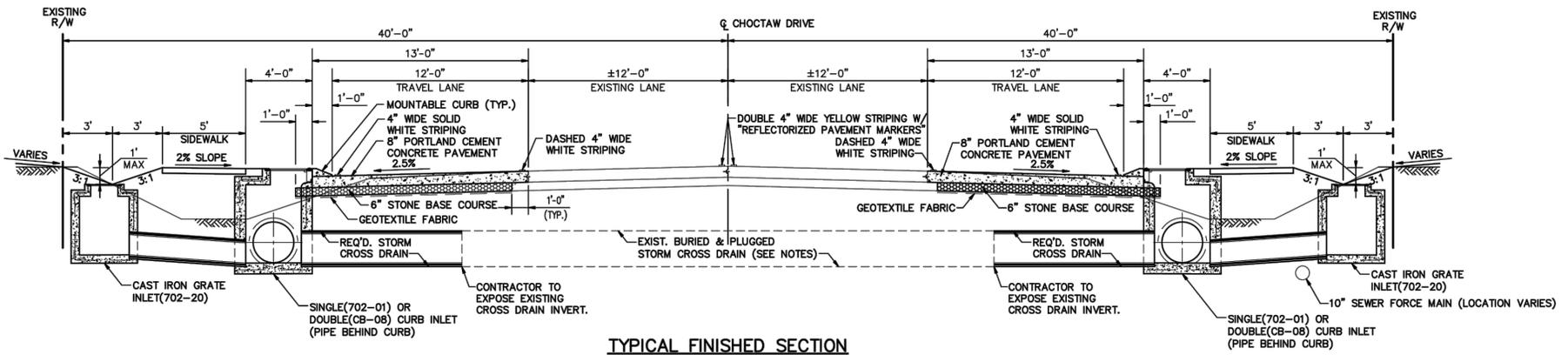


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PLAN VIEW
OCTOBER 2020

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Figure



NOTES:

1. CONTRACTOR TO EXPOSE & VERIFY EXISTING CROSS DRAIN INVERTS PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION & REPORT CONFLICTS TO PROGRAM MANAGEMENT.
2. ALL EXISTING CROSS DRAIN INVERTS ARE ESTIMATED BASED ON HISTORICAL DATA & RECENT TOPOGRAPHIC INFORMATION AVAILABLE. INVERTS & LOCATION ARE APPROXIMATE AND MAY VARY WHEN EXPOSED.

NOTE:
DRAWINGS FROM EVANS-GRAVES ENGINEERS, INC. DATED 08-07-20 TITLED: TYPICAL SECTION & DETAILS



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TYPICAL ROADWAY DETAIL
IN WETLANDS
OCTOBER 2020

