



# Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

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JB Pritzker, Governor

James Jennings, Acting Director

## PROJECT SUMMARY AND NOTICE OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION FROM DETAILED ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

JAN 09 2026

Date: JAN 06 2026

Loan Applicant: Sanitary District of Decatur

Illinois EPA Loan Project Number: L177557

To all interested persons:

Section 365.330 of the Procedures for Issuing Loans from the Water Pollution Control Loan Program requires that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) publish a Notice of Categorical Exclusion for proposed wastewater projects which have little or no potential for causing negative environmental impacts related to their construction. Prior to granting its approval of the project 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 Illinois EPA 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 reconsideration, the Agency will approve planning for this project at the close of the public comment period.

The applicant is required to publish a public notice that the Agency has issued the attached Notice of Intent to Issue a Categorical Exclusion. This document, along with the project plan, must be made available for public inspection, allowing 10 days for public comment. During this comment period, written comments may be provided to the applicant or directly to the Illinois EPA contact person identified in the attached document.

Your interest and participation in this process are appreciated.

Sincerely,

Nidhan Singh, M.B.A.  
State Revolving Fund Manager  
Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section  
Bureau of Water

NS:RH Decatur SD – L177557 – CatEx.docx

### Attachment

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1101 Eastport Plaza Dr., Suite 100, Collinsville, IL 62234 • 618-346-5120  
595 S. State Street, Elgin, IL 60123 • 847-608-3131  
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## NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE A CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

In accordance with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) Loan Rules, Title 35, Subtitle C, Chapter II, Part 365.330 (State Environmental Review), the Illinois EPA 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. This project qualifies for an exclusion as it has no environmental issues, and the scope of the project focuses on the rehabilitation of existing structures.

This report is based on information submitted to the Illinois EPA by the Sanitary District of Decatur. Sources of information include the following documents: Facility Plan for: Sanitary District of Decatur, Eastside Interceptor Sewer Rehabilitation prepared by Farnsworth Group dated February 14, 2025. Additional documentation was obtained from the loan applicant and compiled by the Illinois EPA.

### PART I – PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>Project Name:</b>	Eastside Interceptor Sewer Rehabilitation Project		
<b>Loan Applicant:</b>	Sanitary District of Decatur		
<b>County:</b>	Macon	<b>Project Number:</b>	L177557
<b>Current Population:</b>	100,000	<b>Future Population (20 year):</b>	100,000
<b>Design Average Flow:</b>	41 MGD	<b>Design Maximum Flow:</b>	72 MGD

**Background Information:** The Sanitary District of Decatur owns and operates its own wastewater treatment plant and collection system. The treatment plant is designed to be a two-stage nitrogen/dinitrogen conventional activated sludge plant with chlorination for disinfection and six primary clarifiers with screenings and grit removal followed by biological treatment before final clarification. The sewer system serves the City of Decatur as well as the Villages of Forsyth, Argenta, Oreana, and Mount Zion. The collection system throughout these communities includes approximately 345,500 linear feet of interceptor and 1,200 manholes. Pipes were installed as early as 1951 and range from 12 inches to 24 inches in diameter.

**Project Description:** The proposed project involves the installation of cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) liner in the Eastside Interceptor Sewer (Interceptors 739 and 739C) generally located along the West side of Lake Decatur near IL Route 105. Interceptor 739 pipe segments to be lined include 4,500 lineal feet of 24-inch reinforced concrete pipe (RCP) and 6,420 lineal feet of 21-inch RCP interceptor sewer main as well as 42 manholes. Interceptor 739C segments to be lined include 170 lineal feet of 12-inch cast-iron pipe interceptor sewer main as well as 3 manholes.

**Project Location:** The proposed project will take place along the West side of Lake Decatur near IL Route 105. See attached map for project location.

**Project Justification:** The 739 Eastside Interceptor is a concrete pipe that has been subject to strong chemical corrosion from upstream industry. The current CIPP liner and existing pipe is failing and showing vulnerability due to high root infiltration, longitudinal cracking, water infiltration, joint offset, and corrosion. The 739C Eastside Interceptor is a cast iron pipe that is also failing and showing vulnerability due to the high amounts of corrosion. The District has rehabilitated several interceptors in the past utilizing CIPP lining with very good success. The structural linings, chemical resistance, and installation time make CIPP the preferred lowest cost method.

**Estimated Construction Start Date:** 6/1/2026

**Estimated Construction Completion Date:** 4/1/2027

**Project Cost Estimate:** \$5,593,680.00

## **PART II – PROJECT AFFORDABILITY FOR RESIDENTS AND UTILITY CUSTOMERS**

The applicant is proposing to finance the project costs with a loan from the Water Pollution Control Loan Program (WPCLP). Annual repayments on a WPCLP loan in the amount of \$5,593,680 at an estimated interest rate of 2.16% for a term of thirty (30) years are \$253,509. A rate increase is necessary to repay the loan.

**Source of Loan Repayment:** User Fees

**Current Average Monthly Residential Cost of Service:** \$15.40

**Projected Average Monthly Residential Cost of Service:** \$16.07

**Average Monthly Residential Water Use:** 5,041 gallons or 673.884 cubic feet

**Number of Customers or Service Connections:** 31,000 Customers

**How is the monthly residential rate/cost of service calculated?** Fees for wastewater collection are based on the amount of water used in cubic feet per month. The current rate is \$2.01 per 100 cubic feet of water used plus a flat rate fee of \$1.85. The new rate will be \$2.11 per 100 cubic feet. For the average user, this calculates to:  $\$2.01 \times (673.884 / 100) + 1.85 = \$15.40$  per month.

The projected rate is calculated as follows:  $\$2.11 \times (673.884 / 100) + 1.85 = \$16.07$  per month.

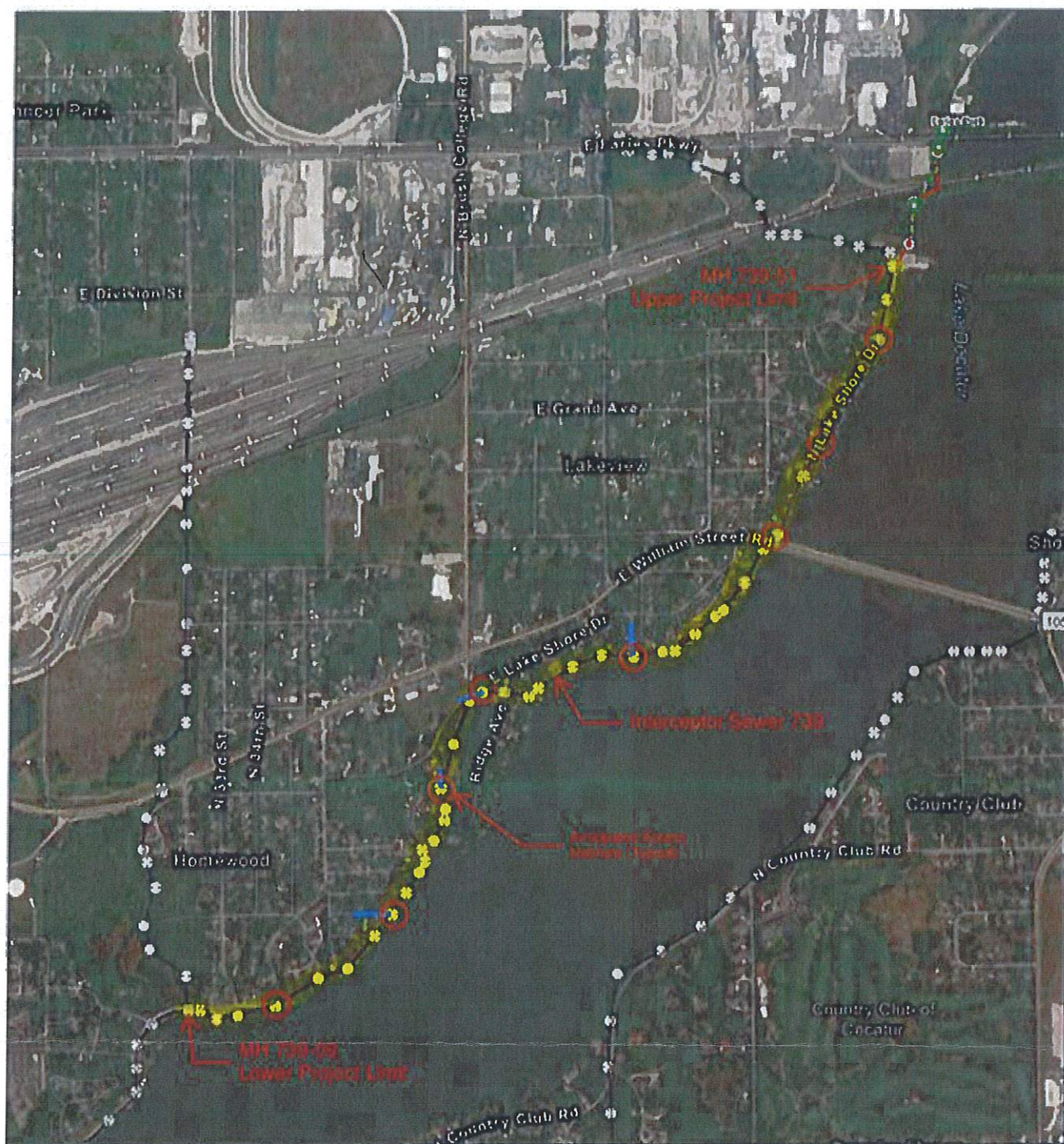
**Median Household Income (MHI):** \$62,449

**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 water service is utilized. The MHI listed above is from the current fiscal year's census information. The proposed annual cost for service of \$192.84 is 0.31% of the MHI for the area. The percentage is for comparison only and has no impact on whether a project qualifies for funding from the Illinois EPA. 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:**

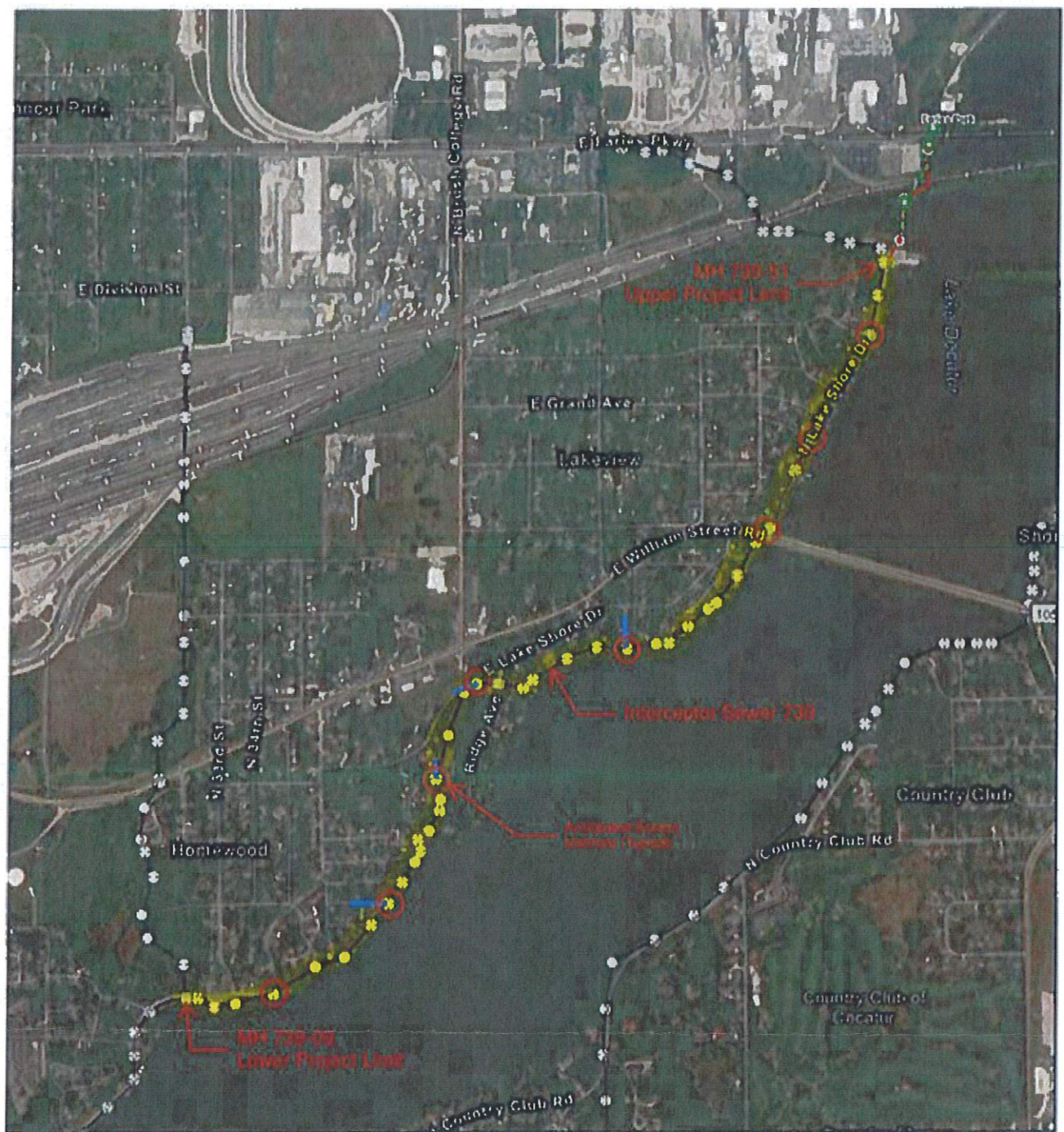
Rachael Heaton, Project Manager  
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1021 North Grand Avenue East  
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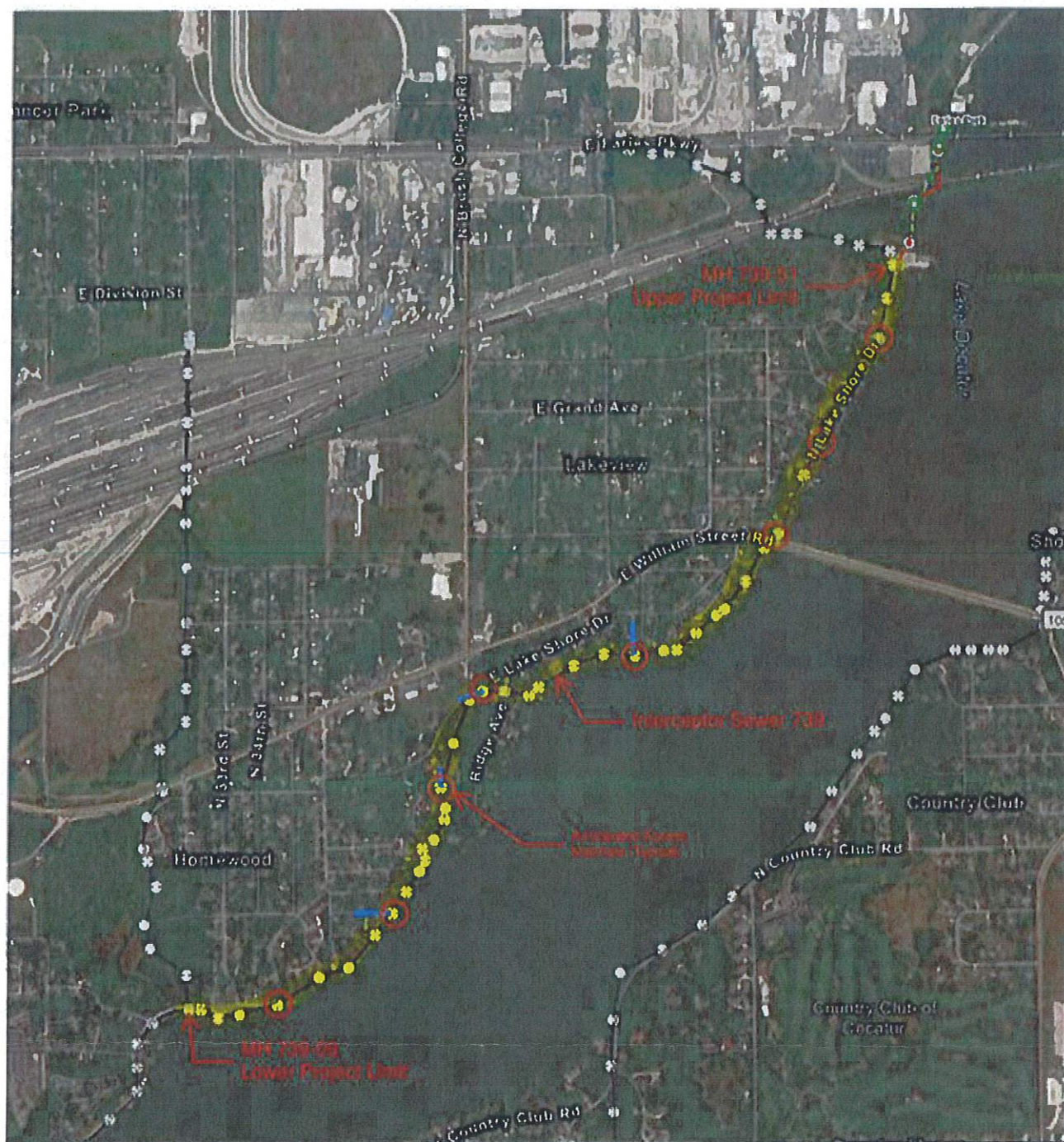
**FIGURE 2. 739 Eastside Interceptor Project Location**





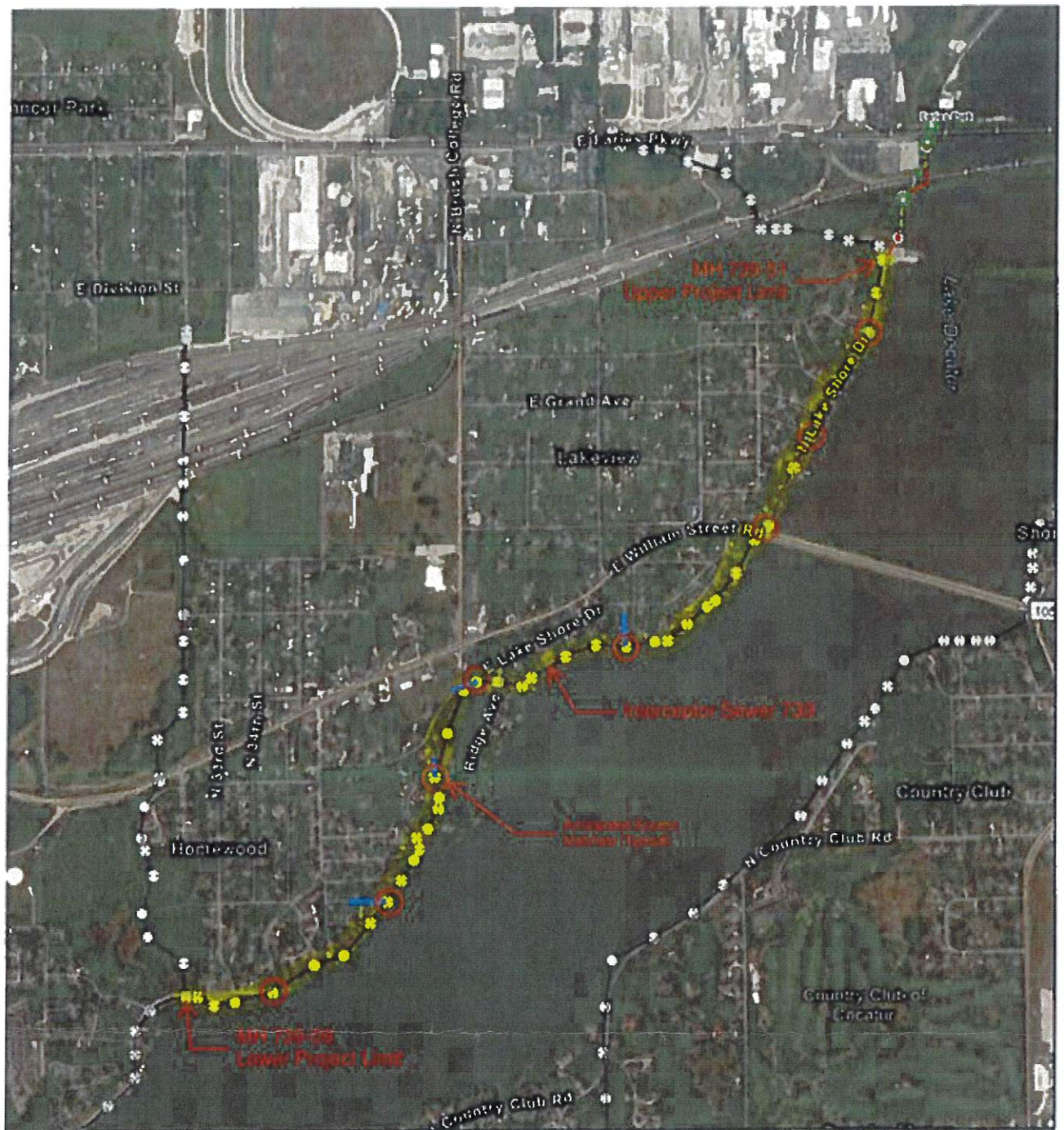
**FIGURE 2. 739 Eastside Interceptor Project Location**





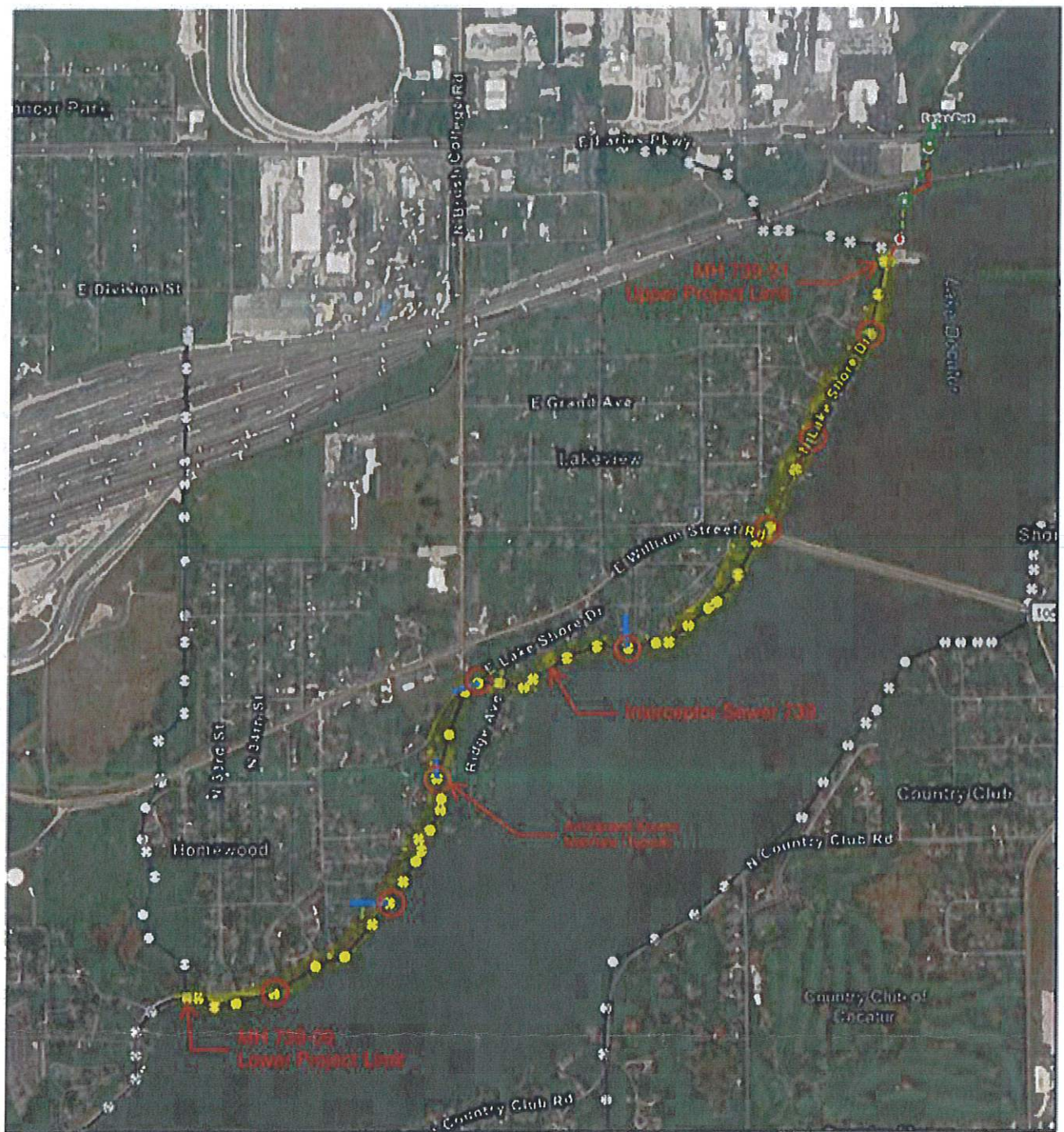
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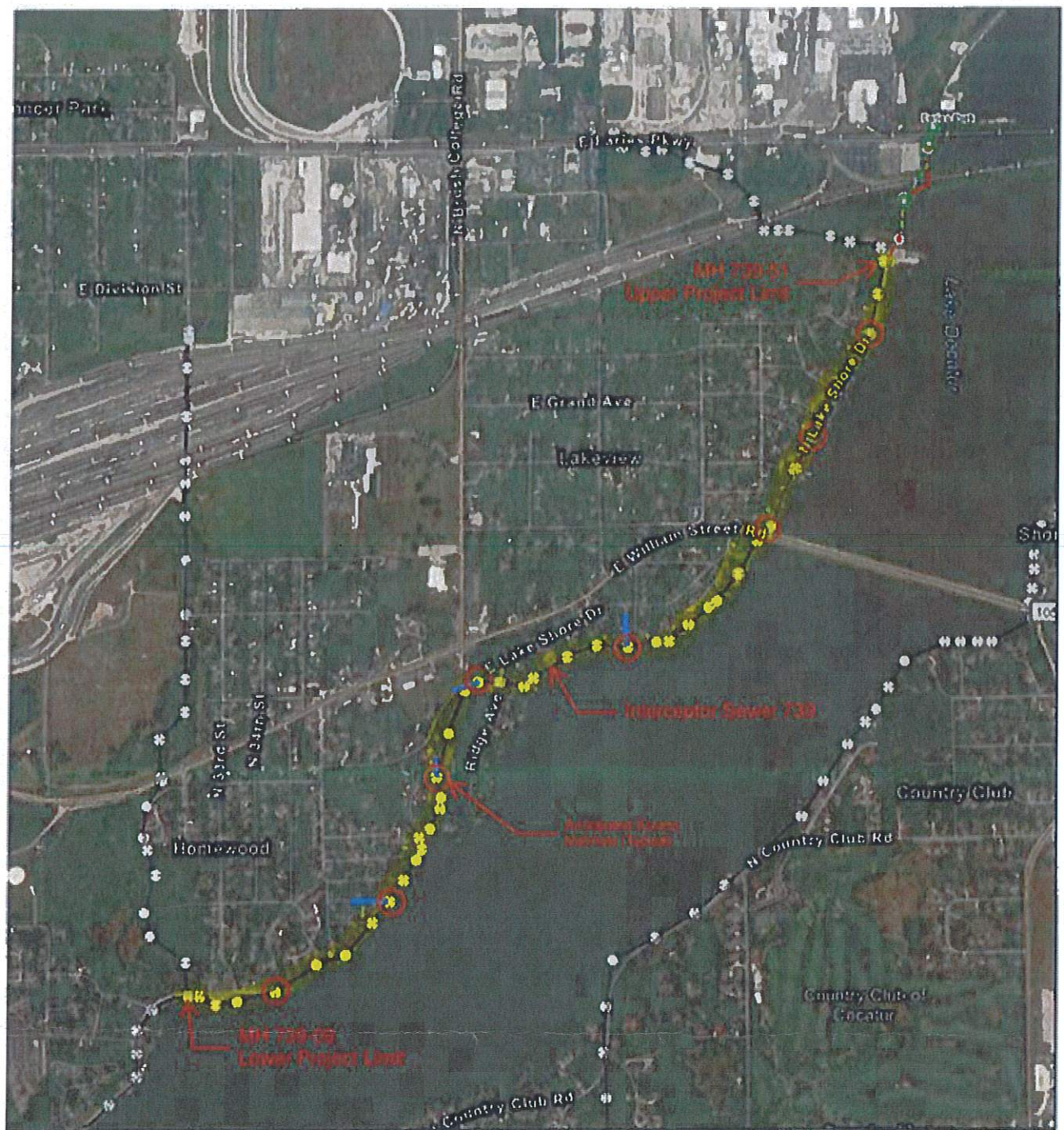
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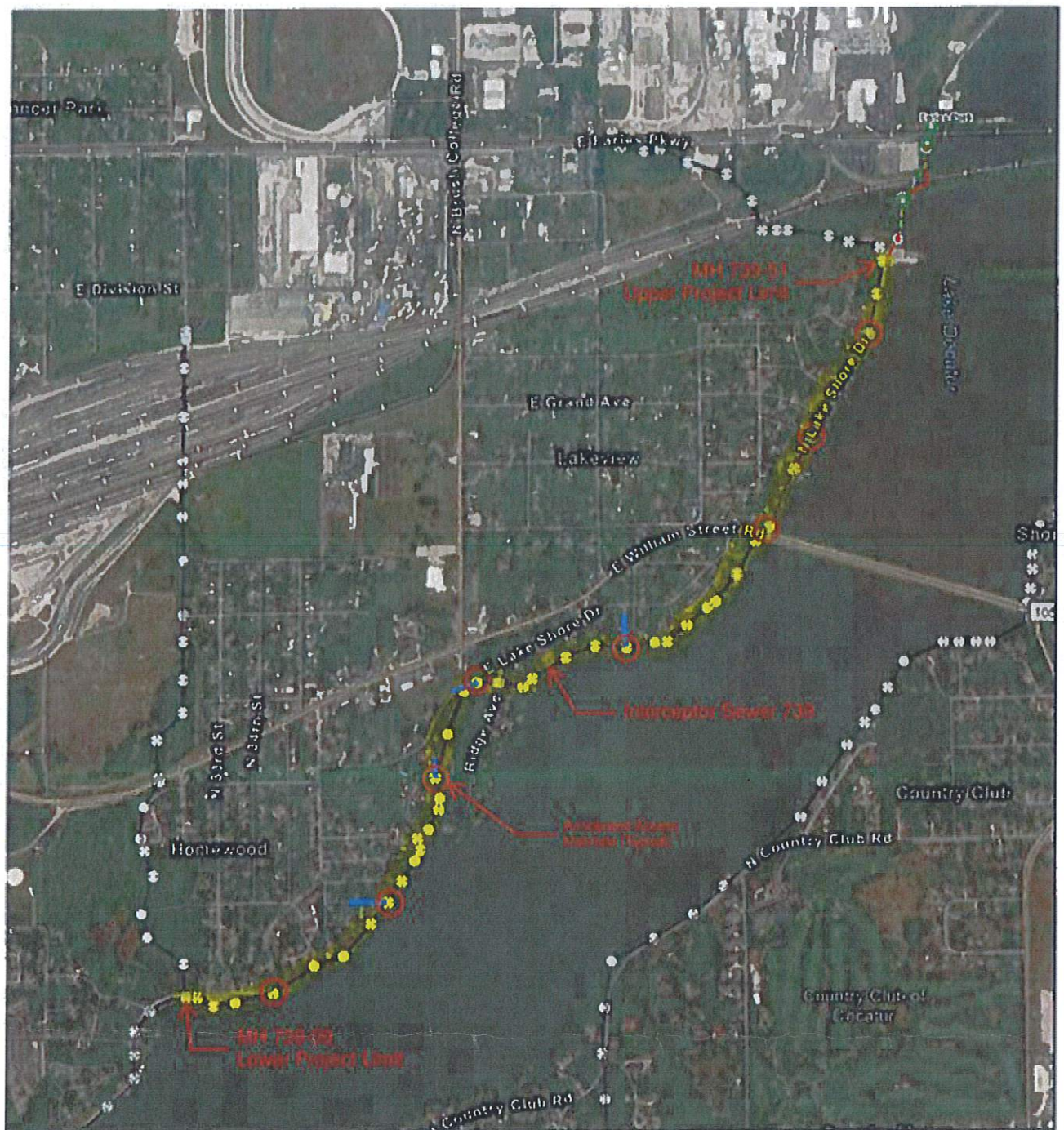
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