



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

DR. TIM BORING
DIRECTOR

**NOTICE OF FIRST MEETING OF DRAINAGE BOARD AND AUGMENTED
DRAINAGE BOARD**

[Pursuant to Section 517 of 1956 P.A. 40, as amended, MCL 280.517]

TO: **The Persons Listed on the attached Exhibit A**

DATE: **September 17, 2026**

RE: **NOTICE OF FIRST MEETING OF DRAINAGE BOARD AND FIRST
MEETING OF AUGMENTED DRAINAGE BOARD IN CONNECTION
WITH PETITION FILED UNDER CHAPTER 21 OF ACT NO. 40, PUBLIC
ACTS OF MICHIGAN, 1956, AS AMENDED (THE "DRAIN CODE")
RELATING TO THE PROPOSED ROUGE VALLEY INTERCOUNTY
DRAIN**

A petition has been filed with this office on August 26, 2025 by the City of Novi of Oakland County, through the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner, and by the City of Northville of Oakland and Wayne Counties to locate, establish, and construct an intercounty drain, the proposed Rouge Valley Sanitary Intercounty Drain, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 21 of Act 40 of 1956, as amended (the "Drain Code"), for the purpose of converting a portion of the existing Huron Rouge Sewage Disposal System to a Chapter 21 drain and making improvements thereto, as described in such petition (the "Project"). A copy of the petition is enclosed (Exhibit B).

Pursuant to the enclosed Preliminary Finding dated September 12, 2025, I have made a preliminary finding pursuant to Section 517 of the Drain Code that the counties which in my opinion include public corporations that should be assessed under the provisions of Chapter 21 of the Drain Code for the cost of the proposed drain are Oakland County and Wayne County.

Notice is hereby given that the first meeting of the Drainage Board for the Project shall be held **October 13, 2026, 10:00 am, Northville City Hall, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167**, for the purpose of selecting the Secretary of the Drainage Board, who shall also serve as the Secretary of the Augmented Drainage Board.

Notice is further given that the first meeting of the Augmented Drainage Board for the Project shall be held **October 13, 2026, 10:10 am, Northville City Hall, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167**, promptly after the first meeting of the Drainage Board, for the purposes of (1) considering the petition for the Project, (2) making a tentative determination as to the sufficiency of the petition and the practicability of the proposed

drain, (3) making a tentative determination of the public corporations to be assessed, (4) giving a name to the drain and to the drainage district, (5) fixing the time, date and place the Augmented Drainage Board will hear objections to the proposed drain and the petition for the drain, and the matter of assessing the cost of the drain to the designated public corporations, and (6) considering such other matters and taking such other actions as may be necessary or proper.

Proceedings conducted at this public meeting are subject to the provisions of the Michigan Open Meetings Act.

Jim Nash
Oakland County Water
Resources Commissioner
One Public Works Drive,
Building 95 West
Waterford, MI 48328
248-858-0958

Elmeka Steele
Wayne County Drain Commissioner
400 Monroe Street, Suite 400
Detroit, MI 48226
313-224-3620

Those needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the drain commissioner of their county at the number listed above or through the Michigan Relay Center at 711 for deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired persons.

Dated: September 17, 2026

Dr. Tim Boring, Director
Michigan Department of
Agriculture and Rural Development

Joseph P. Brezvai
Deputy for the Director
517-388-3067

EXHIBIT A

Members of the Drainage Board and Augmented Drainage Board

Jim Nash
Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner
One Public Works Drive, Building 95 West
Waterford, MI 48328

Elmeka N. Steele
Wayne County Drain Commissioner
400 Monroe Street, Suite 400
Detroit, MI 48826

Members of the Augmented Drainage Board

Board of County Commissioners Chair (Oakland County)
David T. Woodward
1200 North Telegraph Road
Pontiac, MI 48341

County Finance Committee Chair (Oakland County)
Gwen Markham
1200 North Telegraph Road
Pontiac, MI 48341

Board of Commissioners Chair (Wayne County)
Alisha Bell
500 Griswold, 7th Floor
Detroit, MI 48226

County Ways & Means Committee Chair (Wayne County)
Jonathan C. Kinloch
500 Griswold, 7th Floor
Detroit, MI 48226

Other Notice Parties

The Road Commission for Oakland County
31001 Lahser Road
Beverly Hills, MI 48025

Wayne County Department of Public
Services Road Division
400 Monroe Street
Detroit, MI 48226

Jim Davis, P.E.
Michigan Department of Transportation
425 W. Ottawa Street
P.O. Box 30050
Lansing, MI 48909

EXHIBIT B

PETITION

**PETITION TO LOCATE, ESTABLISH, AND CONSTRUCT A COUNTY DRAIN
PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 21 OF PUBLIC ACT 40 OF 1956, AS AMENDED**

_____ INTERCOUNTY DRAIN

TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND
RURAL DEVELOPMENT:

The undersigned public corporation is the City of Northville hereby petitions for the location, establishment, and construction of a county drain to be known as the _____ Intercounty Drain, located in the City of Novi in the County of Oakland, State of Michigan, and the City of Northville in the County of Oakland and County of Wayne, State of Michigan.

The route and course of the proposed _____ Intercounty Drain is described in the attached Exhibit A.

The location, establishment, and construction of the proposed _____ Intercounty Drain is necessary for the public health of the City of Northville.

This petition is filed pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 21 of Public Act 40 of 1956, as amended. It is understood that the cost of the location, establishment, and construction of the proposed _____ Intercounty Drain is to be wholly assessed against public corporations, including the City of Northville. The City of Northville may levy a special assessment, charge, or fee for all or a portion of the cost of the location, establishment, and construction of the proposed _____ Intercounty Drain against benefitting properties under MCL 280.539, after conducting a gearing as prescribed under MCL 280.538a.

A certified copy of the resolution of the City Council of the City of Northville authorizing the execution of the petition is attached.

CITY OF NORTHVILLE

Date: April 22, 2024

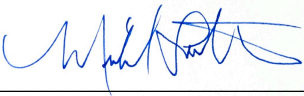
By: 
Michael Smith, Clerk

EXHIBIT A
ROUTE AND COURSE

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF A
PETITION TO LOCATE, ESTABLISH, AND CONSTRUCT A COUNTY DRAIN PURSUANT
TO CHAPTER 21 OF PUBLIC ACT 40 OF 1956, AS AMENDED**

_____ INTERCOUNTY DRAIN

At a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Northville, Oakland County and Wayne County, Michigan, held at 7:00 pm on April 1, 2024, at Northville City Council City Hall – Council Chambers 215 W. Main Street Northville, MI 48167, local time.

PRESENT: Mayor Turnbull, and Councilmembers Carter, Genitti, Krenz, Moroski-Browne

ABSENT: None

The following resolution was offered by Mayor Pro Tem Moroski-Browne, and seconded by Councilmember Carter.

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that the location, establishment, and construction of the proposed _____ Intercounty Drain is necessary for the public health of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to file a petition with the Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development pursuant to Chapter 21 of Public Act 40 of 1956, as amended (“Drain Code”), for the location, establishment, and construction of the proposed _____ Intercounty Drain, to be located and established in the City of Novi, Oakland County, and the City of Northville, Oakland County and Wayne County, Michigan.

*[WHEREAS, the City Council has declared the lots and parcels of land more particularly described in **Exhibit A** attached hereto and made a part hereof as the area to be serviced by the _____ Intercounty Drain, and these parcels will be especially benefitted by the _____ Intercounty Drain and that a special assessment, fee, or charge may be levied by the City against benefitted parcels pursuant to Chapter 21 of the Drain Code; and*

WHEREAS, the City Council, after due and legal notice, held a public hearing to hear objections to the proposed _____ Intercounty Drain and special assessments, fees, or charges to be levied, as required by Section 538a of the Drain Code.]

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Northville, as follows:

1. The City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to execute and file the petition substantially in the form attached to the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development by certified mail.
2. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same are hereby rescinded.

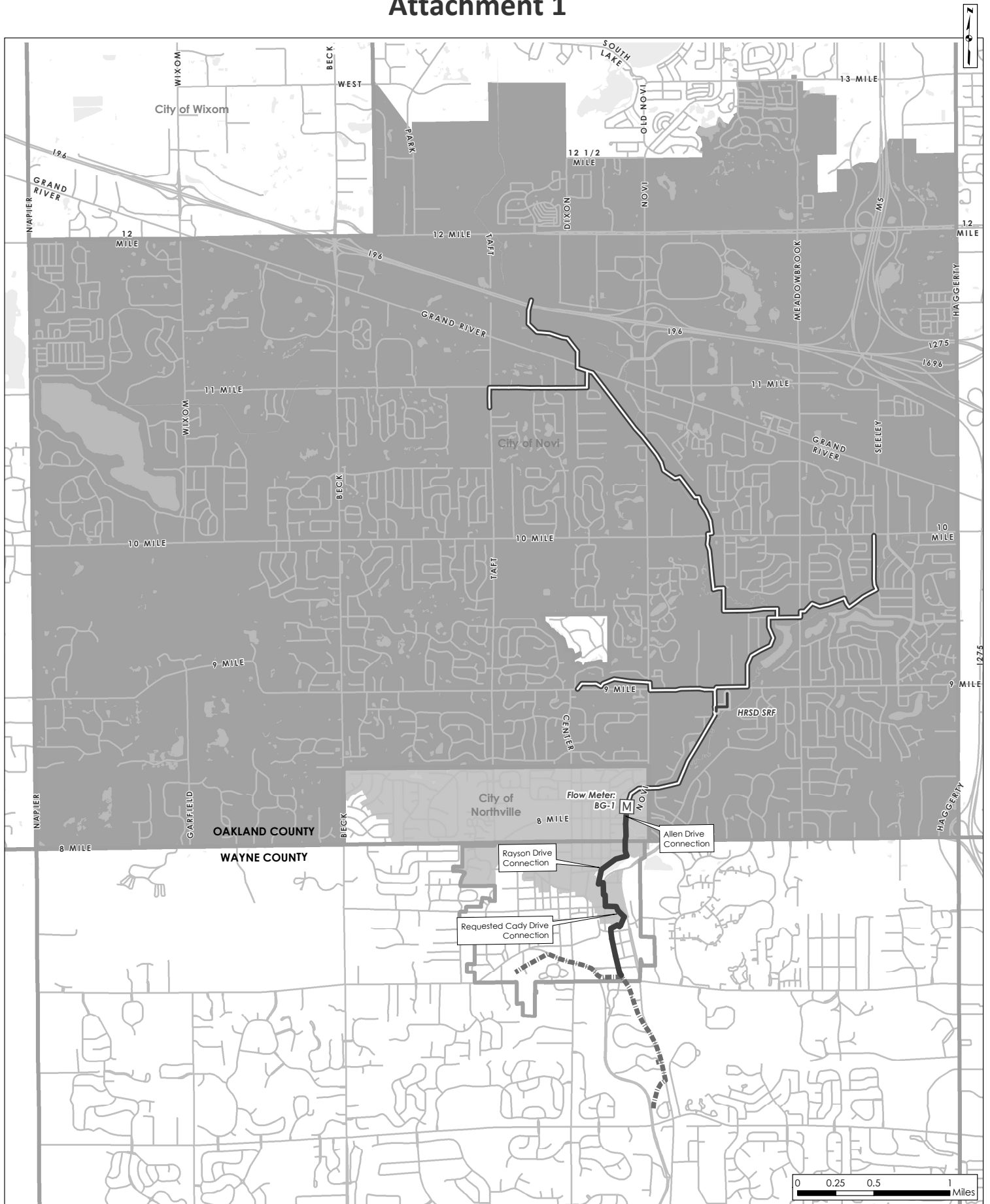
STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)ss
COUNTY OF WAYNE)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the City of Northville, Oakland County and Wayne County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting on the City Council on the 1st day of April, 2024.



Michael Smith, City Clerk

Attachment 1



**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF A
PETITION TO LOCATE, ESTABLISH, AND CONSTRUCT AN INTERCOUNTY DRAIN
PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 21 OF PUBLIC ACT 40 OF 1956, AS AMENDED**

ROUGE VALLEY SANITARY INTERCOUNTY DRAIN

At a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, held at the City of Novi Council Chambers on August 11, 2025, at 7:00 pm, local time.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Fischer, Casey, Gurumurthy, Heintz, Smith, and Thomas (6).

ABSENT: Councilmember Staudt (1).

The following resolution was offered by Thomas and seconded by Smith.

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that the location, establishment, and construction of the proposed Rouge Valley Sanitary Intercounty Drain is necessary for the public health of the City; and

WHEREAS, the conversion of the Huron Rouge Sewage Disposal System to a Chapter 21 drain provides substantial benefit to the City including:

- Governance composed of three (3) elected officials from the County Board of Commissioner's Office and the Water Resource Commissioner;
- Improved transparency and communication through regularly scheduled open public meetings, formal minutes, and formal approval of invoices and contracts by the Drain Board; and
- The ability to conduct public hearings to solicit comments from the communities and the public for all future bond financed projects; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to file a petition with the Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development pursuant to Chapter 21 of Public Act 40 of 1956, as amended ("Drain Code"), for the location, establishment, and construction of the proposed Rouge Valley Sanitary Intercounty Drain, to be located and established in the City of Novi, Oakland County, and City of Northville, Wayne County, Michigan.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Novi, as follows:

1. The Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute and file the petition substantially in the form attached to the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development by certified mail.
2. The Mayor and City Clerk are further hereby authorized and directed to enter into an agreement related to the project contemplated by the Petition and to file the same with the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner.
3. The City Council hereby consents to the assessment of its share of the entire cost of the location, establishment, and construction of the Rouge Valley Sanitary Intercounty Drain levied against the City.
4. The City agrees that it will pay its share of the costs incurred by the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner or the Drainage District in the event that the Drain is not constructed.

5. The City acknowledges that the County of Oakland, its Board of Commissioners, the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner, the County of Wayne, its Board of Commissioners, and the Wayne County Drain Commissioner will not contribute to the cost of the location, establishment, and construction of the Drain or its operation and maintenance except to the extent that Oakland County or Wayne County may be assessed for the cost of the Rouge Valley Sanitary Intercounty Drain or may agree to contribute to the cost of the location, establishment, and construction of the Rouge Valley Sanitary Intercounty Drain in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 21 of Public Act 40 of 1956, as amended.
6. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same are hereby rescinded.

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)ss
COUNTY OF OAKLAND)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting on the City Council on the 1st day of August, 2025.

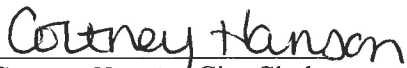
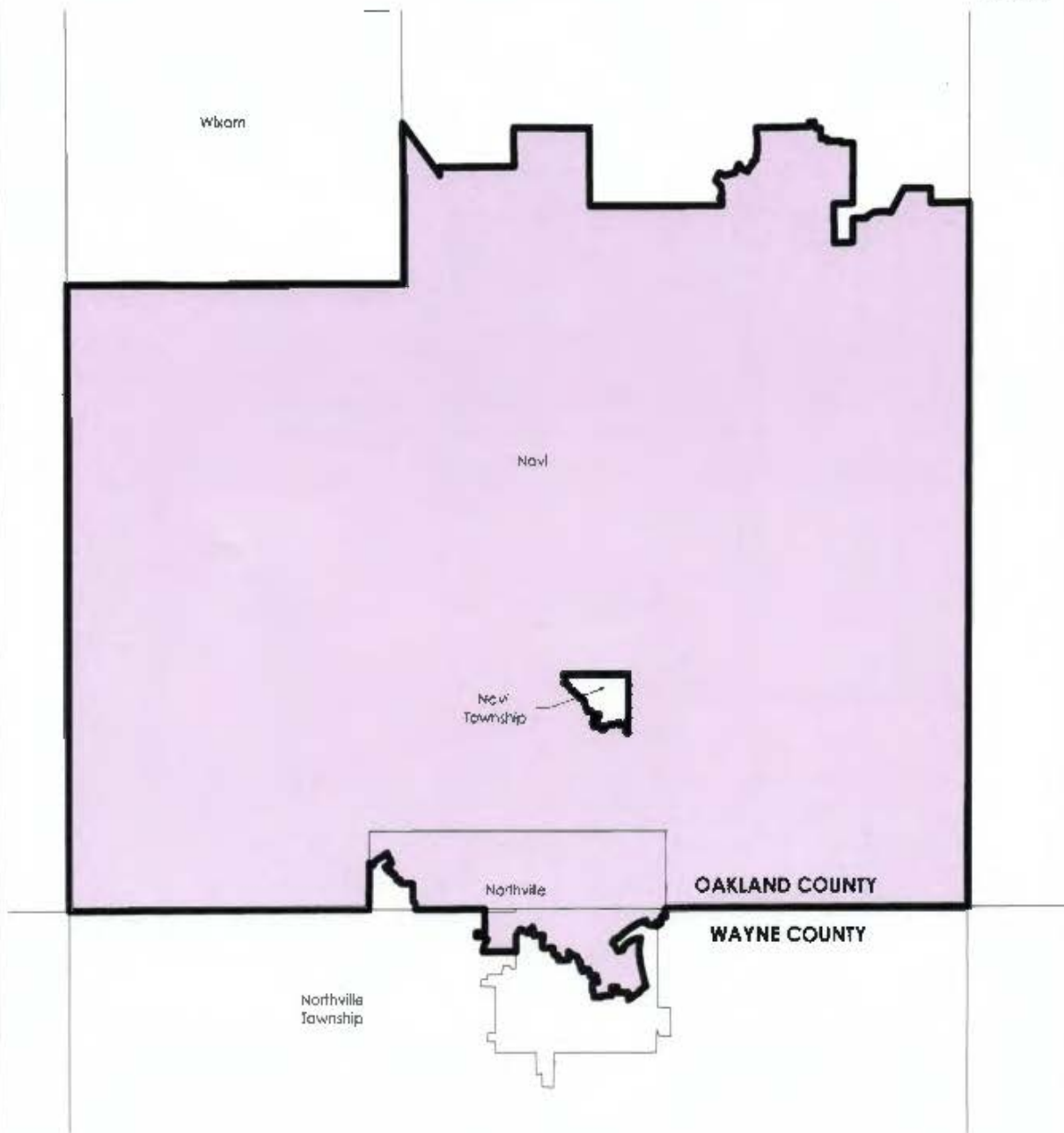

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

EXHIBIT A



LEGEND



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
CHAPTER 21 SANITARY DRAIN

CHAPTER 21 CUSTOMER SERVICE AREA

Disclaimer: The information provided in this report was prepared from records and data provided by the client. The information is not intended to be used for any purpose other than the purpose for which it was provided. The information is not intended to be used for any purpose other than the purpose for which it was provided. The information is not intended to be used for any purpose other than the purpose for which it was provided.

**PETITION TO LOCATE, ESTABLISH, AND CONSTRUCT A COUNTY DRAIN
PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 21 OF PUBLIC ACT 40 OF 1956, AS AMENDED**

ROUGE VALLEY SANITARY INTERCOUNTY DRAIN

TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND
RURAL DEVELOPMENT:

The undersigned public corporation is the City of Novi and hereby petitions for the location, establishment, and construction of a county drain to be known as the Rouge Valley Sanitary Intercounty Drain, located in the City of Novi in the County of Oakland, State of Michigan, and the City of Northville in the County of Oakland and County of Wayne, State of Michigan.

The route and course of the proposed Rouge Valley Sanitary Intercounty Drain is described in the attached Exhibit A.

The location, establishment, and construction of the proposed Rouge Valley Sanitary Intercounty Drain is necessary for the public health of the City of Novi.

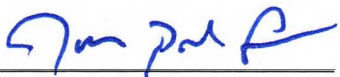
It is understood that the cost of the location, establishment, and construction of the proposed Rouge Valley Sanitary Intercounty Drain, including litigation costs and the amount of any judgment, arbitration award or settlement, to the extent such costs are payable by the Drainage District, is to be wholly assessed against public corporations, including the City of Novi. The City Council hereby consents to the assessment of its share of the entire cost of the proposed Rouge Valley Sanitary Intercounty Drain levied against the City. The City also agrees to pay its share of the costs incurred by the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner or Drainage District in the event that the Drain is not constructed.

The issuance of bonds to finance the location, establishment, and construction of the proposed Rouge Valley Sanitary Intercounty Drain is contingent upon the public corporations and Drainage District entering into an agreement as provided by law setting forth the services and operations of the proposed Rouge Valley Sanitary Intercounty Drain and to provide for methods of addressing and apportioning future improvements to the proposed Rouge Valley Sanitary Intercounty Drain.

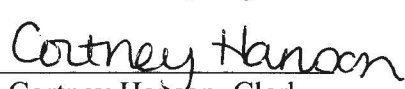
This petition is filed pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 21 of Public Act 40 of 1956, as amended. A certified copy of the resolution of the City Council of the City of Novi authorizing the execution of the petition is attached.

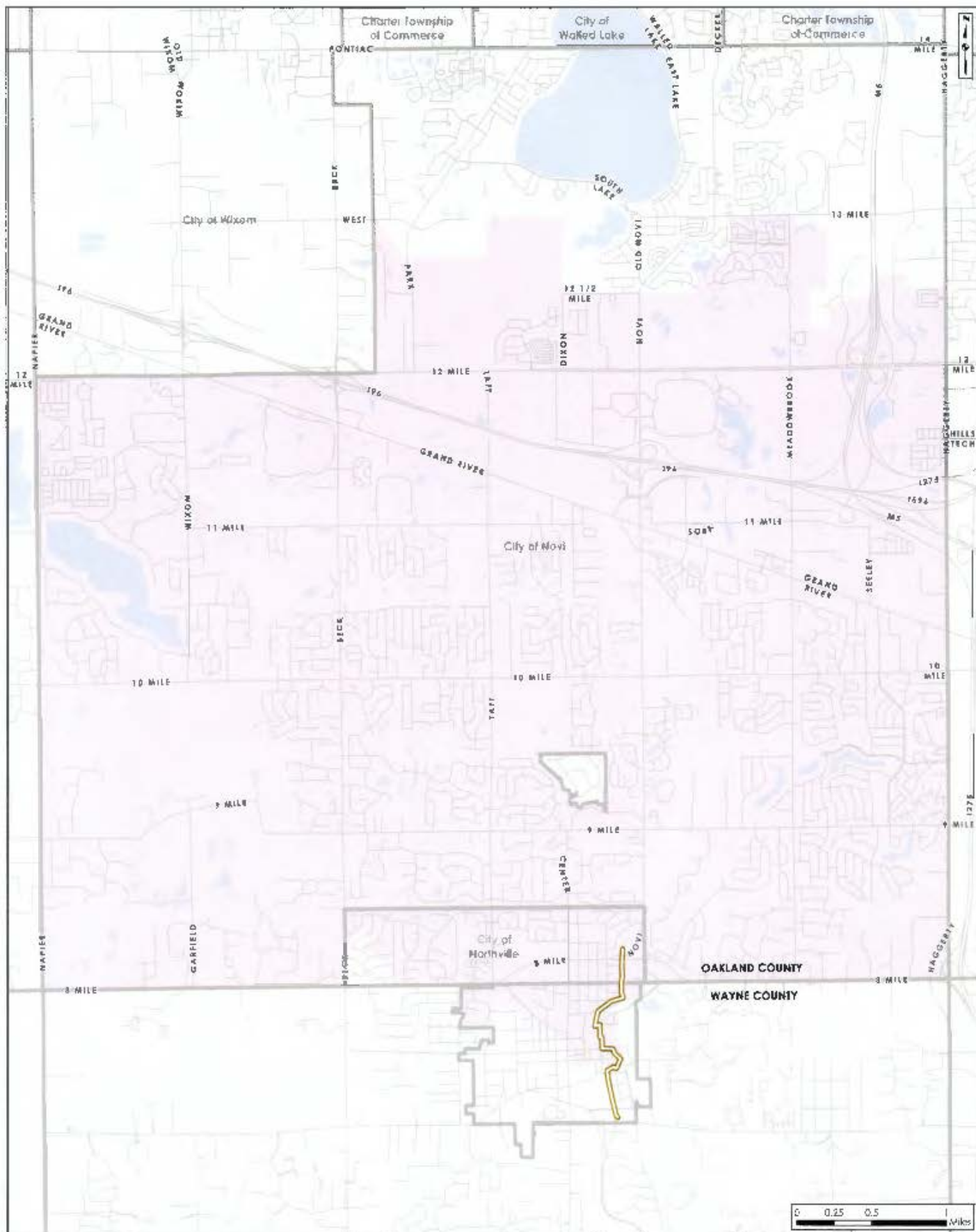
CITY OF NOVI

Date: 8/11/25

By: 
Justin Fischer, Mayor

Date: 8/11/25

By: 
Courtney Hanson, Clerk



DISCLAIMER:
The information shown on this map is compiled from reported data for the purpose of providing a general overview. Although the information is intended to accurately reflect public information, it is not a legally recorded map or survey and is not intended to be used as such. Users should consult primary source information for all planning purposes.

Exhibit A Chapter 21 Huron Rouge Sanitary Drain Route and Course

- HRSO Gravity Interceptor
- HRSO Linear Storage
- Chapter 21 HRSO District

Agenda

Rouge Valley Sanitary Intercounty Drain Drainage Board (Oakland & Wayne Counties)

10:00 a.m., Tuesday, October 13, 2026

Northville City Hall

215 W. Main Street

Northville, Michigan

1. Call to order and Introductions

Board Members

Joseph Brezvai, Chair, Michigan Dept. of Agriculture & Rural Development

Jim Nash, Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner

Elmeka Steele, Wayne County Drain Commissioner

2. Motion to elect a Secretary
3. Review and set the agenda
4. Communications and reports of board members, committees, and consultants
 - a. Select the Secretary to the Drainage Board
5. Other business
6. Public comment
7. Set the date, time, and location of the next meeting
8. Adjourn

Agenda

Rouge Valley Sanitary Intercounty Drain Augmented Drainage Board (Oakland & Wayne Counties)

10:10 a.m., Tuesday, October 13, 2026
Northville City Hall
215 W. Main Street
Northville, Michigan

1. Call to order and Introductions
Board Members
Joseph Brezvai, Chair, Michigan Dept. of Agriculture & Rural Development
Jim Nash, Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner
Elmeka Steele, Wayne County Drain Commissioner
2. Motion to elect a Secretary
3. Review and set the agenda
4. Communications and reports of board members, committees, and consultants
 - a. Make a tentative determination as to the sufficiency of the petition and the practicability of the proposed drain
 - b. Make a tentative determination of the public corporations to be assessed
 - c. Give a name to the drain and to the drainage district
 - d. Fix the time, date and place the Augmented Drainage Board will hear objections to the proposed drain and the petition for the drain, and the matter of assessing the cost of the drain to the designated public corporations
 - e. Consider such other matters and take such other actions as may be necessary or proper
5. Other business
6. Public comment
7. Set the date, time, and location of the next meeting
8. Adjourn