



State Revolving Fund Loan Programs Drinking Water, Wastewater, Nonpoint Source

PRELIMINARY DECISION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS, ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

**VALPARAISO CITY UTILITIES
Horseprairie Lift Station Upgrade
Preliminary Engineering Report Addendum #1
SRF # WW 09 12 864 02**

Date: June 12, 2014

Pursuant to IC 4-4-11, the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program has determined that the project described here and in the city's Preliminary Engineering Report Addendum #1 received by the SRF on April 17, 2014, will have no substantial negative environmental impact. Therefore, the SRF is issuing a preliminary decision of Categorical Exclusion from the requirements of substantive environmental review.

How were environmental issues considered?

The National Environmental Policy Act requires agencies disbursing Federal funds to include environmental factors in the decision making process. A summary of the project is attached for your review. The SRF's preliminary review has found that the proposed project does not require the preparation of either an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement.

Why is additional environmental review not required?

Our environmental review has concluded that significant environmental impacts will not result from the proposed action.

How do I submit comments?

Comments can be submitted to:

Max Henschen, Senior Environmental Manager
SRF Programs
317-232-8623; mhensche at ifa.in.gov

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address: **Horseprairie Lift Station Upgrade**
Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) Addendum #1
Valparaiso City Utilities
205 Billings Street
Valparaiso, IN 46383

SRF Project Number: WW09 12 864 02

Authorized Representative: Mr. David Bengs
President, Valparaiso City Utilities Board

II. PROJECT LOCATION

Valparaiso is located in central Porter County. The Horseprairie Lift Station upgrade project will occur in the Valparaiso USGS quadrangle, Center Township, Township 35 North, Range 6 West, NE ¼ section 26 (see Figure 1).

III. PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

Valparaiso needs to upgrade the Horseprairie Lift Station to address deficiencies regarding odors, solids deposition, deterioration of the concrete structure, reliability issues and inadequate capacity. The capacity of the lift station will have to be increased from 5.0 million gallons per day (MGD) to 6.8 MGD to accommodate 20-year needs, plus an increase of approximately 1.0 MGD from an industrial facility expansion.

The "No Action" alternative was rejected since the current deficiencies would continue at the lift station.

The selected alternative includes refitting the lift station with two new submersible pumps with a rated capacity of approximately 3,000 gallons per minute each; cleaning and coating the vertical surfaces in the wet well and the pump access shaft; and installing a prefabricated electrical building that will house the motor controllers and variable frequency drives.

IV. ESTIMATED PROJECT COST AND FUNDING

The estimated cost for the proposed lift station upgrade project is \$700,000. Valparaiso closed a 20-year loan for \$1,533,000 with the SRF on April 21, 2011. The city will use the unspent loan funds of \$282,920, as well as local funds, to pay for the project.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES

The proposed project will be confined to the previously disturbed lift station site. The project will not affect wetlands, wooded areas, surface waters, endangered species, the 100-year flood plain or prime farmland.

Construction and operation of the project will not alter, demolish or remove historic properties (see Figure 2). If any visual or audible impacts to historic properties occur, they will be temporary and will not alter the characteristics that qualify such properties for inclusion in or eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. The SRF's finding pursuant to Section 106 of the Historic Preservation Act is: "no historic properties affected."

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A legal notice was placed in Northwest Indiana Times on March 7, 2014, describing the proposed Horseprairie Lift Station upgrade project.

Figure 1
Existing Horseprairie Avenue Lift Station Location

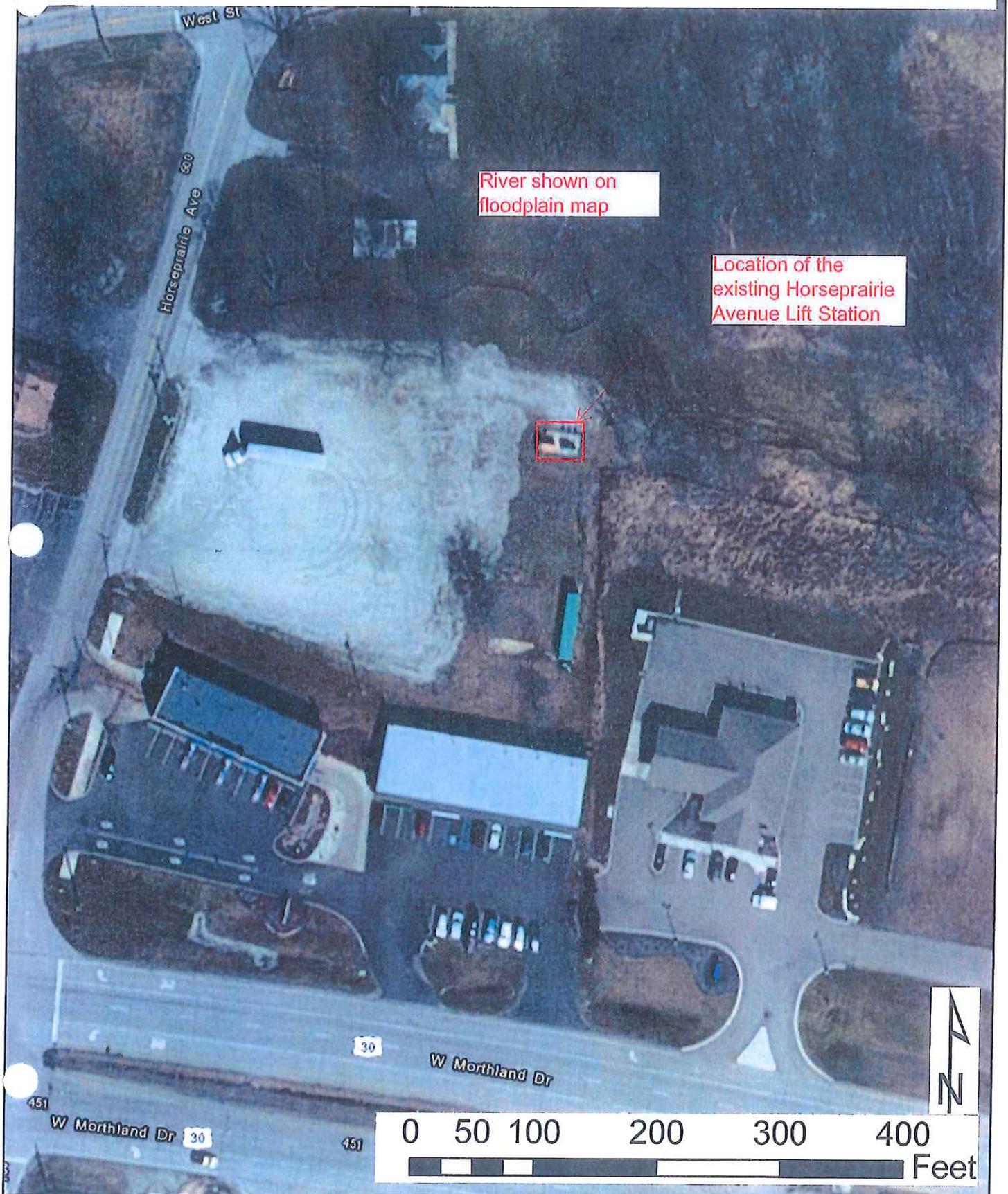
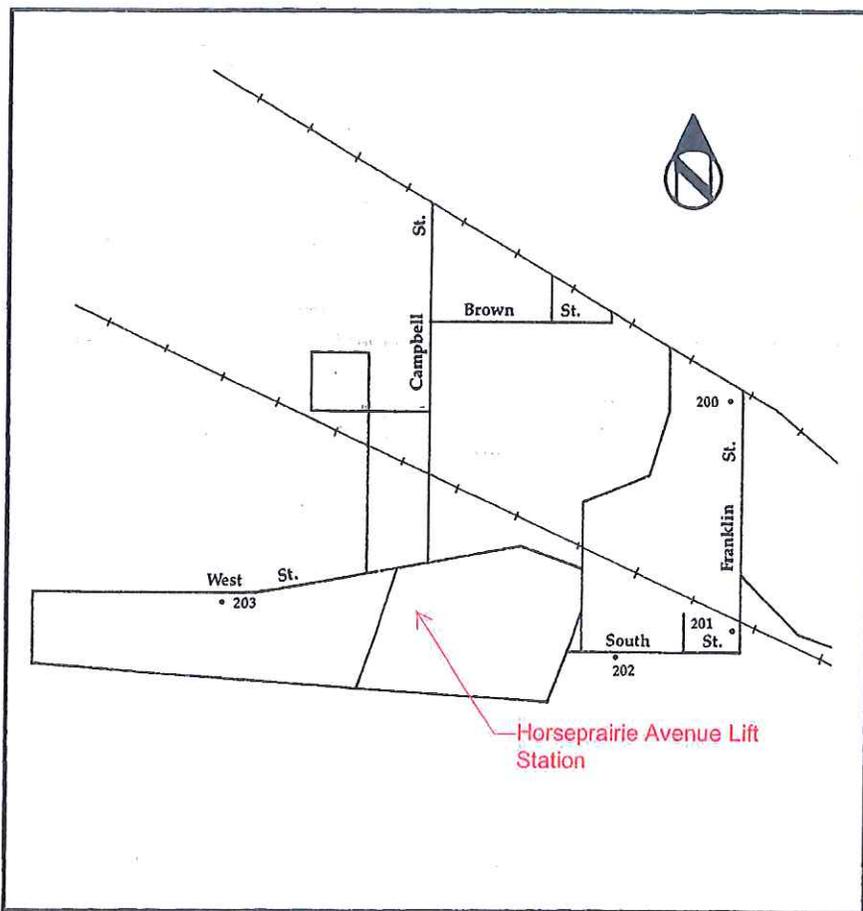
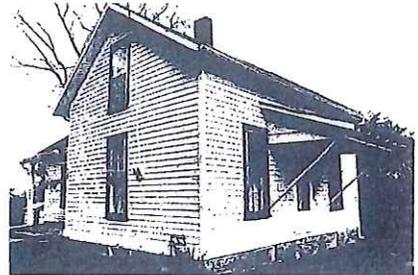


Figure 2 Porter County Interim Report for Historic and Architectural Resources
 Valparaiso Scattered Sites (34200-203)



200 C House, S. Franklin Street; Italianate, c.1870; Architecture (642)

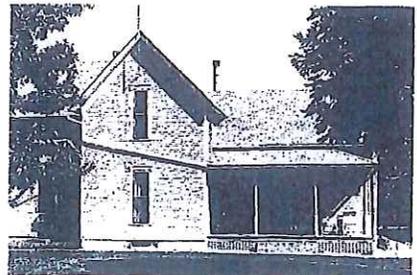
201 N House, 758 S. Franklin Street; Hall-and-parlor, c.1870; Vernacular/Construction (642)



201

202 C House, 57 South Street; Gabled-ell/Italianate, c.1875; Architecture, Vernacular/Construction (642)

203 C House, 755 West Street; T-plan/Queen Anne, c.1890; Architecture, Vernacular/Construction (642)



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