P.O. Box 13231, 1700 N. Congress Ave.
Austin, TX 78711-3231, www.twdb.texas.gov
Phone (512) 463-7847, Fax (512) 475-2053

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES AND PUBLIC GROUPS:

As provided by the environmental review process adopted in the rules of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), 31 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 375.61, for projects to be funded through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Program and consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 United States Code § 4321, *et seq*., the TWDB has determined that the proposed action identified below may be exempted from comprehensive environmental review requirements:

City of De Leon, Comanche County, Texas
TWDB CWSRF Project No. 73979
Wastewater Collection System Improvements
Total Financing Amount: $1,175,000
Loan Forgiveness No. 1002145

The City of De Leon (City) is proposing to use $1,175,000 in financing from the CWSRF program for the Wastewater Collection System Improvements Project to replace approximately 7,300 linear feet (LF) of wastewater pipelines and replace approximately 14 manholes within the right-of-way (ROW) affected by the pipeline replacement. The proposed work will address Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) violations for exceeding effluent limitations by reducing the amount of inflow and infiltration entering the system.

Existing lines will be replaced by new lines in the same or proximate locations. The existing lines will either be removed or abandoned in place. Environmental impacts will be similar to rehabilitation activities and limited to those associated with excavation, pipe installation, and road repair. In some cases, the depth of excavation may be greater than the existing pipe and the location of the replacement pipe may not be immediately adjacent to the existing line (e.g., opposite side of street). All construction will occur in mowed and maintained roadway ROW.

There are no previously recorded significant or potentially significant historical or cultural sites within or adjacent to the project footprint, according to the Texas Historical Commission's Archeological Sites Atlas, nor is the proposed project within a protected area surrounding a historic cemetery, structure, or district. The North Bell Street wastewater line replacement crosses a stream that may qualify as waters of the United States, including

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Board Members
L'Oreal Stepney, P.E., Chairwoman | W. Brady Franks, Board Member | Ashley Morgan, Board Member
Bryan McMath, Executive Administrator

wetlands. This waterbody will be crossed using trenchless methods, will bore pits located outside of the ordinary high water mark as well as potential adjacent wetlands and riparian forest. The proposed project appears to be partially within a 100-year floodplain, as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Projects involving construction in the 100-year floodplain, including replacement or borings, require a floodplain development permit from the local floodplain administrator prior to construction. The North Bell Street wastewater line locations are located in the floodplain according to FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps. The proposed project is not expected to impact threatened or endangered species or habitat, as vegetation removal is not required.

To ensure that there would be no adverse environmental impacts associated with the construction, the Authority coordinated with two regulatory agencies, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). In a letter dated December 4, 2025, the TPWD stated that they did not anticipate significant adverse impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered species or other fish and wildlife resources.

The TWDB may not fund testing, remediation, removal, disposal, or related works for contaminated or potentially contaminated materials. However, the project proponent should ensure that, if found, such materials are tested, removed, and disposed of in accordance with applicable state and federal laws.

The staff of the TWDB previously recommended issuance of a Categorical Exclusion (CE) for this project. The decision to grant this CE is allowed because the specified project elements will not cause significant adverse impacts to cultural and natural resources. Documentation supporting this determination is on file at the TWDB.

This determination shall be revoked if it is found that

(1) the project no longer meets the requirements for categorical exclusion from full environmental review as a result of changes in the project;
(2) the project involves extraordinary circumstances as described in 31 TAC § 375.62; or
(3) the project may violate or has violated federal, state, local, or tribal laws.

The proposed project must comply with the following special and standard environmental conditions:

<u>Special Environmental Conditions</u>

- Consistent with the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004, federal Executive Order 11988 as amended by EO 13690, Texas Water Code Section 16.315, and local floodplain development ordinances, a floodplain development permit will be obtained from the local floodplain administrator prior to construction in, across, or under a

Special Flood Hazard Area and the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) approval of plans and specifications, and any requirements contained therein will be adhered to.

Standard Environmental Conditions

- Consistent with the TWDB Supplemental Construction Contract Conditions (TWDB-0550), the City of De Leon (City) will abide by the standard emergency condition for the discovery of cultural resources.

- Consistent with the TWDB Supplemental Construction Contract Conditions (TWDB-0550), the City will abide by the standard emergency condition for the discovery of threatened and endangered species.

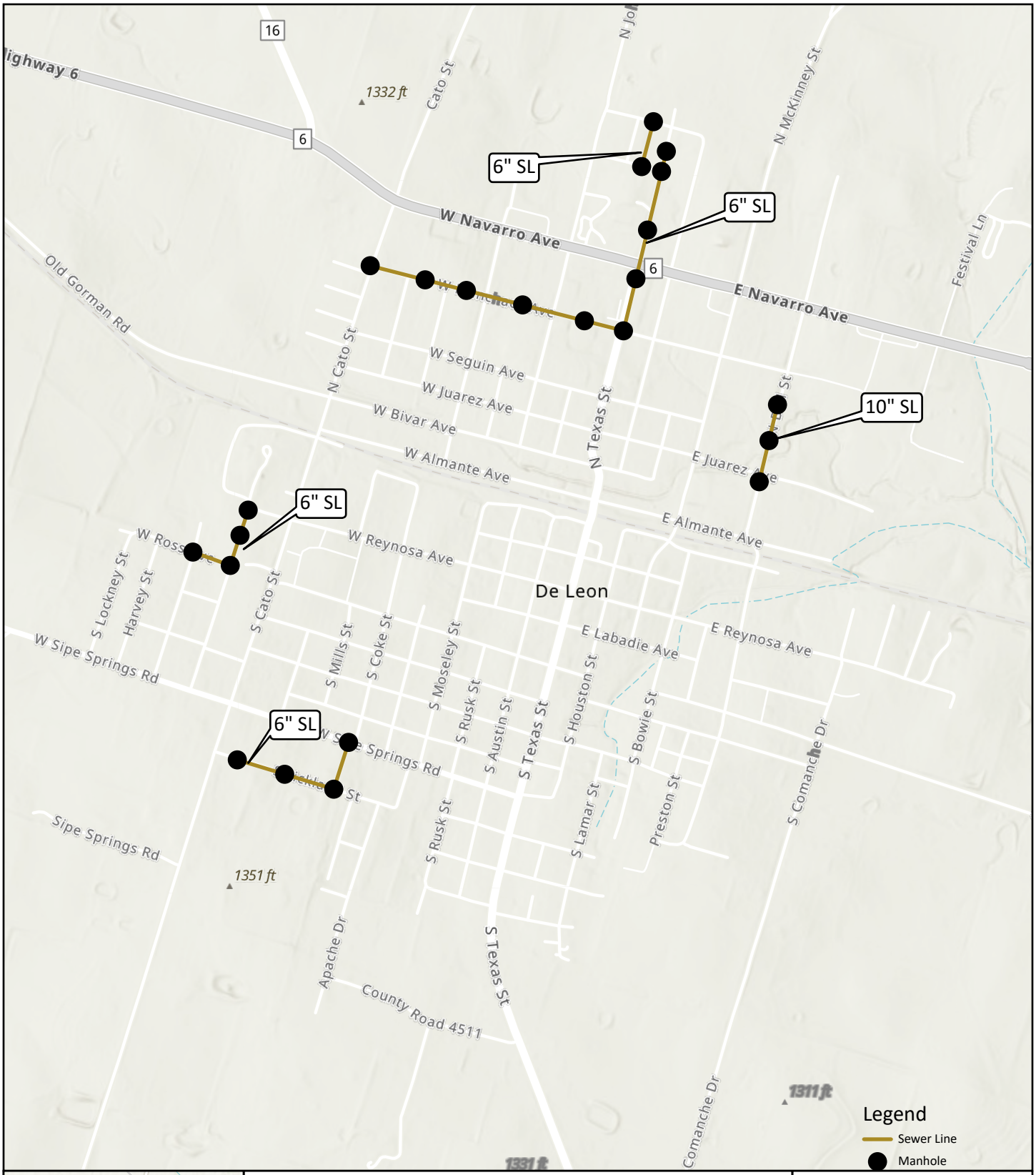
Comments regarding this determination may be submitted to the Director of Regional Water Project Development, Texas Water Development Board, P.O. Box 13231, Austin, Texas 78711-3231 or via email at RWPD-Environmental@twdb.texas.gov.

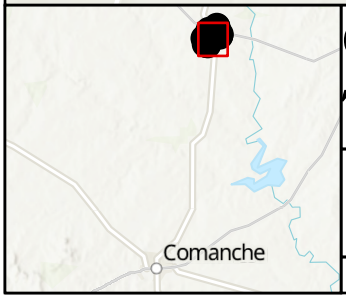
Sincerely,

Clay Schultz Digitally signed by Clay Schultz
Date: 2026.02.23 09:51:27
-06'00'

T. Clay Schultz, Ph.D., Director
Regional Water Project Development

Enclosures





City of De Leon
TWDB CWSRF Application

Texas Parks & Wildlife, CONANP, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, FAO, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USFWS, Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA, Esri, CGIAR, USGS, Esri Community Maps Contributors, Texas Parks & Wildlife, CONANP, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau,

2025

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane Texas Central FIPS 4203 Feet

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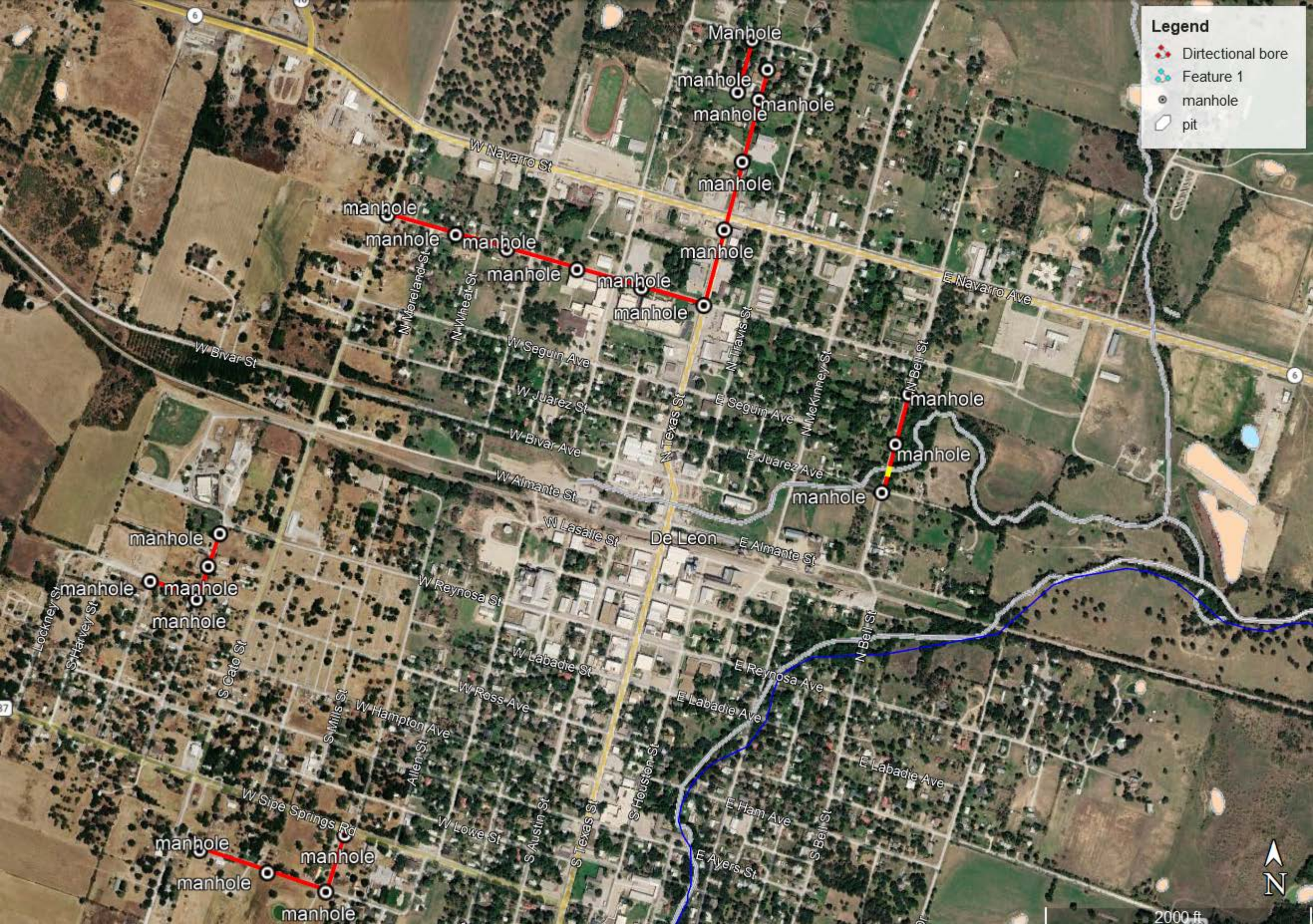
JACOB MARTIN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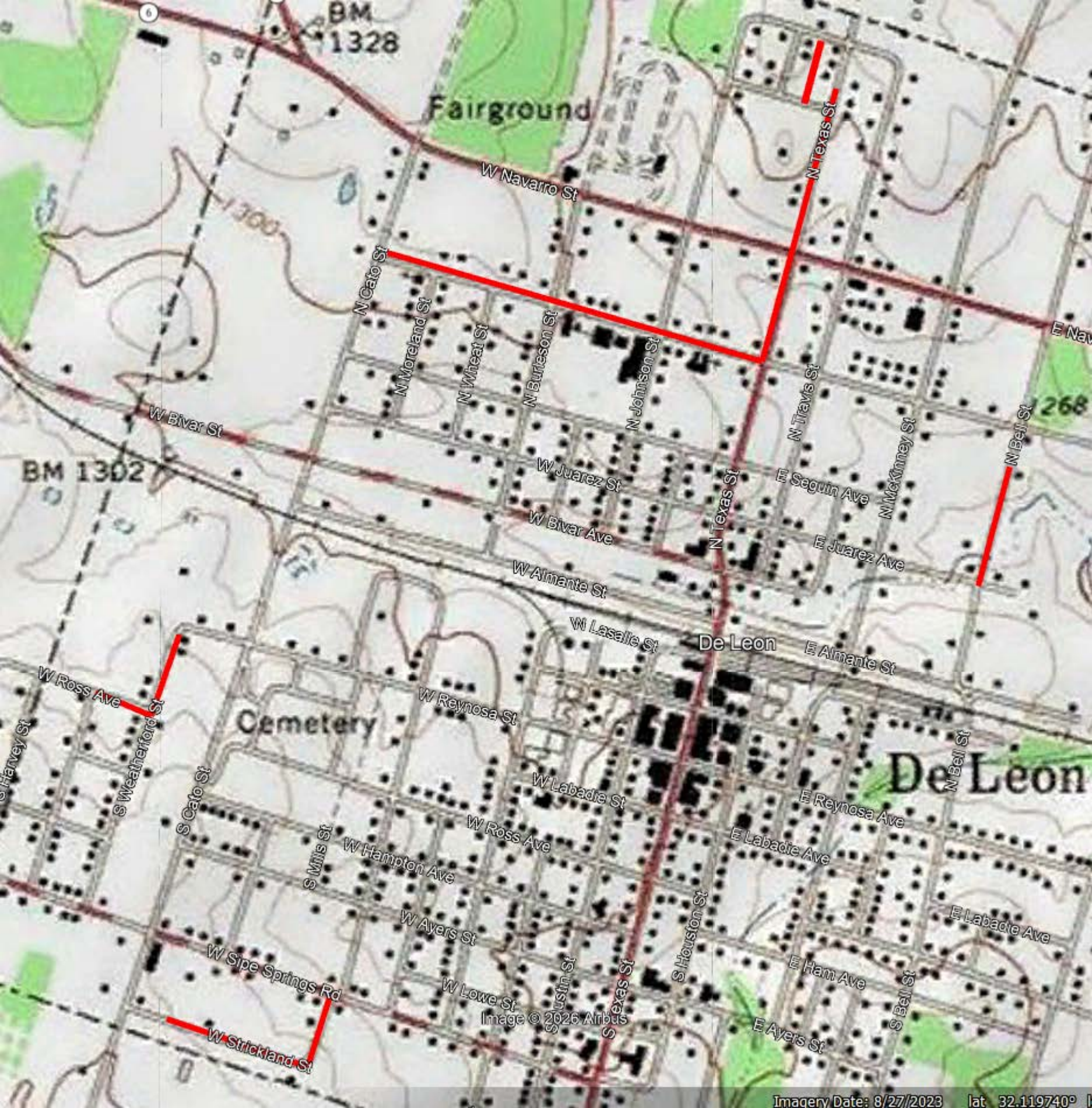
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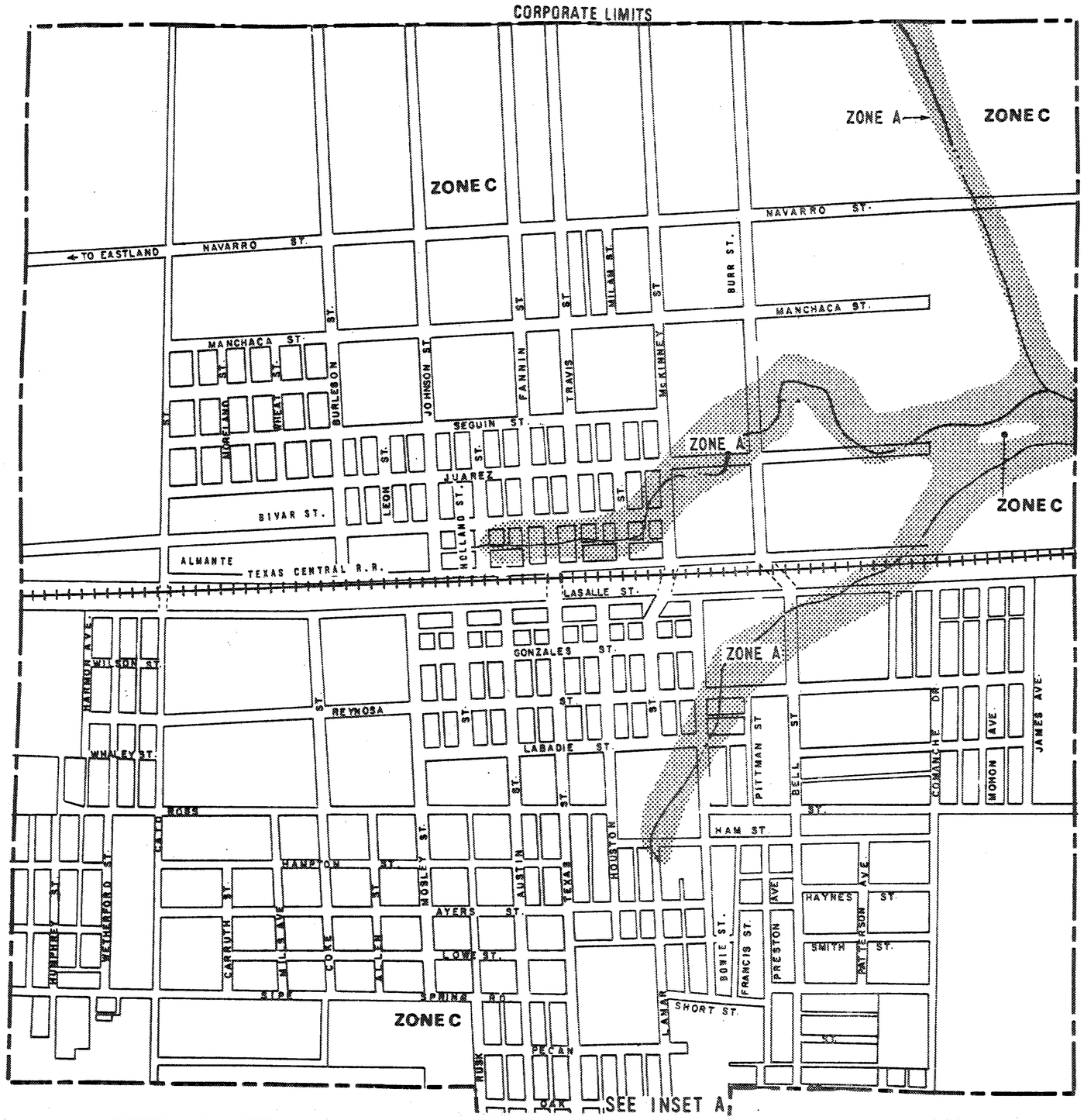
CORPORATE LIMITS
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