

## Highway Department

Jason Benson, P.E. County Engineer

Thomas B. Soucy, P.E. Deputy County Engineer

Blaine Laaveg Superintendent

#### **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

**Cass County Commission** 

FROM:

Jason Benson, Cass County Engineer ////

DATE:

January 5, 2023

SUBJECT: Agenda topic for January 17, 2023 Commission Meeting: Hold a public hearing on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 for a resolution to take over road rights-of-way and grant permission to permanently obstruct the same and the underlying section lines of portions of 169<sup>th</sup> Avenue Southeast, 168<sup>th</sup> Avenue Southeast, 29<sup>th</sup> Street Southeast, 76<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North, 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Northwest, 38<sup>th</sup> Street Northwest, and 35<sup>th</sup> Street Southeast that will be impacted by Phase 2 of the FM Diversion SWDCAI.

On December 5, 2022, the Cass County Commission approved a motion that the Cass County Board of Commissioners set a public hearing for January 17<sup>th</sup> during the regular meeting of the Cass County Commission for a resolution to take over road ROW and grant written permission to permanently obstruct the same of 169<sup>th</sup> Avenue Southeast, 168<sup>th</sup> Avenue Southeast, 29<sup>th</sup> Street Southeast, 76<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North, 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Northwest, 38<sup>th</sup> Street Northwest, and 35<sup>th</sup> Street Southeast.

Cass County has been working with the Metro Flood Diversion Authority (FMDA) on road closures for the construction of the Diversion Project. In April 2021, the FMDA, Cass County Joint Water Recourse District (CCJWRD), and Cass County approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the construction of the diversion over road rights-of-way (ROW).

We are now being asked by the FMDA and CCJWRD to take control of and prepare to close 169th Avenue Southeast, 168th Avenue Southeast, 29th Street Southeast, 76th Avenue North, 52nd Avenue North, 32nd Avenue Northwest, 38th Street Northwest, and 35th Street Southeast (see map in the attached CCJWRD Resolution). These closures are required for the construction of Phase 2 of the FM Diversion SWDCAI. The County will take control of 169th Avenue Southeast, 168th Avenue Southeast, 29th Street Southeast, 76th Avenue North, 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North, 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Northwest, 38<sup>th</sup> Street Northwest, and 35<sup>th</sup> Street Southeast immediately following the approval of the County Commission. The closure of this road would take place in phases as the FM Diversion SWDCAI will continue construction this spring. All properties along 169th Avenue Southeast, 168th Avenue Southeast, 29th Street Southeast, 76th Avenue North, 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North, 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Northwest, 38<sup>th</sup> Street Northwest, and 35th Street Southeast have been acquired by the CCJWRD. Pursuant to the terms of the MOU, notices of the public hearing were sent to landowners within 1,000 feet of the requests at least 30 days prior to the hearing.

1201 Main Avenue West West Fargo, North Dakota 58078-1301

> 701-298-2370 Fax: 701-298-2395

J:\Admin-Eng\Commission Corrsp\2023 Commission Correspondence\Diversion Related Items\Agenda Memo Cass Public Hearing for Diversion Road Closure 01-17-23.docx

As per the MOU, a public hearing to gather input from the public must take place prior to the County Commission adopting the resolution. I request that you open a public meeting to allow for public comment on the road closures. Following the public hearing, the Commission is asked to adopt a resolution taking over road ROW and granting written permission to permanently obstruct the same and the underlying section lines (see attached resolution).

SUGGESTED MOTION: Move that the Cass County Board of Commissioners adopts Resolution #1 to take over road right of way and grant written permission to permanently obstruct the same of portions of 169<sup>th</sup> Avenue Southeast,168<sup>th</sup> Avenue Southeast, 29<sup>th</sup> Street Southeast, 76<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North, 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Northwest, 38<sup>th</sup> Street Northwest, and 35<sup>th</sup> Street Southeast.

RECEIVED CASS COUNTY COMMISSION

DEC 27 2022

December 20, 2022

Cass County Commission 211 9<sup>th</sup> Street S Fargo, ND 58103

Re: Proposed ROW obstruction by the Metro Flood Diversion Authority

#### Commissioners:

We are concerned how west side drainage will be maintained during and after the construction of the diversion channel. A November 14, 2022 letter from us to the Metro Flood Diversion Authority regarding our concern has not been acknowledged.

The field ditch draining much of the west side of Section 2 in Raymond Township is of particular concern to us. This ditch empties into the 76<sup>th</sup> Ave N right of way (map attached). The Cass County Joint Water Resource District has requested this section of right of way be permanently obstructed.

We respectfully ask the Cass County Commission to deny this request until a satisfactory plan to maintain the drainage is agreed to.

Sincerely,

James Krogh

604 23rd St E, Apt B

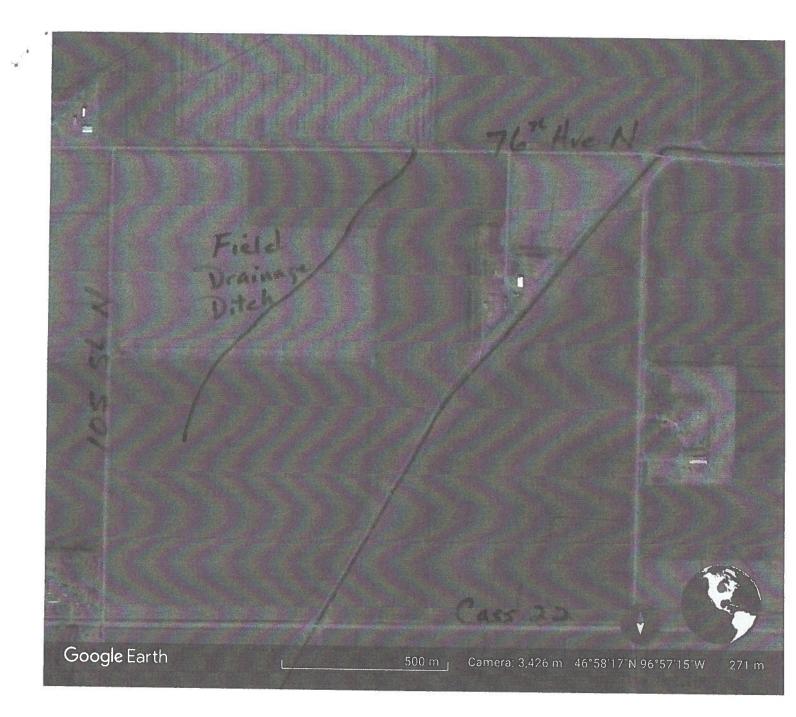
West Fargo, ND 58078

CC: Doris Krogh L.E.

Dylan Foss

Wayne Hoglund

Metro Flood Diversion Authority
Rush River Water Resource District
Cass County Joint Water Resource District
Raymond Township Board



#### **RESOLUTION #1**

Commissioner	introduced	the	following	resolution	and	moved	its
adoption:							

#### RESOLUTION TAKING OVER ROAD RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND GRANTING WRITTEN PERMISSION TO PERMANENTLY OBSTRUCT THE SAME AND THE UNDERLYING SECTION LINES (SWDCAI – Phase 2)

**WHEREAS**, on or about December 5, 2022, the Cass County Commission received a request from the Metro Flood Diversion Authority (the "Authority") to take over and designate certain road rights-of-way identified on Exhibit A as part of the Cass County highway system; and

**WHEREAS**, on or about December 5, 2022, the Cass County Commission received a request from the Cass County Joint Water Resource District ("CCJWRD") to permanently obstruct the road rights-of-way and the underlying section lines with the second phase of the stormwater diversion channel and associated infrastructure ("Phase 2 of the SWDCAI") of the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area Flood Risk Management Project; and

**WHEREAS**, in conjunction with their above-described requests, the Authority and CCJWRD provided notice to property owners within 1,000 feet of the road rights-of-way of such requests; and

**WHEREAS**, upon its receipt of the requests, the Cass County Commission scheduled a public hearing to consider the requests and provided notice to property owners within 1,000 feet of the road rights-of-way of the date and time for the public hearing; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cass County Commission held a public hearing on the Authority's and CCJWRD's requests on January 17, 2023, at 3:30 p.m.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cass County Commission now desires to grant the Authority's request for Cass County to take over the road rights-of-way and to grant CCJWRD's request to permanently obstruct the road rights-of-way and the underlying section lines.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, **BE IT RESOLVED** by the governing body of Cass County, North Dakota:

Section 1. <u>Takeover of Road Right-of-way</u>. Pursuant to N.D.C.C. § 24-05-09, Cass County hereby deems it necessary, for its present use in altering the road rights-of-way, that Cass County permanently takes over the following road rights-of-way as shown on Exhibit A:

That portion of the roadway commonly referred to as 169th Avenue Southeast presently located upon Sections 19 and 20 of Township 141 North, Range 49 West,

Cass County, North Dakota LESS the northerly 1158.64' AND ALSO LESS the southerly 2167.08' thereof.

and

That portion of the roadway commonly referred to as 168th Avenue Southeast presently located upon Sections 19 and 30 of Township 141 North, Range 49 West, Cass County, North Dakota, and Sections 24 and 25 of Township 141 North, Range 50 West, Cass County, North Dakota LESS the northerly 3181.42' AND ALSO LESS the southerly 3414.08' thereof.

and

That portion of the roadway commonly referred to as 29th Street Southeast presently located upon Sections 25 and 36 of Township 141 North, Range 50 West, Cass County, North Dakota LESS the westerly 1539.99' AND ALSO LESS the easterly 2038.14' thereof.

and

That portion of the roadway commonly referred to as 76th Avenue North presently located upon Section 36 of Township 141 North, Range 50 West, Cass County, North Dakota, and Section 2 of Township 140 North, Range 50 West, Cass County, North Dakota, LESS the westerly 746.2' AND ALSO LESS the easterly 2008.66' thereof.

and

That portion of the roadway commonly referred to as 52nd Avenue North presently located upon Sections 11 and 14 of Township 140 North, Range 50 West, Cass County, North Dakota LESS the westerly 1687.85' AND ALSO LESS the easterly 1002.78' thereof.

and

That portion of the roadway commonly referred to as 32nd Avenue Northwest presently located upon Sections 23 and 26 of Township 140 North, Range 50 West, Cass County, North Dakota LESS the westerly 549.94' AND ALSO LESS the easterly 2283.25' thereof.

and

That portion of the roadway commonly referred to as 38th Street Northwest presently located upon Sections 26 and 27 of Township 140 North, Range 50 West, Cass County, North Dakota LESS the northerly 1348.64' AND ALSO LESS the southerly 320.00' thereof.

and

That portion of the roadway commonly referred to as 35th Street Southeast presently located upon Sections 27 and 34 of Township 140 North, Range 50 West, Cass County, North Dakota LESS the westerly 2651.27' AND ALSO LESS the easterly 272.94' thereof.

(the "ROW").

Such takeover will become effective immediately upon the adoption of this resolution. In conjunction with the takeover, Cass County hereby designates the ROW as part of the Cass County highway system.

Section 2. <u>Permanent Obstruction</u>. Pursuant to N.D.C.C. § 24-06-28(1), Cass County hereby grants CCJWRD's request to permanently obstruct the ROW and the underlying section lines with Phase 2 of the SWDCAI of the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area Flood Risk Management Project. CCJWRD will provide advanced notice to Cass County of the timing for when the permanent obstruction will commence. Until such time, the ROW and underlying section lines will remain open for public travel unless otherwise temporarily obstructed by, or with authorization from, Cass County.

Section 3. <u>North Dakota Law Applies</u>. This resolution will be controlled by the laws of the State of North Dakota, and any claims arising out of or pertaining to this resolution will be filed, heard, and decided in the state district court of Cass County, North Dakota, which will have exclusive jurisdiction and venue.

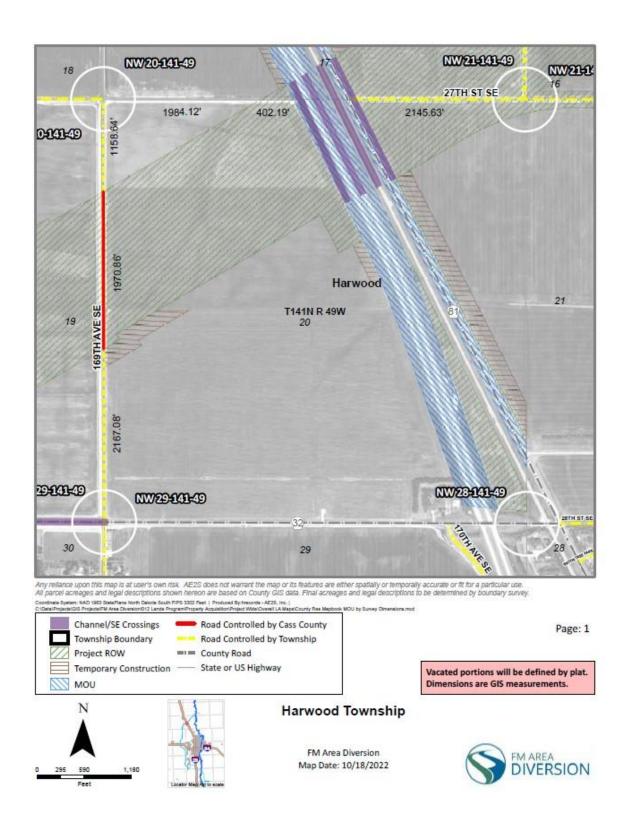
Section 4. Effective Date. This resolution will take effect immediately upon adoption.

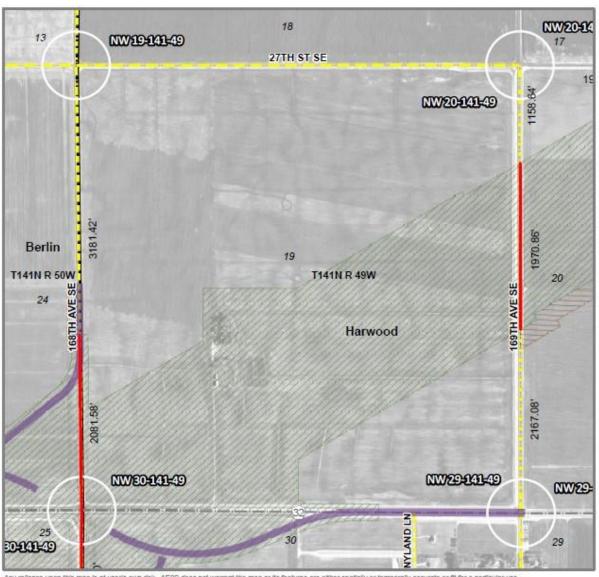
Section 5. <u>Electronic Signatures</u>. Electronic signatures to this resolution shall be valid as original signatures and shall be valid to bind Cass County. For purposes hereof: (i) "electronic signature" means a manually signed original signature that is then transmitted by electronic means; and (ii) "transmitted by electronic means" means sent in the form of a facsimile or sent via the internet as a portable document format ("pdf") or other replicating image attached to an electronic mail or internet message.

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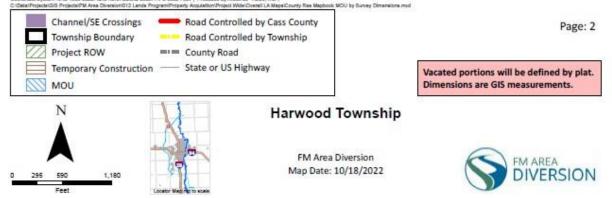
Adopted	_, 2023.									
				CASS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA						
				By:	Chad M Board of				oners	
ATTEST										
Duandy Madriago County	Einanaa Die									
Brandy Madrigga, County	rmance Dir	ector								
The motion for adop	ption of the	foreg	going r	esolut	ion was duly	second	led b	y Comi	nissio	ner
, and up	on roll	call	vote,	the	following	voted	in	favor	there	eof:
		. Th	e follo	wing	were absent	and no	ot vo	ting: no	ne.	Γhe
following voted against the	e same: non	e. Tl	ne majo	ority h	aving voted	aye, the	e res	olution	was d	luly
passed and adopted.										

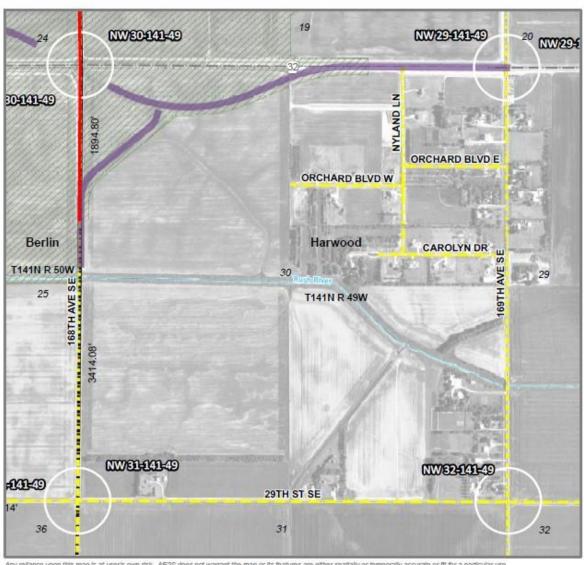
# EXHIBIT A MAP OF ROAD RIGHTS-OF-WAY



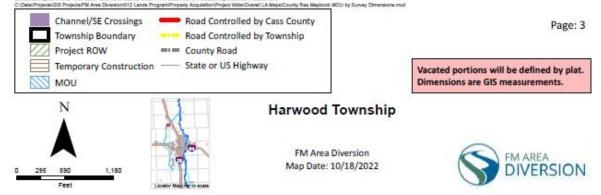


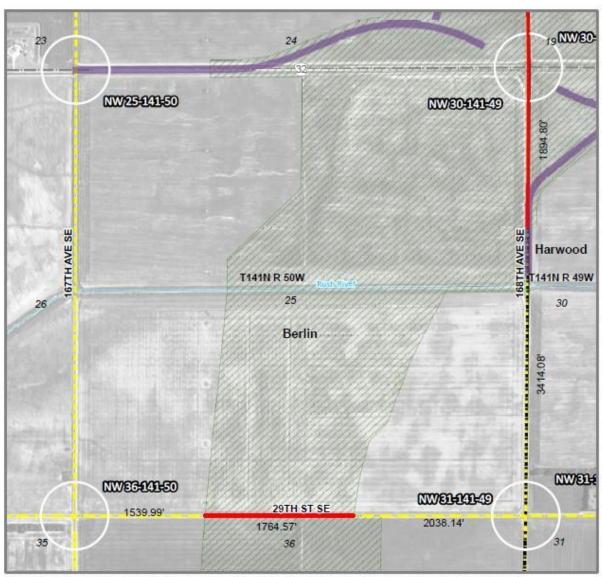
Any reflance upon this map is at user's own risk. AE2s does not warrant the map or its features are either spatially or temporally accurate or fit for a particular use. All parcel acreages and legal descriptions shown hereon are based on County GIS data. Final acreages and legal descriptions to be determined by boundary survey. Coordinate System: NAO 1983 (baselmost in this final baselmost in Fig. 303) Fig. 1, Produced Bytancode - AE2s, Inc.! Collecting Counties Projected Mass Disvelocity Land ProgramPropark, Republication LIA MayelCounty Res Maybook WOU by Survey Dimension and



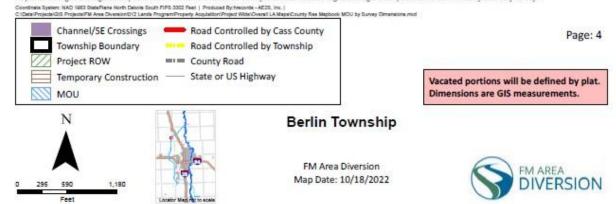


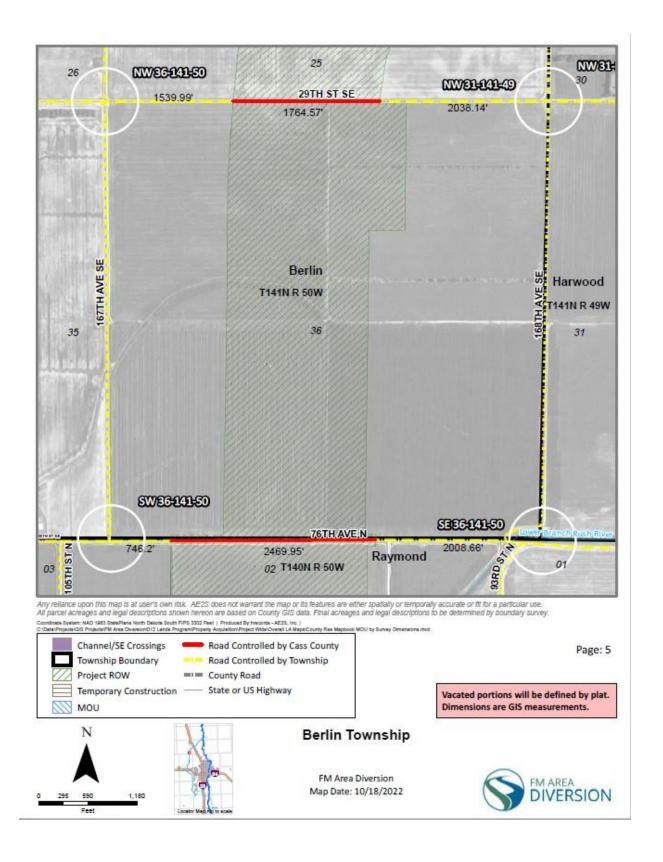
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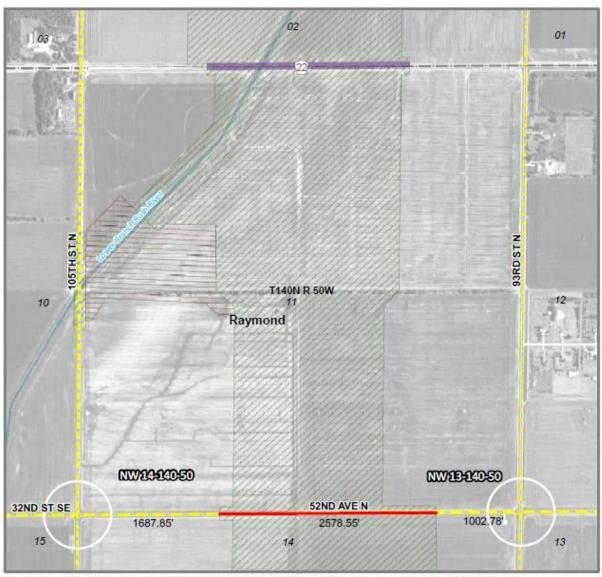




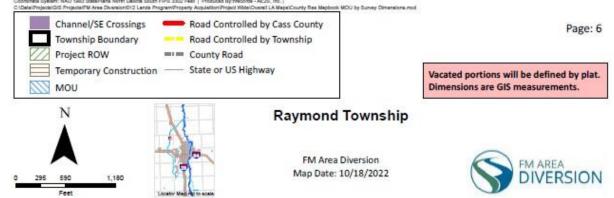
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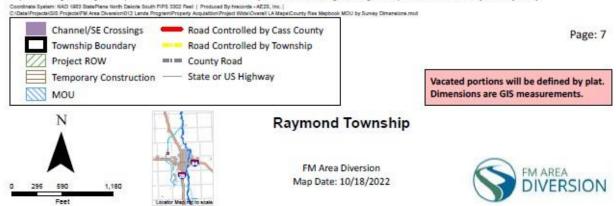


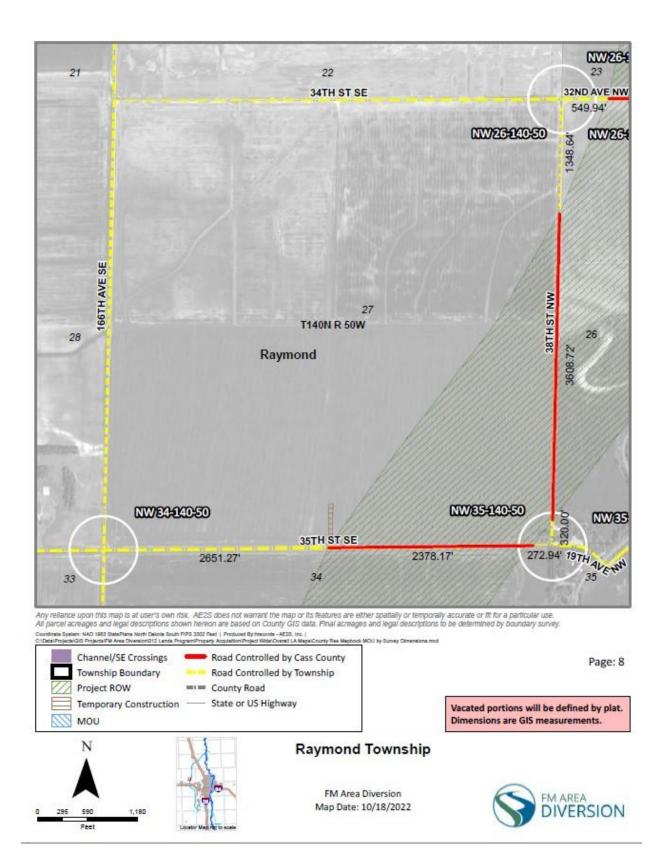
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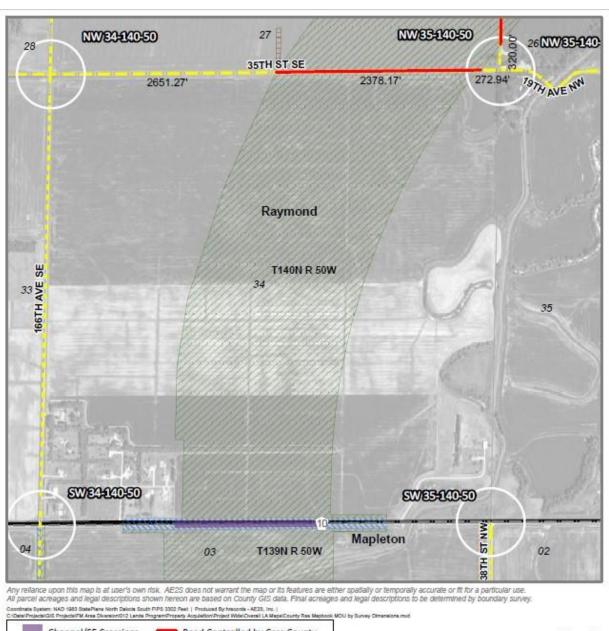


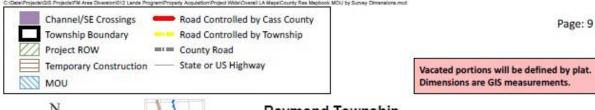


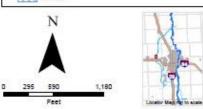
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#### **Raymond Township**



Manager Gust introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

#### RESOLUTION REQUESTING AUTHORIZATION TO PERMANENTLY OBSTRUCT RIGHT-OF-WAY AND SECTION LINE (SWDCAI – Phase 2)

WHEREAS, the Cass County Joint Water Resource District (the "District") is a North Dakota water resource district and political subdivision under Chapter 61-16.1 of the North Dakota Century Code; and

WHEREAS, the District is a member entity of the Metro Flood Diversion Authority (the "Authority") and has been tasked by the Authority to acquire all property interests necessary for the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area Flood Risk Management Project (the "Comprehensive Project"); and

WHEREAS, one element of the Comprehensive Project is the storm water diversion channel and associated infrastructure ("SWDCAI"); and

WHEREAS, that portion of the SWDCAI that is located approximately between Interstate 94 near West Fargo and Interstate 29 near Harwood is known as Phase 2 of the SWDCAI; and

WHEREAS, the location of Phase 2 of the SWDCAI is set forth on Exhibit A, and it intersects those portions of 169th Avenue Southeast, 168th Avenue Southeast, 29th Street Southeast, 76th Avenue North, 52nd Avenue North, 32nd Avenue Northwest, 38th Street Northwest, and 35th Street Southeast that are depicted in the color red on Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, on April 22, 2021, the Authority, Cass County, and the District entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (the "ROW MOU"), which outlined the roles and responsibilities of the Authority, Cass County, and the District regarding road rights-of-way acquired in North Dakota as part of land acquisition for the Comprehensive Project; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the ROW MOU, the Authority has directed Cass County to acquire the road right-of-way of 169th Avenue Southeast, 168th Avenue Southeast, 29th Street Southeast, 76th Avenue North, 52nd Avenue North, 32nd Avenue Northwest, 38th Street Northwest, and 35th Street Southeast that will be impacted by Phase 2 of the SWDCAI (the "ROW"); and

WHEREAS, also in accordance with the ROW MOU, the District now seeks, pursuant to N.D.C.C. § 24-06-28, permission from Cass County to permanently obstruct the ROW and underlying section lines with Phase 2 of the SWDCAI.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to N.D.C.C. § 24-06-28, that the District hereby requests permission from Cass County to permanently obstruct the ROW and underlying section lines in the areas depicted on Exhibit A for Phase 2 of the SWDCAI, with the

actual timing of obstruction dependent upon the commencement of construction of Phase 2 of the SWDCAI as set forth in the ROW MOU.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District, in accordance with the ROW MOU, will notify landowners within one thousand (1,000) feet of the ROW of its request to Cass County to permanently obstruct the ROW.

(Signatures appear on the following page.)

APPROVED:

Dan Jacobson, Chair

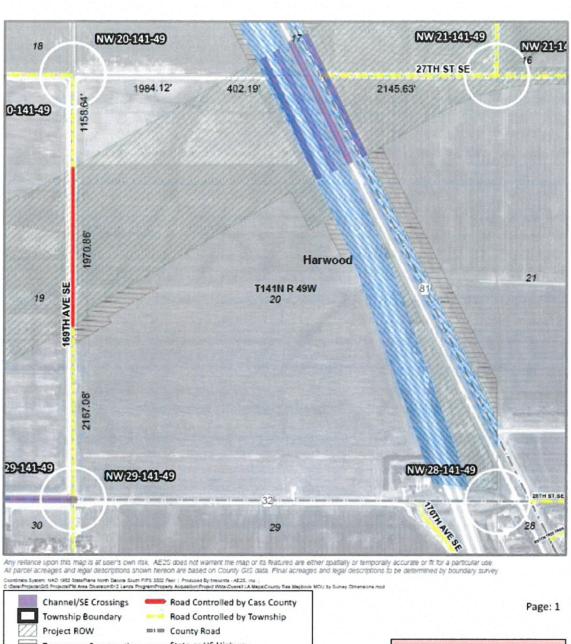
ATTEST:

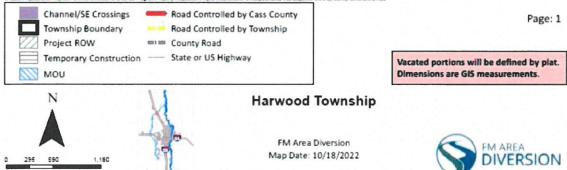
Carol Harbeke Lewis Secretary-Treasurer

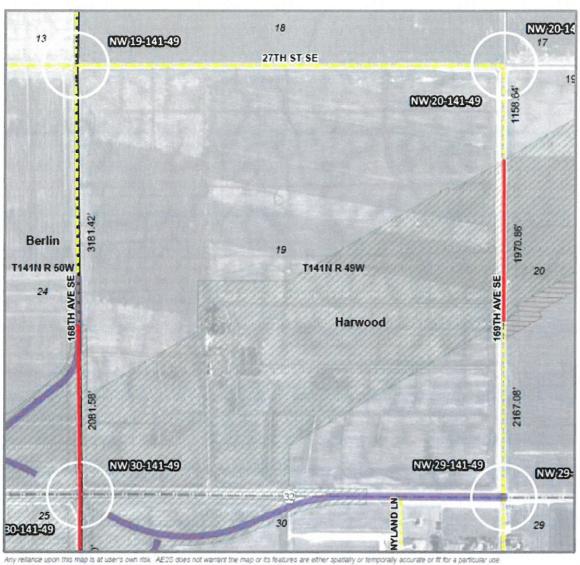
The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Manager Weston. On roll call vote the following Managers voted Jacobson, Lougheed, Weston, Gust. The following Managers voted nay: The following Managers were absent: Olson. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously, and the resolution was duly adopted.

Date Approved: October 27, 2022.

#### **EXHIBIT A**

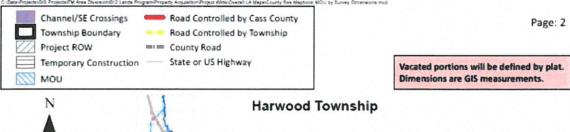


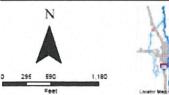




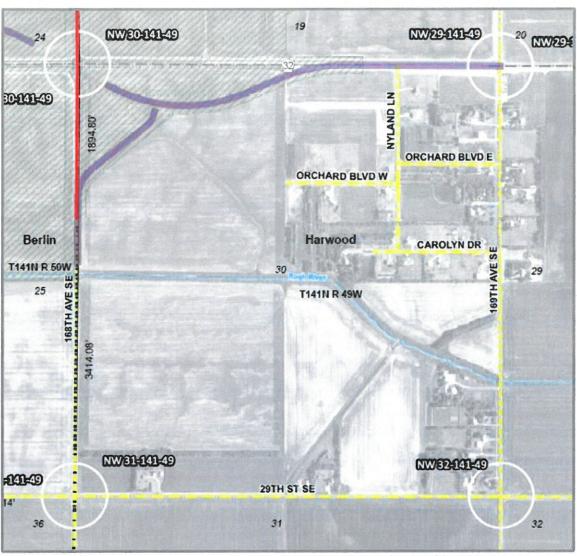
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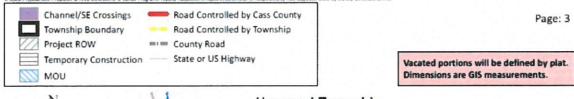


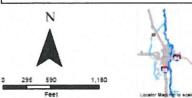




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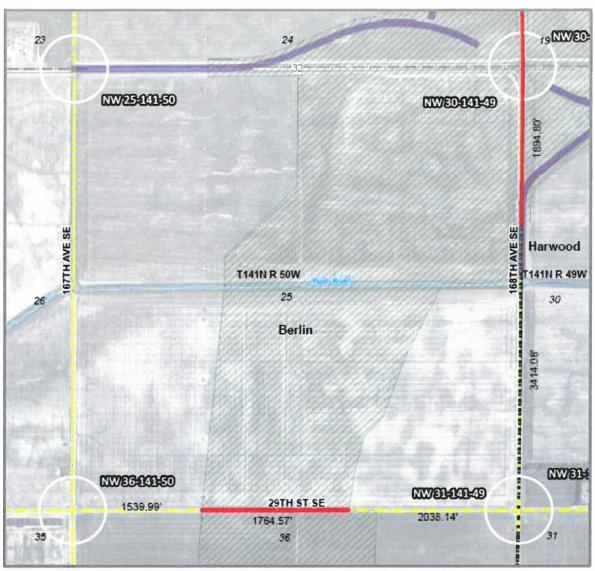
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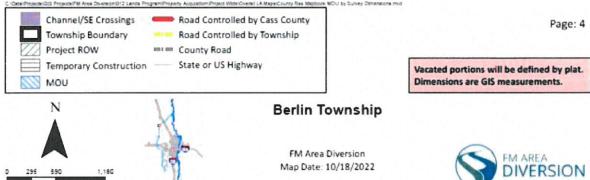


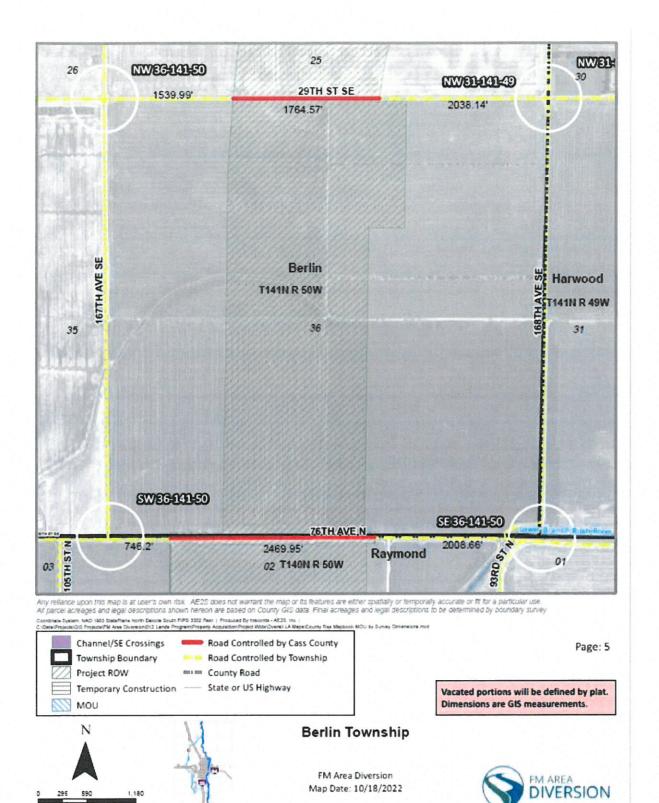
### Harwood Township





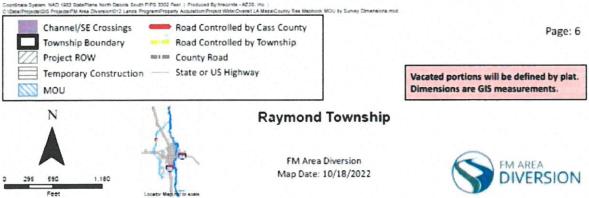
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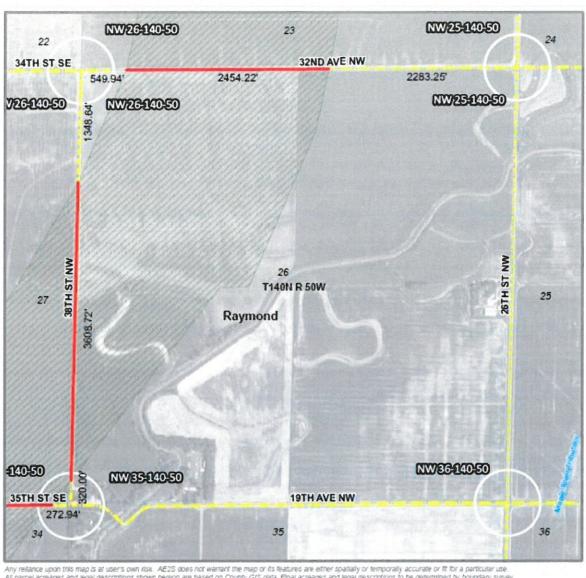




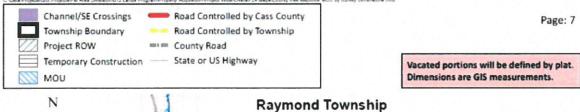


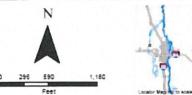
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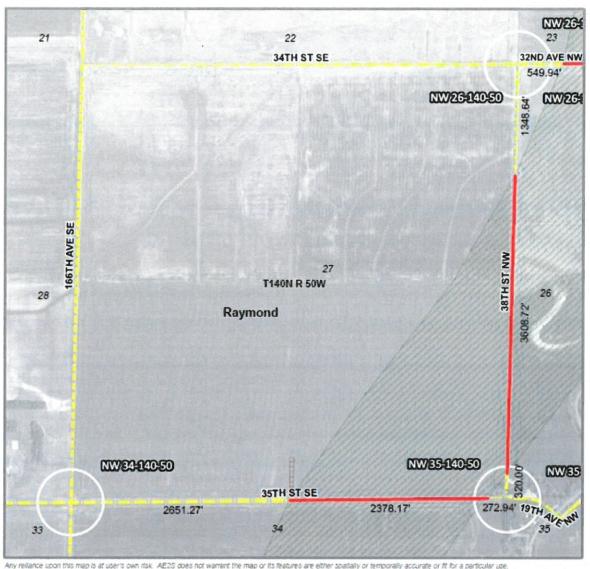


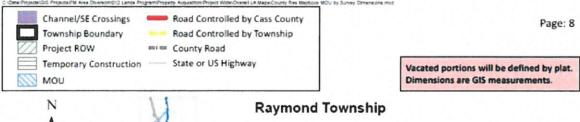
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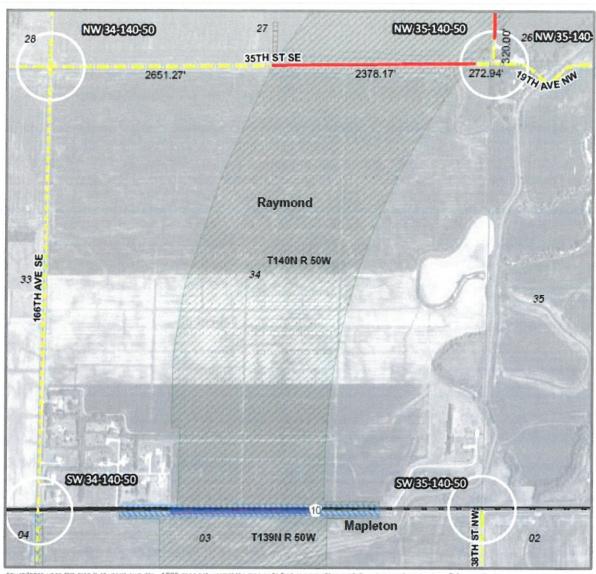












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Channel/SE Crossings
Township Boundary
Road Controlled by Cass County
Road Controlled by Township
County Road
Temporary Construction
State or US Highway

Vacated portions will be defined by plat.
Dimensions are GIS measurements.



#### **Raymond Township**

