

# NW of Zeeland Drain Board of Determination November 30, 2021

Ottawa County Water Resources Commissioner

Joe Bush – Water Resources Commissioner



Ottawa County  
*Where You Belong.*



# Presentation Overview

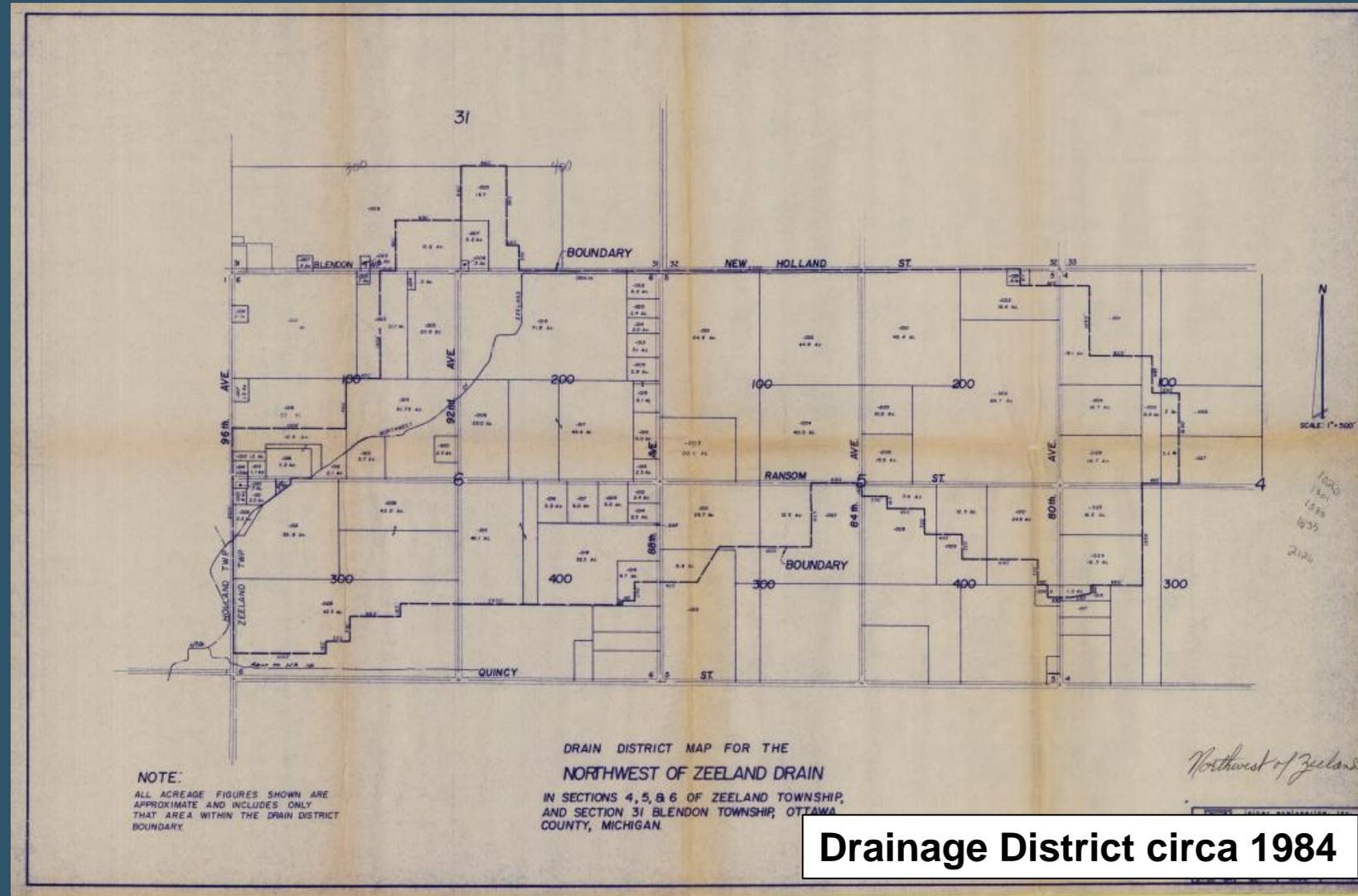
- Why Are We Here?
- Drain Overview
- Drain History
- Drainage Issues
- What Happens Next?

# Why Are We Here?

- Ottawa County Water Resources Commissioner (OCWRC) received a petition from Zeeland Township requesting that the NW of Zeeland Drain be extended and improved as provided in Chapter 8 of the Michigan Drain Code, Public Act 40 of 1956, as amended, to alleviate drainage issues in the Drainage District.
- Michigan Drain Code mandates that as part of the petition process, the Drain (Water Resources) Commissioner must schedule and hold a Board of Determination (BOD).
- BOD will hear all testimony and determine if a project is necessary based on public health, welfare or convenience.

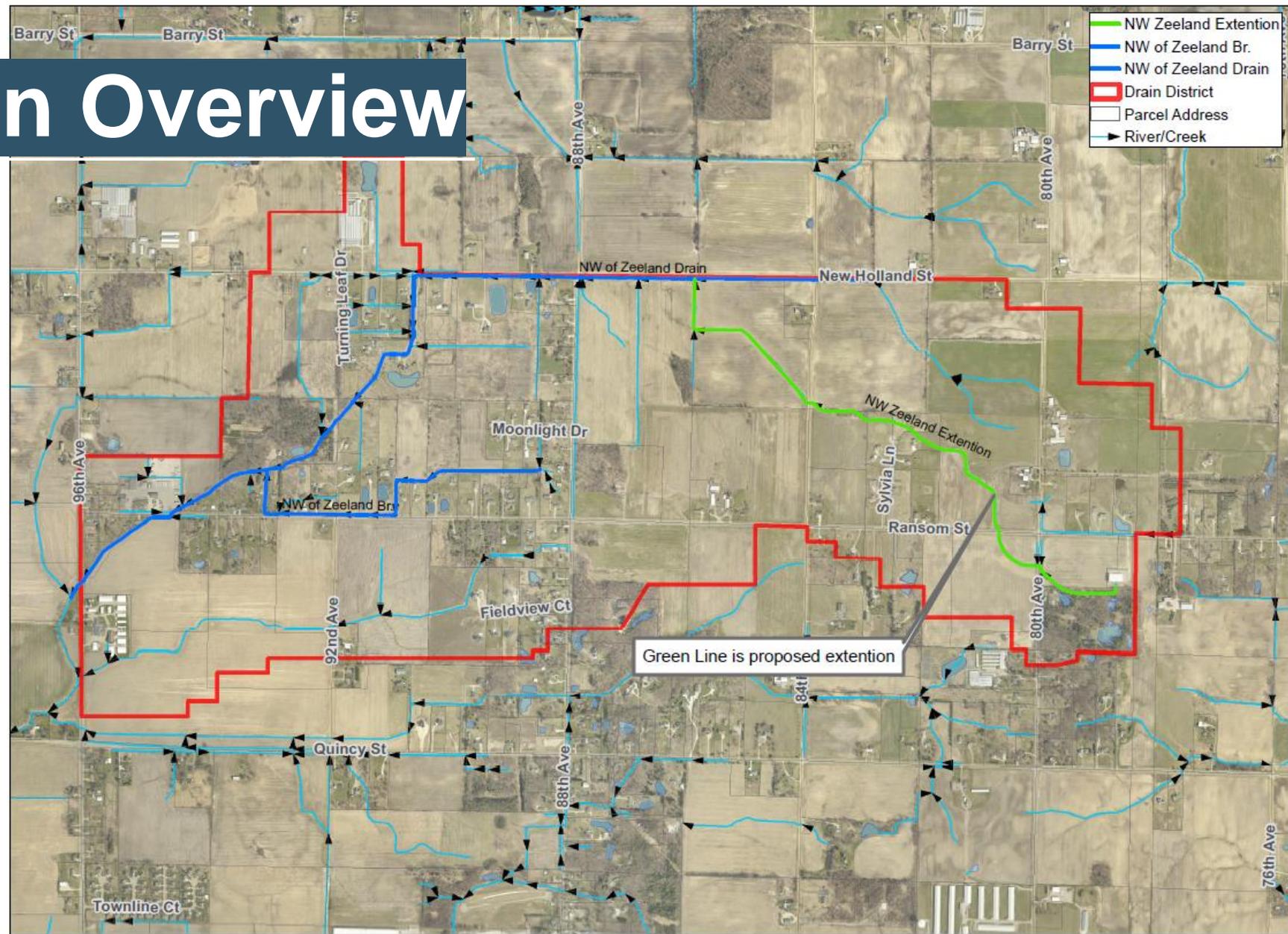
# Drain Overview

- Established in 1909
- Length of Established Drain 10,900 ft in 1909
- Added 3,500 ft +/- branch in 2005
- Frequently petitioned, maintained, and emergency debris cleanouts.



Drainage District circa 1984

# Drain Overview



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Water Resources Commissioner Joe Bush  
12220 Fillmore Street, Room 141  
West Olive MI, 49460  
Last Update Date: 10/20/2021

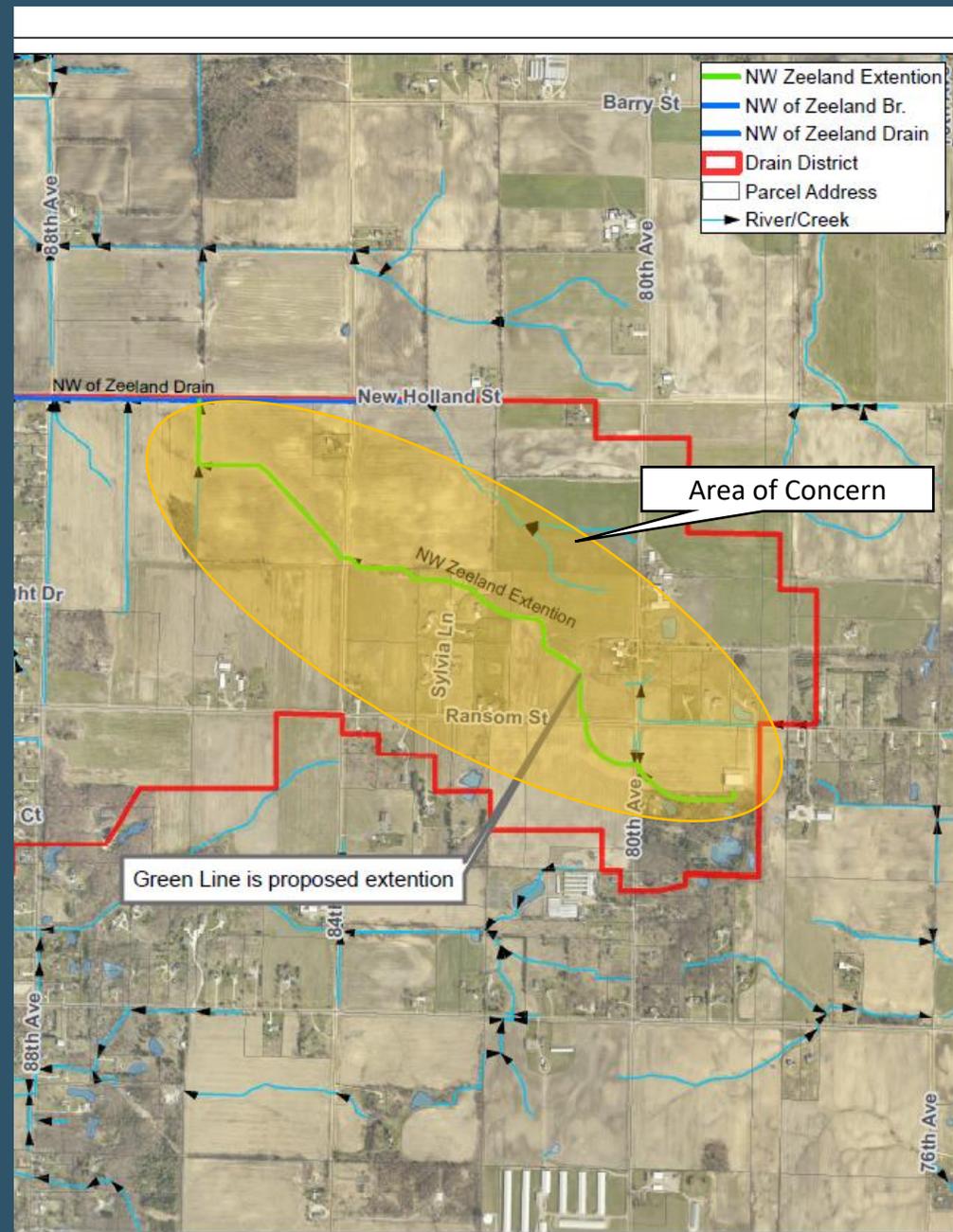


Ottawa County Water Resources Commissioner  
NW of Zeeland Extension Drain



# Drain Overview

- Area of Concern is along a (private) tributary water course that is neither part of the Established Drain nor under the jurisdiction of the Ottawa County Water Resources Commissioner.
- If the petition is found necessary, a branch / extension of the NW of Zeeland Drain could be established along the water course allowing maintenance or improvements to occur.



County Water Resources Commissioner  
NW of Zeeland Extension Drain

0 1,000 2,000  
Feet

# Drain History

- Established 1909 as a County Drain, previously established drain in Zeeland Township Records.
- Petitioned in 1916 – cleaned drain
- Petitioned in 1930 – cleaned drain
- Petitioned in 1944 – cleaned drain, extension for sufficient outlet
- 2001 Ransom Street Crossing Replaced
- Petitioned in 2005 – create branch drain along Ransom Street
- 2011 96<sup>th</sup> Avenue Crossing Replaced
- 2015 Maintenance – remove brush
- 2017 Maintenance – remove brush
- 2018 Maintenance – emergency removal of corn silage

# Drainage Issues

- Area of Concern: Property Owners north of Ransom Street want to block off the natural flow of drainage through the county road culvert.



# Drainage Issues

- Public Health, Convenience or Welfare Issues:
  - Land Use Conversion
  - Increased Sediment and Nutrient Loading
  - Undersized Culverts
  - Obstructions in Drain

# Land Use Conversion

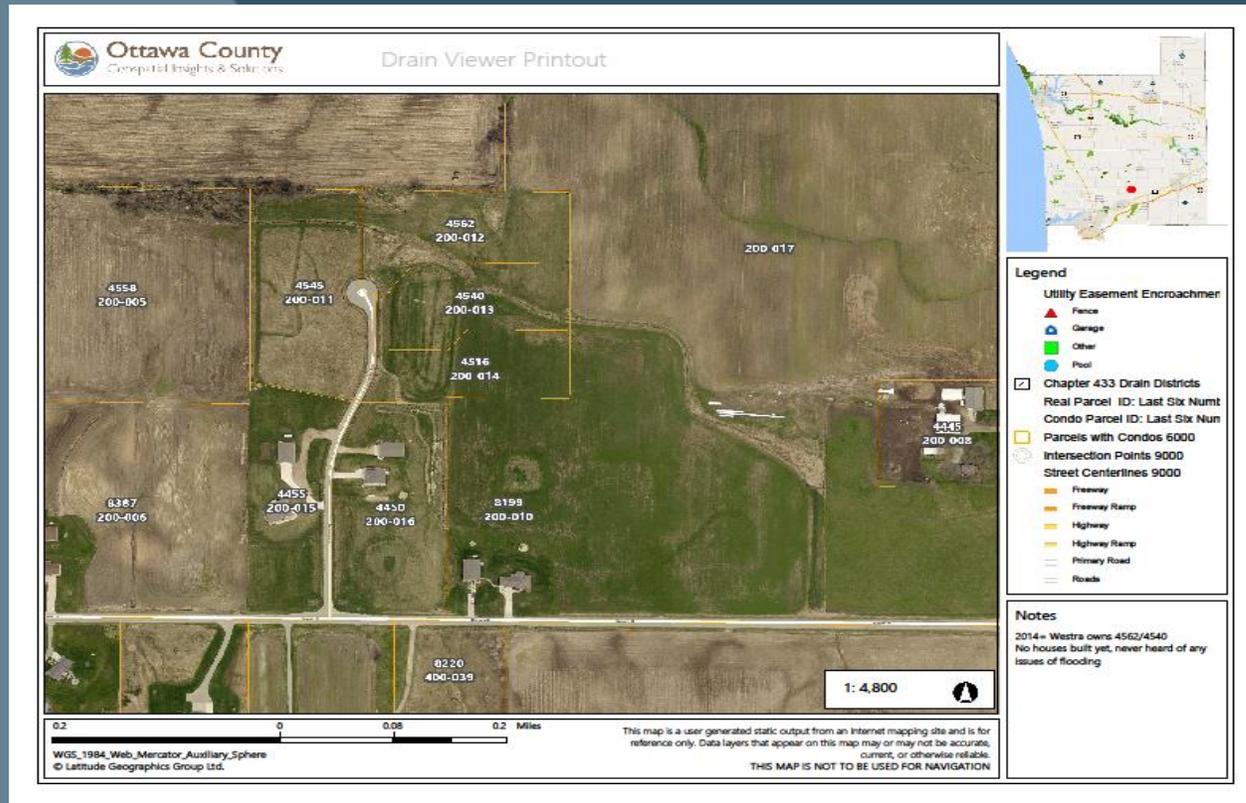


1997 Aerial.

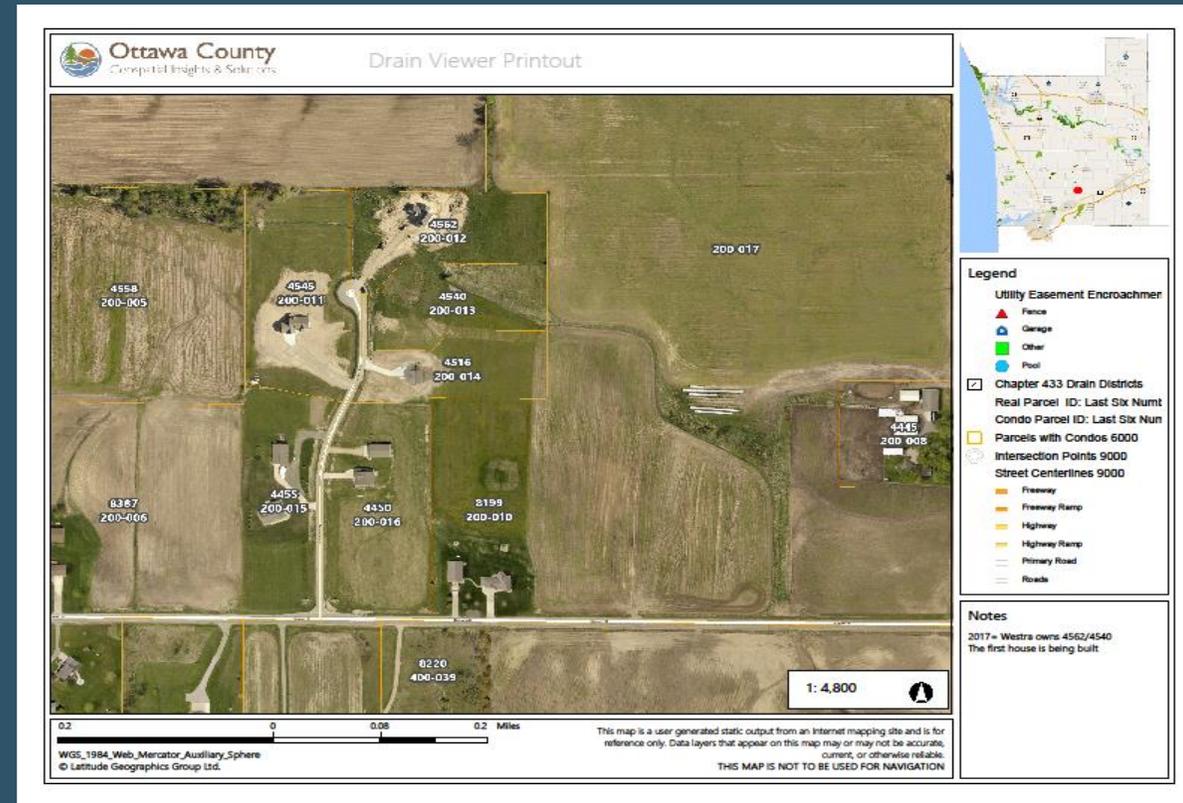


2021 Aerial.

# Land Use Conversion

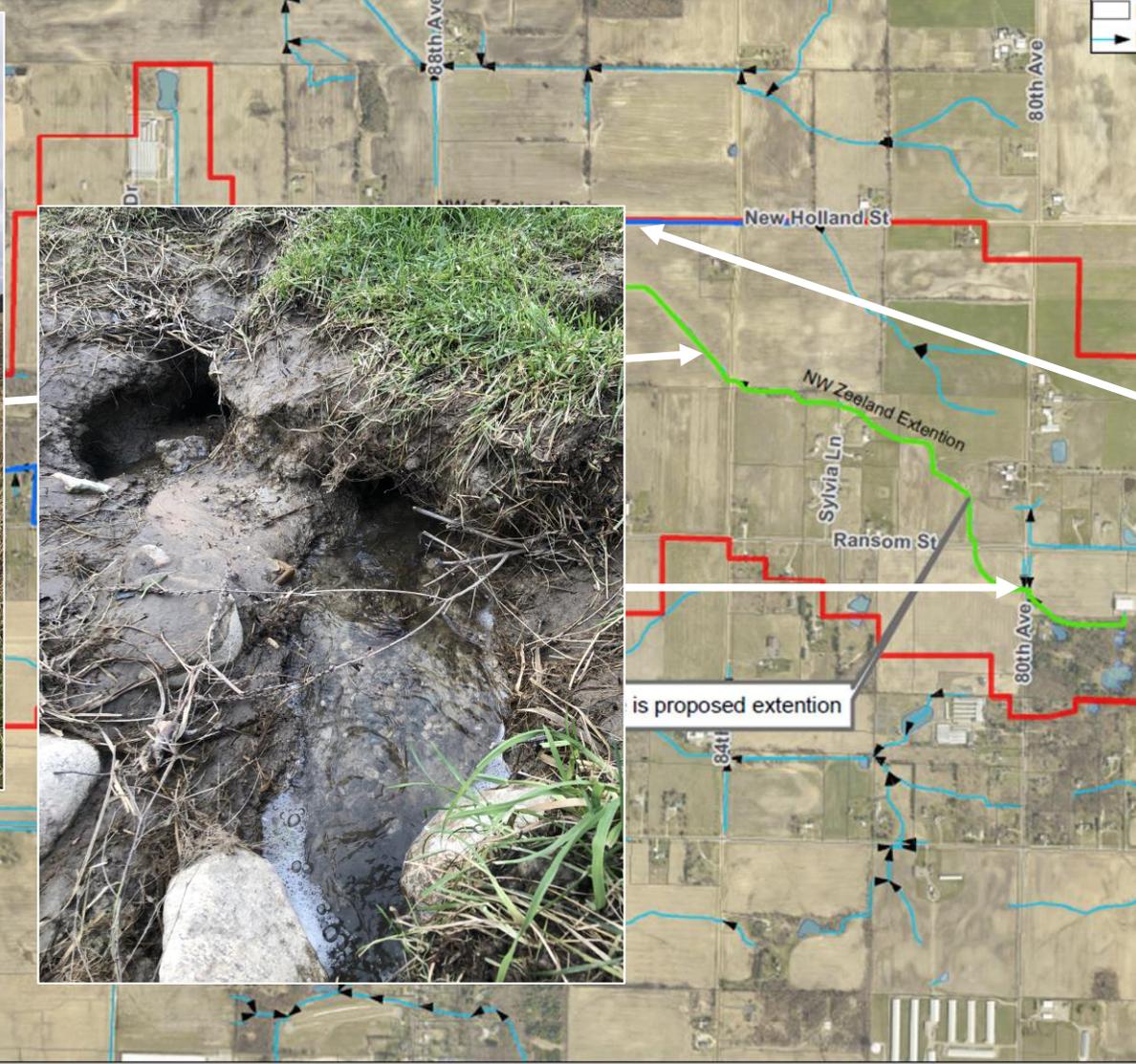


Pre-Development



Post Development

# Sediment Deposition and Nutrient Loading



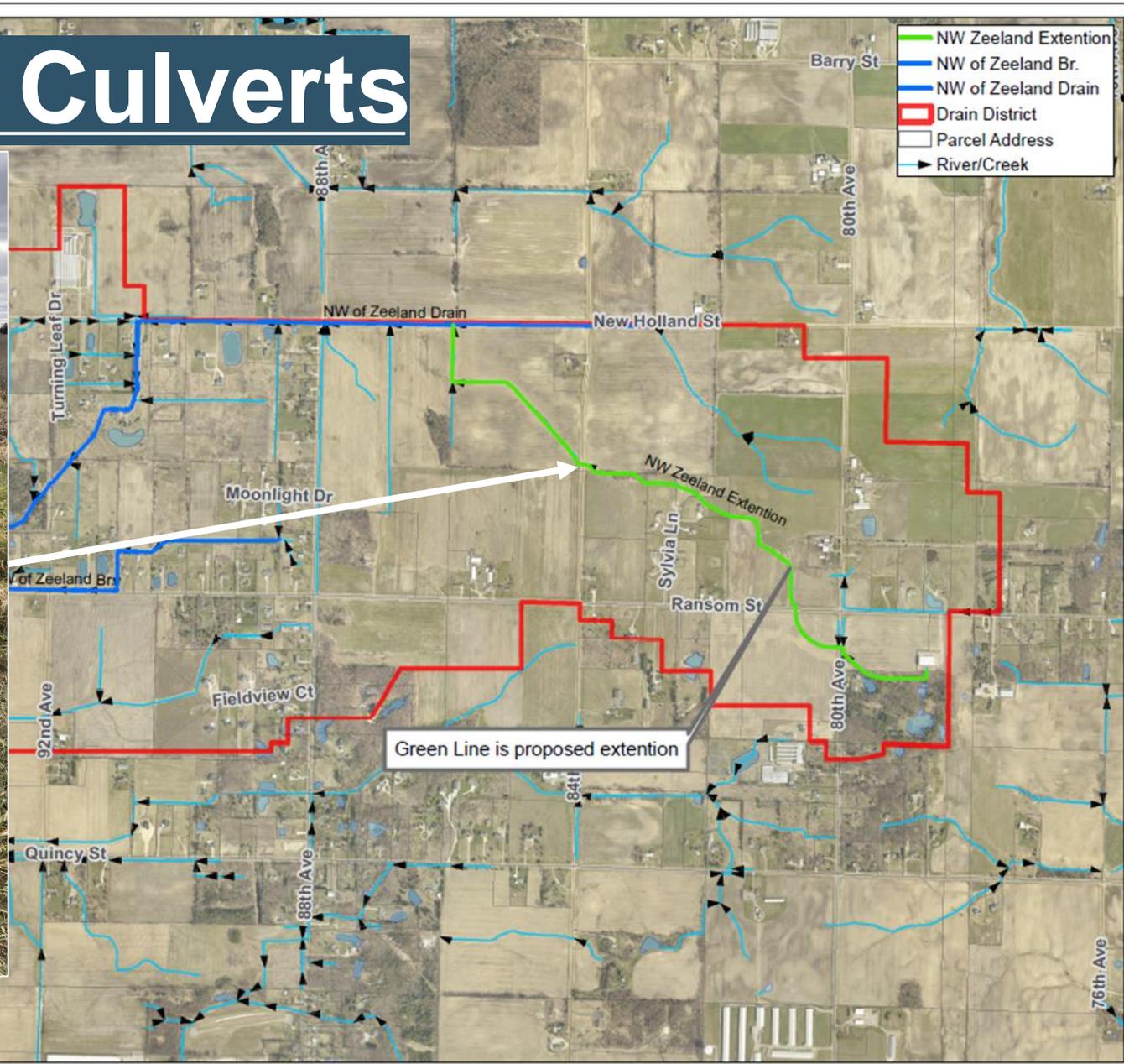
**LRE**

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0 1,000 2,000 Feet

# Undersized Culverts



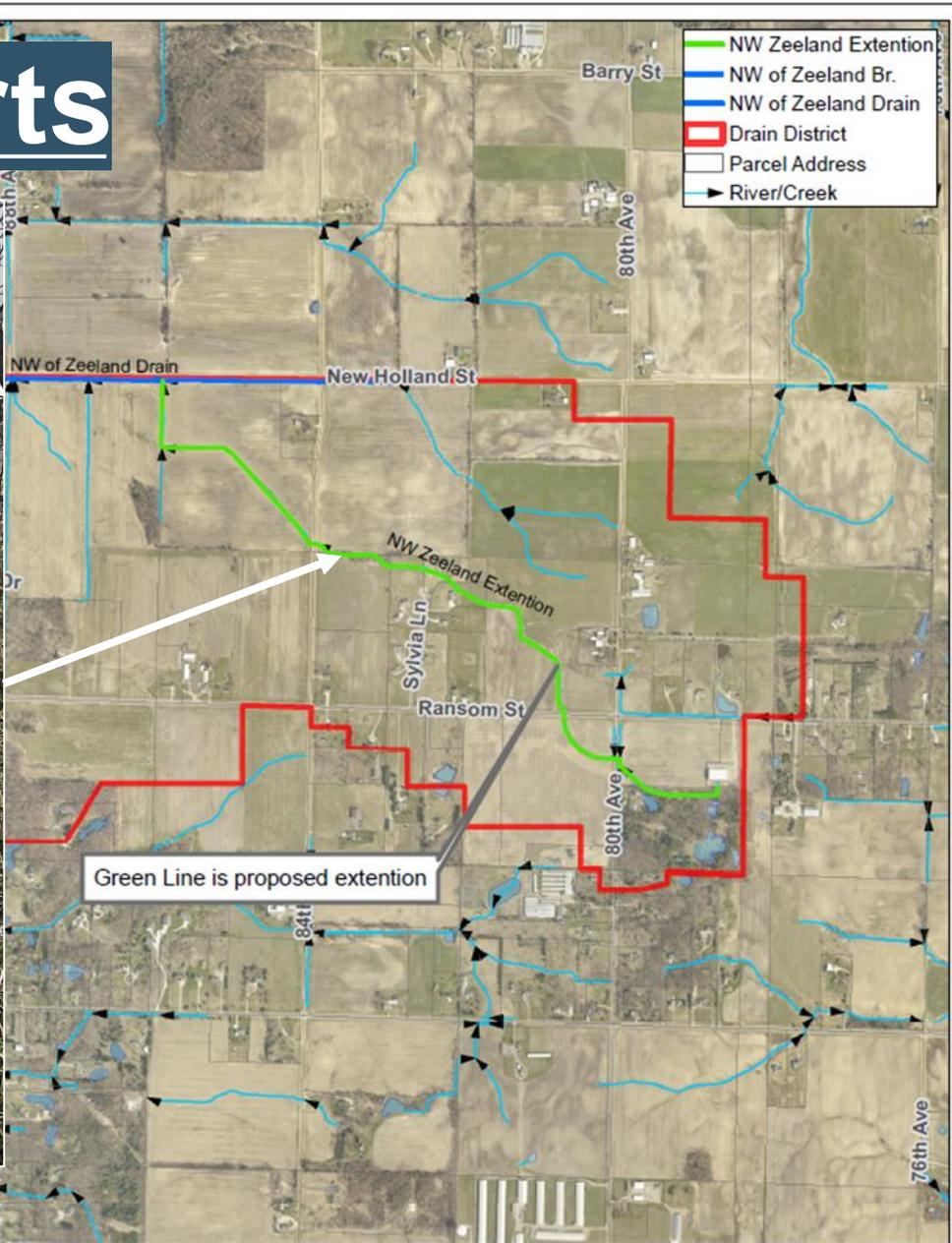
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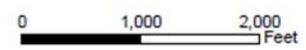
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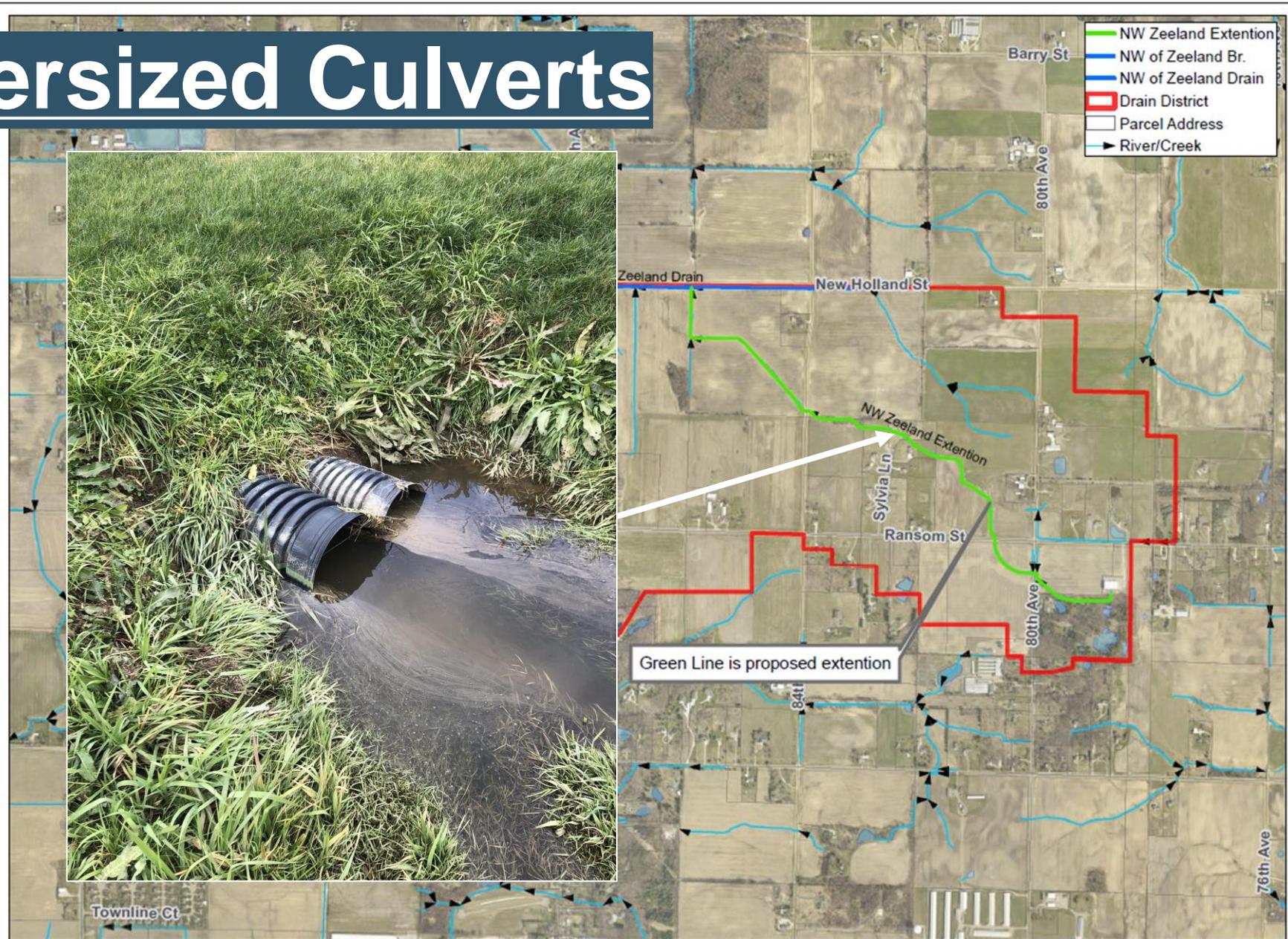
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# Undersized Culverts



# What Happens Next?

## BOD to decide if petition is necessary:

- If the BOD finds that the petition is not necessary, the project ceases immediately, and no petition can be heard for the same project until 12 months have passed.
- If the BOD finds that the petition is necessary based on health, welfare or convenience, the Drain Commissioner proceeds with a project (the scope of which will be defined later). Each project is unique, however, in accordance with the Drain Code, the following tasks must be completed:
  1. Complete Engineering Design
  2. Obtain Easements (if necessary)
  3. Apply for Permits (if necessary)
  4. Bid Project
  5. Hold “Day of Review”
  6. Construct Project

The End

THANK YOU

**LRE**