

Why You Should Read This: The document below reviews the environmental impact likely from a project. This project is planned to be federally funded through your tax dollars; therefore, you are entitled to take part in its review. If you have concerns about the environmental impact of this project, raise them now. We encourage public input in this decision making process.



IOWA STATE REVOLVING FUND
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

April 20, 2022

To: All Interested Citizens, Government Agencies, and Public Groups

An environmental review has been performed based on the procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), for the proposed agency action below:

Applicant: City of Nevada

SRF Number: CS1920945 01

County: Story

Iowa DNR Project Number: S2019-0233A

State: Iowa

The City of Nevada, Iowa is planning an upgrade to their wastewater infrastructure. The city has applied for financial assistance through the State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan program to build the project. The State Revolving Loan Program is a program authorized by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and administered by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in partnership with the Iowa Finance Authority.

The City of Nevada is located in Story County, Iowa approximately 10 miles east of Ames, Iowa and 30 miles west of Marshalltown, Iowa. The population of Nevada according to the 2010 US Census was 6,798. The design population equivalent for the year 2044 is 8,764.

The current site of the City of Nevada's Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) is located northeast of the US Highway 30 and 6th Street intersection. The WWTF site currently does not meet the IDNR 1000-foot site separation requirements between inhabitable structures and treatment processes. There is very little space for the WWTF to expand on the existing site and maintain the required 90% of existing separation distance. The City's WWTF has served the community for approximately 60 years.

The WWTF has undergone many modifications over its lifetime in order to increase capacity to a continually growing population. Some of the facility's improvements include the addition of a peak flow clarifier in 1992, a mechanical screen and a vortex grit removal system that was

installed in 1995, replacement of a primary clarifier in 2004, addition of a 960,000 gallon biosolids storage tank in 2004, and most recently a roughing filter upgrade in 2010. The roughing filter upgrade in 2010 was the basis for a capacity re-rating by the City of Nevada in 2013.

The City of Nevada's Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) does not have sufficient capacity for planned industry expansion (Burke Corporation) and projected population growth within the design period. The existing WWTF configuration is readily amenable for the additional effluent disinfection and nutrient removal requirements currently required by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). Additionally, the facility is near the end of its life due to infrastructure age. The facility treats the residential, commercial and industrial wastewater flows that are collected and conveyed through the City's sanitary sewer collection system. Due to the design capacity of the current WWTF (> 1.0 million gallons per day (mgd) AWW), the City is required as part of the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy to evaluate the feasibility to reduce nutrients discharged from the WWTF. If the current facility were to remain in operation, the ability to provide nutrient reduction would require major upgrades to the WWTF.

The existing collection system consists of approximately 30 miles of sanitary sewer, 550 manholes, one lift station, and one equalization basin. The sanitary sewer piping ranges from 6- to 24-inch diameter of varying material types. All flow is directed to the wastewater treatment plant located on the south side of town at the north west corner of U.S. Highway 30 and West Indian Creek. The City continues to improve and rehabilitate the collection system and reduce wet weather flows received at the WWTF.

The one existing lift station within the collection system is located near the Nevada high school/middle school complex (H Avenue and 15th Street.) This lift station serves the area around the high school/middle school complex. The one equalization basin is located in the central area of town (southwest of E Avenue and 4th Street.) The basin is a concrete tank with a storage capacity of 1.0 million gallons. The basin is filled by gravity flow during wet weather events. Submersible pumps are used to return stored flow to the collection system after wet weather events. There are no flow measurement devices at the equalization basin.

The purpose of this project is to make improvements to the wastewater treatment facilities to enhance their reliability, increase capacity and to replace obsolete system to safely and reliably operate the City of Nevada's wastewater system for the next 20 years. The fourth (final) phase of the Nevada wastewater project includes the following: construction of force mains from the phase 3 termination point to start of the trunk sewer, construction of 24-inch/30-inch diameter sanitary sewer gravity interceptor piping with related manholes to the wastewater treatment site, and construction for relocation of existing 8-inch gravity sewer from Maple Avenue to the existing wastewater treatment site to parallel the main influent sewer lift station force mains.

The treated effluent from the new wastewater treatment plant will be discharged to West Indian Creek through a new outfall structure approximately three miles south of the existing outfall. West Indian Creek is designated as Class A2 and Class B(WW-2). Class A2 waters are secondary contact recreational use waters in which recreational or other uses may result in contact with the water that is either incidental or accidental. Waters designated Class B(WW2) are those in which

flow or other physical characteristics are capable of supporting a resident aquatic community that includes a variety of native nongame fish and invertebrate species.

The project will not significantly affect the pattern and type of land use (industrial, commercial, agricultural, recreational, residential) or growth and distribution of population. The project should not have a significant impact on agricultural production in the area, nor should it have significant impact on the agricultural industry in the area. The project will not conflict with local, regional or State land use plans or policies. The project will not impact wetlands. The project will not impact threatened or endangered species or their habitats. The project will not displace population, alter the character of existing residential areas, or convert significant farmlands to non agricultural purposes. This project will not impact the 100-year floodplain. The project will not have effect on parklands, preserves, other public lands, or areas of recognized scenic or recreational value.

No historic properties will be adversely affected by the proposed project. However, if project activities uncover any item(s) that might be of archaeological, historical, or architectural interest, or if important new archaeological, historical, or architectural data should be encountered in the project APE, the applicant should make reasonable efforts to avoid further impacts to the property until an assessment can be made by an individual meeting the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualifications standards (36 CFR Part 61).

The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient air quality provided the applicant takes reasonable precautions to prevent the discharge of visible emissions of fugitive dusts beyond the lot line of the property during the proposed project (567 IAC 23.3(2)"c"). The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient noise levels, surface water quantity, groundwater quality or quantity, or water supply. No significant impact to surface water quality, fish, shellfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats is expected provided that an NPDES General Permit Number 2 (for storm water discharge associated with construction activities) is obtained and the terms of which are abided by.

Minimum separation distances will be maintained. Noise during construction will be maintained at tolerable levels through controls on construction activities. Any construction debris will be removed from the site for proper disposal. Adverse environmental effects from construction activities will be minimized with proper construction practices, inspection, prompt clean up and other appropriate measures. Areas temporarily disturbed by the construction will be restored.

It has been determined that the proposed action will result in no significant impacts to the surrounding environment. This determination is based on a careful review of the engineering report, the environmental assessment and other supporting data which are on file at the Department of Natural Resources' office in Des Moines, Iowa. These are available for public review upon request. A copy of the environmental assessment is attached. This Department will not take any administrative action on the project for at least thirty (30) calendar days from the above date. Persons disagreeing with the above environmental decision may submit comments to the department during this period. Please direct your comments to me at karrie.darnell@dnr.iowa.gov or 515-725-8340.

Sincerely,

Karrie Darnell
Environmental Specialist
502 E. 9th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319-0034

Enclosures: Environmental Assessment
Project Map

Distribution

List (email): Mike Roth, HR Green
Edward Boling, Council on Environmental Quality
Jake Hansen, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
Ken Sharp, Iowa Department of Public Health
Sarah Petersen, Iowa Department of Public Health
Nichole Hansen, Iowa Economic Development Authority
Ingrid Gronstal, Iowa Environmental Council
Tracy Scebold, Iowa Finance Authority
Tony Toigo, Iowa Finance Authority
Mickey Shields, Iowa League of Cities
Jane Clark, Sierra Club
Josh Mandelbaum, Environmental Law and Policy Center
Kate Sand, USDA Rural Development
Tokey Boswell, USDO, National Park Service, Midwest Region
Kraig McPeck, Fish and Wildlife Service, Rock Island Field Office
Christopher Simmons, USEPA Region VII
Kelly Beard-Tittone, USEPA Region VII
Nevada Journal

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IOWA STATE REVOLVING FUND
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Applicant: City of Nevada
County: Story
State: Iowa

SRF Number: CS1920945 01
Iowa DNR Project Number: S2019-0233A

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Location: The City of Nevada is located in Story County, Iowa approximately 10 miles east of Ames, Iowa and 30 miles west of Marshalltown, Iowa.

Population: The population of Nevada according to the 2010 US Census was 6,798. The design population equivalent for the year 2044 is 8,764.

Current Waste Treatment: The current site of the City of Nevada's Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) is located northeast of the US Highway 30 and 6th Street intersection. The WWTF site currently does not meet the IDNR 1000-foot site separation requirements between inhabitable structures and treatment processes. There is very little space for the WWTF to expand on the existing site and maintain the required 90% of existing separation distance.

The City's WWTF has served the community for approximately 60 years. The WWTF has undergone many modifications over its lifetime in order to increase capacity to a continually growing population. Some of the facility's improvements include the addition of a peak flow clarifier in 1992, a mechanical screen and a vortex grit removal system that was installed in 1995, replacement of a primary clarifier in 2004, addition of a 960,000 gallon biosolids storage tank in 2004, and most recently a roughing filter upgrade in 2010. The roughing filter upgrade in 2010 was the basis for a capacity re-rating by the City of Nevada in 2013.

The City of Nevada's Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) does not have sufficient capacity for planned industry expansion (Burke Corporation) and projected population growth within the design period. The existing WWTF configuration is readily amenable for the additional effluent disinfection and nutrient removal requirements currently required by the Iowa

Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). Additionally, the facility is near the end of its life due to infrastructure age. The facility treats the residential, commercial and industrial wastewater flows that are collected and conveyed through the City's sanitary sewer collection system. Due to the design capacity of the current WWTF (> 1.0 million gallons per day (mgd) AWW), the City is required as part of the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy to evaluate the feasibility to reduce nutrients discharged from the WWTF. If the current facility were to remain in operation, the ability to provide nutrient reduction would require major upgrades to the WWTF.

Current Waste Collection System: The existing collection system consists of approximately 30 miles of sanitary sewer, 550 manholes, one lift station, and one equalization basin. The sanitary sewer piping ranges from 6- to 24-inch diameter of varying material types. All flow is directed to the wastewater treatment plant located on the south side of town at the north west corner of U.S. Highway 30 and West Indian Creek. The City continues to improve and rehabilitate the collection system and reduce wet weather flows received at the WWTF.

The one existing lift station within the collection system is located near the Nevada high school/middle school complex (H Avenue and 15th Street.) This lift station serves the area around the high school/middle school complex. The one equalization basin is located in the central area of town (southwest of E Avenue and 4th Street.) The basin is a concrete tank with a storage capacity of 1.0 million gallons. The basin is filled by gravity flow during wet weather events. Submersible pumps are used to return stored flow to the collection system after wet weather events. There are no flow measurement devices at the equalization basin.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to make improvements to the wastewater treatment facilities to enhance their reliability, increase capacity and to replace obsolete system to safely and reliably operate the City of Nevada's wastewater system for the next 20 years.

Proposed Improvements: The fourth (final) phase of the Nevada wastewater project includes the following: construction of force mains from the phase 3 termination point to start of the trunk sewer, construction of 24-inch/30-inch diameter sanitary sewer gravity interceptor piping with related manholes to the wastewater treatment site, and construction for relocation of existing 8-inch gravity sewer from Maple Avenue to the existing wastewater treatment site to parallel the main influent sewer lift station force mains.

Receiving Stream: The treated effluent from the new wastewater treatment plant will be discharged to West Indian Creek through a new outfall structure approximately three miles south of the existing outfall. West Indian Creek is designated as Class A2 and Class B(WW-2). Class A2 waters are secondary contact recreational use waters in which recreational or other uses may result in contact with the water that is either incidental or accidental. Waters designated Class B(WW2) are those in which flow or other physical characteristics are capable of supporting a resident aquatic community that includes a variety of native nongame fish and invertebrate species.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

Alternatives Considered: Two sanitary sewer routes were considered to connect to the proposed WWTF location.

Reasons for Selection of Proposed Alternative: The sewer route for the interceptor sewer from the existing to new WWTF site was chosen due to lower capital cost, better maintenance access, better constructability, minimizes environmental impacts along the alignment, and minimizes easement needs as well as minimization of the impacts to the environment.

MEASURES TAKEN TO ASSESS IMPACT

Public Involvement: A public hearing was held on March 14, 2022 at 6:00PM at the City's regular council meeting. The public notice of this hearing was published in the Nevada Journal on February 3, 2022. The purpose of this hearing was to present the environmental and financial impacts of the proposed improvement project. No written or oral comments were received.

Coordination and Documentation with Other Agencies and Special Interest Groups: The following Federal, state and local agencies were asked to comment on the proposed project to better assess the potential impact to the environment:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- State Historical Society of Iowa (State Historical Preservation Office)
- Iowa DNR Conservation and Recreation Division
- Iowa DNR Water Resources Section
- Citizen Band Potawatomi Indian Tribe
- Flandreau Santee Sioux
- Ho-Chunk Nation
- Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska
- Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma
- Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas
- Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma
- Lower Sioux Indian Community Council
- Miami Tribe of Oklahoma
- Omaha Tribal Council
- Osage Tribal Council
- Otoe-Missouria Tribe
- Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma
- Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
- Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
- Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
- Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
- Prairie Island Indian Community

Sac & Fox Nation of Mississippi in Iowa
Sac & Fox Nation of Missouri
Sac & Fox Nation of Oklahoma
Santee Sioux Nation
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate
Spirit Lake Tribal Council
Three Affiliated Tribes Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nations
Upper Sioux Tribe
Winnebago Tribal Council
Yankton Sioux Tribal Business and Claims Committee
Nevada Historic Commission

No adverse comments were received from any agencies or general public. Conditions placed on the applicant by the above agencies in order to assure no significant impact are included in the Summary of Reasons for Concluding No Significant Impact section.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SUMMARY

The environmental impact summary below is for Phase 4 of the proposed project.

Construction: Traffic patterns within the community may be disrupted and above normal noise levels in the vicinity of the construction equipment can be anticipated during construction and should be a temporary problem. Adverse environmental impacts on noise quality will be handled by limited hours of contractor work time during the day. Other adverse environmental effects from construction activities will be minimized by proper construction practices, inspection, prompt cleanup, and other appropriate measures. Areas temporarily disturbed by the construction will be restored. Solid wastes resulting from the construction project will be regularly cleared away with substantial efforts made to minimize inconvenience to area residents.

Care will be taken to maintain dirt to avoid erosion and runoff. The proposed project will disturb soils over an area greater than one acre; therefore, the applicant is required to obtain an NPDES General Permit Number 2 (for storm water discharge associated with construction activities) and abide by its terms. Provided that this permit is obtained and the terms of which are abided by, no significant impact to surface water quality, fish, shellfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats is expected. Temporary air quality degradation may occur due to dust and fumes from construction equipment. The applicant shall take reasonable precautions to prevent the discharge of visible emissions of fugitive dusts beyond the lot line of the property during the proposed project (567 Iowa Administrative Code IAC 23.3(2)“c”).

Historical/Archaeological: The State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO), Certified Local Governments (city), and various Native American tribes with an interest in the area were provided information regarding the project. A Programmatic Agreement among the SHPO, IDNR, and the City of Nevada was developed to allow the project to proceed in phases. Phase 4 is the final phase of the project. The DNR has determined, and the SHPO has

concluded (R&C#200785090), that this undertaking will result in “no historic properties affected” based on the scope of the project, the prior use of the project area, and the findings of the Phase I Archeological Surveys conducted on the project property. If project activities uncover any item(s) that might be of archaeological, historical, or architectural interest, or if important new archaeological, historical, or architectural data should be encountered in the project APE, the applicant should make reasonable efforts to avoid further impacts to the property until an assessment can be made by an individual meeting the Secretary of the Interior’s professional qualifications standards (36 CFR Part 61).

Environmental: A Joint Application for the sewer phase was submitted by the City’s consultant to the Iowa DNR Conservation and Recreation Division and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. According to the Iowa DNR Conservation and Recreation Division, the proposed project will not interfere with any State-owned parks, recreational areas or open spaces. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers concurs that the project will not impact wetlands. The project will not impact any wild and scenic rivers as none exist within the State of Iowa. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Section 7 Technical Assistance website consultation determined, and Iowa DNR Conservation and Recreation Division agree, that the project will not impact threatened or endangered species or their habitats. However, if any State- or Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or communities are found during the planning or construction phases, additional studies and/or mitigation may be required. According to the Iowa DNR Flood Plain Management Section, this project will not impact the 100-year floodplain. No adverse impacts are expected to result from this project, such as those to surface water quantity, or groundwater quality or quantity. No significant impact to surface water quality, fish, shellfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats is expected.

Land Use and Trends: The project will not displace population nor will it alter the character of existing residential areas. Removing this area from production should not have a significant impact on corn or soybean production in the area, nor should it have significant impact on the agricultural industry in the area. This project should not impact population trends as the presence or absence of existing water/sewer infrastructure is unlikely to induce significant alterations in the population growth or distribution given the myriad of factors that influence development in this region. Similarly, this project is unlikely to induce significant alterations in the pattern and type of land use.

Irreversible and Irrecoverable Commitment of Resources: Fuels, materials, and various forms of energy will be utilized during construction.

POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS TO BE REALIZED FROM THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Positive environmental effects will be improved treatment of the wastewater from the City of Nevada, compliance with effluent discharge permit limits, reduced discharge of pollutants and nutrients to the receiving stream, and improved water quality in the receiving stream.

SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR CONCLUDING NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

- The project will not significantly affect the pattern and type of land use (industrial, commercial, agricultural, recreational, residential) or growth and distribution of population.
- The project should not have a significant impact on agricultural production in the area, nor should it have significant impact on the agricultural industry in the area.
- The project will not conflict with local, regional or State land use plans or policies.
- The project will not impact wetlands.
- The project will not impact threatened or endangered species or their habitats.
- The project will not displace population, alter the character of existing residential areas, or convert significant farmlands to non-agricultural purposes.
- This project will not impact the 100-year floodplain.
- The project will not have effect on parklands, preserves, other public lands, or areas of recognized scenic or recreational value.
- No historic properties will be adversely affected by the proposed project. However, if project activities uncover any item(s) that might be of archaeological, historical, or architectural interest, or if important new archaeological, historical, or architectural data should be encountered in the project APE, the applicant should make reasonable efforts to avoid further impacts to the property until an assessment can be made by an individual meeting the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualifications standards (36 CFR Part 61).
- The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient air quality provided the applicant takes reasonable precautions to prevent the discharge of visible emissions of fugitive dusts beyond the lot line of the property during the proposed project (567 IAC 23.3(2)"c").
- The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient noise levels, surface water quantity, groundwater quality or quantity, or water supply.
- No significant impact to surface water quality, fish, shellfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats is expected provided that an NPDES General Permit Number 2 (for storm water discharge associated with construction activities) is obtained and the terms of which are abided by.

THEREFORE:

The above project conforms to the criteria in 567 Iowa Administrative Code 92.8(1)"b" for wastewater relating to compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. No adverse effect or significant environmental impact is foreseen at this time.

Karrie Darnell

Environmental Review Specialist

State Revolving Fund

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangles: Maxwell
Sections: 18,19,30, Township: 83 N, Ranges: 22, W
Date: 1975
Scale: 1 Inch = 2,000 Feet



North

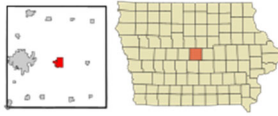
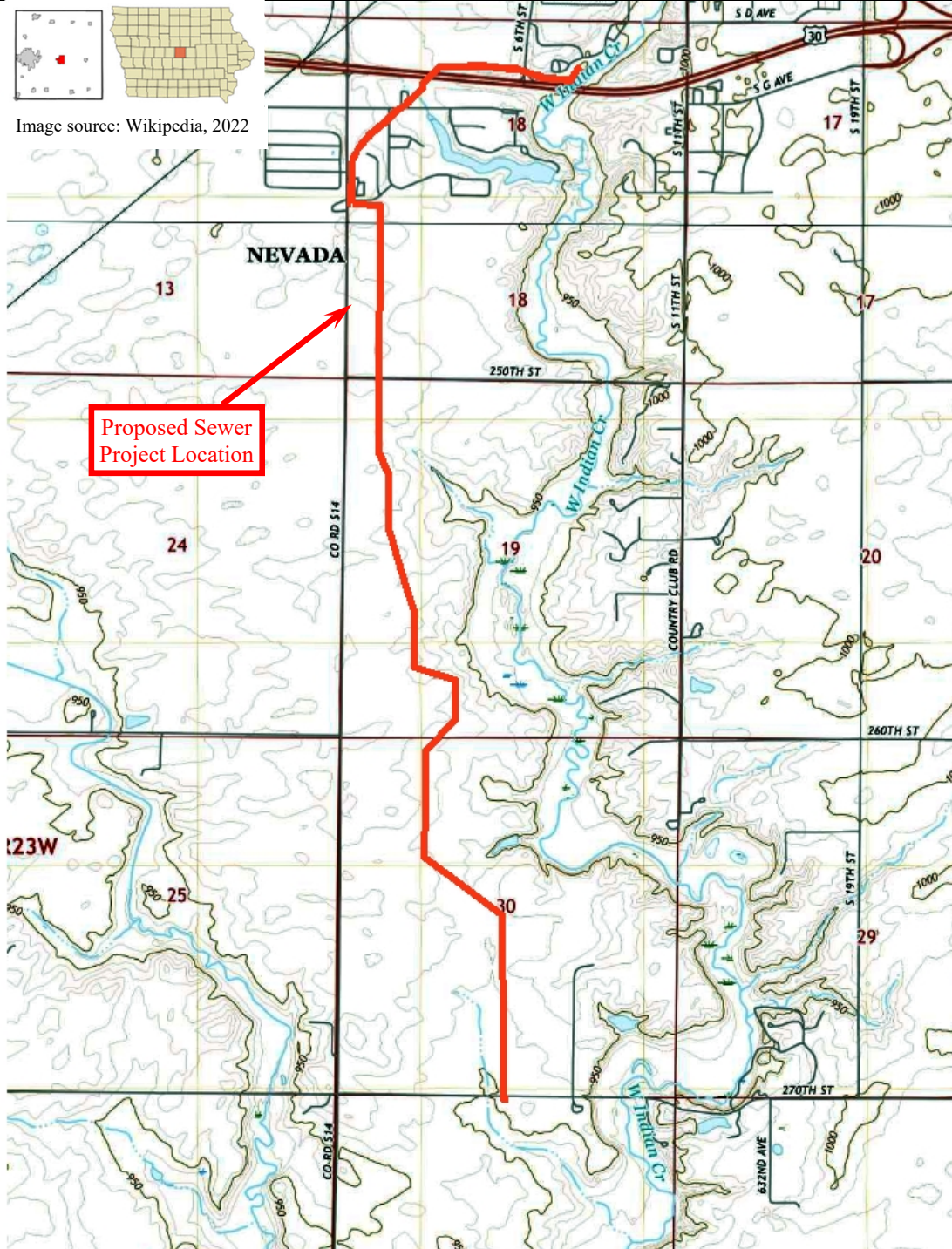


Image source: Wikipedia, 2022



Proposed Sewer
Project Location

USGS Topographic Map

Nevada – Trunk Sewer Project
Nevada, IA



State Revolving Fund
502 East 9th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319-0034

Location information provided by HR Green



North



Proposed Sewer
Project Location

Aerial Photograph

Nevada – Trunk Sewer Project
Nevada, IA



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Des Moines, IA 50319-0034