



City of Muscatine Comprehensive Plan

Chapter 7: Community Facilities, Services, & Amenities





Synopsis

This chapter gives a detailed overview of community facilities, amenities, and/or services currently maintained or offered and operated by the City of Muscatine, excluding transportation infrastructure and parks recreation facilities, which are covered in separate chapters. This chapter details the structure of these facilities, amenities, and services and details existing plans for upgrading existing or construction/offering of new facilities, amenities, and/or services. The goals, policies, and objective regarding the community facilities, amenities, and/or services in Muscatine are contained within this chapter.

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Specific community facilities, amenities, and services analyzed include:

- Community Appearance
- Musser Public Library
- Muscatine Art Center
- Public Safety
- Sanitary Sewers
- Sewer Separation
- Storm Sewers
- Solid Waste
- Muscatine Power and Water

The second component of this chapter contains the goals, which are intended to improve the quality of life in Muscatine, making it a better place to live and do business. The goals were developed through a process of extensive input from the public and community stakeholders. Following is brief overview of the goals of this chapter.

The visual image, particularly the appearance of community facilities and amenities, of a community greatly impacts the way in which a community is perceived by both visitors and residents. Continuing to enhance the appearance of Muscatine is an important priority of the community and a major goal of this Comprehensive plan and the subject of Goal C.1. Goal C.1 calls for the development of a master community image/appearance plan which will serve as a guide for elected officials, city staff, community leaders, and citizens in addressing appearance issues. This plan will establish and clearly define the image/brand that Muscatine wishes to portray. It will contain the design elements that will help establish a more consistent and attractive community wide image; regulatory changes, and aesthetical improvements necessary to implement this image.

Numerous goals were developed to implement the vision of the master community image/appearance plan that will be created to implement Goal C.1 and has been adopted by the Muscatine City Council, as related to specific following topics:

- Streets (Goal C.2)
- Critical Corridors (Goal C.3)
- Gateways (Goal C.4)
- Community facilities (Goal C.5)
- Signage (Goal C.6)
- Landscaping (Goal C.7)
- Public Art (Goal C.8)
- Neighborhoods and commercial districts (Goal C.9)
- Land use regulations (Goal C.10)



The Musser Public Library and the Muscatine Art Center have been identified by members of the community as key amenities contributing to the high quality of life in Muscatine. For this reason Goal C.13 and Goal C.14 state the need for the Musser Public Library and the Muscatine Art Center to facilities and support necessary to continue to enhance the quality of life in Muscatine.

As mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency Goal C.18 is for the City of Muscatine to complete the West Hill Sewer Separation Project by 2028. This project is the largest and most expensive infrastructure improvement project ever undertaken by the City of Muscatine. Goal C.18 calls for a leveraging of the West Hill Sewer Separation Project, by determining if work being done as part of this project can all be used to achieve other goals set forth in the Comprehensive Plan.

Goal C.19 calls for an average fire and emergency services response time of four minutes for the portion of Muscatine located east of Mad Creek. Current response times are illustrated in Figure 11 on page 7-13. Currently this area of Muscatine is served from the Public Safety Building. Growth through development and annexation has resulted in greater population located east of Mad Creek at a greater distance from the Public Safety Building,

Much of the current litter present in Muscatine, particularly in alleys, largely caused by winds blowing trash out of cans without lids and by animals breaking trash bags open and trash cans being knocked over. To address this, Goal C.12 calls for residents to place trash in large lidded, wheeled standardized trash cans provided by the City that can be automatically loaded by a garbage truck, similar to the way that curbside recycling material is currently collected by a contractor.

The community has identified the need for an indoor venue capable of hosting larger meetings and other events in Goal C.15 and community gardens in Goal C.20. Neither goal requires the City of Muscatine to directly fund, construct, or operate these desired community amenities. Rather these two goals direct the City to work community partners to make such projects happen, with the City providing support, encouragement, underutilized municipal property, or resources as appropriate.

Community events and activities that enhance civic pride and spirit, improve the health of, enhance the quality of life in Muscatine, and reflect the diversity of Muscatine are important to the community. Goal C.17 calls for the City of Muscatine to continue to seek opportunities to work with community partners to support, promote, assist with, or sponsor non-profit community events and activities that enhance civic pride and spirit, improve the health of, and enhance the quality of life in Muscatine. This support should primarily be non-monetary in nature, such as the free use of City facilities or the providing of City services at no charge. The value of such support should be tracked and reported to the community.

Goal C.21 calls for improvement to the overall well-being of the citizens of the City of Muscatine thus improving productivity, lowering health care costs, and improving the economy and for Muscatine to become a Blue Zones Project certified community. Specific policy points called for in this goal include: a complete streets policy, smoke-free multi-unit public housing, zoning that encourages mixed use development, policies that promote outdoor dining, support for community gardens and farmer's markets, increased access to drinking fountains, and a written worksite breastfeeding policy that provides space and time for breastfeeding for City employees.



Community Appearance

The visual image of a community greatly impacts the way in which a community is perceived by both visitors and residents. For this reason the beautification and appearance of the community has long been an important issue to the people of Muscatine. There is a long history and numerous examples of schools, employers, government, and community organizations collaborating to successfully advance community initiatives to improve the appearance of and enhance Muscatine.

The most significant collaborative effort was the transformation of Muscatine's riverfront from an unattractive and declining industrial area into the community's most treasured asset. This renovation is the product of 46 individual projects, costing in excess of \$18 million, over the course of more than 30 years as part of a continual collaborative effort by the community to envision what it wanted its riverfront to look like and then achieve this vision through collaborative effort.



Figure 1: Muscatine Riverfront

Continuing to enhance the appearance of Muscatine is clearly still an important priority of the community and a major goal of this Comprehensive Plan. However the community has communicated a desire to go beyond Muscatine's long tradition of projects to beautify and enhance the community, by emulating the success it had improving the appearance of the riverfront, in a coordinated and comprehensive manner across the entire community.

Goal C.1 calls for the development of a master community image/appearance plan which will serve as a guide for elected officials, city staff, community leaders, and citizens in addressing appearance issues in a coordinated and comprehensive manner. The first step in developing such a plan will be to establish and clearly define the image/brand that Muscatine wishes to portray. To do this the following will be identified through community input:

- Desired community self-image/brand.
- Community appearance issues, both strengths and weaknesses.
- Specific locations that are vital to community appearance issues.
- Opportunities to enhance community appearance by leveraging community partnerships and planned projects.

From this a document detailing the design elements that will help establish a more consistent and attractive community wide look/appearance will be created. Key issues and opportunities will be prioritized and the necessary regulatory changes and aesthetical improvements necessary to achieve the desired vision of Muscatine's appearance will developed. Next, key issues and opportunities will be prioritized and topic/item specific implementation plans will be created.



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Goal C.2 is for streets to create an attractive public realm that further community appearance goals and are welcoming and comfortable places for people while safely accommodating vehicles. To achieve this vision all street improvements and any landscaping, lighting, and sidewalks along streets, will be done in a manner that complies with the design standards contained within a master community image/appearance plan that will be created to implement Goal C.1.

Goal C.3 recognizes that the appearance of specific street corridors is critical to the overall appearance and perception of Muscatine and as such call for specific plans to improve the appearance of each identified corridor in a manner that complies with the design standards contained within a master community image/appearance plan that will be created to implement Goal C.1.3. Figure 2 depicts the corridor that the community has identified as critical to the appearance of Muscatine.

Goal C.4 calls for identified key gateways to Muscatine to be attractive, contribute to improving the City's identity and help implement the master community image/appearance plan. Figure 2 depicts the gateways which the community has identified for the development of specific plans aesthetic enhancement.

Goal C.5 is for community facilities such as parks, trail, government buildings, and other facilities to be attractive and contribute to improving the City's identity. To help further community appearance goals, any construction of and improvements to community facilities will be to the standards found within community image/appearance plan that will be created to implement Goal C.1.

Goal C.6 is for signage in Muscatine to advance the master community image/appearance plan that will be created to implement Goal C.1. Regulations for business signage should ensure appropriate business identification while minimizing the cluttered look of highway business corridors. Public signage should promote community identity, further community appearance goals, and visitor way finding. The forthcoming replacement, of nearly all street signs in order to comply with a federal mandate regarding visibility, presents an opportunity to enhance and promote community identity, furthering community appearance goals and visitor way finding.

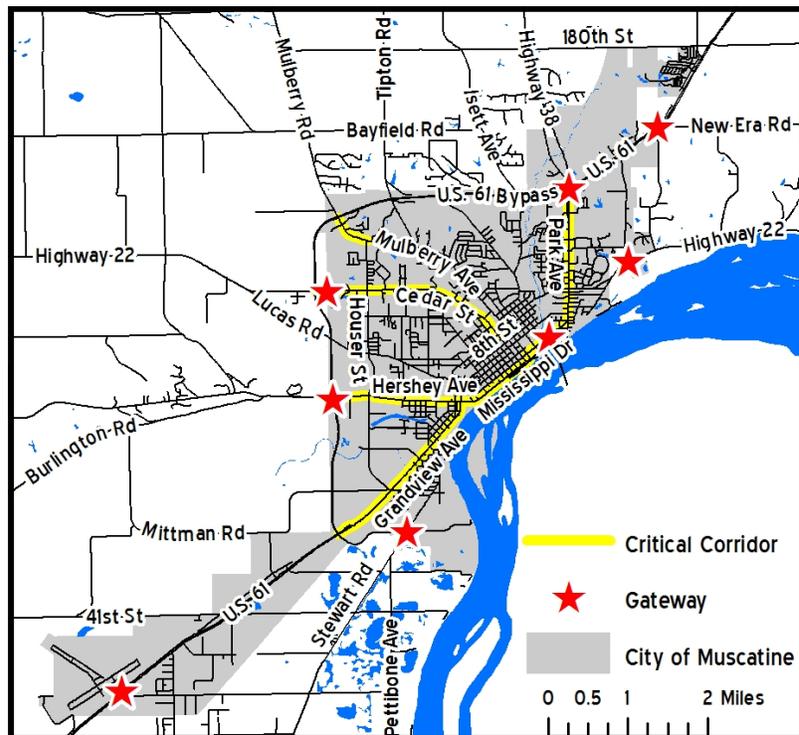


Figure 2: Corridors and Gateways Identified in Goal C.4 and Goal C.4



Improving community appearance through coordinated and planned tree plantings and landscaping activities is goal C.7. This will be accomplished by creating policies regarding landscaping along the edges of parcels fronting a public street in new developments. Locations where additional landscaping and/or tree planting is necessary to achieve the vision contained within the community image/appearance master plan will be identified. Varieties of trees that are desirable and help further the community image/appearance master plan developed to fulfill Goal C.1 will be identified, as will varieties of trees deemed undesirable as nuisances.

Goal C.8 calls for facilitating the installation of public art that enhances the aesthetics and quality of life of Muscatine by make municipally owned property available for the installation of public art. Public art should have the following characteristics: high longevity; low maintenance; containing subject matter that reflects Muscatine's culture, history, people, and values; be designed for passive use; increase the value of the impacted sites and iconic elements for City promotion. In conjunction with the placement of any public art on municipal property it will be established what ongoing maintenance and upkeep will be necessary, who will be responsible for performing this maintenance and upkeep, and how it will be paid for. Any installation of public art should be done in a manner that complies with the design standards contained within a master community image/appearance plan that will be created to implement Goal C.1.

Properly structured land use regulations are key components to achieving community appearance goals. Goal C.10 calls for the City of Muscatine Zoning Ordinance and all other land use regulations to be restructured to further community appearance goals and to implement the community image establish in community image/appearance master plan developed to fulfill Goal C.1. Community members have identified the need for extra focus to be placed on improving the appearance the following areas:

- Downtown
- West Hill Historic District
- Vicinity around the intersection of 5th Street and Mulberry Avenue
- Grandview Avenue Corridor

Goal C.9 calls for the preparation of detailed plans to improve the image/appearance of these areas in a manner consistent with community appearance goals and to implement the community image establish in community image/appearance master plan developed to fulfill Goal C.1. In order for land use regulations to positively effect community appearance Goal C.11 recognizes the importance of code enforcement and calls for the promotion and expansion of the community-based neighborhood cleanup programs and increasing the amount of City resources dedicated to code enforcement.



Musser Public Library

The Musser Public Library, located at 304 Iowa Avenue, provides a wide variety of materials and services, including: computers for word processing, Internet access, meeting rooms, study carrels, AV equipment, photocopier, CDs, tapes, videos, DVDs, books, magazines, 85 popular magazine titles online through Zinio, large-print books, recorded books on cassette or CDs, reading kits, tax forms and publications, genealogical and local history material, telephone directories, information service, home delivery service, story times, adult programs, newspapers, maps, interlibrary loan, census data, and used book sales.



Figure 3: Children's Programming

The Library is a department of the City of Muscatine. A total of nine trustees set library policy: eight City residents appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council and one resident of the county (non-City of Muscatine resident) appointed by the Mayor and approved by the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors. Through an intergovernmental agreement, Muscatine County provides a subsidy to the City that allows residents of unincorporated Muscatine County to use the Library without an additional fee. Similar agreements also exist with the City of Fruitland, the City of Nichols, and New Boston, Eliza, Drury, and Buffalo Prairie Townships in Illinois (see Figure 5 on page 7-9). In total 38,511 people live in the area in which residents can obtain library card from the Musser Public Library.

Currently there are 18,650 individuals holding library cards, this represents 56.2% of the population over 5 years of age living in the library card eligibility area. The number of library card holders has increased by 13.8% since 2008, much faster than the population growth rate, which for the library card eligibility area was an increase of 1.3% between 2000 and 2010. Since 2008 circulation of library materials have increased by 5.8% and internet usage by 2%. In fiscal year 2012 attendance at children's programs was a little over 20,000, nearly double 11,429 people under the age 18 residing in the library card eligibility area.

	FY '09	FY '10	FY '11	FY '12	FY '13
Circulation	336,210	299,190	311,425	355,993	356,000
Number of Library Card Holders	16,389	17,655	17,512	18,639	18,650
Attendance at Children's Programs	21,109	20,050	20,137	20,306	20,350
Internet Usage	39,728	37,720	44,185	40,496	40,500

Table 2: Library Usage



In 1897 The Muscatine Library Association was formed to establish a free public library in a basement room of the high school. It was to be open one afternoon a week. A board of 15 trustees was appointed to administer the affairs of the library. Later, Mr. P. M. Musser was elected to this board to succeed one of three members who retired. In 1900, P. M. Musser announced, through the president of the board, that he would provide the community with its first library building, if Muscatine citizens would designate funds for its continuing support. Citizens voted 1,285 to 11 for a proposed one-mill tax levy to support and establish the library. The cornerstone of the building was set May 6, 1901. In 1970 the library board again



Figure 4: Children's Programming

appealed to the Musser family, this time to P. M. Musser's grandchildren, John Musser and Marion Musser Lloyd, to help build a new library in place of the 1901 building. They contributed \$500,000 or 2/3 of the cost of the present library structure in memory of their mother Margaret Kulp Musser and it was dedicated on August 5, 1972.

Goal C.13 is for the Musser Public Library to have the facility and the support necessary to continue to enhance the quality of life in Muscatine by operating as a cultural and educational center, offering lifelong learning enrichment opportunities through access to ideas, information and the arts. This will be achieved by providing an information technology architecture that accommodates the changing requirements of delivering library services in the 21st century, while maintaining the traditional library services still greatly valued by the community. The first step in accomplishing this will be for the Library Board of Trustees or a committee operating under the auspices and reporting to the Library of Trustees to prepare a long-range library facilities plan that addresses the evolving needs and aging facilities as well as the implementation of library technologies that promote efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of information and library services. The following issues should be among those examined during the process to create a long-range library facilities plan:

- Necessary square footage
- Compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act
- Parking
- Large meeting room
- Self-checkout system
- RFID technology



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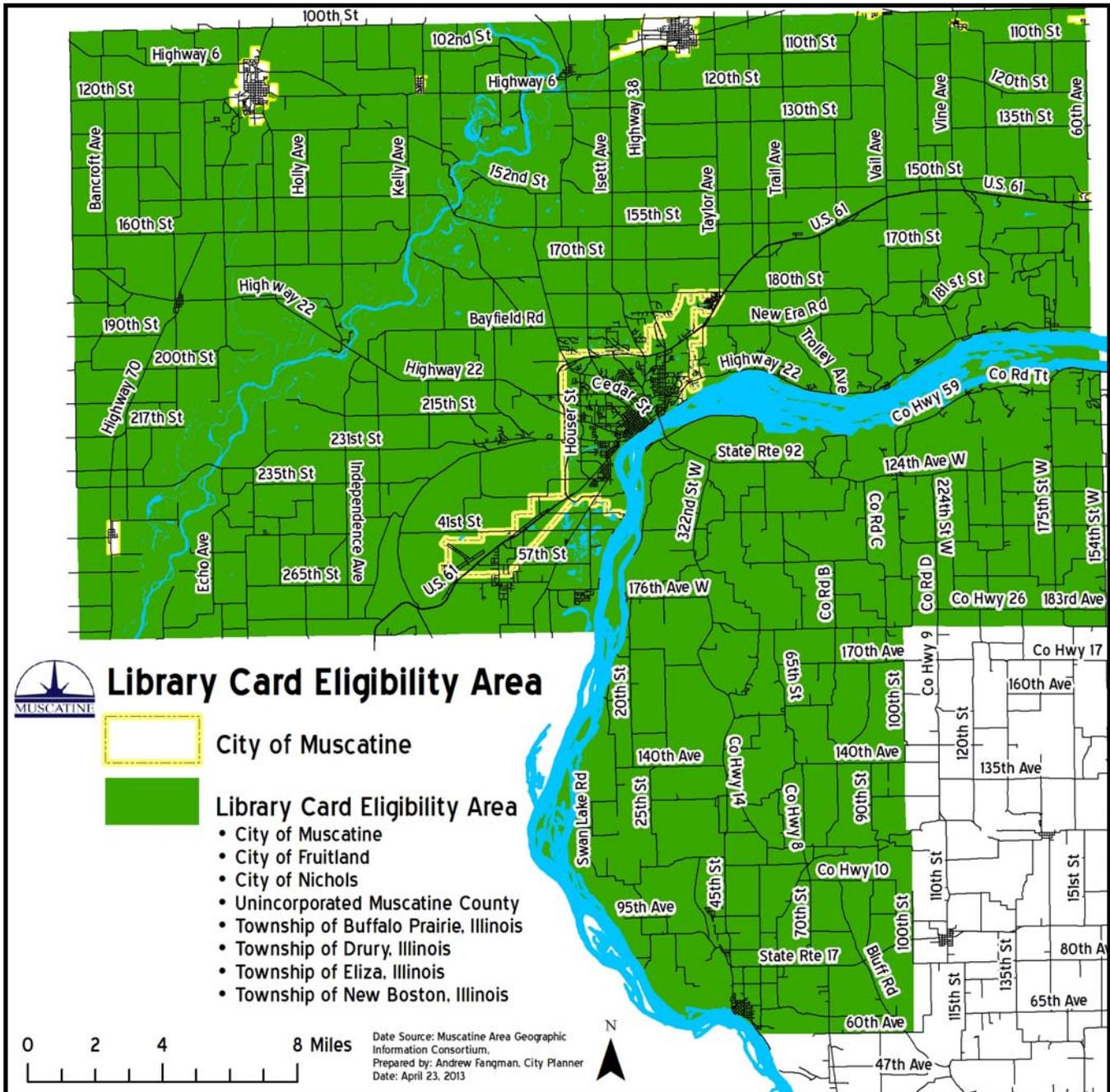


Figure 5: Library Card Eligibility Area

	Total Population	Change in Population 2000 to 2010	Population under 18	Population Over 65
Library Card Eligibility Area	38,511	+492, +1.3%	11,429	5,521
City of Muscatine	22,886	+189, +0.8%	6,366	3,103

Table X: Library Card Eligibility Area Demographics

Muscatine Art Center

The Muscatine Art Center, located at 1314 Mulberry Avenue is a permanent, municipal, non-profit institution. The Muscatine Art Center consists of the Laura Musser Museum housed in the 1908 Musser Mansion and the contemporary Stanley Art Gallery, which are open and free to the public. A joint building connects the Laura Musser Museum and the Stanley Art Gallery. The Art Center collects, preserves, interprets and exhibits objects of historical and aesthetic importance for the benefit of present and future generations. In addition, through the use of the permanent collection and special exhibitions, education programs are provided for all ages to encourage and promote the advancement, understanding, enjoyment and diffusion of knowledge of the visual arts. In FY 2013 the attendance at the Muscatine Art Center was 29,500, 160 classes were offered and 14 exhibitions held.



Figure 6: Muscatine Art Center

An annual appropriation by the City of Muscatine provides the main support for the Muscatine Art Center. The Friends of the Muscatine Art Center further supports the Art Center through sponsoring an annual membership drive and fundraising events which generate moneys for acquisitions, busing for students to view exhibition and collections, and fund the art education coordinator's position. Individuals may also assist in supporting the Muscatine Art Center through direct contributions to the Muscatine Art Center Support Foundation. The Muscatine Art Center Support Foundation provides an annual budget for the purpose of sponsoring exhibitions, purchasing acquisitions for the permanent collection and conservation of the permanent collection as needed.



Figure 7: Ice Cream Social at the Muscatine Art Center

The Muscatine Art Center is one of only 775 museums nationwide accredited by the American Association of Museums. This honor signifies that the Art Center has undergone a rigorous and lengthy process involving intensive self-examination, peer review and a thorough examination by the Accreditation Commission. Accreditation by the AAM means the Muscatine Art Center is recognized for demonstrating excellence and operating in accordance with the best practices and highest standards in the field.



Figure 8

The permanent collection provides visitors with a wide variety of experiences. Decorative arts, including paperweights, oriental carpets, American art pottery and furniture offer an exciting contrast to works of art by Grant Wood, Mauricio Lasansky, John Mix Stanley, Georgia O’Keeffe, Allan Houser and other noteworthy American artists. In 1992, the collections were significantly enriched by a gift of 27 works of art by Matisse, Degas, Boudin, Chagall, Renoir, and other European artists. A gift from the estate of Mary Musser Gilmore in honor of her parents, Richard Drew Musser and Sarah Walker Musser, the Gilmore collection is on permanent view in the Musser Museum. The Picasso pictured in Figure 8 became part of the Muscatine Art Center's collection in 2010. It was gifted by the estate of Sarah King Wilmer, daughter of Mary Musser Gilmore

The Muscatine Art Center also offers art classes, special lectures, opening receptions and concerts are offered on a regular basis to people of all ages with a common interest in history and the arts. The Art Center's non-circulating reference library is also available to visitors.

Goal C.14 is for the Muscatine Art Center to have a facility and the support necessary for the Muscatine Art Center to carry out its mission to continue to enhance the quality of life in Muscatine and to care for the collections of the Art Center. Specifically over the course the next decade this means maintaining the historic integrity of the Musser house and original landscape, meeting museum standards in providing appropriate environmental conditions for its collection, ensuring their facilities contain appropriate spaces for carrying out the Muscatine Art Center’s educational mission and provide appropriate spaces for viewing historic and aesthetic objects.

To accomplish this Muscatine Art Center staff will work with staff from Public Works, Buildings and Grounds, and Parks and Recreation to determine the ongoing maintenance needs of the Muscatine Art Center and to create a maintenance plan. This plan will include details on prioritization, timing, and financing. The Art Center Board of Trustees, as part of its long range planning, will discuss the collection storage needs.



Figure 9: Children's Programming



Public Safety

The City of Muscatine Public Safety Building located at 312 East 5th Street, houses both the Police and Fire Departments. The Fire Department also has a station at 2124 Stewart Road which opened in 2012, replacing a station located on Oregon Street.



Figure 10: Muscatine Public Safety Building

The Muscatine Police Department is currently comprised of 42 sworn officers and is composed of four divisions: patrol, investigation, general administration, and a canine unit. Major objectives of the Police Department currently include the reinstatement of the Street Crimes Unit in order to address the growing gang issues and related problems. The Police Department continues to move forward by utilizing problem and community oriented policing strategies and re-inventing patrol dispersions to maximize effectiveness by incorporating the most efficient use of manpower and allocation of resources.

The Muscatine Fire Department is staffed with 37 full-time personnel who provide fire protection and ambulance services to the City of Muscatine as well as fire protection and hazardous material response to contracted areas through automatic and mutual aid agreements. The primary functions of the Fire Department include: ambulance transport, auto extrication, fire code enforcement, confined space rescue, fire prevention, fire suppression, hazardous material response (to the City of Muscatine and Muscatine, Washington, Louisa, Henry, and Keokuk Counties), high-angle rescue, ice /water rescue public education, and trench rescue. Starting on July 1, 2000 ambulance service for the city and county of Muscatine became the responsibility of the Muscatine Fire Department. The ambulance service covers the City of Muscatine, surrounding townships, and some adjoining portions of Western Illinois.

Goal C.19 calls for an average fire and emergency services response time of four minutes for the portion of Muscatine located east of Mad Creek, current response times are illustrated in Figure 11 on page 7-13. Currently this area of Muscatine is served from the Public Safety Building. Growth through development and annexation has resulted in a greater population located east of Mad Creek at a distance from the Public Safety Building that makes an average four minute response time from this building impossible. At some point continued growth east of Mad Creek will necessitate the construction of a new fire station to maintain adequate response time in this part of Muscatine. This goal calls for a new station to be constructed when this point is reached or if an opportunity to leverage a partnership presents itself.



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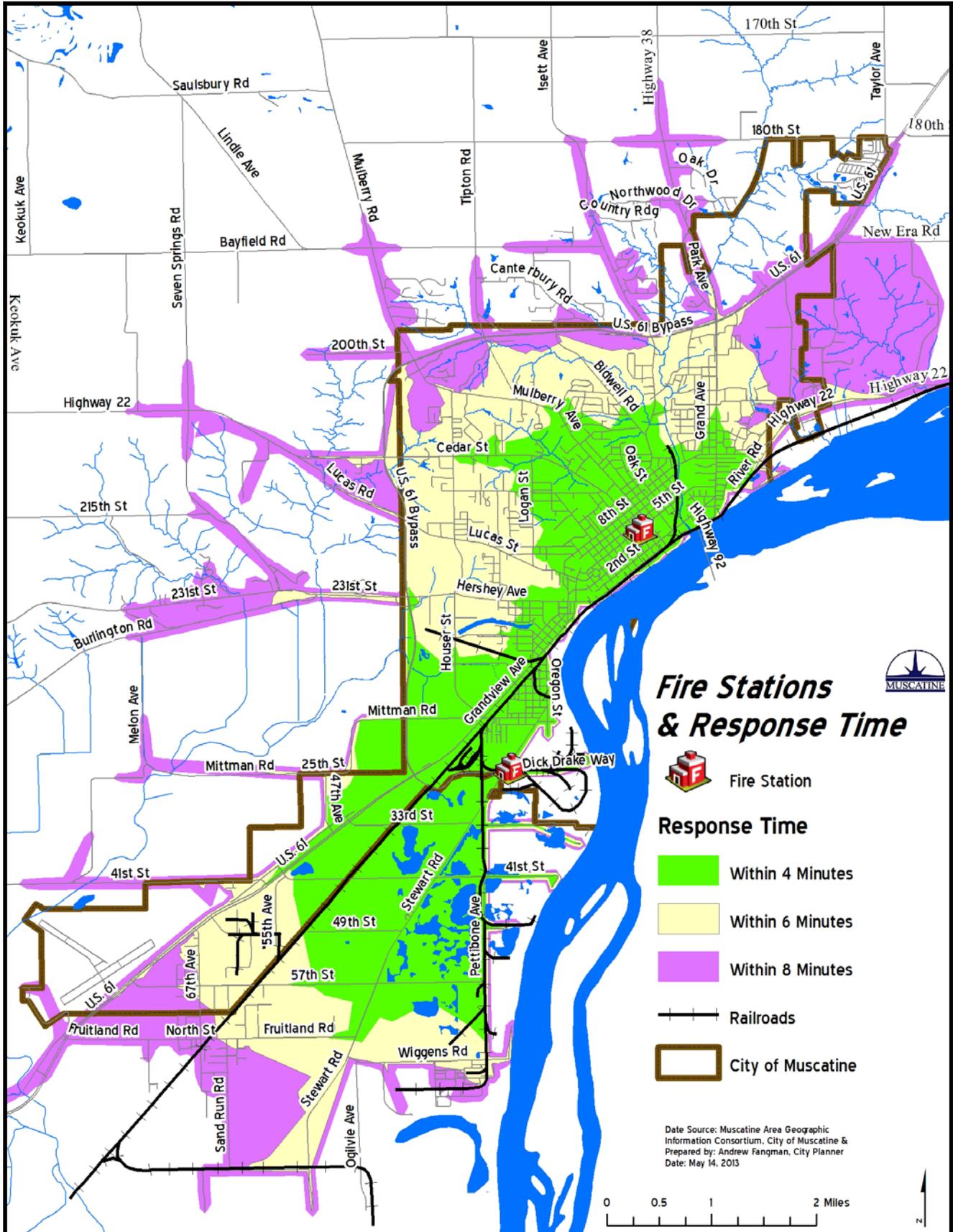


Figure 11: Fire Stations & Response Time



Sanitary Sewer

The City of Muscatine Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP), located on Musser Street, treats wastewater from homes, commercial buildings, and industrial facilities and transports. The Muscatine WPCP is an activated sludge treatment plant. In its large tanks, the plant performs filtration processes that would occur in nature to help remove organic material. The clean water is returned to the Mississippi River at Musser Park, and the biosolids are annually applied through an umbilical system to 332 acres of farm land as fertilizer.

The Water Pollution Control Plant was completed in 1976 and has undergone several major renovations since then. The most recent being an \$18 million renovation project, completed in 2011. Areas of new construction include three 80-foot primary clarifiers, two 60-foot digesters, fine bubble aeration, UV disinfection, and odor control in the existing grit building. With completion of these renovations Muscatine now has a water pollution control plant that will serve its need for years to come.

Detailed maps contained on pages 7-15 through 7-21 depict the location, size, and direction of flow of the sewers lines that feed into the WPCP. The location of existing sewer infrastructure will have a significant influence on where future development in Muscatine occurs. Areas where development can easily hook on to existing infrastructure are far more likely to develop than areas that would require a significant investment in sewer infrastructure. How easy an area is to serve with sewer is dependent on proximity to existing infrastructure and topography. All of Muscatine ultimately drains into the Mississippi River, however there are several smaller watersheds within Muscatine that drain to the Mississippi River along a different routes. Sanitary sewers can only cross watershed boundaries by making use of pumping stations. The City of Muscatine maintains 21 pumping stations. Pumping stations pump the wastewater across these watershed boundaries and onward to the WPCP.

In the summer of 2013 construction was completed on an extension of approximately 11,800 feet of 15” sanitary sewer pipe between the Ripley’s Mobile Home Park and Park Avenue West near the end of the Greenbelt Trail. The purpose of this extension was to connected Ripley’s Mobile Home Park, which had been served by a failing system of lagoons, to the City of Muscatine’s sanitary sewer. However the topography of the areas and the size of this extension allow it to potentially serve a much wider area, over 1,000 acres. Much of this area, notably between Mad Creek and U.S. 61 is currently undeveloped but is adjacent to what has been one of the fastest growing parts of Muscatine. The fact that this area can now readily be connected to the City of Muscatine sanitary sewer system is likely to significantly increase development interest in this area. Additionally some the largest blocks of undeveloped land in close proximity to existing sewer are now found in this area.



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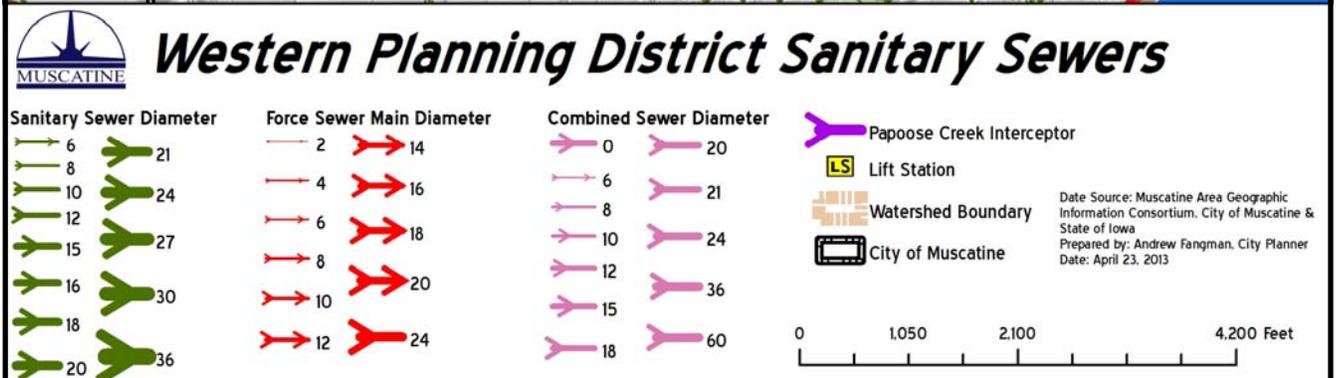
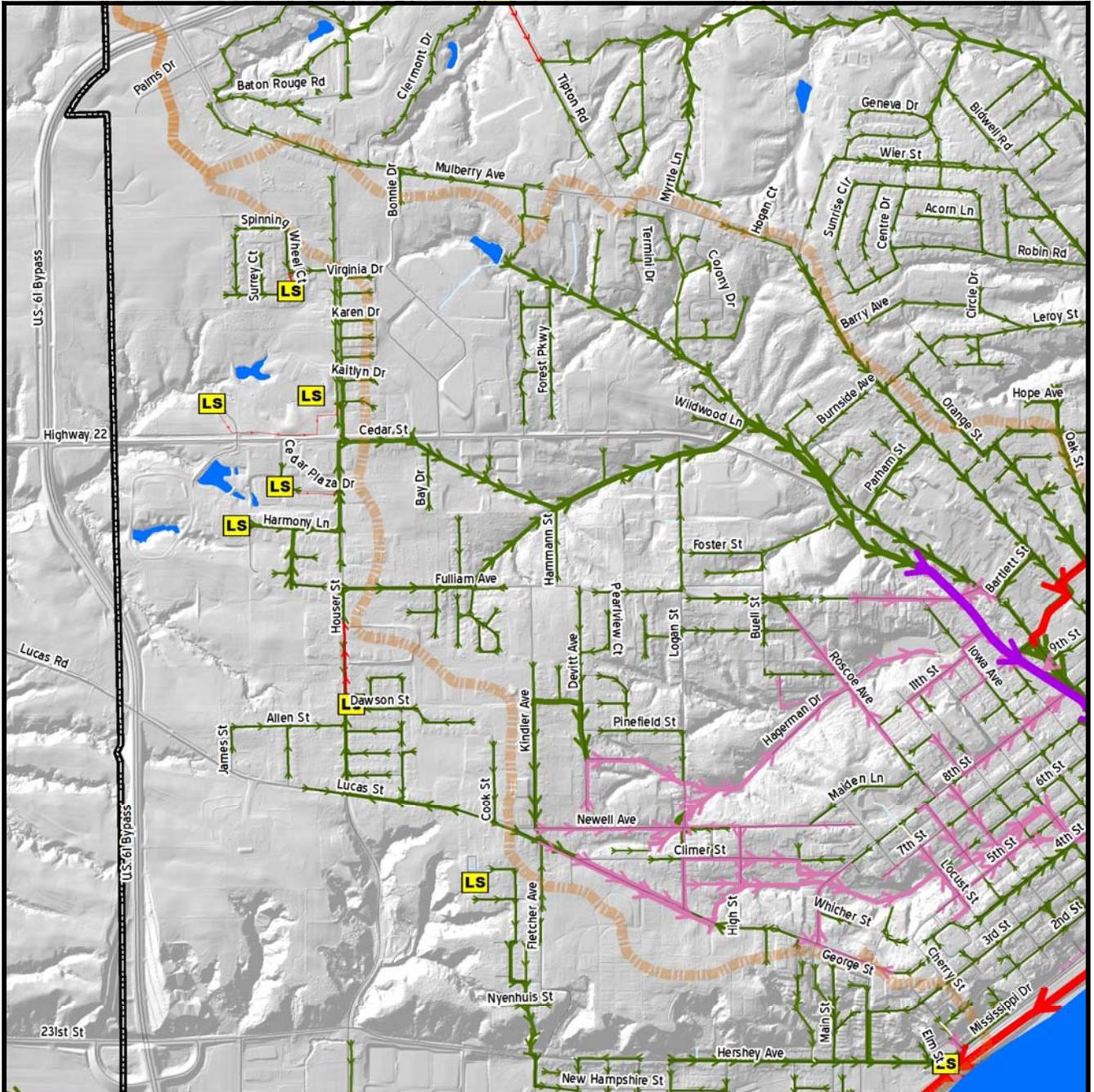


Figure 12: Western Planning District Sanitary Sewers



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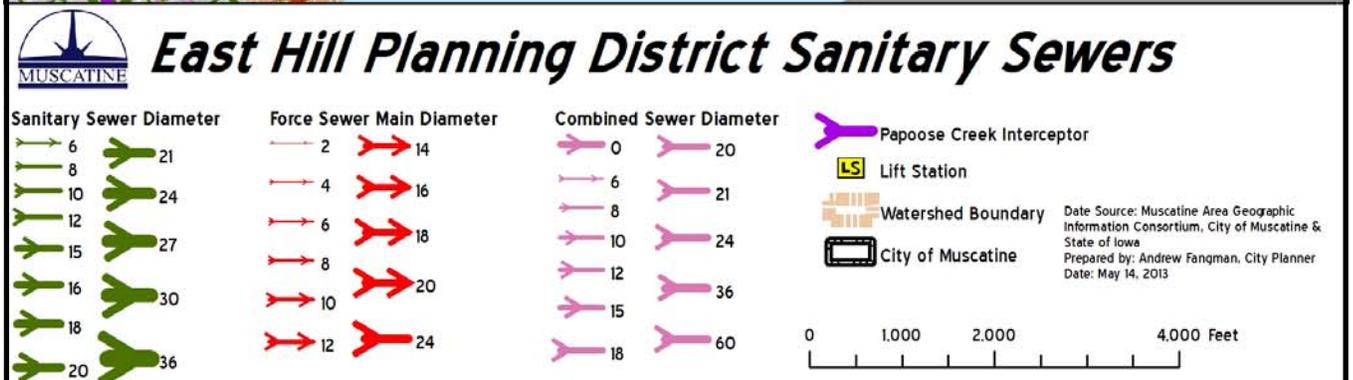
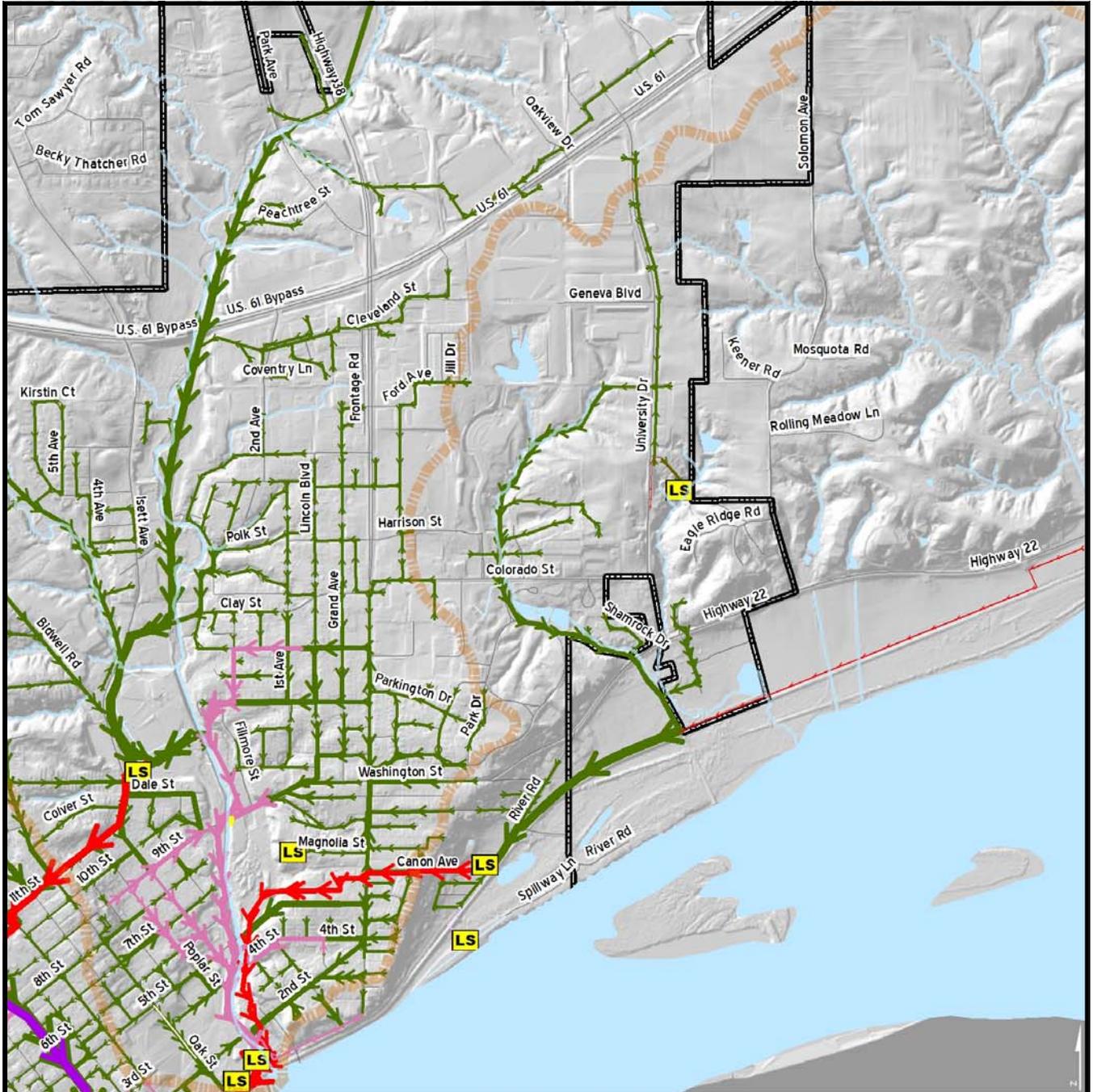


Figure 13: East Hill Planning District Sanitary Sewers



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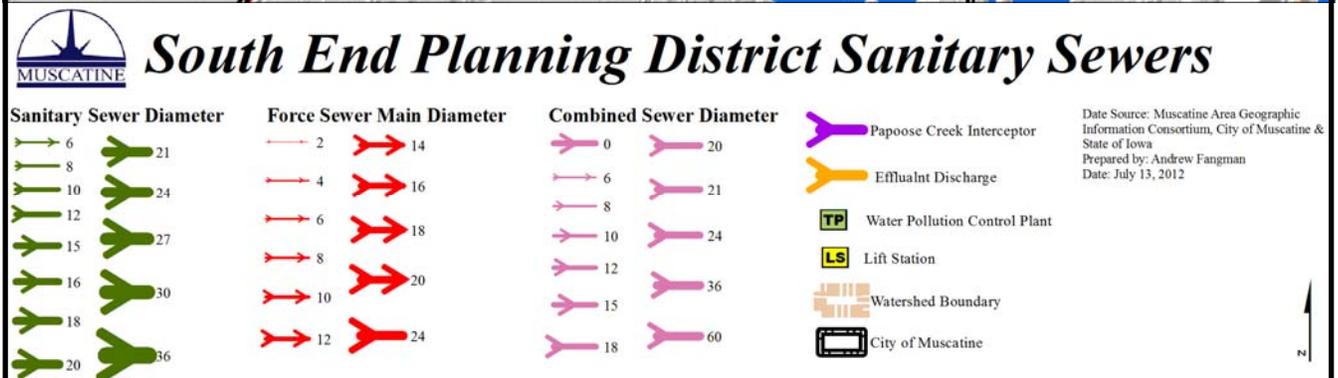
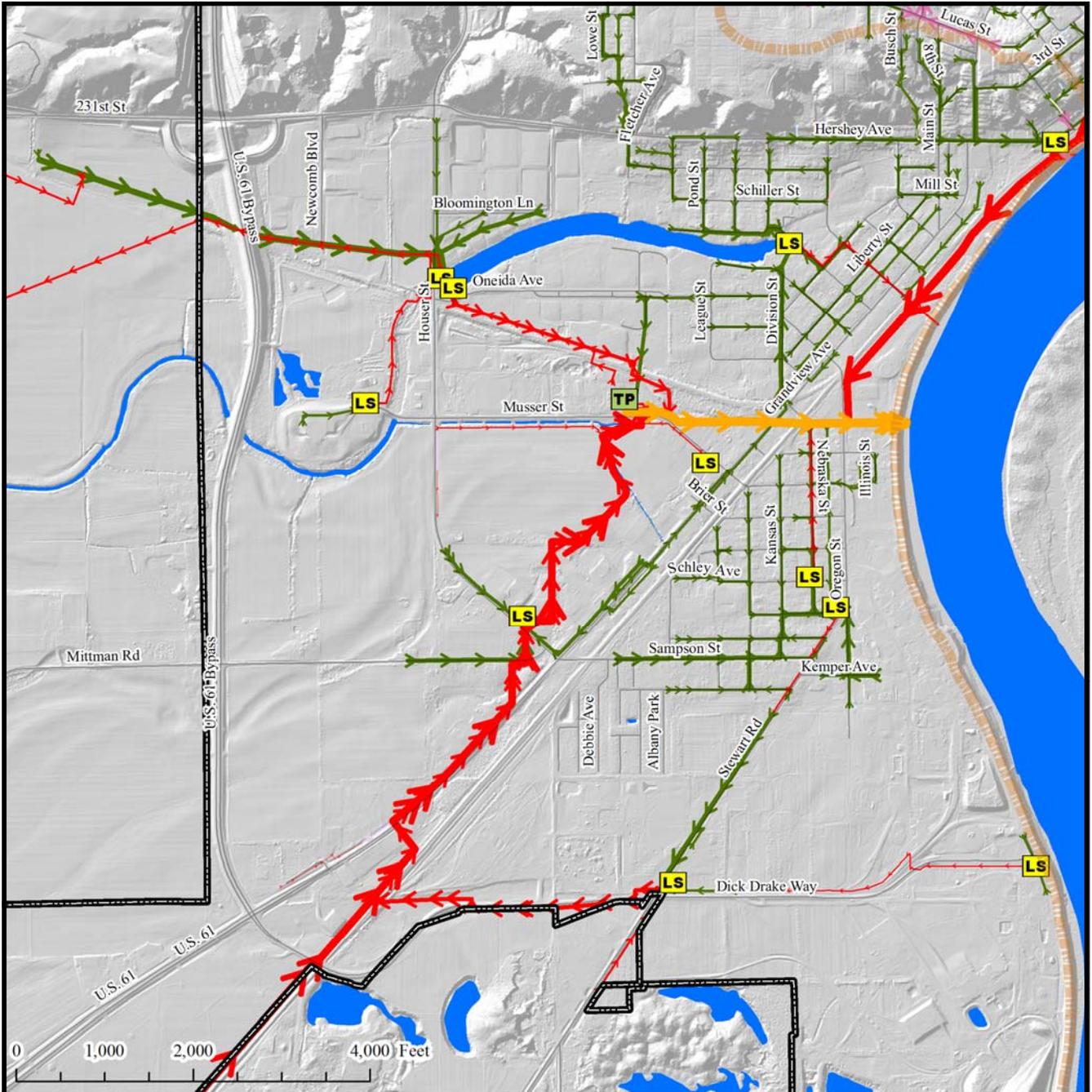


Figure 14: South End Planning District Sanitary Sewers



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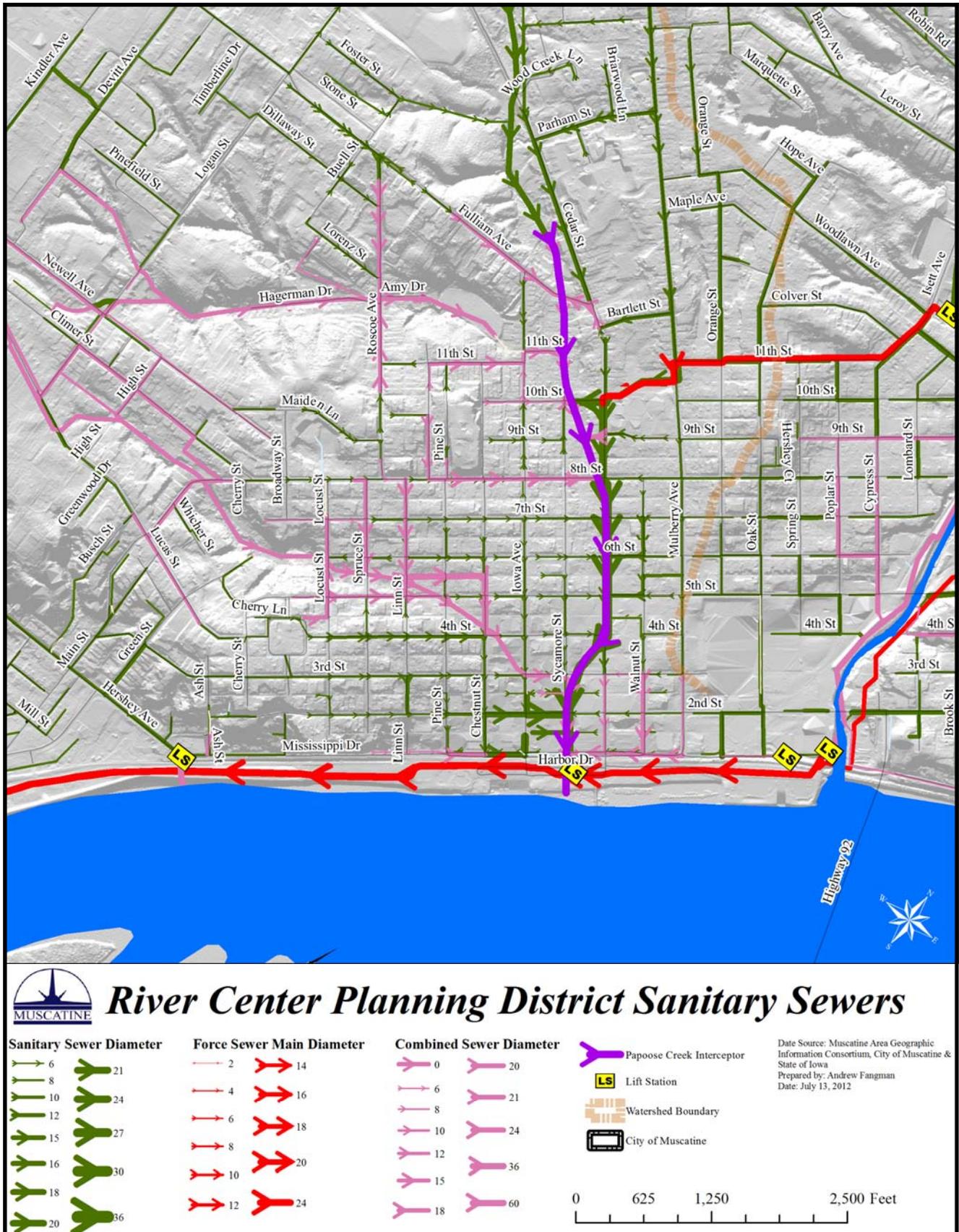


Figure 15: River Center Planning District Sanitary Sewers



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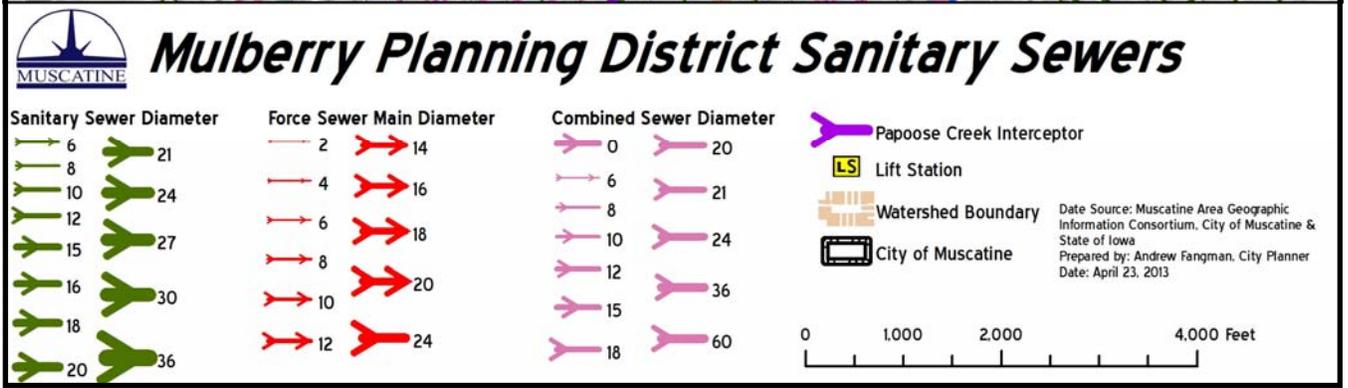
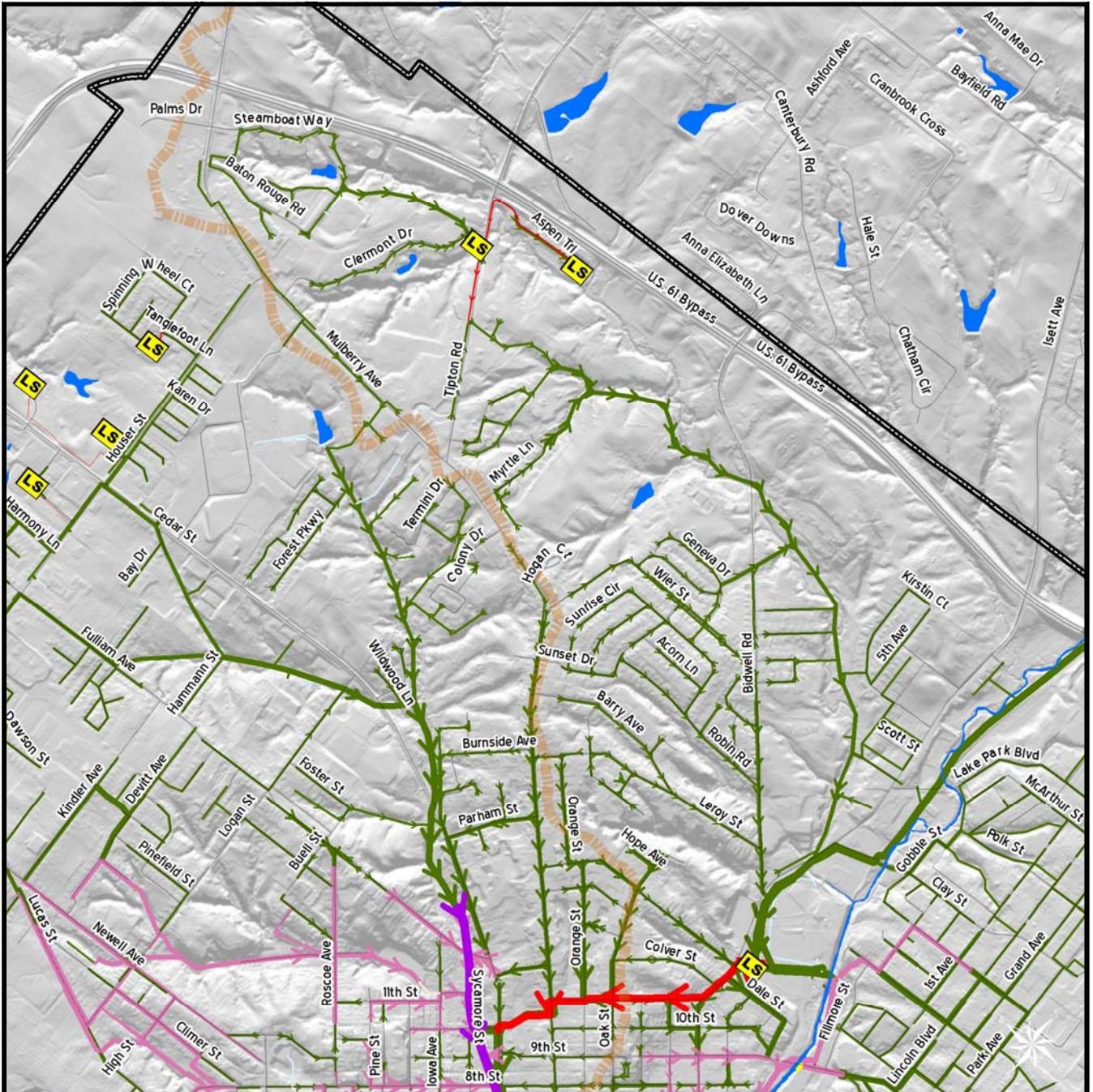


Figure 16: Mulberry Planning District Sanitary Sewers



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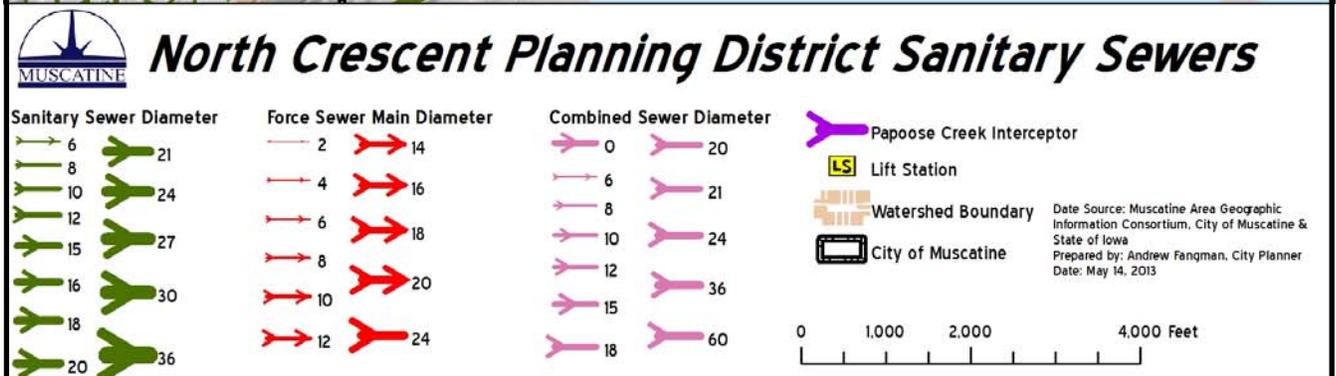
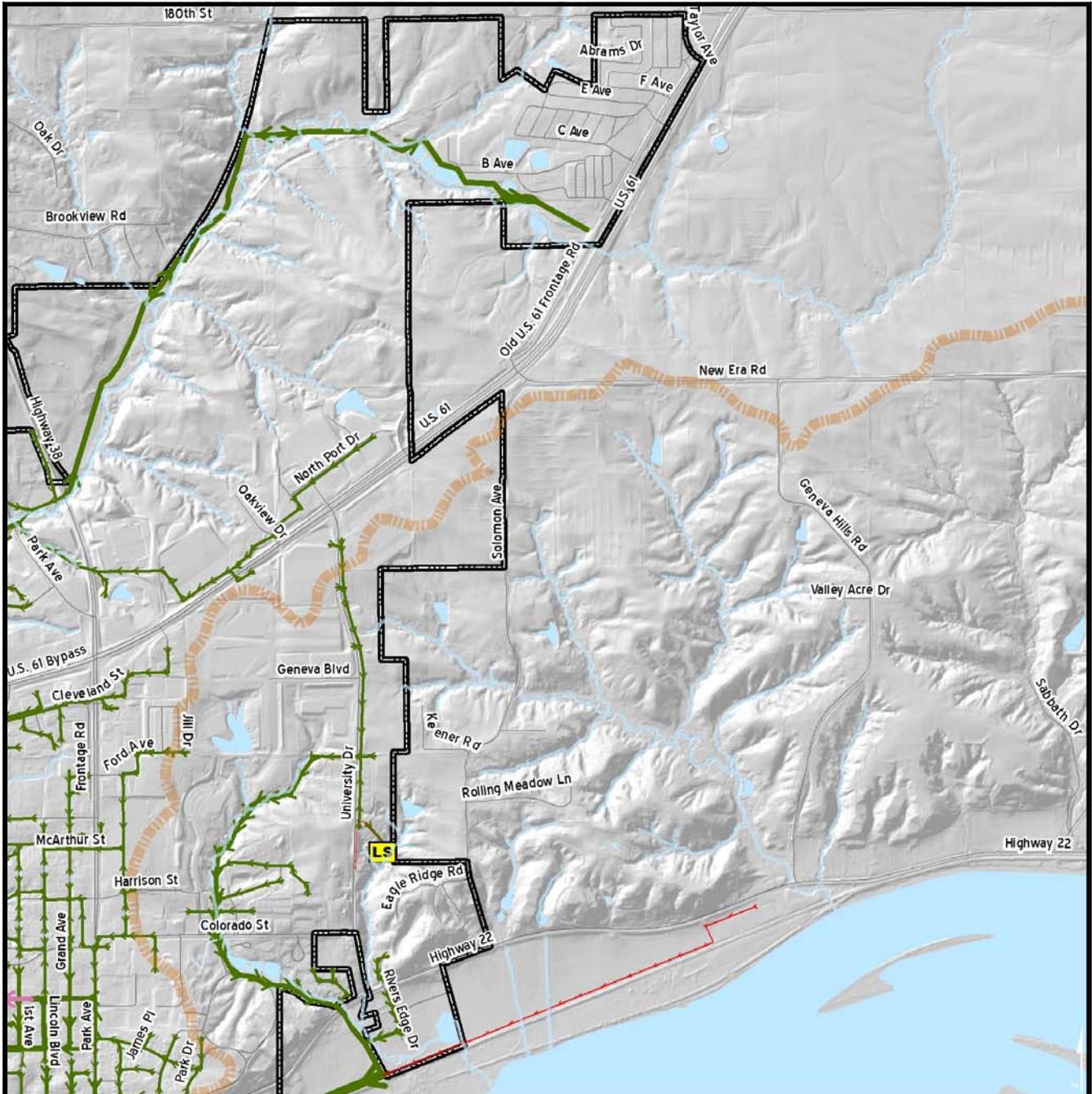


Figure 17: Island District Sanitary Sewers



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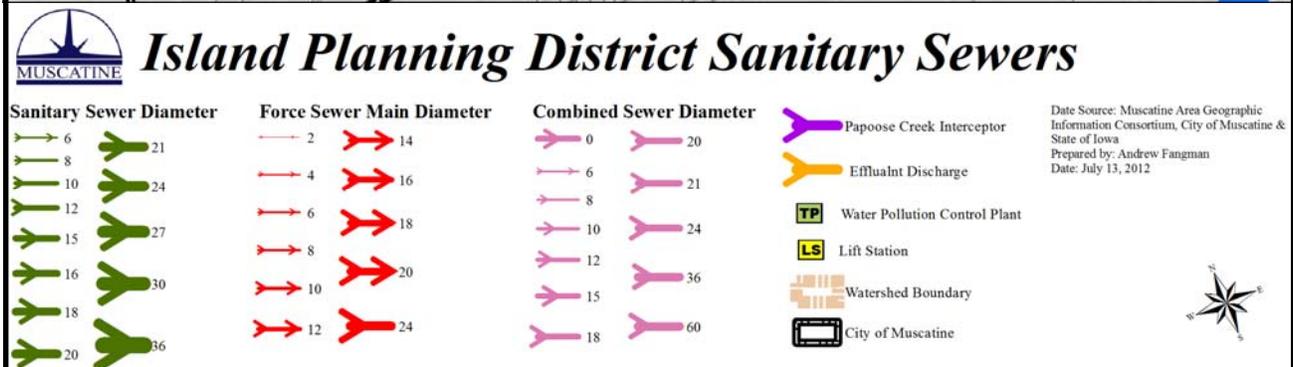
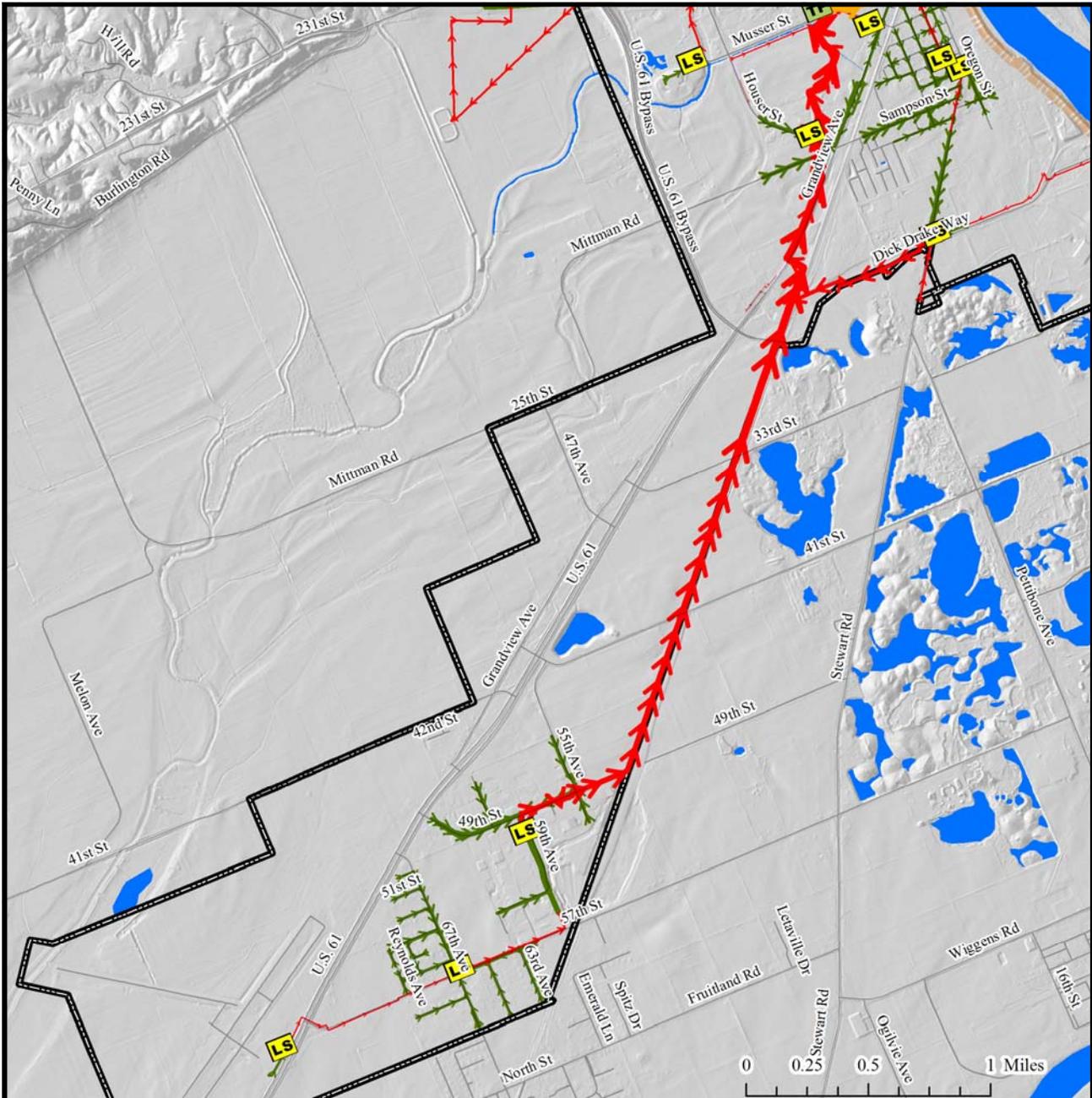


Figure 18: Island Planning District Sanitary Sewers



Sewer Separation

Many of the older portion of the City of Muscatine are served by combined sewers constructed early in the history of Muscatine. Combined sewer systems are sewers that are designed to collect rainwater runoff, domestic sewage, and industrial wastewater in the same pipe. Most of the time, combined sewer systems transport all of their wastewater to a sewage treatment plant, where it is treated and then discharged to a water body. During periods of heavy rainfall or snowmelt, however, the wastewater volume in a combined sewer system can exceed the capacity of the sewer system or treatment plant. For this reason, combined sewer systems are designed to overflow occasionally and discharge excess and untreated wastewater directly to the Mississippi River through a combined sewer overflow.



Figure 19: Hershey Avenue Area Sanitary and Storm Sewer Separation Project along West 3rd Street

The United States Environmental Protection Agency considers untreated sewage from combined sewer systems that gets discharged directly into the Mississippi River to be a violation of the Clean Water Act. To address this the City has, for the past 20 years, been methodically separating the storm and sanitary sewers in community. In 2007, the City of Muscatine signed a consent order with the EPA which commits to separate sanitary and storm sewers and remove all combined sewer overflows. The 2011 completion of the Hershey Avenue Area Sanitary and Storm Sewer Separation Project which allowed the combined sewer overflow at the Hershey Avenue Pumping Station has left the combined sewer overflow at the Papoose Creek Pumping Station as the only remaining combined sewer overflow. To remove this combined sewer overflow the combined sewers that flow to the Papoose Creek Pumping Station must be replaced with separate sanitary and storm sewer lines, this project has been titled the West Hill Sewer Separation Project. Figure 20 illustrates the location of all the combined sewer lines that will ultimately be replaced with separated storm and sanitary lines as part of the West Hill Sewer Separation Project.

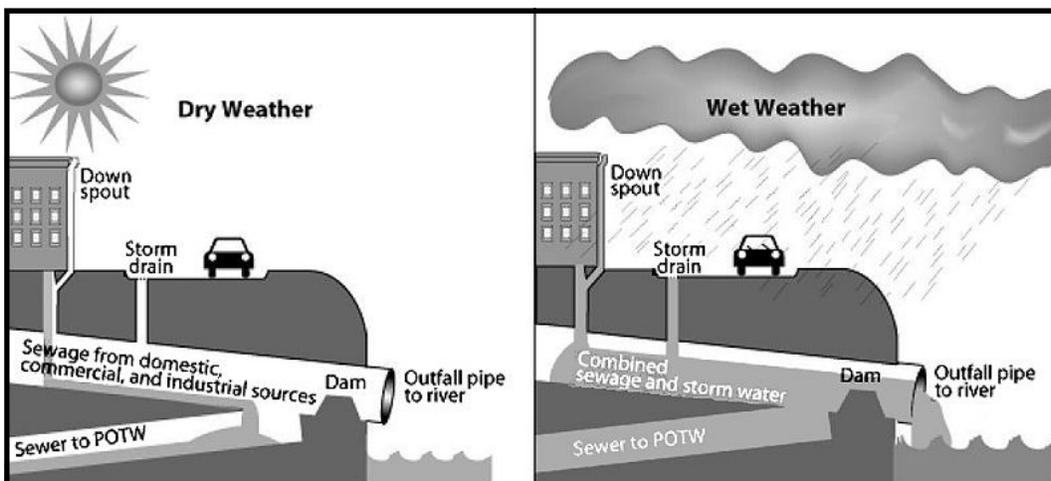


Figure 20: Illustration of a Combined Sewer System. (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)

Storm Sewers

The Stormwater Operations Division, functioning within the Public Works Department, maintains the City of Muscatine's stormwater infrastructure. Figures 28 through 34 on pages 7-26 through 7-32 map out existing stormwater infrastructure. Going forward the City of Muscatine faces challenges of maintaining its aging stormwater infrastructure in the older portion of the City, overseeing an expanding drainage system in developing areas, and dealing with potential significant changes in the way the State and Federal government regulate stormwater.

The Clean Water Act gives the Environmental Protection Agency regulatory authority over stormwater that is discharged into waterways. Stormwater drainage infrastructure of the type that is owned and operated by the City of Muscatine is known as municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s). It is expected that in the near future the City of Muscatine's stormwater sewer will be required to obtain a permit to discharge into the Mississippi River and other bodies of water that drain to the Mississippi River of the EPA's Stormwater Phase II Rule. This rule is establishing the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater program for smaller to communities such as Muscatine; Phase 1 was focused on communities with population. When Muscatine is required to obtain a MS4 discharge permit the following 6 minimum control must be addressed:

- **Public Education and Outreach**
Distribute educational materials and perform outreach to inform citizens about the impacts polluted stormwater runoff discharges can have on water quality.
- **Public Participation/Involvement**
Provide opportunities for citizens to participate in program development and implementation, including effectively publicizing public hearings and/or encouraging citizen representatives on a stormwater management panel.
- **Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination**
Develop and implementing a plan to detect and eliminate illicit discharges to the storm sewer system (includes developing a system map and informing the community about hazards associated with illegal discharges and improper disposal of waste).
- **Construction Site Runoff Control**
Develop, implementing, and enforcing an erosion and sediment control program for construction activities that disturb 1 or more acres of land (controls could include silt fences and temporary stormwater detention ponds).



Figure 22: A landscaped curb extension calms traffic and captures and infiltrates street runoff in Portland, Oregon. (EPA)



Figure 23: Rainfall soaks through permeable pavement and into the ground below in this parking area in West Des Moines, Iowa (EPA)



Figure 24: Street runoff Collects in Stormwater planters in Portland, Oregon. (EPA)



- **Post-Construction Runoff Control**

Develop, implementing, and enforcing a program to address discharges of post-construction stormwater runoff from new development and redevelopment areas. Applicable controls could include preventative actions such as protecting sensitive areas (e.g., wetlands) or the use of structural best management practices such as grassed swales or porous pavement.

- **Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping**

Develop and implementing a program with the goal of preventing or reducing pollutant runoff from municipal operations. The program must include municipal staff training on pollution prevention measures and techniques (e.g., regular street sweeping, reduction in the use of pesticides or street salt, or frequent catch-basin cleaning).

Low Impact Development is a management approach and set of practices, promoted by the EPA, that can reduce runoff and pollutant loading, and help a community comply with requirements of the EPA's Stormwater Phase II Rule by managing runoff as close to its source as possible. LID includes overall site design approaches and individual small-scale stormwater management practices that promote the use of natural systems for infiltration, evapotranspiration and the harvesting and use of rainwater. Figures 22 through 27 on illustrate examples of LID.

Goal C.16 calls for the City of Muscatine to be compliance with all relevant state and federal stormwater regulations. To do this the City will proactively monitor and prepare for changes in regulatory requirements regarding stormwater. In anticipation of the City being required to comply the EPA's Stormwater Phase II Rule will promote management approaches and practices that reduce runoff and pollutant loading, and help manage runoff as close to its source as possible. Upon completion of work related to the West Hill Sewer Separation Project, the municipally owned lot at the corner of Cedar Street and 8th Street will be redeveloped as a pocket park that both enhances the appearance of Muscatine and demonstrates Low Impact Development storm water management practices



Figure 25: Street drainage into bioswale in Lenexa, Kansas



Figure 26: Permeable asphalt alley as part of Chicago Department of Transportation's Green Alley Program

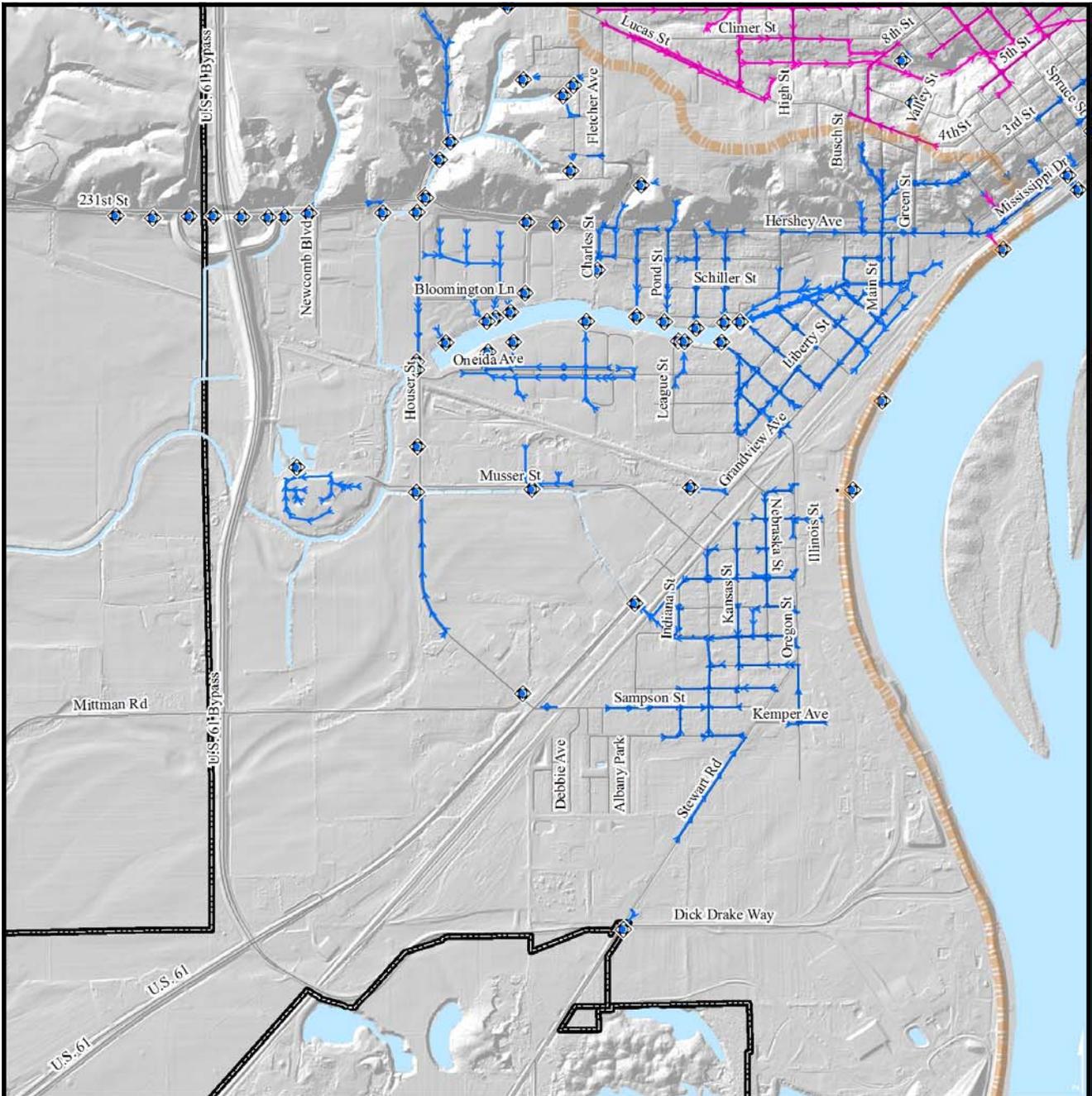


Figure 27: Catchment drain for alley entrance to divert water into bioswales.



City of Muscatine, Iowa—Comprehensive Plan

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South End Planning District Storm Sewers



- Storm Sewer Line
- Combined Storm/Sanitary Sewer Line
- Papoose Creek Interceptor
- Water
- Stream
- Watershed Boundary
- City of Muscatine
- Stormwater Discharge Point**
- City
- IDOT
- Private

Date Source: Muscatine Area Geographic Information Consortium, City of Muscatine & State of Iowa
Prepared by: Andrew Fangman
Date: May 28, 2013

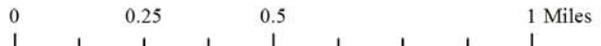


Figure 28: South End Planning District Storm Sewers

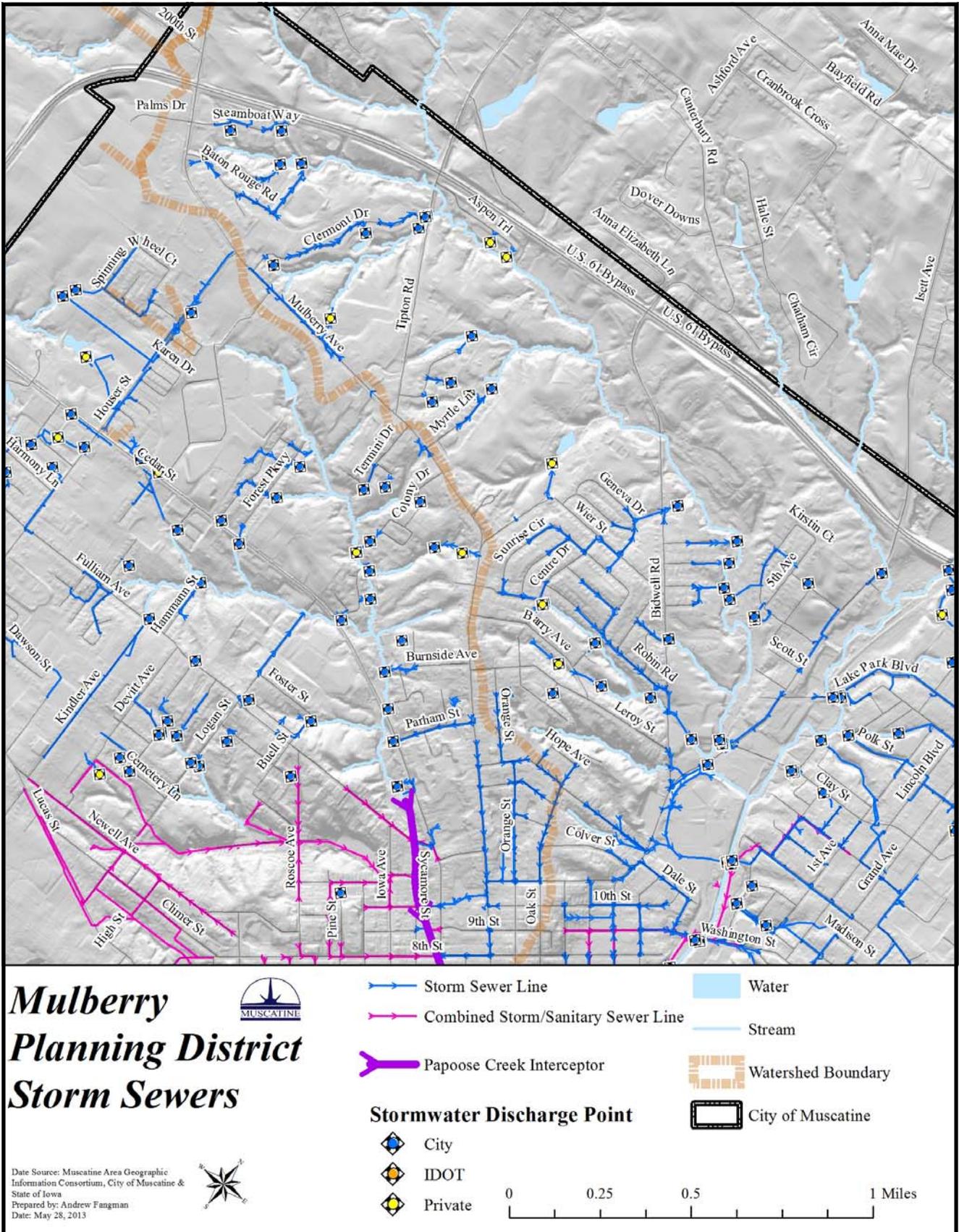
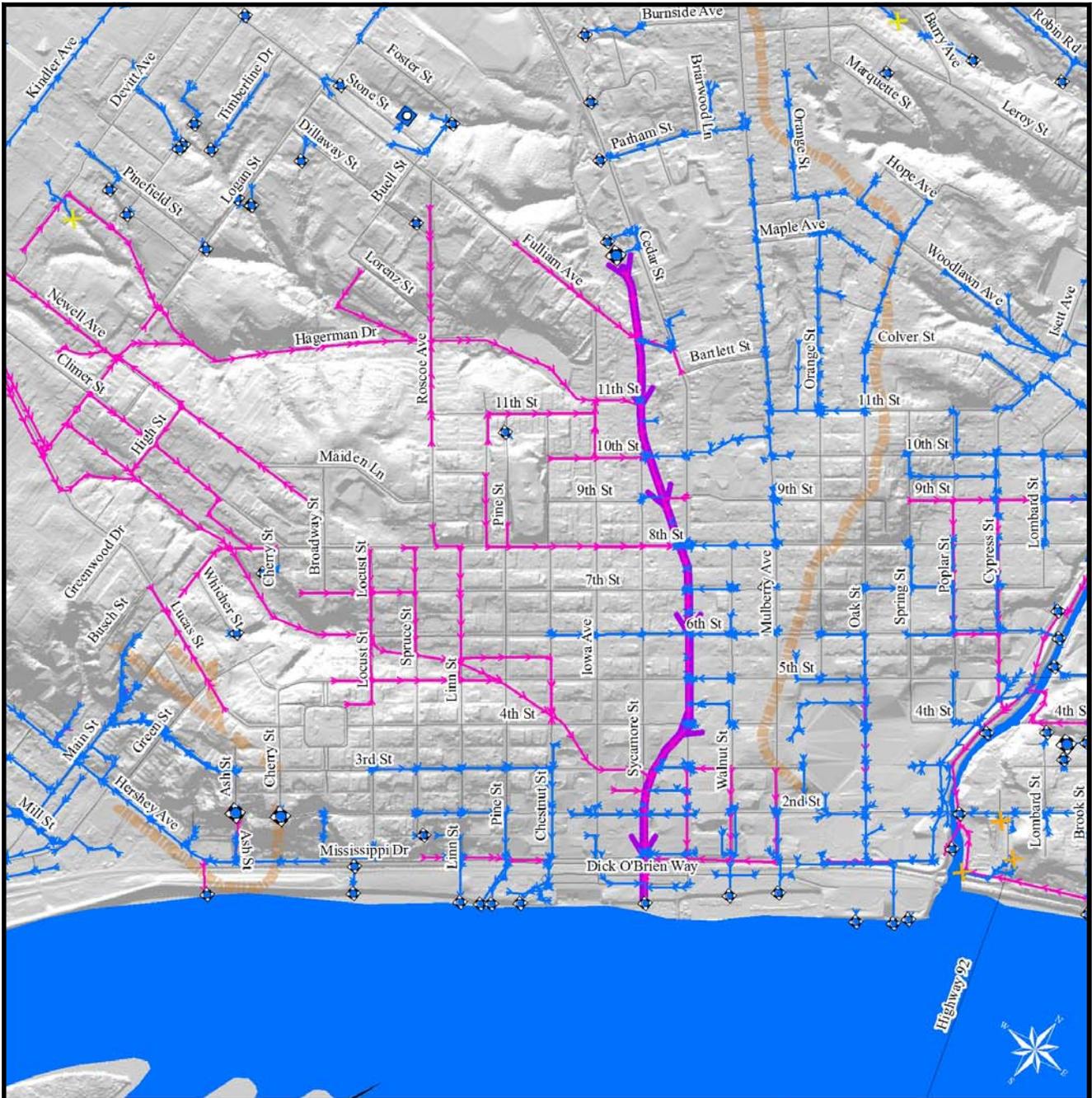


Figure 29: Mulberry Planning District Storm Sewers



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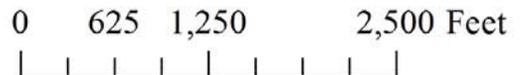
River Center Planning District Storm Sewers



- Storm Sewer Line
- Combined Storm/Sanitary Sewer Line
- Pappoose Creek Interceptor
- Water
- Stream
- Watershed Boundary
- City of Muscatine

Stormwater Discharge Point

- City
- IDOT
- Private



Date Source: Muscatine Area Geographic Information Consortium, City of Muscatine & State of Iowa
Prepared by: Andrew Fangman, City Planner
Date: May 28, 2013

Figure 30: River Center Planning District Storm Sewers



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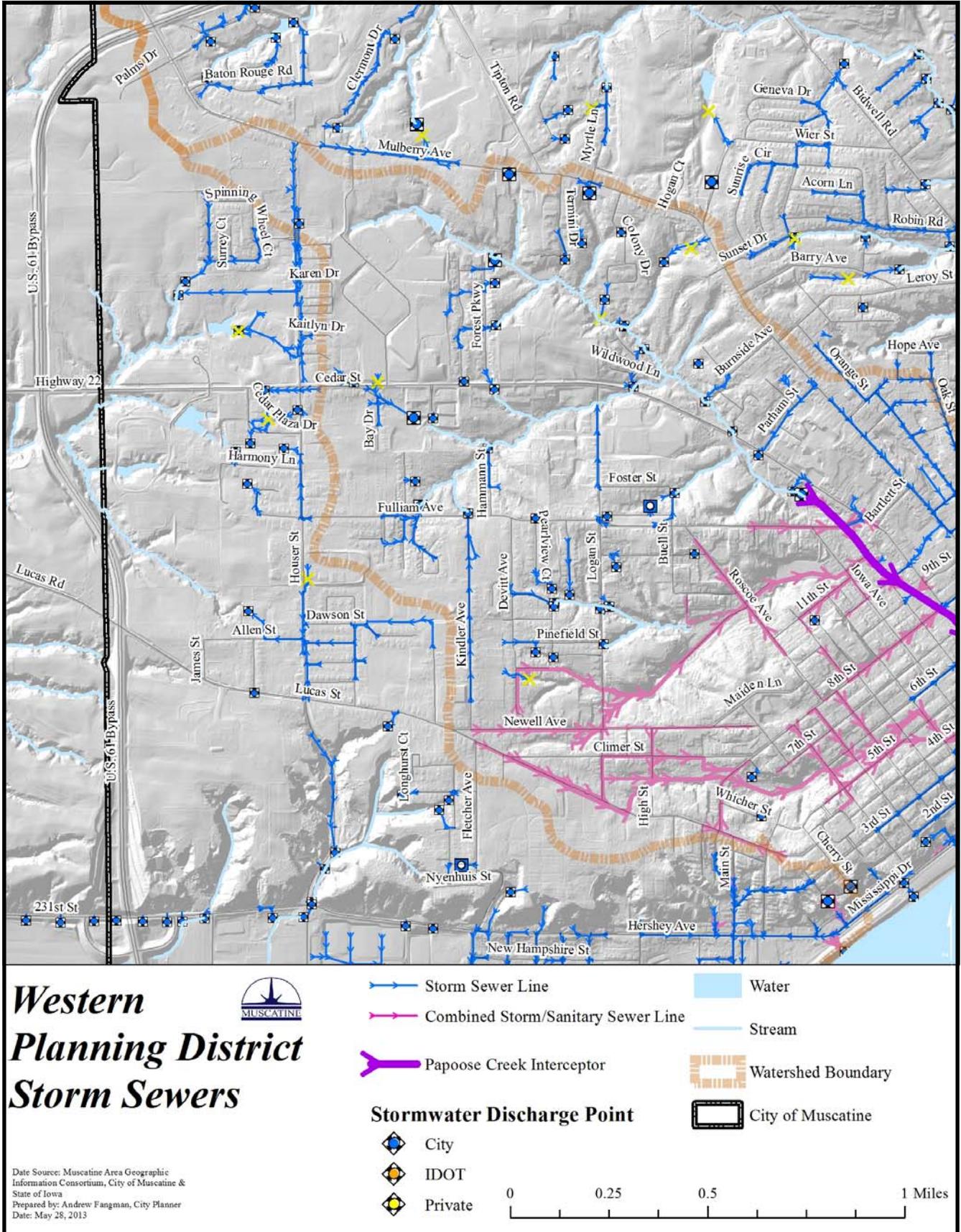


Figure 31: Western Planning District Storm Sewers

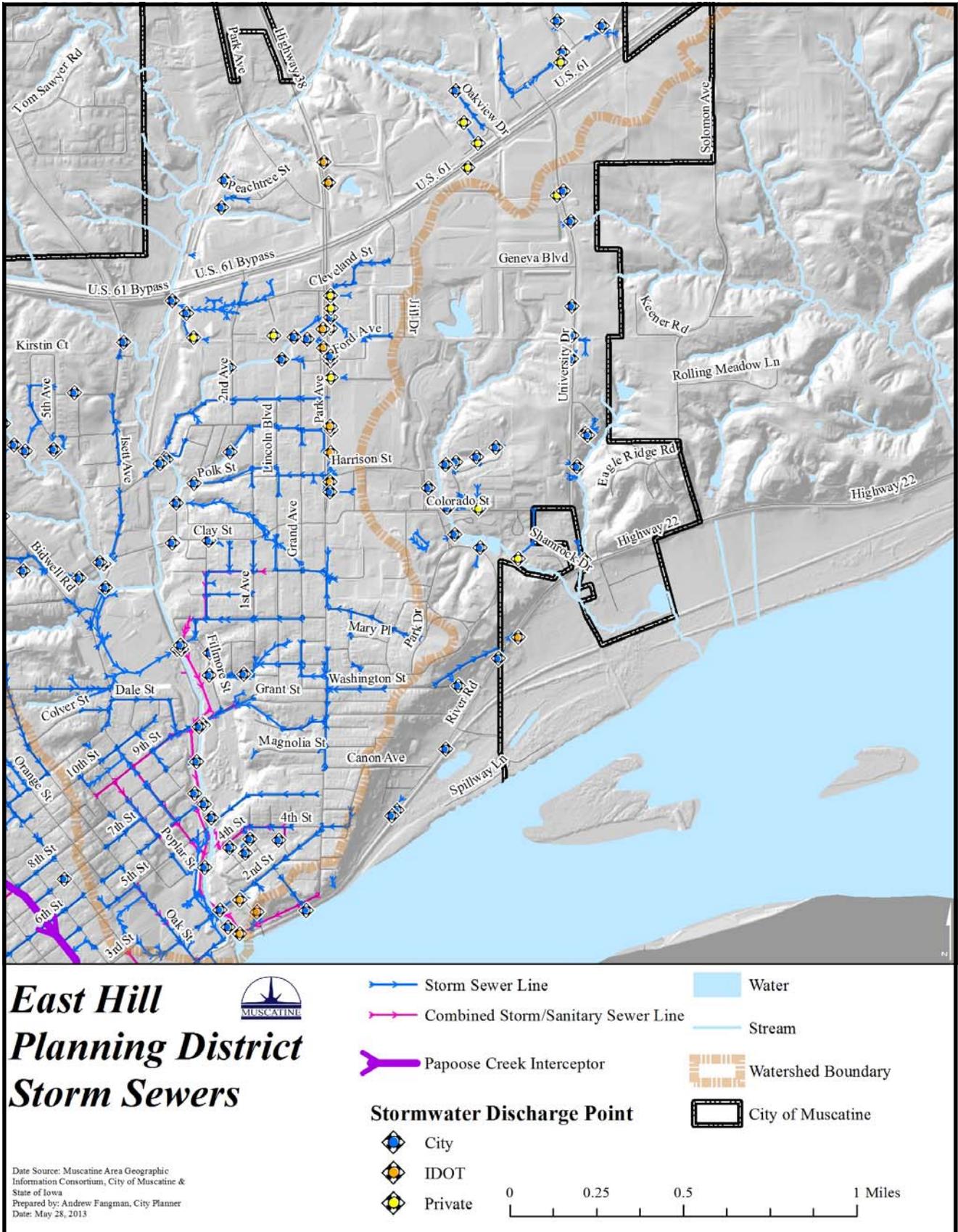
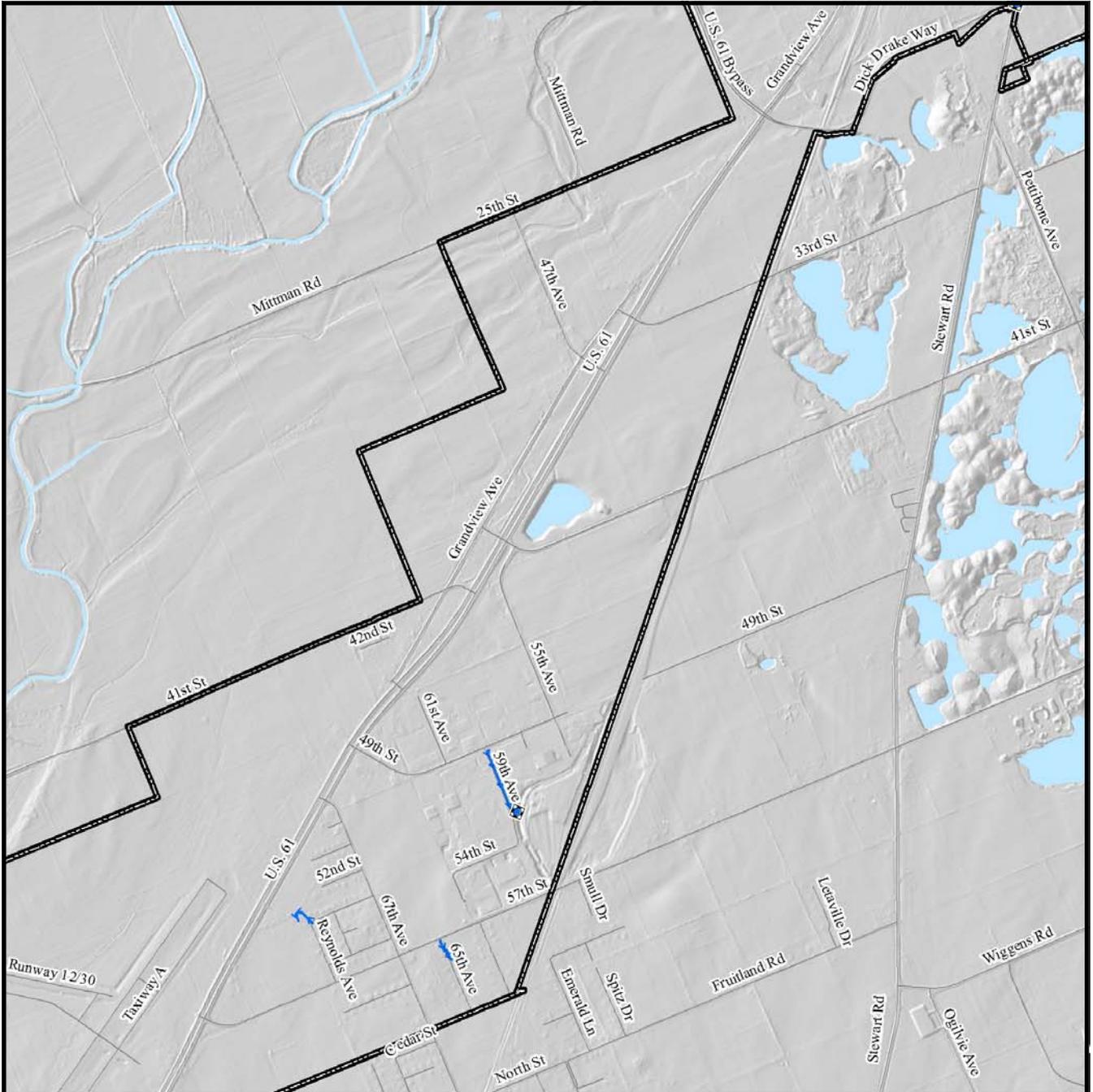


Figure 32: East Hill Planning District Storm Sewers



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Island Planning District Storm Sewers



— Storm Sewer Line

— Combined Storm/Sanitary Sewer Line

— Papoose Creek Interceptor

Stormwater Discharge Point

— City

— IDOT

— Private

— Water

— Stream

— Watershed Boundary

— City of Muscatine

Date Source: Muscatine Area Geographic Information Consortium, City of Muscatine & State of Iowa
Prepared by: Andrew Fangman, City Planner
Date: May 28, 2013

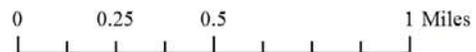


Figure 33: Island Planning District Storm Sewers



Solid Waste

The City of Muscatine provides weekly residential refuse collection for City of Muscatine residents. The City of Muscatine also provides refuse collection to contracted businesses and by contract to residents of the City of Fruitland. Bulk items will be picked upon request or during community cleanup week during which nearly all items can be disposed of by placing them at the curb. In April 2011 the City of Muscatine began offering single sort curbside recycling. Residents may place all recyclable material in a single large-lidded, wheeled standardized container that it is picked up every other week.

Currently refuse is to be placed in either bags or trash cans provided by residents; this will change once goal C.12 is achieved. This goal is for the current litter problem, particularly in alleys, largely caused by winds blowing trash out of cans without lids and by animals breaking trash bags open and trash cans being knocked over, to be addressed by requiring residents to use large, lidded, wheeled standardized trash cans that can be automatically loaded by a garbage truck. Implementation of this goal will be gradual and begin in fiscal year 2014. The City will upgrade one of its existing refuse trucks to be able to accommodate the pick-up of large lidded, wheeled standardized trash cans and provide standardized trash cans to residents living on routes served by this truck. If this trial run proves successful, all new refuse trucks purchased will be equipped for the automatic pick up of standardized trash cans. The use of standardized trash cans will become more widespread across the community as the City's current fleet of refuse trucks are gradually replaced by ones equipped for the automatic pick up of standardized trash cans.

The Transfer Station and Recycling Center, located at 1000 South Houser Street, is the facility from which City operations such as garbage collection, composting, and recycling are managed. It is composed of Transfer Station - building used as a refuse dumping area, some recyclable sorting, and for loading of transfer semi-trailers; Recycling Center - A building used for receiving, sorting, bailing, and shipping of all recyclables; an administration wing; and equipment garage. The City of Muscatine also maintains a composite site at the Transfer Station and Recycling Center for disposal of yard and tree waste. The compost site is typical open from late March to mid-December. Compost, wood mulch, and fire wood area available to the public at no charge at the compost site.

The Muscatine County Landfill is located on Highway 61 N, near Stockton, Iowa. There are approximately 150 acres of landfill that have been or could be developed for future landfill areas. In 1978, the City of Muscatine entered into an agreement with the Muscatine County Solid Waste Management Agency, an intergovernmental agency comprised of each incorporated city in Muscatine County and Muscatine County that is responsible for the disposal of solid waste in Muscatine County, to operate the Muscatine County Landfill. This agreement is still in place today between the City of Muscatine and the agency.



City of Muscatine, Iowa—Comprehensive Plan

Chapter 7: Community Facilities, Services, & Amenities

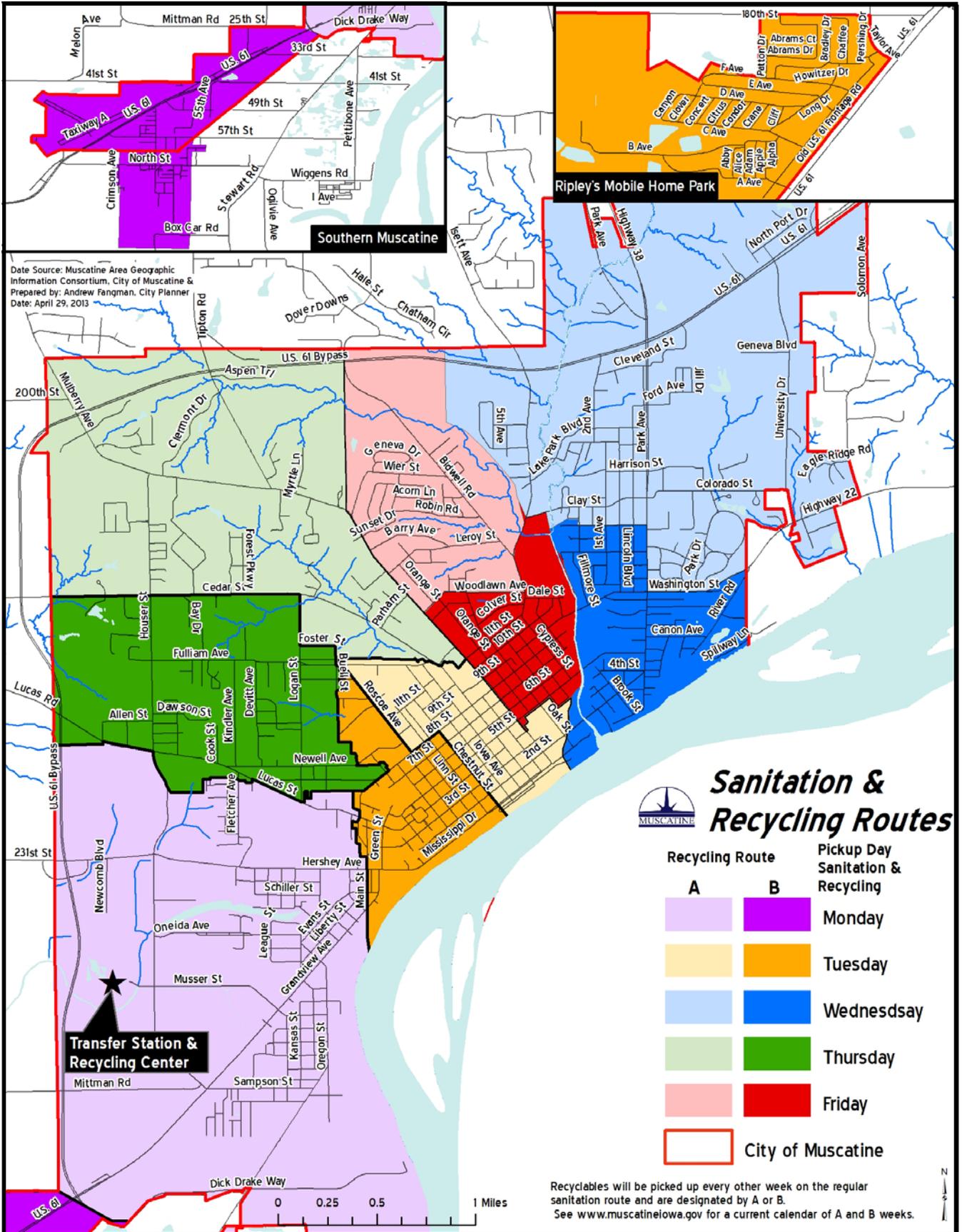


Figure 35: Sanitation & Recycling Routes

Muscatine Power and Water

Muscatine Power and Water (MPW) is a City owned utility serving the City of Muscatine, Iowa and surrounding areas. MPW is comprised of an electric, water, and communications utility. The management, control and operation of the three utilities, is vested in the Board of Water, Electric and Communications Trustees of the City of Muscatine, Iowa. Membership of the board consist of five members appointed by the Mayor and approved by City Council. The Board is vested with the powers and duties conferred in Chapter 388, Iowa Code, including the setting of rates. Muscatine Power and Water operates as an entity completely independent from the City of Muscatine. Approval of the Mayor’s nominations to the Board of Trustees is the only power or oversight that the City Council exercises over MPW. Muscatine Power and Water provides a number of services to the City of Muscatine at no charge to the City. These services includes street lighting, traffic lights, and water and electricity at no charge to non-enterprise fund municipal facilities.

The water utility was established in 1900 when the citizens of Muscatine voted to take over an existing private water utility that was failing to meet the community’s needs. The water utility is engaged in the supply, purification, and distribution of water and other related activities. In 2009 annual water production was 9.3 billion gallons, with a little less than half of this going to industrial users. Water from the Muscatine Island Aquifer is obtained from a well field located in the vicinity of the intersection of Grandview Avenue and Dick Drake Way. The water obtained is of such high quality that the only treatments required are small additions of chlorine, fluoride, and phosphate. Chlorine assures biological safety, fluoride assists in children’s dental development, and phosphate stabilizes the minerals found in water.

Figure 38, depict on page 7-37 depicts the service area for MPW’s water utility. All of the City of Muscatine except recently annexed areas in the far northeast are served by MPW’s water utility. Additional the water utility serves unincorporated areas to the north and west of the City. Action LU.19.C of the Comprehensive Plan directs the City of Muscatine to encourage Muscatine Power and Water to adopt a policy that would prohibit the further extension of water service into unincorporated area without an accompanying annexation agreement.



Figure 36 MPW Water Well



The electric utility was established in 1922 when the citizens of Muscatine voted to take over an existing private utility. The electric utility is engaged in the generation and distribution of electric power. MPW is the largest municipal electric utility in Iowa in terms of sales and generation, with approximately 11,225 electric customers and three coal-fired boilers and four electric generators with a combined nameplate capacity of 293.55 MW. The MPW generating station is located on the banks of the Mississippi River in southern Muscatine.

Figure 39, depict on page 7-38 depicts the service area for MPW's electric utility; areas not served by MPW are served by Eastern Iowa Light and Power Cooperative. Not all of the City of Muscatine, notably along the U.S. 61 Bypass and University Drive is served by MPW. Nearly all the areas where additional residential and commercial growth is anticipated by the Comprehensive Plan are in areas served by Eastern Iowa Light and Power Cooperative.

The communications utility was established in 1997 when the citizens of Muscatine voted to take an existing private utility. Three fiber optic loops serve as a backbone for the communications utility. Fiber optic loops serve a metro Ethernet network which provides direct fiber connectivity for customers as well as a hybrid fiber coax system that provides last mile coaxial cable connections to individual homes and businesses receiving digital television and internet services. The communication utility serves 7,350 cable subscribers and 7,200 Internet subscribers. Figure 40, on page 7-39 depicts the service area for MPW's communication utility.



City of Muscatine, Iowa—Comprehensive Plan

Chapter 7: Community Facilities, Services, & Amenities

Date Source: Muscatine Area Geographic Information Consortium, City of Muscatine, & Muscatine Power & Water
Prepared by: Andrew Fangman, City Planner
Date: April 23, 2013

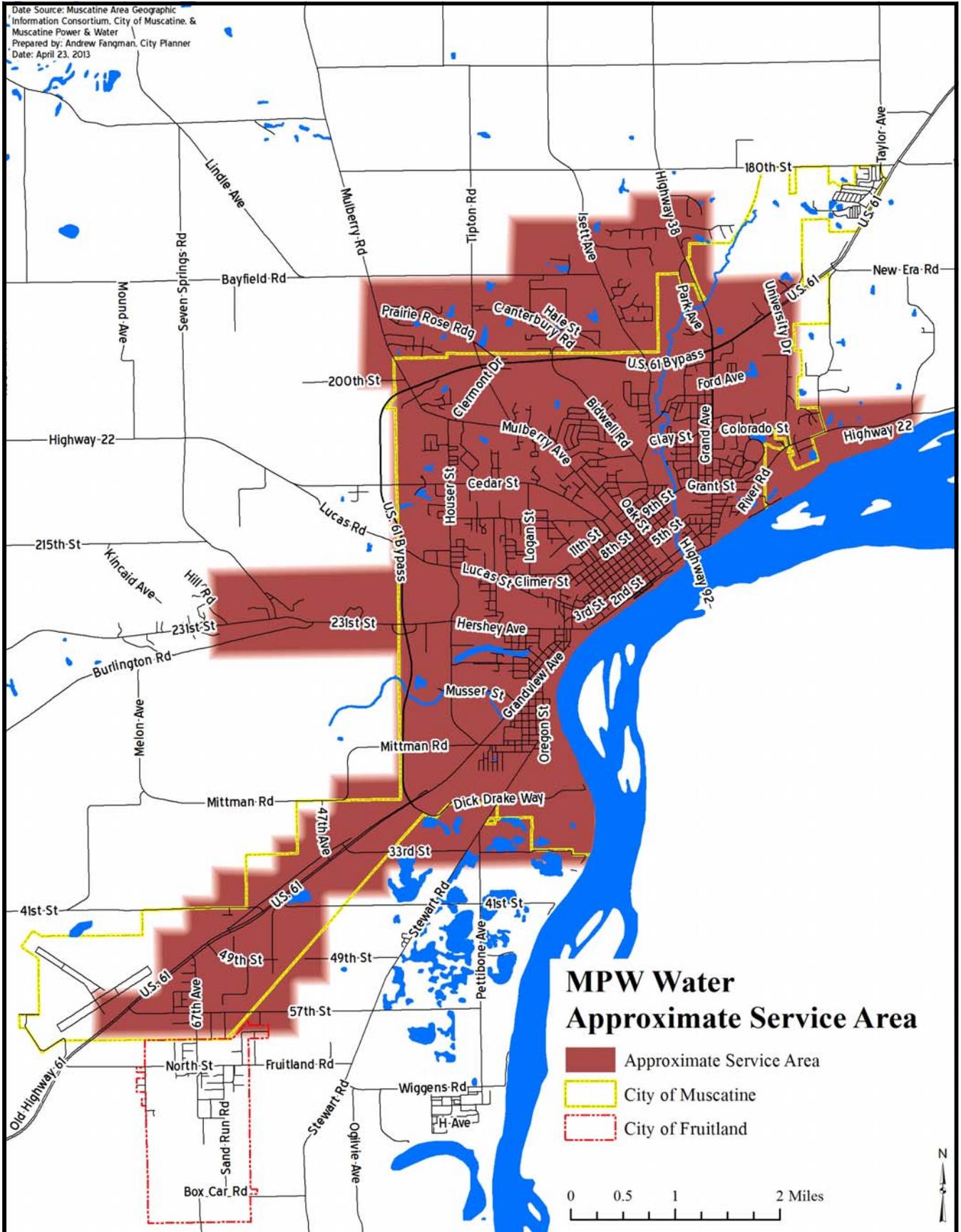


Figure 32: MPW Water, Approximate Service Area



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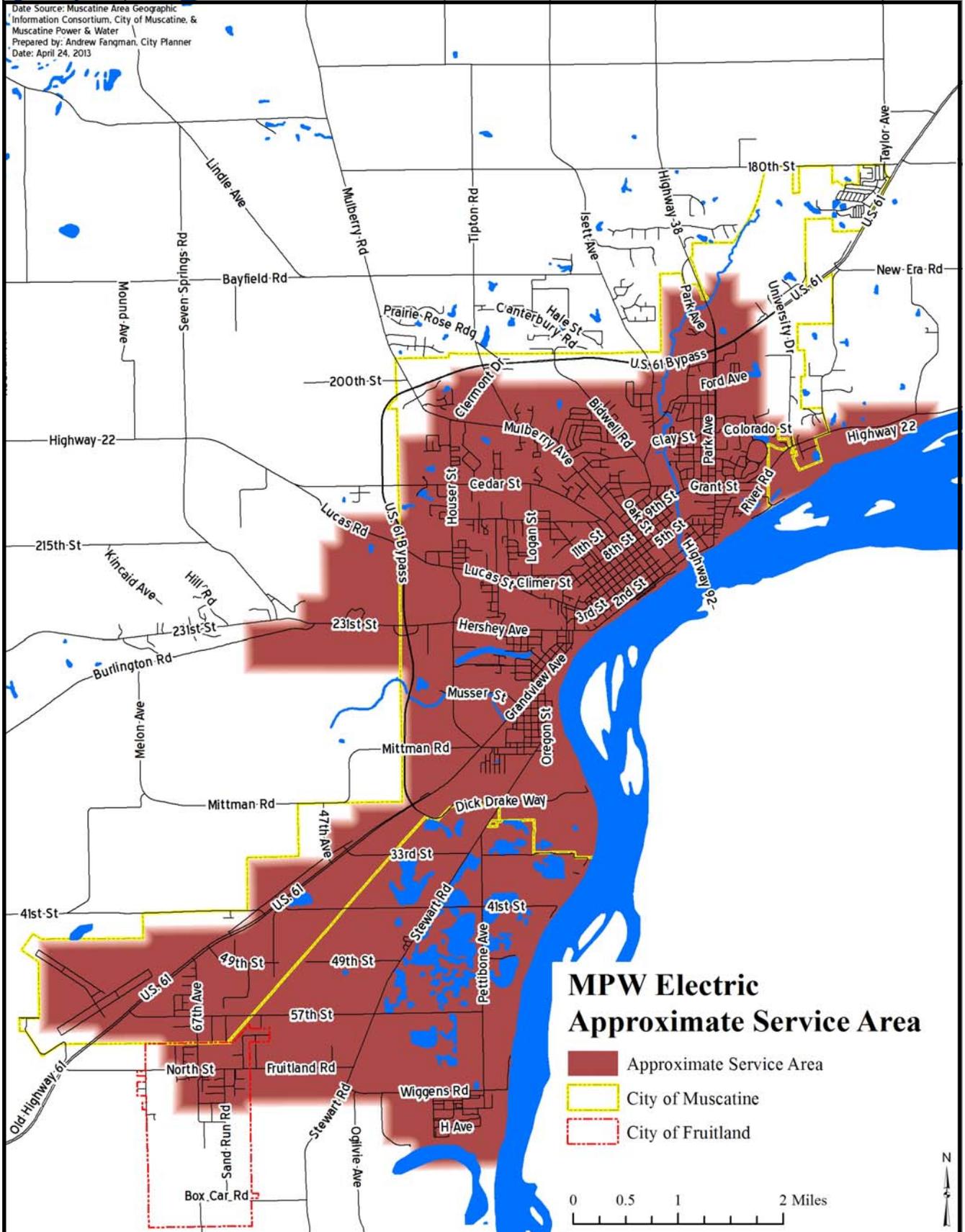


Figure 33: MPW Electric, Approximate Service Area



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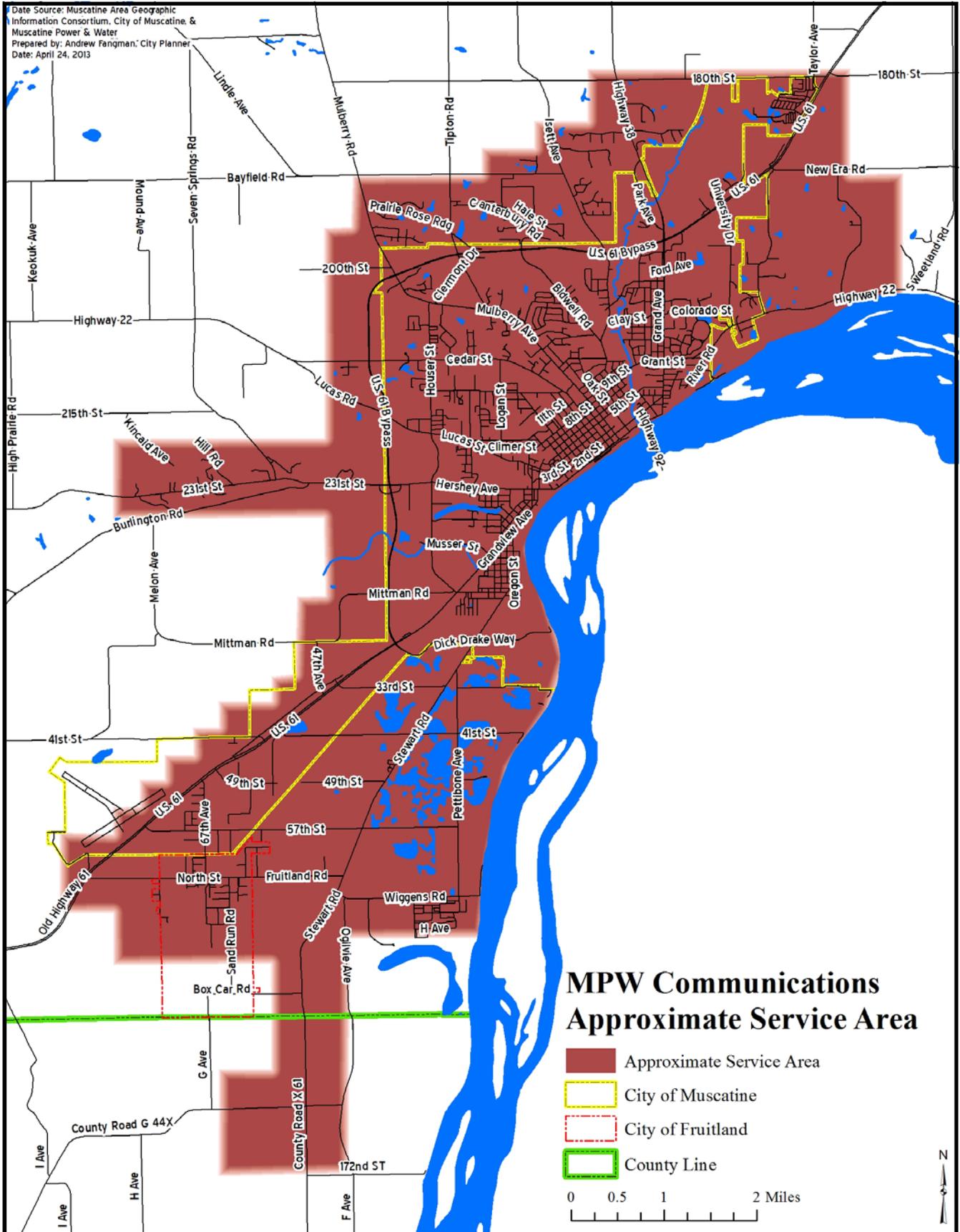


Figure 34: MPW Communications, Approximate Service Area



Community Facilities, Services, & Amenities Goals and Implementation Strategies

In order for goals to be achieved there must be strategies to implement the vision of a better Muscatine as laid out in the Comprehensive Plan. Each goal contained in the plan is accompanied by specific implementation strategies necessary to make that goal a reality.

There are three types of implementation strategies: policies, actions, and projects. Policies contain the standard which, if followed in all city actions and activities subject to review by the City, will advance the goal that they support. Policies contained within the comprehensive plan are advisory and compliance is not mandatory, however when taking an action contrary to what is contained in the plan this fact should be noted and an explanation given.

Actions detail the specific initiatives that the City can take to achieve a listed goal. Actions include such things as creating the necessary regulations to implement a goal, perform a study to understand how a goal might be achieved, or identify funding to achieve a goal.

Projects are specific capital improvement projects that if constructed would advance a listed goal. When the City develops future capital improvement plans, strong consideration should be given to these specific projects listed in the Comprehensive Plan.

Goal C.1: Master Community Image/Appearance Plan

Develop a master community image/appearance plan which will serve as a guide for elected officials, city staff, community leaders, and citizens in addressing appearance issues by doing the following:

- Establish and clearly define the image/brand that Muscatine wishes to portray.
- Detail the design elements that will help establish a more consistent and attractive community wide image.
- Coordination
- Specifically address the following:
 - Streets
 - Critical Corridors
 - Gateways
 - Community facilities
 - Signage
 - Landscaping
 - Public Art
 - Neighborhoods and commercial districts
 - Land use regulations
 - Code Enforcement
- Detail, regulatory changes, and aesthetical improvements necessary to implement this image.
- Identify key community appearance issues, both strengths and weaknesses.
- Identify specific locations that are vital to community appearance issues.
- Identify opportunities to enhance community appearance by leveraging community partnerships and planned projects.
- Prioritize key issues and opportunities.
- Identify issues for which more specific action plans need to be developed.



Policy C.1.A: The master community image/appearance plan will then be applied in the implementation of relevant Comprehensive Plan goals. All other community appearance goals tie back into this master community image/appearance plan.

Action C.1.B: A detailed master community image/appearance plan will be prepared with extensive public input.

Goal C.2: Streets (All streets)

Streets that create an attractive public realm, further community appearance goals, and be welcoming and comfortable places for people while safely accommodating vehicles.

Policy C.2.A: All street improvements and any landscaping, lighting, and sidewalks along streets, will be done in a manner that complies with the design standards contained within a master community image/appearance plan that will be created to implement Goal C.1 and has been adopted by the Muscatine City Council.

Policy C.2.B: All street improvements improvement standards should take into account all of the following elements which have been identified as important by the community:

- Rolled curbs should be required in all feasible locations.
- Lighting
- Sidewalk width
- Bike routes
- Signage
- Bike racks
- Alleys

Action C.2.C: Develop standards that apply to all street that advance the master community image/appearance plan that will be created to implement Goal C.1 and has been adopted by the Muscatine City Council.

Goal C.3: Critical Corridors (Enhanced Appearance on Specifically Identified Street Corridors)

Improve the appearance of specific street corridors, above and beyond any standards established to meet Goal C.2, which have been identified as critical to image/appearance of Muscatine. These corridors have been identified by the community as critical to the overall appearance and perception of Muscatine.

- **Mississippi Drive Corridor**
- **Park Avenue Corridor**, Park Avenue south of the U.S. 61 Bypass and 2nd Street from Park Avenue to the Norbert F. Beckey Bridge
- **Grandview Avenue Corridor**, Grandview Avenue between U.S. 61 and Green Street
- **Hershey Avenue Corridor**, Hershey Avenue from the U.S. 61 Bypass to Green Street
- **Mulberry Avenue Corridor**, from the U.S. 61 Bypass to Houser Street
- **Cedar Street Corridor**



Action C.3.A: Develop specific plans to improve the appearance of each identified corridor that complies with the design standards contained within a master community image/appearance plan that will be created to implement Goal C.1 and has been adopted by the Muscatine City Council.

Project C.3.B: Construct all improvements called for in the plans developed under Action C.3.B.

Goal CA.4: Gateways

Gateways into Muscatine will be attractive, contribute to improving the city's identity and help implement the master community image/appearance plan.

Policy C.4.A: Any gateway enhancement improvements will be done in a manner that complies with the design standards contained within a master community image/appearance plan that will be created to implement Goal C.1 and has been adopted by the Muscatine City Council.

Policy C.4.B: Following, and listed in order of priority in which they should be addressed are the gateways into Muscatine deemed critical to the image of Muscatine.

- U.S. 61 /Solomon Avenue intersection
- U.S. 61 Bypass/Highway 38 intersection
- U.S. 61 Bypass/Hershey Avenue intersection
- U.S. 61 at the entrance the Muscatine Municipal Airport
- Norbert F. Beckey Bridge
- Highway 22/University Drive intersection
- Stewart Road/Dick Drake Way intersection
- Cedar Street/U.S. 61 Bypass

Action C.4.C: Develop specific plans to improve the appearance of identified gateways that complies with the design standards contained within a master community image/appearance plan that will be created to implement Goal C.1 and has been adopted by the Muscatine City Council

Project C.4.D: Construct all improvements called for in the plans developed under Action C.4.C.

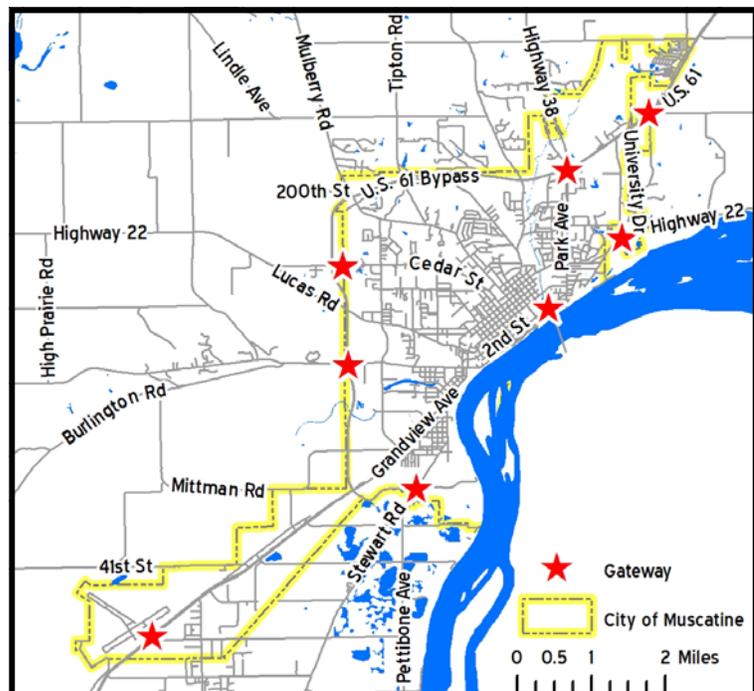


Figure 35: Corridors and Gateways Identified in Goals C.3 and C.4



Goal C.5: Community Facilities

Community facilities will be attractive and contribute to improving the City's identity and help further community appearance goals.

- Parks
- Trails
- Government buildings & facilities

Policy C.5.A: Construction of and improvements to community standards in a manner that complies with the master community image/appearance plan that will be created to implement Goal C.1 and has been adopted by the Muscatine City Council.

Goal C.6: Signage

Signage issues should be explored. Regulations for business signage should ensure appropriate business identification while minimizing the cluttered look of highway business corridors. Public signage should promote community identity, further community appearance goals, and visitor way finding.

Policy C.6.A: Signage should be regulated in a manner that is in harmony with the with the master community image/appearance plan that will be created to implement Goal C.1 and has been adopted by the Muscatine City Council.

Policy C.6.B: Signage along streets should occur at more uniform distance from the edge of the right-of-way.

Policy C.6.C: To the extent allowed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices signage put up by the City of Muscatine should comply with the design standards contained within a master community image/appearance plan that will be created to implement Goal C.1 and has been adopted by the Muscatine City Council.

Action C.6.A: Examine the possibility of capitalizing on the forthcoming replacement, in order to comply with a federal mandate regarding visibility, of nearly all street signs implementing the master community image/appearance plan that will be created to implement Goal C.1 and has been adopted by the Muscatine City Council

Action C.6.B: The rewriting of the zoning ordinance which includes sign regulations will be used to implement all relevant portions of Goal C.6.

Goal C.7: Landscaping

Develop and implement a plan to improve community appearance through coordinated and planned tree plantings and landscaping activities

Policy C.7.A: Landscaping along the edges of parcels fronting a public street, should be required for new developments.

Policy C.7.B: Parking lots for new developments of a determined type and size will be required to meet minimum landscaping and aesthetical enhancement requirements.



Policy C.7.C: Tree planting should be done in a manner that complies with the design standards contained within a master community image/appearance plan that will be created to implement Goal C.1 and has been adopted by the Muscatine City Council.

Policy C.7.D: In parking lots and near streets the planting of certain identified desirable varieties of trees is to be encouraged and the planting of certain identified undesirable varieties of trees will discourage and prohibited on municipal property, including right-of-ways.

Policy C.7.E: Roof top gardens and landscaping will be encouraged and promoted.

Action C.7.F: Detailed regulations to implement Policy C.7.A should be developed with extensive public and stakeholder input and in harmony with the community image/appearance master plan developed to fulfill Goal C.1.

Action C.7.G: Detailed regulations to implement Policy C.7.B should be developed with extensive public and stakeholder input and in harmony with the community image/appearance master plan developed to fulfill Goal C.1.

Action C.7.H: Based on public input, the community image/appearance master plan developed to fulfill Goal C.1 and expert advice a list of desired, undesired, and nuisance varieties of trees for the planting in parking lots and near street will be developed.

Action C.7.I: Regulations to prohibit the planting on municipal property including rights-of-way will be adopted. varieties of trees identified as undesirable on the list prepared to fulfill Action C.7.H.

Action C.7.J: Regulations to prohibit the planting of tress identified as nuisances will be adopted, as a naissance on the list prepared to fulfill Action C.7.H.

Goal C.8: Public Art

Installation of public art that enhances the aesthetics and quality of life of Muscatine.

Policy C.8.A: The City of Muscatine will make municipally owned property available for the installation of public art.

Policy C.8.B: Costs associated with placement of obtaining and installing public art should come from non-municipal sources.

Policy C.8.C: In conjunction with the placement of any public art on municipal property it will be established what ongoing maintenance and upkeep will be necessary, who will be responsible for performing this maintenance and upkeep, and how it will be paid for.

Policy C.8.D: Public art should have the following characteristics:

- High longevity;
- Low maintenance;
- Subject matter that reflects Muscatine’s culture, history, people, and values;
- Designed for passive use;
- Increasing the value of the impacted sites;
- Creating iconic elements for City promotion.



Policy C.8.E: Placement of the art that provides maximum public use, visibility, and is within public usage areas or facilities. Locations that should be considered include:

- Parks;
- Public facilities;
- Gateways;
- Critical Corridors.

Policy C.8.F: New public art will further community appearance goals and to implement the community image established in community image/appearance master plan developed to fulfill Goal C.1.

Action C.8.G: Identify and map high priority and/or iconic public places, including public lands, buildings and structures.

Action C.8.H: Develop a written City of Muscatine Public Art Policy, with input from community partners and stakeholders.

Goal C.9: Neighborhoods and Commercial Districts

Improve the appearance of specifically identified neighborhood and commercial districts, that are not part of any identified corridor (Goal C.3) or gateway (Goal C.4), above and beyond any standards established to meet Goal CA.2, that have been identified and critical to image/appearance of Muscatine.

Policy C.9.A: The following areas have been identified by members of the community as needing this extra focus:

- Downtown
- West Hill Historic District
- Vicinity around the intersection of 5th Street and Mulberry Avenue
- Grandview Avenue Corridor

Action C.9.B: Prepare a detailed plan addressed to improve the image/appearance of the areas identified in Policy C.9.A. in a manner consistent with community appearance goals and to implement the community image establish in community image/appearance master plan developed to fulfill Goal C.1.

Action C.9.C: Make any necessary changes to the City of Muscatine Zoning Ordinance and other relevant land use regulations necessary to implement the plan developed under Action C.9.B.

Project C.9.D: Construct any improvements, if applicable called for in the plans developed under Action C.9.B.



Goal C.10: Land Use Regulations

Land use regulations that are structured to achieve community appearance goals.

Policy C.10.A: The City of Muscatine Zoning Ordinance and all other land use regulations will further community appearance goals and to implement the community image establish in community image/appearance master plan developed to fulfill Goal C.1.

Policy C.10.B: The City of Muscatine Zoning Ordinance and all other land use regulations will specifically the following community wide appearance /image issues.

- Unscreened storage in front and side yards.
- Fencing should be kept in good state of repair.
- Overgrowth of vegetation onto sidewalk, streets, and alleys.
- Strengthen existing regulations regarding weeds and junk.

Action C.10.C: Make revisions to the City of Muscatine zoning ordinance and other relevant land use regulations to further community appearance goals and to implement the community image establish in community image/appearance master plan developed to fulfill Goal C1.

Action C.10.D: Make revisions to the City of Muscatine zoning ordinance and other relevant land use regulations to addresses each of the issues identified in Policy C.10.B.

Goal C.11: Code Enforcement

Implementation of the vision of the desired Muscatine contained within the Comprehensive Plan through effective code enforcement, cleanup efforts, and graffiti abatment.

Policy C.11.A: The City shall continue to enforce applicable property maintenance, building, and zoning codes to minimize the physical deterioration of properties.

Action C.11.B: Promote and expand community-based neighborhood enhancement programs.

Action C.11.C: Emphasis will be placed on ensuring that the sides of properties abutting alleys are as compliant with City Code as the side of properties that abut streets.

Action C.11.D: The City shall work with neighborhood and community groups to educate residents about their responsibility under City Code.

Action C.11.E: Promote and expand community-based neighborhood cleanup programs and graffiti abatment.

Action C.11.F: Increase amount of City resources dedicated to code enforcement and graffiti abatment.

Goal C.12: Standardized Trash Cans

Reduce the litter problem, particularly in alleys, caused by winds blowing trash out of cans without lids and by animals breaking trash bags open and knocking over trash cans.

Policy C.12.A: Residents will be required to place trash in large lidded, wheeled standardized trash cans provided the City that can be automatically loaded by a garbage truck, similar to the way that curbside recycling material is currently collected by a contractor.



Policy C.12.B: Any new garbage trucks purchased by the City will be automated for collection, which will reduce the need for extra trucks on the roadways and require only a one person crew.

Policy C.12.C: Containers will feature the ability to keep rodents out and litter from escaping.

Action C.12.D: The City will implement containers for garbage disposal in phases and implementation will be done by staff recommendation.

Goal C.13: Musser Public Library

The Musser Public Library will have the facility and the support necessary to continue to enhance the quality of life in Muscatine by operating as a cultural and educational center, offering lifelong learning enrichment opportunities through access to ideas, information and the arts.

Policy C.13.A: The Musser Public Library should be housed in a facility that is up to date, attractive, and effectively serves the needs of the community.

Policy C.13.B: Library technologies that promote efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of information and library services will be utilized.

Policy C.13.C: Provide an information technology architecture that accommodates the changing requirements of delivering library services in the 21st century, while maintaining the traditional library services still greatly valued by the community.

Policy C.13.D: The City of Muscatine will provide budgetary support necessary for the Musser Public Library to continue to enhance the quality of life in Muscatine.

Action C.13.E: The Library Board of Trustees or a committee operating under the auspices and reporting to the Library of Trustees will prepare a long-range library facilities plan that addresses the evolving needs and aging facilities as well as the implementation of library technologies that promote efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of information and library services. The following issues should be among those examined during the process to create a long-range library facilities plan:

- Necessary square footage
- Compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act
- Parking
- Large meeting room
- Self-checkout system
- RFID technology

Project C.13.E: Implement the long-range library facilities plan prepared under Action C.13.F.

Goal C.14: Muscatine Art Center

The Muscatine Art Center will have the facility and the support necessary for the Muscatine Art Center to carry out its mission, continue to enhance the quality of life in Muscatine and to care for the collections of the Art Center.

Policy C.14.A: The Muscatine Art Center should maintain the historic integrity of the Musser house and original landscape, meet museum standards in providing appropriate environmental conditions for its collection, contain appropriate spaces for carrying out the organization's educational mission and provide appropriate spaces for viewing historic and aesthetic objects.



Policy C.14.B: The Muscatine Art Center should have adequate storage capacity for housing the collection in a manner that meets museum standards and ensures long term preservation of the collection.

Policy C.14.C: The City of Muscatine will provide budgetary support necessary for the Muscatine Art Center to continue to enhance the quality of life in Muscatine.

Action C.14.D: Muscatine Art Center staff will work with staff from Public Works, Buildings and Grounds, and Parks and Recreation to determine the ongoing maintenance needs of the Muscatine Art Center and to create a maintenance plan. This plan will include details on prioritization, timing, and financing. The Art Center Board of Trustees, as part of its long range planning, will discuss the collection storage needs.

Project C.14.E: Implement the plan prepared under Action C.14.D.

Project C.14.F: Collaborate with Trinity Muscatine Hospital and other community partners to build a walking trail between the grounds of the Art Center and the Hospital.

Goal C.15: Convention Center/Community Meeting Facility

Develop an indoor venue capable of hosting larger meetings and other events.

Policy C.15.A: The City of Muscatine will support, encourage, and promote the development of an indoor venue capable of hosting larger meetings and other events.

Policy C.15.B: The City of Muscatine shall only directly participate in the construction or operation of an indoor venue capable of hosting larger meetings and other events, if a determination is made that such direct City participation is the only viable option to achieve the goal.

Policy C.15.C: The City of Muscatine will make appropriate incentives available for the development of an indoor venue capable of hosting larger meetings and other events, to the private sector.

Action C.15.A: A detailed study will be conducted with public input to determine:

- The demand for an indoor venue capable of hosting larger meetings and other events;
- What size facility is need to meet existing demand;
- What amenities and features are need to make the facility a success;
- Optimal location;
- Options for financing construction of such a facility;
- Options for how and who such a facility could be operated;
- Opportunities for making such a facility part of an existing or planner community facility.

Project C.15.D: Development of an indoor venue capable of hosting larger meetings and other events that is consistent with the recommendation of the study conducted in Action C.15.A.



Goal C.16: Stormwater

The City of Muscatine will be in compliance all relevant state and federal stormwater regulations.

Policy C.16.A: Proactively comply with relevant state and federal stormwater regulations.

Policy C.16.B: Promote management approaches and practices that reduce runoff and pollutant loading, and help manage runoff as close to its source as possible.

Action C.16.C: Continue to monitor and prepare for changes in regulatory requirements regarding stormwater.

Action C.16.D: Work with community partners to educate and inform the community about best management practice regarding stormwater and any changes in the regulatory environment.

Project C.16.E: Upon completion of work related to the West Hill Sewer Separation Project, redevelop the municipally owned lot at the corner of Cedar Street and 8th Street in pocket park that both enhances the appearance of Muscatine and demonstrates Low Impact Development storm water management practices.

Goal C.17: Community Events

Community events and activities that enhance civic pride and spirit, improve the health of, enhance the quality of life in Muscatine, and reflect the diversity of Muscatine.

Policy C.17.A: The City of Muscatine will organize, support, promote, assist with, or sponsor community events and activities that enhance civic pride and spirit, improve the health of, and enhance the quality of life in Muscatine.

Policy C.17.B: City of Muscatine support of, assistance with, or sponsorship of community events or activities should primarily be non-monetary in nature, such as the free use of City facilities or the providing of City services at no charge.

Policy C.17.C: City of Muscatine will only will organize, support, promote, assist with, or sponsor community events and activities that are non-profit in nature.

Policy C.17.D: Reflecting the diversity of the Muscatine community.

Action C.17.E: Promote and educate citizens about community events and activities.

Action C.17.F: Support calendar coordination and promotional efforts for community events activities.

Action C.17.G: Explore new opportunities to expand support of community events and activities.

Action C.17.H: Providing support of, assistance with or sponsorship of community events or activities should primarily be non-monetary in nature, such as the free use of City facilities or providing of City services at no charge



Action C.17.D: Track and report to the community the value of non-monetary support, such as the free use of City facilities or City services provided at no charge, to community events not organized by the City of Muscatine.

Action C.17.E: Continue to seek opportunities to work with community partners to, support, promote, assist with, or sponsor community events and activities that enhance civic pride and spirit, improve the health of, and enhance the quality of life in Muscatine.

Goal C.18: West Hill Sewer Separation Project

Complete the West Hill Sewer Separation project by 2028.

Policy C.18.A: The City of Muscatine shall work with community partners to improve the public's understanding of the land use, transportation, and environment quality link.

Policy C.18.B: As future phases of the West Hill Sewer Separation Project are designed and constructed, to determine if work being done as part of the West Sewer Separation Project can be leveraged to achieve other goals set forth in the Comprehensive Plan.

Project C.18.C: Completion of the West Hill Separation Project in multiple phases.

Goal C.19: East Hill Fire Station & Outdoor Warning Sirens

An average fire and emergency services response time of four minutes for the portion of Muscatine located east of Mad Creek.

Policy C.19.A: As best possible maintain an average fire and emergency services response time of four minutes for the portion of Muscatine located east of Mad Creek.

Policy C.19.B: Adequate coverage of all inhabited portions of the City of Muscatine by outdoor warning sirens.

Action C.19.C: Continue to monitor the average response time for fire and emergency response times for areas east of Mad Creek to determine if growth in this area has necessitated and can support the costs of the construction of a new fire station east of Mad Creek.

Action C.19.D: Continue to monitor for opportunities to work with other governmental organizations and community stakeholders to construct a new fire station east of Mad Creek by leveraging a grant, funding opportunity, or capital project.

Action C.19.E: When appropriate develop a detailed plan to finance and construct a new fire station east of Mad Creek.

Project C.19.F: Construct and outdoor warning siren to provide coverage to the newly annexed areas in and around Ripley's Mobile Home Park.

Goal C.20: Community Gardens

Establish community gardens.

Policy C.20.A: The City of Muscatine will support and encourage to development of community gardens on both municipal and non-municipal properties.

Policy C.20.B: The City of Muscatine will allow for the establishment of community gardens on unused or underutilized municipal property.



Action C.20.C: The City of Muscatine will work with community partners interested in establishing community gardens to come up with a plan to do so.

Action C.20.D: The City of Muscatine will remove any hindrances to the establishment of community gardens that might be currently contained within the zoning ordinance.

Action C.20.E: The City of Muscatine will identify municipal property which are suitable both for the establishment of a community garden and are not currently being used for another public purpose which would be incompatible with a community garden. This list of suitable locations will be made available to the public.

Action C.20.F: The City of Muscatine will work with community partners in establishing the regulations and procedures needed to make municipal land available for the establishments of community gardens and by which they would be operated and maintained.

Goal C.21: Blue Zones Project

Become a Blue Zones Project certified community by improving the overall well-being of the citizens of the City of Muscatine thus improving productivity, lowering health care costs, and improving the economy.

Policy C.21.A: Through appropriate council or administrative policies and built environment changes, the City of Muscatine will formally consider adoption of the following items as outlined in the Blue Zones Community Policy Pledge to achieve certification as a Blue Zones Community.

Action C.21.B: Pass a resolution or ordinance to adopt Complete Streets principles.

Action C.21.C: Ensure staff in charge of design has received training on how to design Complete Streets.

Action C.21.D: Adopt a comprehensive smoke-free policy for all indoor workplaces and public places and adopt a policy to address smoke-free multi-unit public housing.

Action C.21.E: Update zoning and building codes to encourage mixed-use development.

Action C.21.F: Adopt policies to promote outdoor dining.

Action C.21.G: Ensure that community gardens and farmers markets are allowable uses of City property.

Action C.21.H: Adopt healthy vending standards in municipal buildings and public parks.

Action C.21.I: Increase access to fresh-water drinking fountains.

Action C.21.J: Adopt a written worksite breastfeeding policy that provides space and time for breastfeeding for City employees.