PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN: The City of Washington, Illinois, hereby gives Notice of a Public Hearing to be held on **November 16, 2026, at 6:30 PM, in Five Points Banquet Room A, 360 N Wilmor Road, Washington, Illinois,** for the purpose of hearing the following:

> Section 662.330 of the Illinois Procedures for Issuing Loans from the Public Water Supply Loan Program requires that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) conduct an assessment of the environmental impacts of proposed public water supply projects to be funded with loans. This review is carried out in conjunction with the State's review of the applicant's project plan. The City of Washington will make the Project Summary and Preliminary Environmental Impacts Determination (PEID) available for public inspection on its website and at City Hall and conduct a public hearing regarding both the PEID and project planning.
>
> This notice is posted at least 10 days prior to the public hearing and a comment period of at 10 days shall be provided after the hearing in which written comments may be submitted to the City of Washington or to the Illinois EPA contact person Ellen Jordal, 2520 West lies Avenue, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276, phone (217)782-2027

Interested persons may be heard orally at the Public Hearing by sending an email to the City Clerk at vbrod@ci.washington.il.us and inserting *"Public Comment for IEPA-PEID"* into the subject line by 3:00 PM the day of the Hearing or by regular mail at the following address: City Clerk, City of Washington, 301 Walnut St, Washington, Illinois 61571.

This notice is given in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act and Illinois Environmental Protection Agency requirements.

Dated this 3rd day of November 2026.

Valeri L. Brod, City Clerk

301 Walnut Street • Washington, IL 61571 • (309) 444-3196 • Fax (309) 444-9779
cityhall@ci.washington.il.us • www.ci.washington.il.us

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

2520 West Iles Avenue • P.O. Box 19276 • Springfield, Illinois • 62794-9276 • 217-782-3397

JB Pritzker, Governor **James Jennings**, Director

PROJECT SUMMARY AND PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS DETERMINATION

Date: SEP 25 2026

Loan Applicant: City of Washington

Loan Project Numbers: L177934 – L177936

To all interested persons:

Section 662.330 of the Illinois Procedures for Issuing Loans from the Public Water Supply Loan Program requires that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) conduct an assessment of the environmental impacts of proposed public water supply projects to be funded with loans. This review is carried out in conjunction with the State's review of the applicant's project plan.

Prior to final approval of the project plan, the public's comments are sought regarding environmental impacts of the proposed project. Unless new information obtained through the public comment process causes reconsideration, the Agency will approve the project plan at the close of the public comment period.

The applicant will make the attached Project Summary and Preliminary Environmental Impacts Determination (PEID) available for public inspection. After receiving this letter, the loan applicant must conduct a public hearing regarding both the PEID and project planning. Advertisement of the hearing must be made at least 10 days in advance. The advertisement must include the purpose of the project along with the date, time, and location of the hearing. A comment period of at least 10 days shall be provided after the hearing in which written comments may be submitted to the loan applicant or to the Illinois EPA contact person identified in the attached document.

Your participation in this process is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Nidhan Singh, M.B.A.
State Revolving Fund Manager
Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section
Bureau of Water

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Attachment

PROJECT SUMMARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

The following project summary and environmental assessment has been prepared by the Illinois EPA to assist the loan applicant in complying with public notice requirements. This report is based on information submitted to the Illinois EPA by the City of Washington. Sources of information include the following documents: the City of Washington Water System Improvements Project Plan, dated January 2026 and prepared by Crawford, Murphy, & Tilly, Inc., and, in response to Illinois EPA requests for additional information, correspondence with attachments dated June 18, 2026, also prepared by Crawford, Murphy, & Tilly, Inc.

PART I – PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name: Washington Water System Improvements Project

Loan Applicant: City of Washington

County: Tazewell

Current Population Served: 16,071

Future Population (20 year): 18,300

Residential Customers Served: 5,660

Phase	1 – New Elevated Water Storage Tank	2 – New Well No. 13	3 – Route 24 Watermain Relocation
Loan Project Number	L177934	L177935	L177936
Estimated Construction Start Date	January 2027	January 2027	January 2033
Estimated Construction End Date	January 2028	January 2028	December 2035
Estimated Project Cost	$ 5,560,601	$ 986,886	$ 9,003,190

Project Description and Justification: The City of Washington owns, operates, and maintains a drinking water treatment and distribution system. This system is comprised of two water treatment plants, two elevated storage tanks, seven raw water wells, and approximately 85 miles of watermain. Two interconnections serve a neighboring system, the Washington Estates, which is owned by the Illinois American Water Company. The City's two pressure zones are interconnected at three locations. The City's water treatment plant (WTP) 1 serves its eastern, low-pressure zone. WTP 2 serves the western, high-pressure zone. Each plant receives water from two primary wells. WTP 1 has one additional, backup well. WTP 2 has two backup wells with limited use, due to high ammonia content. All wells are within the Sankoty Aquifer. WTP 1's maximum capacity is approximately 1.2 million gallons per day (MGD). WTP 2's maximum capacity is approximately 1.8 MGD. Each WTP is served by an adjacent 500,000-gallon elevated water storage tank.

The work under this project is planned to take place across three phases of construction, described below:

1) Construction of a new 500,000-gallon elevated storage tank within the high-pressure zone, to be filled by WTP 2. The construction of this tower also necessitates upsizing approximately 1,400 feet of 8-inch diameter watermain to 12-inches. At present, the system only has 1.0 million gallons of storage capacity. But the average daily water demand for the City exceeds this. Not only does the City lack enough storage capacity to supply typical water demands for a day, in the event of an emergency, the existing elevated water storage tanks are inadequate to provide flow for fire protection.
2) Drill new well no. 13 to serve WTP 2. This well is planned to be identical to wells 11 and 12, which are the primary wells serving WTP 2. Well 13 will include a submersible pump and will be connected to the existing, 16-inch raw water line. Currently, WTP 2 has two emergency wells. Though they are drilled into the same aquifer as the main wells, they produce raw water with a notably higher ammonia content. WTP 2 does not have the capability to treat this level of excess ammonia, which makes the backup wells unreliable for their intended emergency use. Presently, wells 11 and 12 are not run at the same time. Adding well 13 will allow them to be run simultaneously and will increase the treatment capacity at WTP 2 from 1.5 MGD to 2.0 MGD.
3) Route 24 watermain relocation. Approx 21,635 feet of 6" – 10" watermain will be relocated outside pavement limits. The new watermain will be 8" – 10". This work will require the reconnection of approximately 180 residential and business service lines and the reconnection of approximately 38 side streets. This is being done because the Illinois Department of Transportation is planning major roadway improvements along Route 24. IDOT determined that City watermains should be located outside of pavement limits, in order to protect the new pavement should any watermain breaks occur in the future. Additionally, the existing watermains along Route 24 are old and deteriorated. Upsizing the existing undersized watermains along Route 24 will also provide better service to system users.

Project Location: The new elevated water storage tank will be constructed on a City-owned parcel at the intersection of Nofsinger Road and Cruger Road. The proposed well 13 will be drilled adjacent to the Washington Public Works building on Legion Road, near wells 11 and 12. The roadway improvements project that necessitates watermain replacement along Route 24 is planned to take place between Legion Road and Lynn Street. See attached map for further details.

PART II – PROJECT AFFORDABILITY FOR RESIDENTS AND UTILITY CUSTOMERS

Project Cost Estimate – Elevated Water Storage Tank 3	
Construction – Elevated Storage Tank 3	$ 3,895,500
Construction – Watermain Connection	$ 482,925
Construction Contingency (10%)	$ 437,843
Design Engineering	$ 437,843
Construction Engineering	$ 306,490
TOTAL	**$ 5,560,601**

Project Cost Estimate – New Well #13	
Construction – New Well #13	$ 777,075
Construction Contingency (10%)	$ 77,708
Design Engineering	$ 77,708
Construction Engineering	$ 54,395
TOTAL	**$ 986,886**

Project Cost Estimate – Route 24 Watermain Relocation	
Construction – Watermain Connection	$ 7,089,125
Construction Contingency (10%)	$ 708,913
Design Engineering	$ 708,913
Construction Engineering	$ 496,239
TOTAL	**$ 9,003,190**

The City of Washington is proposing to finance the project costs with loans from the Illinois EPA Public Water Supply Loan Program (PWSLP). For phase 1, a loan in the amount of $5,560,601, with an estimated interest rate of 2.44% for a thirty (30) year period, would have an annual repayment of approximately $261,576. The current loan program interest rate is 2.44%. For the combined cost of all three phases, at the current interest rate, the estimated annual repayment would be $731,520. The interest rate adjusts annually on July 1st. Loans are subject to the interest rate in effect at the time of loan issuance. A user rate increase will be necessary to repay the debt burden associated with these loans.

Source of Loan Repayment: Planned user rate increase

Current Average Monthly Residential Water Use: 4,000 gallons

Current Average Monthly Residential Cost of Service: $45.26

Projected Average Monthly Residential Cost of Service: $46.96

How the monthly residential rate/cost of service is calculated: System customers pay a flat infrastructure fee of $18.37, a fee of $3.85 for a single meter, and a volume charge of $5.76 per 1,000 gallons consumed. For the average residential system customer, this equates to $18.37 + $3.85 + $5.76 (4) = $45.26.

For residential users, the proposed rate increase would raise the infrastructure fee for meter sizes under 1 inch to $19.11 and the volume charge for 4,000 gallons of use to $24.00. This would result in a bill of $19.11 + $3.85 + $24.00 = $46.96.

The City is also proposing an increased, progressive meter fee for large (non-residential) system customers, based on meter sizes ranging from 1 inch to 6 inches.

Median Household Income (MHI): $95,179

Financial Evaluation of the proposed project: To evaluate the costs of the proposed project for the community, a percentage comparison of MHI to the average, annual cost for water service is utilized. The projected average annual water cost for residential customers of $563.52 is 0.59% of the MHI for the City of Washington. This percentage is for comparison only and has no impact on whether a project qualifies for funding from the Illinois EPA. The percentage comparison and MHI are two of several criteria used to determine whether a loan project qualifies for interest rate reductions or principal forgiveness.

PART III – ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROJECT

Project construction impacts: Temporary adverse environmental impacts such as construction-associated noise, blowing dust, air emissions, traffic disruption, and soil erosion will likely take place during construction. This project will add a new source of water to the City's system.

Consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966: The City of Washington submitted project information to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, State Historic Preservation Office (IL SHPO), and tribal organizations with registered interest in Tazewell County. On June 26, 2026, the Osage Nation Historic Preservation Office (ONHPO) responded that they had no concerns for the area of project effect, but must be notified if an inadvertent discovery is made during construction. In a letter dated August 5, 2026, IL SHPO concluded that, while numerous historic properties are present in the indirect area of potential effects, no adverse effects from project activities are anticipated. If any artifacts or human remains are discovered during project-related activities, both IL SHPO and the ONHPO will be notified.

Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR): The City also submitted project information to the IDNR EcoCAT website, to determine compliance with the Illinois Endangered Species Act, Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act, the Illinois Wetlands Act, and Title 17 Ill. Adm. Code Parts 1075 and 1090. No protected resources were found within the area of project effect for the water storage tank or new well sites. The Department further evaluated the phase 3 planned watermain relocation and concluded that no adverse effects are anticipated.

The City additionally consulted with the IDNR Office of Water Resources (OWR). Prior to the construction of phase 3 of this project, concerning the Route 24 watermain relocation (and concurrent roadway improvements), the City will submit an application for permitting to the IDNR OWR. A statewide permit may apply to this project, or additional permitting may be necessary. Any permit terms and conditions will be incorporated into project specifications for the relevant phase.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE): The City additionally submitted project information to the USACE regarding the planned watermain relocation, found to be in the vicinity of wetlands. In correspondence dated June 18, 2026, the USACE responded that, should any dredged or fill materials be placed in the waters of the United States or in jurisdictional wetlands, the conditions of Nationwide Permit no. 58, concerning service line replacements, would apply. If service lines are trenched through a regulated waterway, a permit application will be necessary. If, instead, service lines are bored underneath a waterway, or the waterway does not fall under USACE jurisdiction, a permit application may not be needed. Once design is complete, if the potential for impacts

to aquatic resources exists, the USACE must be contacted for further evaluation and guidance regarding planned project activities.

Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA): The City submitted project information concerning the new elevated water tank to IDOA. In a letter dated November 17, 2025, IDOA determined that the project complies with the Illinois Farmland Preservation Act.

Public comments are invited on the proposed project. For further information contact:

Ellen Jordal, Project Manager
Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Bureau of Water

2520 West Iles Avenue
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276
(217)782-2027

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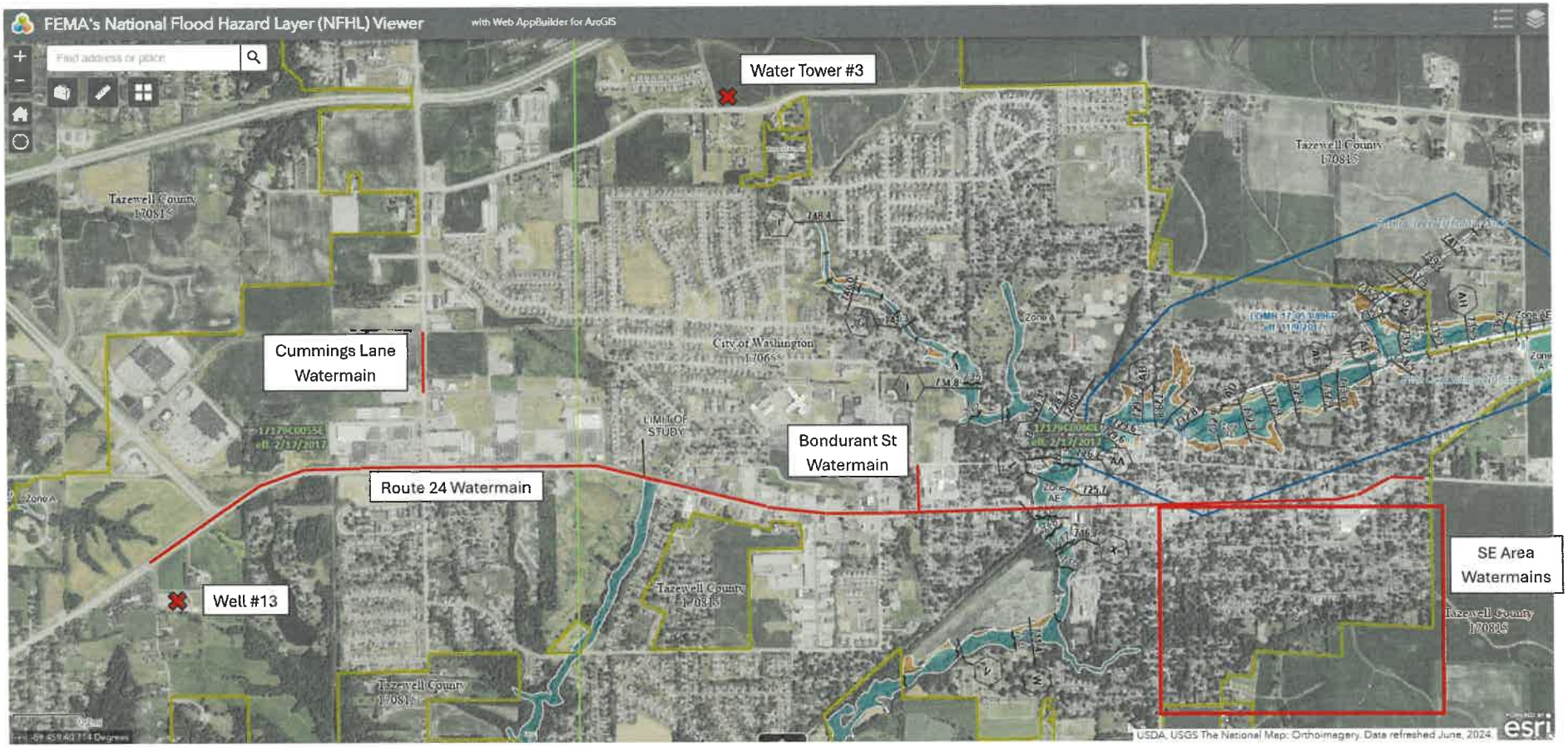
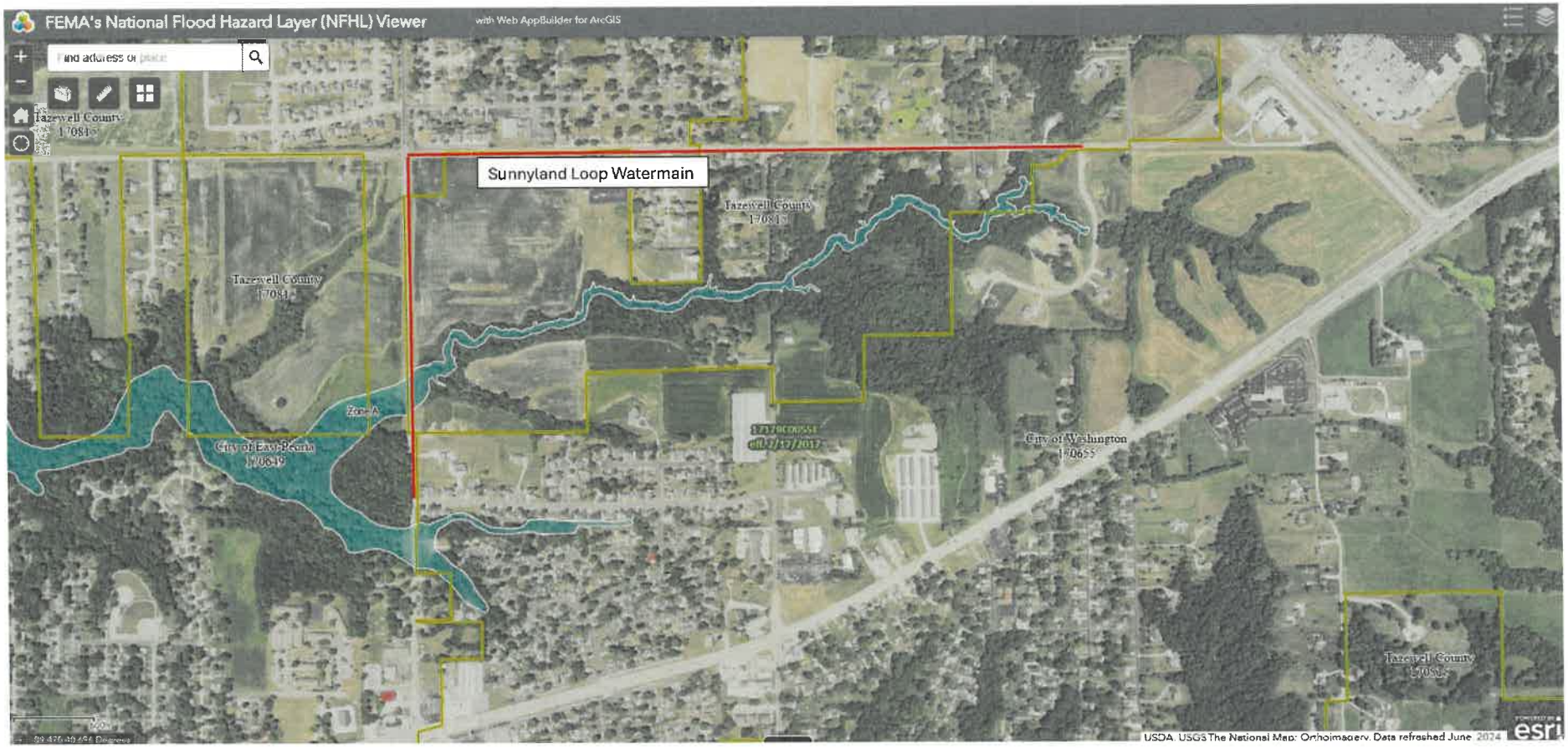
Project Locations on FEMA Map Viewer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