

Irvin Rodgers Drain

Board of Determination Meeting
June 7, 2022



Ken Yonker
Kent County Drain Commissioner

Why Are We Here?

- **Petition** filed by Bowne Township on March 22, 2022 for *Consolidation* and *Maintenance and Improvement*
- **Michigan Drain Code** (Public Act 40 of 1956) mandates a Board of Determination meeting
- **Board** composed of 3 disinterested property owners from outside of affected municipalities
- Determine **necessity** based on public health, convenience or welfare after hearing testimony

BOWNE TOWNSHIP

PETITION FOR MAINTENANCE, IMPROVEMENT, AND CONSOLIDATION OF DRAINS PURSUANT TO CHAPTERS 8 AND 19 OF THE MICHIGAN DRAIN CODE OF 1956, AS AMENDED

IRVIN RODGERS DRAIN

To the Kent County Drain Commissioner:

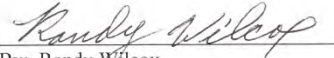
The undersigned is Bowne Township, Kent County, Michigan, and does hereby petition for the maintenance, improvement, and consolidation of the drains known and designated as the Colby and Livingston Drain, Clark and Bunker Drain, Johnson Branch of the Clark and Bunker Drain, and Cobb and Miller Drain, to be known as the Irvin Rodgers Drain, and the consolidation of the Colby and Livingston Drain Drainage District, Clark and Bunker Drain Drainage District, Johnson Branch of the Clark and Bunker Drain Drainage District, and Cobb and Miller Drain Drainage District, with the consolidated drainage district to be known as the Irvin Rodgers Drain Drainage District.

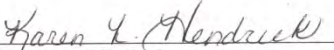
The aforementioned drains are located in Bowne Township, Kent County, Michigan.

The proposed maintenance, improvement, and consolidation is necessary and conducive for the public health, convenience, or welfare and is further necessary for the protection of the public health in Bowne Township. Your petitioner further shows that the established drains need consolidating because the drains will be most efficiently maintained as a consolidated drainage system.

Bowne Township will be liable for an assessment at large against it for a percentage of the cost of the proposed maintenance, improvement, and consolidation. This petition has been authorized by the Township's governing body. A copy of the Resolution of the Bowne Township Board is attached hereto.

BOWNE TOWNSHIP


By: Randy Wilcox
Its: Supervisor


By: Karen Hendrick
Its: Clerk

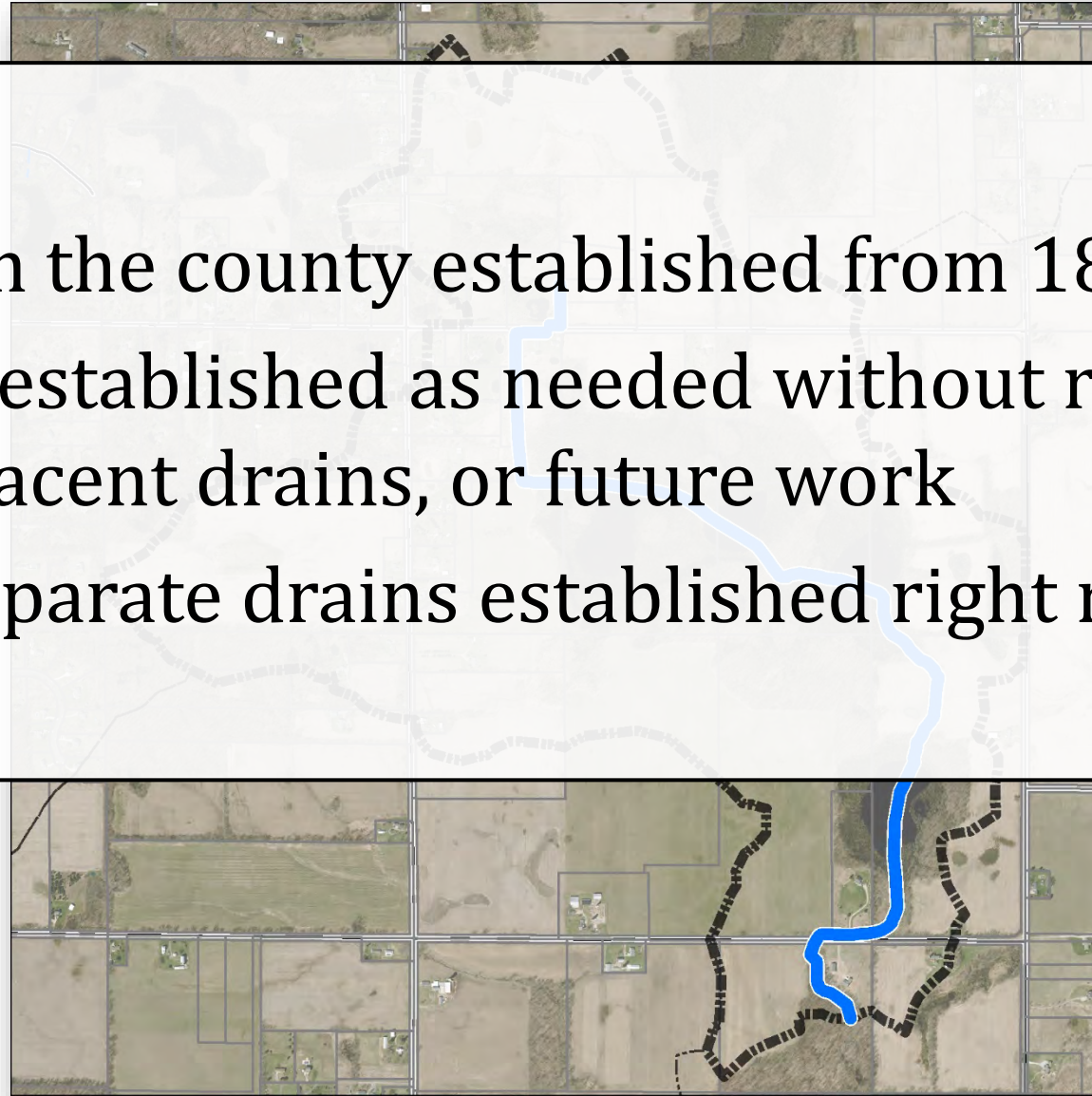
As authorized by its government body
On: March 22, 2022



What makes a "Drain" a "Drain"?

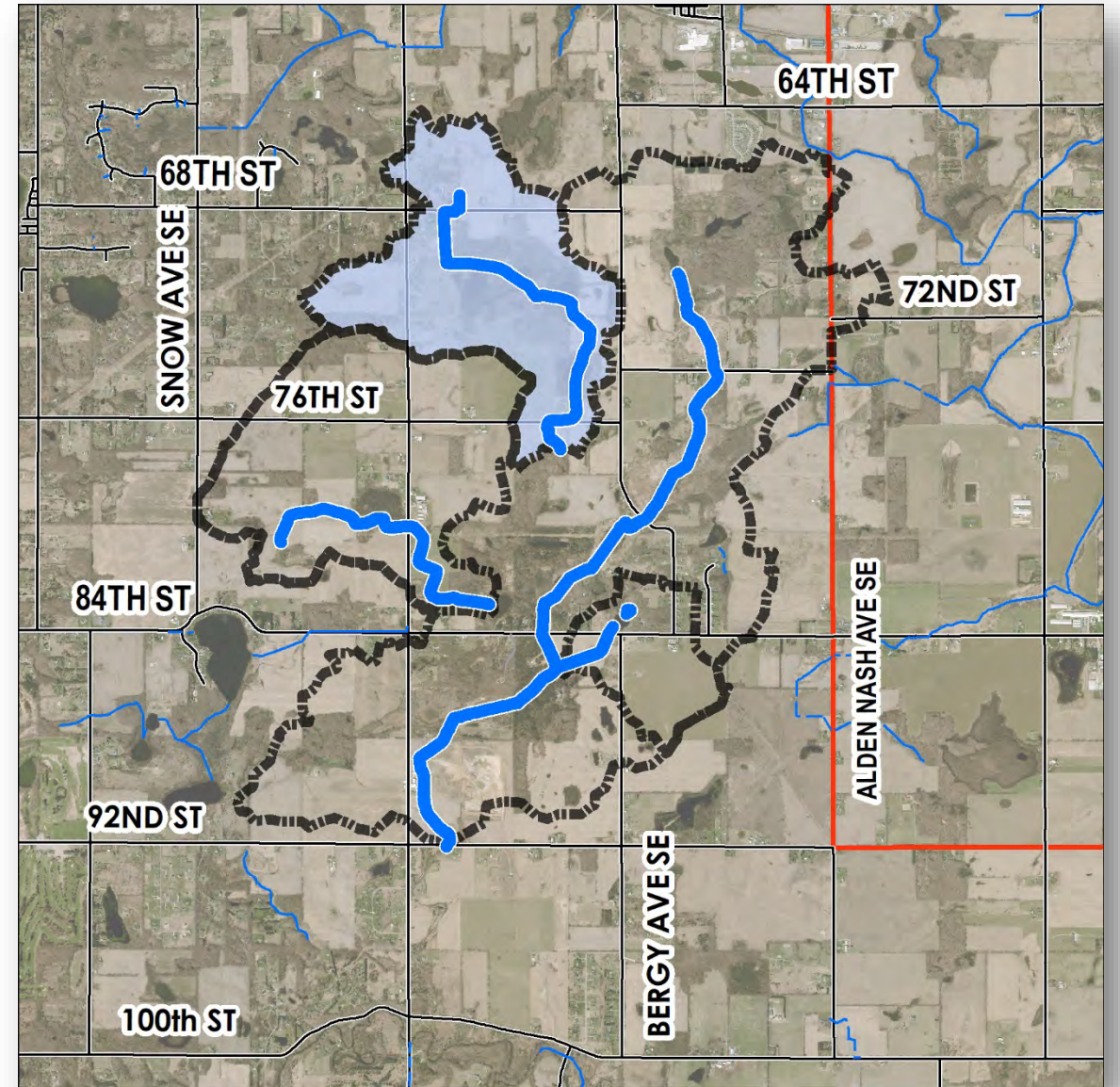
Note

- 650 drains in the county established from 1850's onward
- Historically, established as needed without regard for location, adjacent drains, or future work
- Results in separate drains established right next to each other



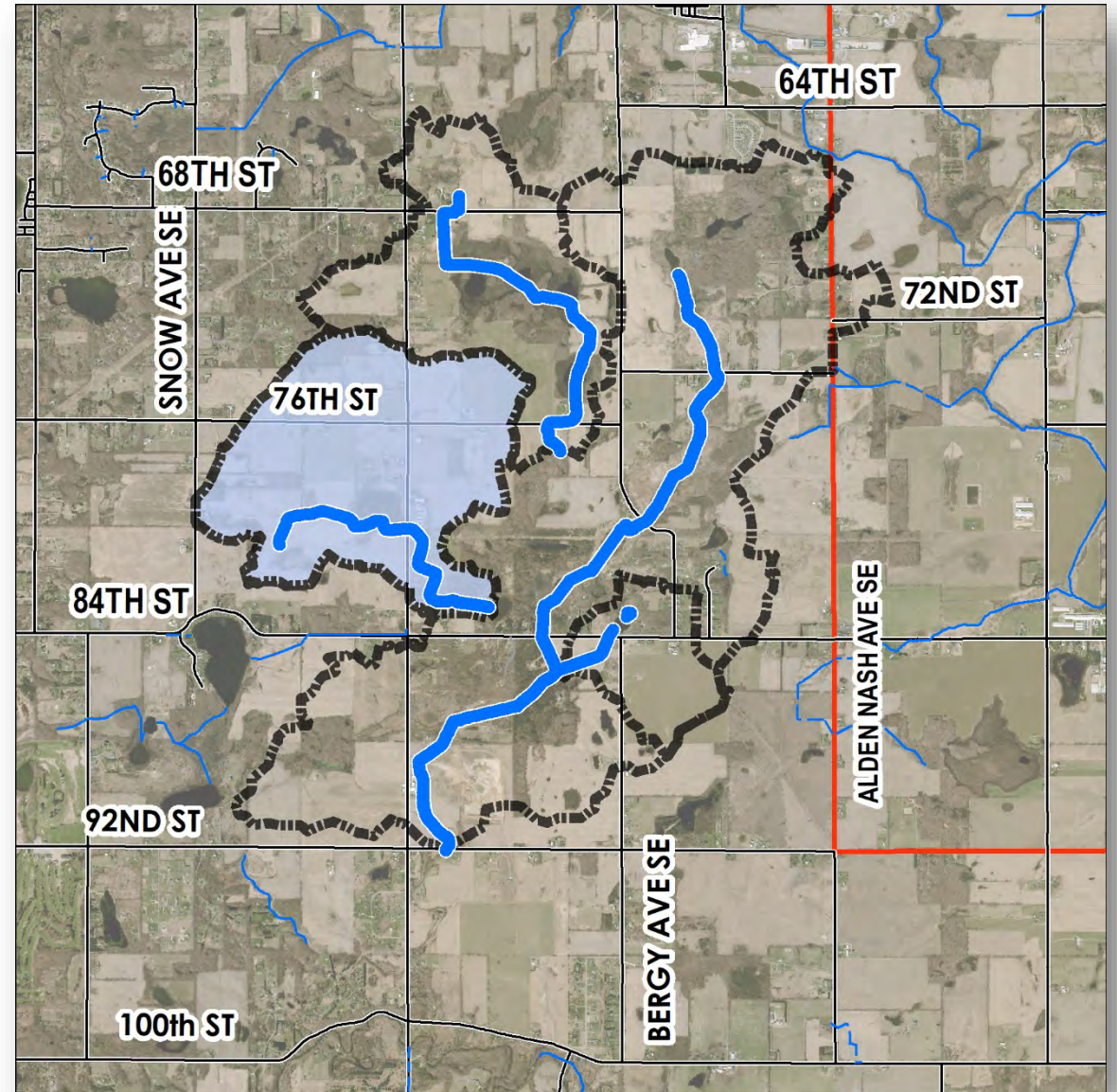
Cobb and Miller Drain

- Established in 1872
- Petition in 1903, 1915
- Drainage District
 - 739 acres
 - 115 parcels
- Open channel drain
 - 10,066 feet (2 maintenance miles)



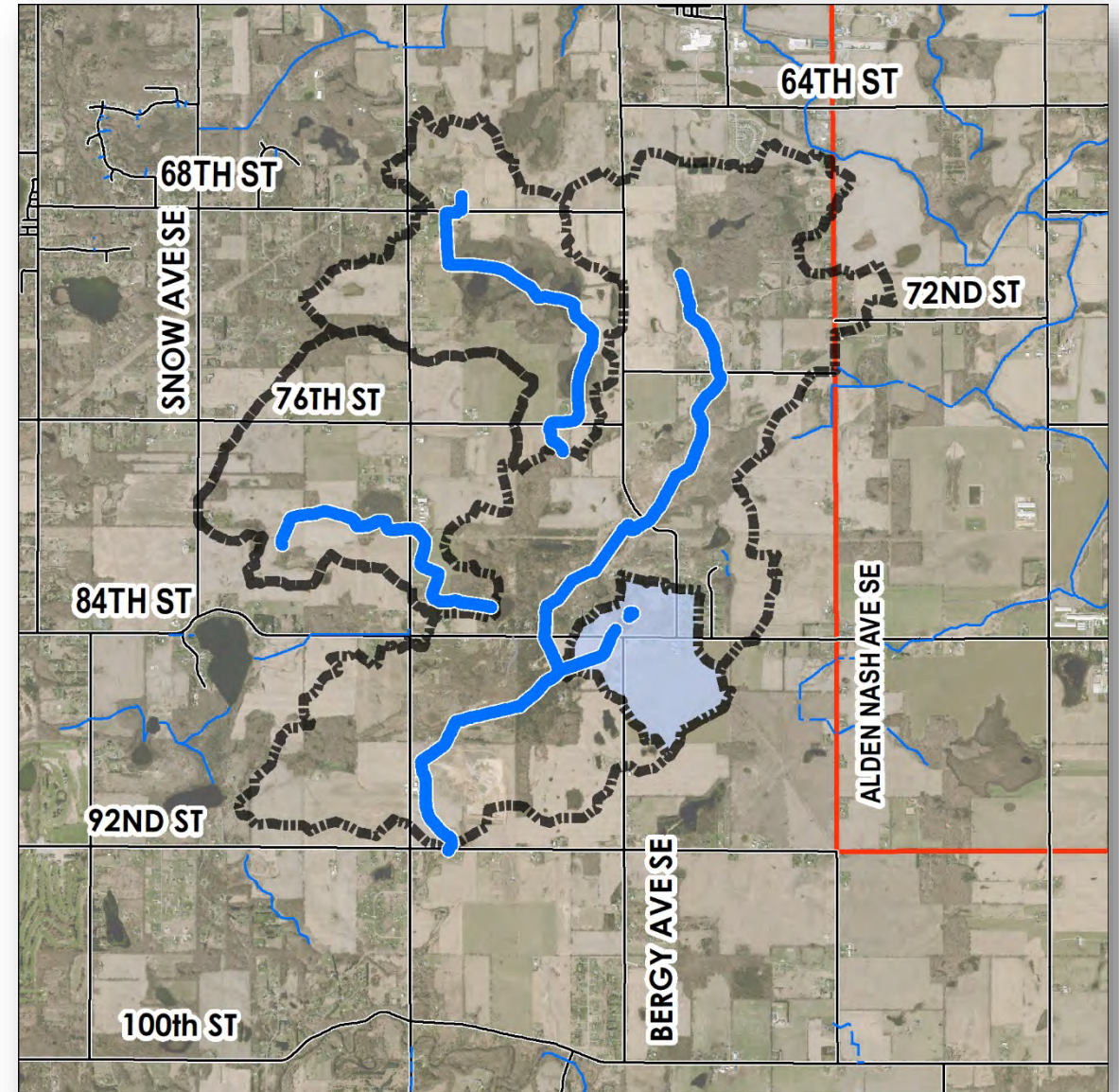
Colby and Livingston Drain

- Established in 1888
- Extended in 1906
- Drainage District
 - 868 acres
 - 105 parcels
- Tile and open channel drain
 - 7,729 feet (2 maintenance miles)



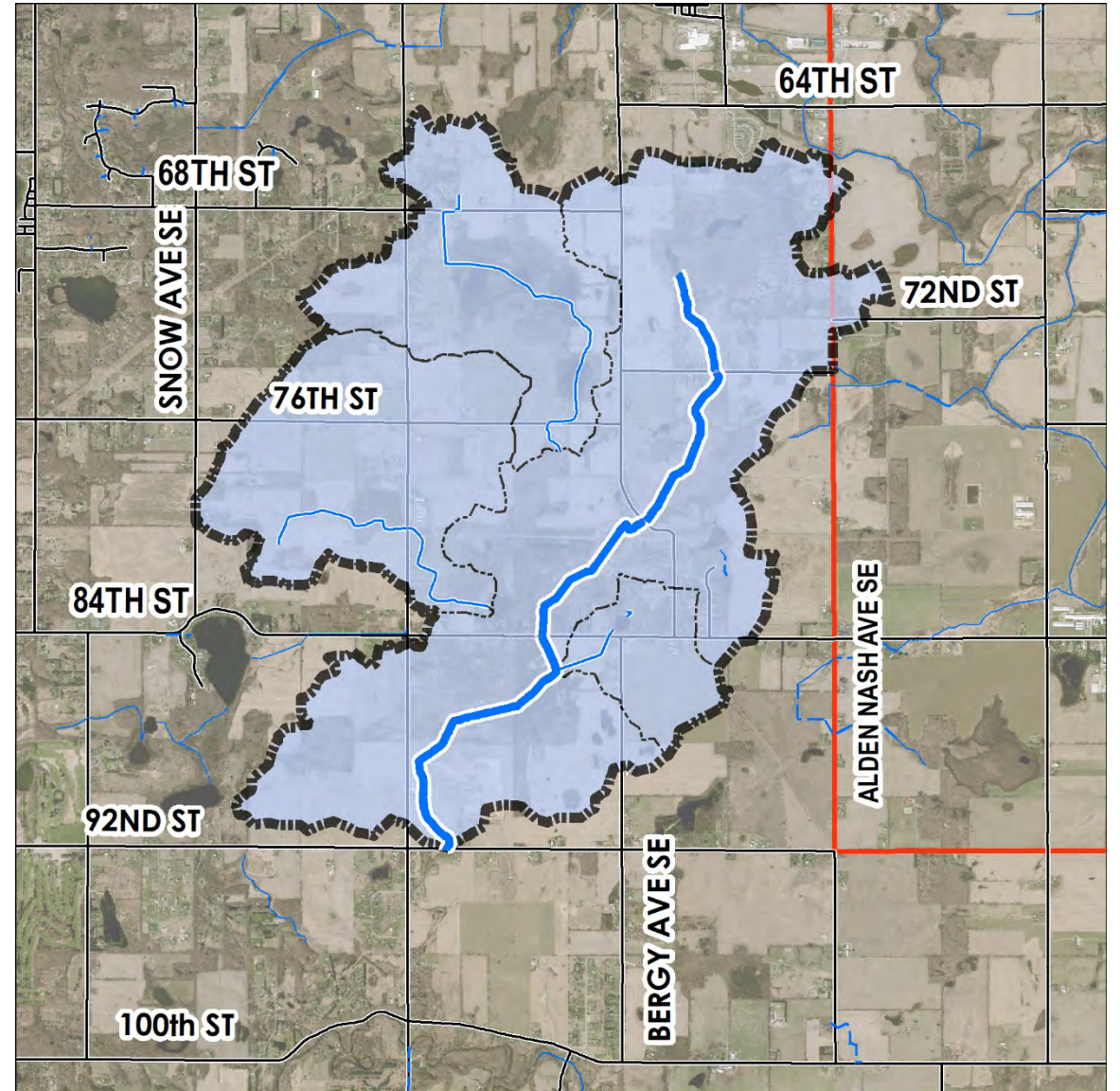
Johnson Branch of Clark and Bunker Drain

- Established in 1903
- Petition in 1923
- Drainage District
 - 232 acres
 - 50 parcels
- Open channel drain
 - 2,126 feet (1 maintenance miles)



Clark and Bunker Drain

- Established in 1902
- Extended in 1927
- Drainage District
 - 4,278 acres
 - 516 parcels
 - 105 Clark and Livingston Drain
 - 115 Cobb and Miller
 - 50 Johnson Branch of C&B
- Open channel drain
 - 19,201 feet (4 maintenance miles)

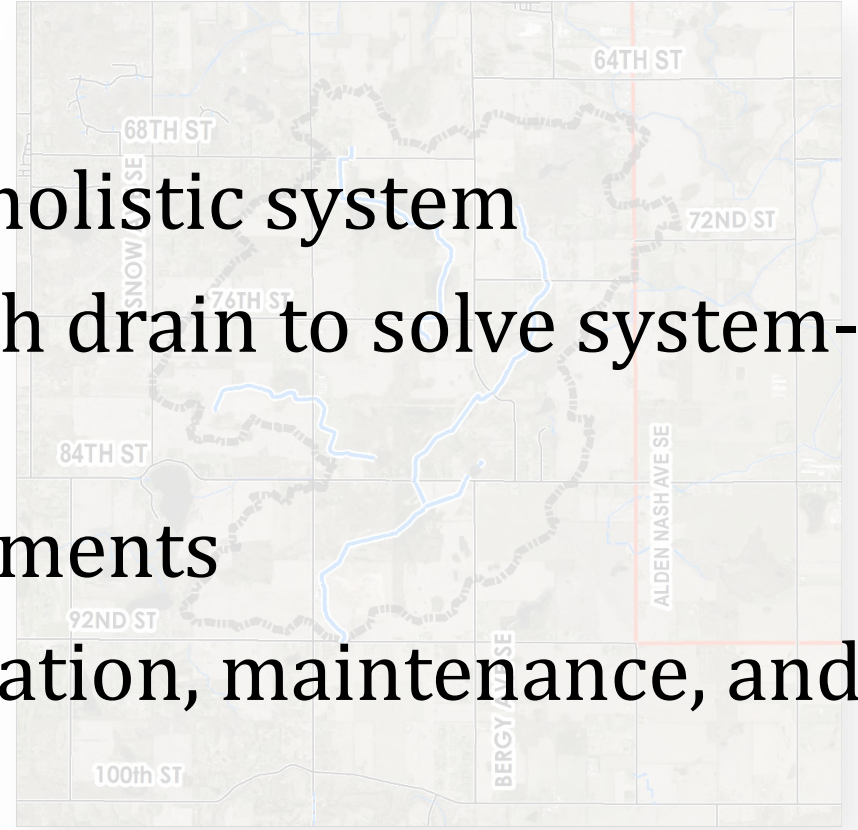
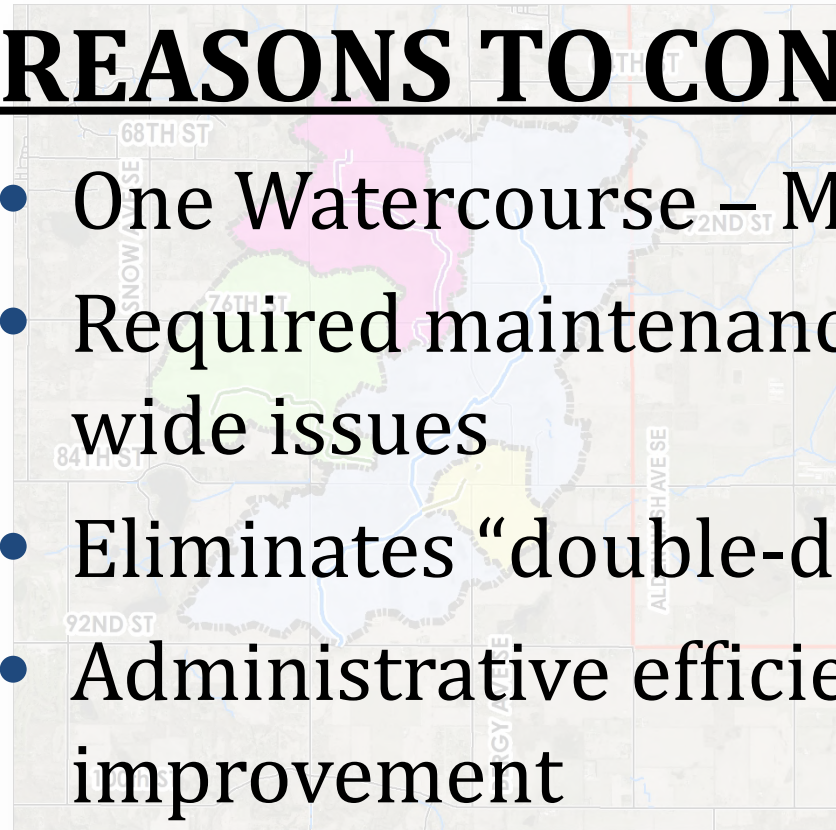


Consolidation

- Two or more drains or drainage districts may be combined and organized as a single drain and district

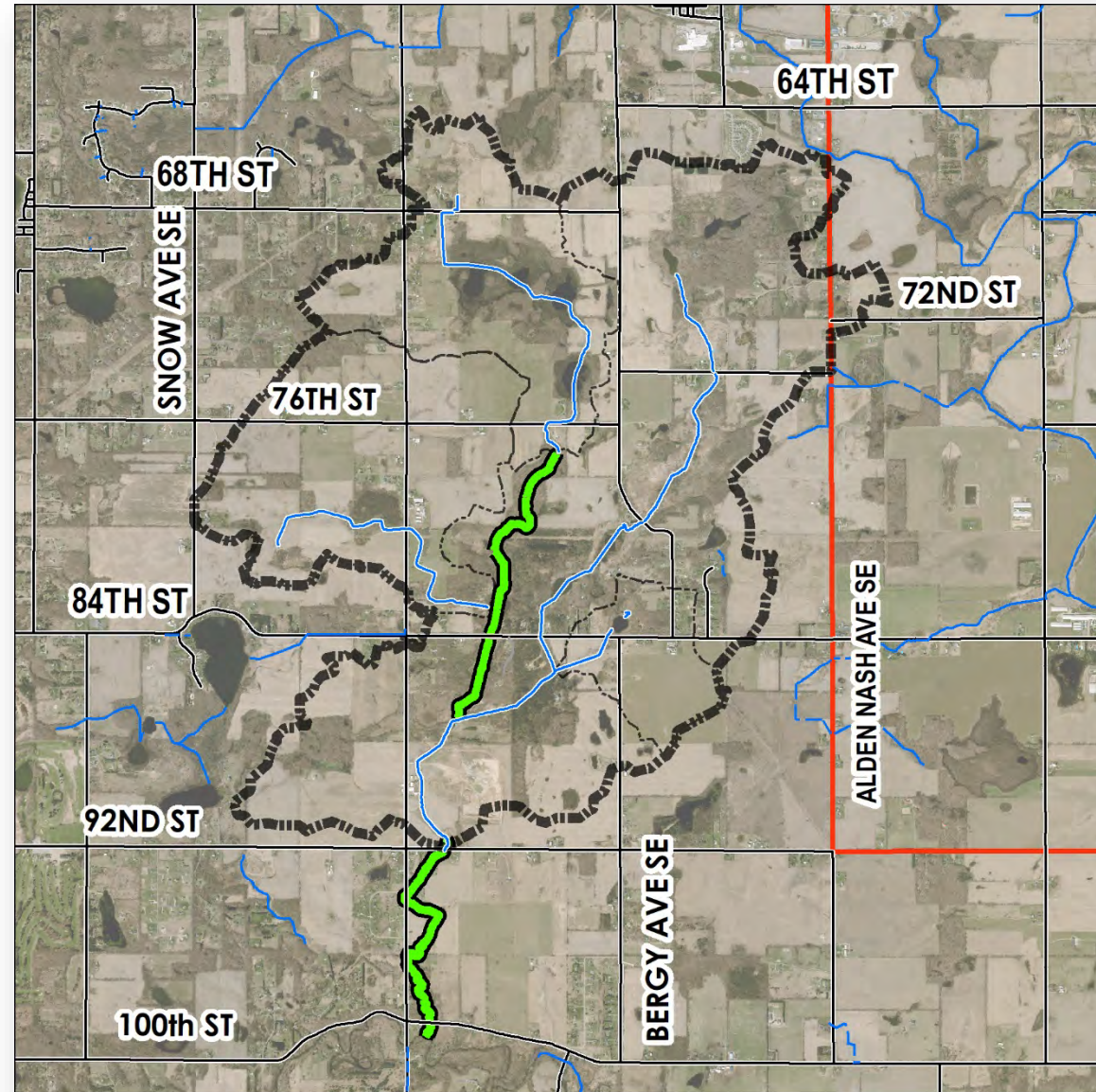
REASONS TO CONSOLIDATE

- One Watercourse – Manage as one holistic system
- Required maintenance work on each drain to solve system-wide issues
- Eliminates “double-dipping” assessments
- Administrative efficiencies for operation, maintenance, and improvement



Extension of Drain

- Approx. 14,000 feet
- Crosses 30 parcels
- Coldwater River
- Currently property owner's responsibility



Drain Condition



Goals and Objectives

- Protect Public Health, Welfare and Convenience by:
 - Consolidating drains to reduce administrative costs associated with “double dipping” drains
 - Establishing gaps in watercourse as county drain
 - Removing obstructions to flow from drain
 - Stabilize any areas of channel erosion and instability to reduce property loss and improve water quality



Next Steps

- Public Testimony
- Board to Determine Necessity of Petition
- If Petition Deemed “Not Necessary”
 - Project ends
- If Petition deemed “Necessary”
 - Evaluate scope of maintenance
 - Secure easements over gap in drain
 - Obtain required permits and bid any maintenance
 - Day of Review of Apportionments



- Please state your name and address clearly
- Address comments to the Board
- Limit comments to 3 minutes



Public Comment

Ken Yonker
Kent County Drain Commissioner
616-632-7910



Thank You