



February 19, 2026

Limited Environmental Review and Finding of No Significant Impact

**ABC Water and Stormwater District – Mahoning County
Pierce Drive Storm Sewer Improvements
Loan number: CS392133-0011**

The attached Limited Environmental Review (LER) is for a stormwater project in the ABC Water and Stormwater District which the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) intends to finance through its Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) below-market interest rate revolving loan program. The LER describes the project, costs, and expected environmental benefits. Making available this LER fulfills the Ohio EPA's environmental review and public notice requirements for this loan program.

Ohio EPA analyzes environmental effects of proposed projects as part of its program review and approval process. We have concluded that the proposed project should not result in significant adverse environmental impacts. In accordance with Ohio Administrative Code 3745-150-05, this project meets the criteria for an LER rather than the more comprehensive Environmental Assessment. More information can be obtained by contacting the person named at the end of the attached LER.

Upon issuance of this Final Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) determination, award of funds may proceed without further environmental review or public comment unless new information shows that environmental conditions of the proposed project have changed significantly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen Courtright".

Kathleen Courtright, Assistant Chief
Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance

LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Project Identification

Project: Pierce Drive Storm Sewer Improvements

Applicant: ABC Water and Stormwater District
8299 Market Street
Youngstown, Ohio 44512

Loan Number: CS392133-0011



Figure 1. Mahoning County

Project Summary

ABC Water and Stormwater District (ABC), in Mahoning County (Figure 1), requested funding from the Ohio Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) for the Pierce Drive Storm Sewer Improvements project. The project includes replacing compromised storm sewer infrastructure, which has been the cause of flooding complaints and sinkhole formations. Due to the nature and location of construction, and best management practices to be implemented, no adverse impacts are anticipated as discussed in the conclusion.

History and Existing Conditions

The boards of trustees of Austintown, Boardman, and Canfield townships organized and established ABC (Figure 2) in 2010 to collectively remedy stormwater problems. ABC provides thoughtful stormwater management for the safe and efficient capture and conveyance of stormwater, mitigation of the damaging effects of stormwater runoff, and correction of existing stormwater issues to protect public health, welfare, and safety. ABC funds stormwater management projects through an established revenue system of fees charged to each property unit.

ABC identified the Andersons Run-Mill Creek Watershed as a target area requiring stormwater improvements. This watershed is over 27 square miles in size and is part of the larger Mahoning River watershed. The area is largely urbanized but also contains a mix of undeveloped and agricultural land uses and includes some of the earliest developments within Boardman Township dating to the 1940s. Many of the streams within the watershed are culverted and channelized. Development of this area did not include adequate stormwater management. Frequent flooding complaints due to inadequate stormwater management and deteriorated and failing storm sewer infrastructure led ABC to prioritize improvements in the area.

Closed circuit television (CCTV) was used along the existing storm sewers to evaluate its condition and provide recommendations to improve the current stormwater issues and useful life of the storm infrastructure.

The CCTV results indicated various structural defects (cracks, fractures, displaced joints, pipe settlement) in a segment of the storm sewer located along Pierce Drive and part of Flagler Lane in Boardman township. These defects contribute to surface sinkholes, sediment accumulation, and reduced hydraulic capacity.

Project Description

The district intends to replace approximately 1,200 linear feet (LF) of existing storm sewer along Pierce Drive and approximately 200 LF along Flagler Lane as depicted in Figure 3. New catch basins and curb inlet structures will also be constructed. Existing roadway pavement, curbing, and aprons impacted by the storm sewer improvements are proposed to be replaced.

Implementation

ABC requested \$700,595 from Ohio's WPCLF at the standard rate of 3.44% to finance the project. Interest rates are set monthly and may change for a later loan award. Borrowing this amount in WPCLF monies could save ABC roughly \$191,000 over the 30-year loan term compared to the current market rate of 4.74%.

The debt associated with the construction project will be recovered from monthly stormwater district fees. ABC reports that the annual residential stormwater fee is \$41.60. ABC last raised the monthly stormwater fee in 2018 and has no planned upcoming increases. Construction is expected to begin following loan award and will be completed by the end of 2026.

Public Participation

ABC holds monthly board meetings that are open to the public at which this and ABC's other planned and ongoing stormwater projects are discussed. ABC also posts information on current projects on their website, along with Nonpoint Source Implementation Strategy Plans for watersheds within their service district.

Ohio EPA is unaware of any controversy about or opposition to this project. The Limited Environmental Review (LER) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) will be posted on the Ohio EPA Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance website. Additionally, the LER and FNSI have been provided to the district to be made available according to their public notification procedures.

Conclusion

The proposed project meets the criteria for a LER; namely, the project includes functional replacement of existing infrastructure. Furthermore, the project meets the other qualifying criteria for an LER; specifically, the proposed project:

Will have no significant environmental effect, will require no specific impact mitigation, and will have no effect on high-value environmental resources. Construction will take place within paved roads, sidewalks, driveways, and lawns in developed Boardman Township where there are no unique, sensitive, or valuable environmental resources. It will be the contractor's responsibility to implement any necessary best management practices for the control of noise, dust, traffic disruptions, erosion and sediment, safety and security of the site, and like factors throughout the duration of construction.

Is cost effective. ABC considered alternatives other than replacing this section of stormwater infrastructure including spot repairs. Complete replacement has a higher estimated cost compared to rehabilitation but has a significantly longer expected useful life. Additionally, rehabilitation is not suitable to correct all the deficiencies identified in the existing stormwater infrastructure. For these reasons, ABC determined complete replacement to be the most cost-effective alternative.

Is not a controversial action. The nature of the project is such that there will be no significant adverse impacts to residents or the environment, and no opposition to the project has been reported.

Will not create a new or relocate an existing discharge to surface or ground waters, will not result in substantial increases in the volume of discharge or the loading of pollutants from an existing source or from new facilities to receiving waters, and will not provide capacity to serve a population substantially greater than the existing population. The project merely includes construction activities for storm sewer infrastructure and will not affect the existing wastewater system (e.g., collection, conveyance, treatment, discharge).

Based upon Ohio EPA's review of the planning information and the materials presented in this LER, we have concluded that there will be no significant adverse impacts from the proposed project as it relates to the previously discussed environmental features. This is either because these features do not exist in the project area, the features exist but will not be adversely affected, or the impacts will be temporary and mitigated. The proposed project is a cost-effective solution to address stormwater issues in a portion of ABC's community. ABC will eliminate ongoing sinkhole formations and property damage while improving stormwater management by replacing the failing infrastructure in the Pierce Drive area.

Contact Information

Rahel S. Babb
Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
50 West Town Street, Suite 700
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Email: rahel.babb@epa.ohio.gov
Phone: (614) 728-3855

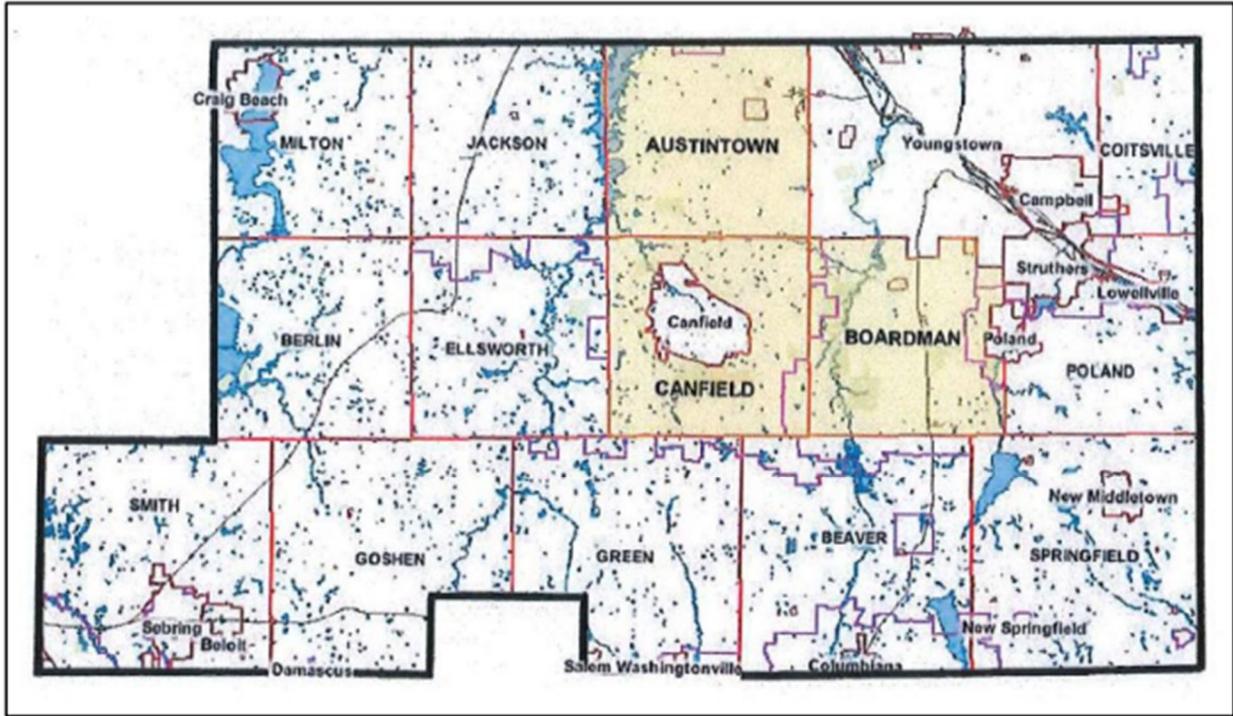


Figure 2. ABC Water and Stormwater District (yellow)



Figure 3. Proposed project location along Pierce Drive and Flagler Lane.