

MARINE BANK

# Conservation Plan for Franklin's Ground Squirrel (FGS) at Wabash Commercial Park, Sangamon County, Illinois

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## Incidental Take Authorization Submittal

**Melissa Breyer, on behalf of Marine Bank**

Email: [mbrey2@uis.edu](mailto:mbrey2@uis.edu)

**February 17, 2016**

This Conservation Plan describes the impact of the proposed project on Franklin's ground squirrels and details the measures taken to avoid, minimize, and mitigate these impacts. The plan also describes monitoring and long-term management plans.

# CONSERVATION PLAN

## Introduction.

This Conservation Plan will be implemented for the Wabash Commercial Park project being proposed by Marine Bank in Sangamon County, Illinois. The purpose of this project is to construct roadway and related infrastructure for a commercial development. This commercial development will contribute to the accessibility of valuable services on the west side of Springfield. The project is scheduled for construction in spring of 2016.

The following Conservation Plan was developed for the state-listed Franklin's ground squirrel (*Poliocitellus franklinii*) in accordance with the requirements outlined in Title 17, Chapter 1(c), Section 1080 of the Illinois Administrative Code (Incidental Taking of Endangered or Threatened Species). Section 1080 grants the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) the ability to authorize the incidental taking of species listed as endangered or threatened by the State of Illinois with an approved Conservation Plan. This Conservation Plan was prepared for Marine Bank's application for incidental take authorization (ITA) from IDNR for unavoidable impacts to Franklin's ground squirrels (FGS) in Sangamon County. See Attachment A for the IDNR sign-offs and Attachment B for the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA) sign-off.

## 1. Description of Impact

### 1A. Project Location

The project is located in the Northwest Quarter of Section 14, Township 15 North, Range 6 West of the Third Principal Meridian, City of Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois. The project location is bound between Wabash Ave to the north and Interstate 72 to the south. The street address is 4630 Wabash Avenue, Springfield, IL 62711-9693. The project area totals 36.937 acres. See Attachment C for location map. See also Attachment D for Plat Map.

### 1B. Biological Data

FGS prefer tallgrass habitats, savannah-like habitats, woodland edges, as well as alternate habitat types such as fencerows, abandoned/fallow fields, roadsides, and railroad right-of-ways. In Illinois, it has been found that cover of smooth brome (*Bromus inermis*) is positively related to the presence of FGS. FGS are typically found in areas where there is an absence of disturbance, particularly an absence of mowing. FGS will not use areas that have been recently mowed. The species also requires a place in which to construct an adequate burrow system. Burrow systems may be extensive with multiple entrance holes. Burrows are often found in areas with a noticeable berm or embankment, and are concealed in dense vegetation. Burrows tend to be deep and well-drained to provide protection from the elements and extreme temperatures. FGS are strictly active during the daytime and spend 90 percent of their lifetime underground in burrows.

FGS hibernates. Hibernation typically occurs from September to April, allowing FGS to survive the winter months. Once FGS come out of hibernation they establish home ranges and search for mates. Activity range size has been recorded in Sangamon County at an average of 41.5 acres for juvenile males

and an average of 2.89 acres for juvenile females (Tih-Fen Ting, personal communication, December 2015). Males emerge from hibernation first, with breeding occurring soon after females emerge. Yearly, FGS have a single litter of 6-9 pups usually between late May and mid-June. Young of the year first appear aboveground during late June. Adults may enter hibernation as early as July, with adult males doing so before adult females. The young then remain active until late September or October.

Time outside of their burrows is typically spent searching for food. FGS eat green plants, roots, seeds, fruit, insects, amphibians, bird eggs and young birds, young mammals, and carrion. They feed heavily on green plants during spring, animal food in mid-summer, then seeds and fruits during late summer. Predators of FGS include badger, coyote, red fox, dogs, mink, long-tailed weasel, striped skunk, red-tail hawk, and snakes. Automobiles are also a threat to this species. The life expectancy of FGS is typically longer for females at 4 to 5 years, and shorter for males at 1 to 2 years.

Illinois lies at the southern extent of the species' range, and FGS can be found in the northern two-thirds of the state. FGS live in small, loosely knit colonies. The largest known colony of FGS in Sangamon County is located along the Sangamon Valley Trail (SVT) near Centennial Park. Given the distance of this project site to the colony along the SVT, it is possible that the overall impact of the proposed project on that colony would be limited.

### **1C. Activities That May Impact FGS**

As previously stated, construction of roadway and related infrastructure for the purpose of commercial development will occur between Wabash Avenue and I-72 near the west edge of Springfield (see Attachment C). Overall, the proposed activities may result in noise, vibration, habitat alteration and increased traffic disturbances to FGS. Underground utility activities are set to occur from mid-April to mid-June 2016. Water main activities are set to occur mid-June to mid-July 2016. Turn lane construction will occur between June and August 2016. The project will require establishment of a detention pond to meet the stormwater detention needs of the future development. The detention pond excavation and road grading are set to occur for a month starting early August 2016. Topsoil will also be stripped from the roadway area during this phase of construction and distributed evenly across the site. Lot 1 will be stripped and scrubbed of all but a row of trees for future screening along the fence bordering the neighboring lot (Credit Pro Car Lot). Curbing and sidewalk construction is scheduled to take place from September to October 2016. Asphalt and paving is scheduled in October 2016. Please see the attached timeline for confirmation of this construction schedule (Attachment E). Excess material will be stockpiled on Lot 5 and will be seeded in a temporary mix for erosion. The stockpile will be removed when future construction on Lot 1 occurs. Refer to Attachment D for lot numbers.

### **1D. Anticipated Adverse Effects on FGS**

The activities scheduled to occur prior to early August are anticipated to have indirect or no effect on FGS in the area. The April to August construction activities are occurring on the portion of the project area that is a tillable field and provides no cover or habitat for FGS. Underground utility and intersection construction activities occurring before early August may affect the adult FGS as well as potentially some young of the year. Again, these affects are anticipated to be indirect and less significant than the later proposed activities. Minimal to no take is foreseen during this construction period.

The proposed activities occurring after the first week of August will likely affect adult and juvenile female FGS still using the area. Possible juvenile male FGS at the site will begin dispersing at this time and are anticipated to be less likely affected by the proposed construction activities. If juvenile males were to move into this area they may also be affected. Exclusionary measures will be in place to reduce the risk of adult and juvenile FGS taking advantage of the stockpile. A silt fence will be dug in 6 inches surrounding the entire stockpile. The detention pond excavation will result in habitat alteration to areas with observed burrows. Other proposed activities, curbing and paving, are not expected to result in additional adverse effects or take. Increased traffic may also adversely affect FGS during the construction period. Disturbance/construction in areas where FGS burrows have been found will be completed by the time FGS hibernate for the winter, minimizing risk to hibernators. Future construction on Lot 1 is not anticipated to result in additional take as this area will no longer be attractive to FGS post-2016 construction.

## **2. Avoidance, Minimization, and Mitigation Measures**

### **2A. Avoidance and Minimization**

A field survey was conducted on December 15, 2015 of the project site by the author, Melissa Breyer. The survey was conducted using visual screening of the ground surface to locate the unique ground burrows of FGS. Eight burrows were observed within the proposed area of main construction. Four burrows were found within the proposed drainage basin area. Overall, it is estimated that there is 3.76 acres of FGS habitat, 1.57 acres of FGS burrowing habitat, on the project site, all of which will be affected by construction activities. Foraging habitat makes up the remainder of the effected habitat. The construction activities could result in an estimated death or injury of a minimum of eight individuals, assuming no sharing of any single burrow by multiple squirrels, within the project area. See Attachment F for survey report, photographs, and map of burrow locations.

To avoid and minimize disturbance to FGS and habitat:

1. Construction in the area where FGS sign has been found will begin after the first week of August after juvenile males likely have started dispersing. The detention pond will be completed prior to juvenile hibernation.
2. Training of contractor prior to construction regarding FGS identification, regulations protecting FGS, and a list of phone numbers if FGS are encountered during construction will be provided.
3. Soil will be stored at a designated place on Lot 5 and will have a 4 to 5 foot tall, opaque, construction fencing with the dig-in, exclusionary silt fence built into it, constructed around the stock pile in order to exclude FGS. Topsoil will be placed directly on berm to be established for FGS needs. The stock pile will only be stored for one year.
4. Construction equipment will enter the project area at a stabilized entrance off of Wabash Ave. The stabilized entrance is located at the existing building entrance off of Wabash Ave. The total area of ground disturbance is estimated at 36.9 acres.
5. The majority of construction activities will be conducted outside of the species' habitat.

## 2B. Management

To enable continued use of the area by FGS, a berm will be constructed along the detention basin on the south side of the property to serve as part of permanent habitat for FGS. The mitigation berm will be modeled after an existing berm between the Sangamon Valley Trail and Centennial Park Place that attracts a sizable population of FGS. The berm will be mostly constructed of the material from an existing berm running north to south through the center of the site that is comprised of topsoil. It will also be as high or higher than the pre-construction topography height and when completed, the berm will span two thirds of the south end of the site. It will be 1,000 feet in length, 20 feet wide at the base on average, and will have a 6-8 feet wide plateau on top. For at least 800 of the 1,000 feet it will be 2 feet in height on the south side of the berm and 4 feet in height on the north side of the berm, with a 3:1 slope ratio. See Attachment G for cross sections detailing the variations in height along the berm, as well as a comparison between the existing berm and the mitigation berm heights, and the drainage plan for reference. The 609 height on the cross section represents the worst-case scenario high water mark for a 100-year storm event, this number includes one foot of additional freeboard. Therefore, the berm will be tall enough to be above the water table, minimizing risk of FGS burrows getting flooded. The lowest point of the berm is shown in Station 406+00 of the cross sections. The berm will also be constructed 10 feet from the right-of-way fence at the south edge of the property. The berm will be compacted to a minimum of 90 percent Standard Proctor during construction, therefore, little to no settlement should occur. Due to potential compaction issues, no heavy equipment will be driven on top of the berm once it has been constructed. The berm will be constructed from August to September 2016, during the same timeframe as the excavation of the detention pond. Planting of smooth brome and a native seed mix will occur in the fall, within 14 days of construction of the berm. The surface of the berm will be left rough prior to planting to facilitate adequate growing conditions. The native seed mix will include: little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), blue grama (*Bouteloua gracilis*), side oats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*), Illinois bundleflower (*Desmanthus illinoensis*), black-eyed susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*), purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*), wild bergemot (*Monarda fistulosa*), purple prairie clover (*Dalea purpurea*), and white prairie clover (*Dalea candida*). This mix will be planted on the berm. The smooth brome will be planted along the base of the berm and throughout the detention basin (Lot 1000). Planting of the detention basin will occur at the same time as planting of the berm. Construction of the berm and planting will be completed prior to juvenile FGS hibernation. A buffer of 30 feet at the minimum will be established from the base of the berm. The berm will remain unmowed and the buffer area will remain un-mowed during the active season for FGS (April to October). Mowing may occur once per year in the late fall (October). Landscape management will not encroach upon established habitat. The berm area will be managed in a way that prevents growth of invasives and woody vegetation. No spraying of herbicides will be used in management of the restored habitat, only mechanical methods, such as hand cutting, will be utilized. When unmowed, the selected planting mixture will not undermine the capability of the basin to manage stormwater.

## 2C. Mitigation

Marine Bank is bringing conservation benefit to the species through habitat creation and restoration. As a result of this project, there will be more FGS habitat than there was previously. Essentially, the entire 4.6 acre Lot 1000 will serve as a sanctuary supporting the species, with the exclusion of the detention area when it is holding water. The created berm will result in an estimated 1.8 acre-feet and be approximately

2900 cubic yards in volume. There will be a 0.23 acre buffer between the I-72 highway right-of-way, and a 0.7 acre buffer between the berm and the detention basin. Research conducted in Illinois by Duggan et al. (2011) found habitat quality, habitat area, and connectivity to be positive predictors of FGS occupancy in a given area. Construction of the berm will not only restore the area of existing habitat to pre-construction conditions, it will also enhance the site's suitability for FGS and result in less habitat fragmentation. The established habitat area will benefit pollinators in addition to other wildlife species. The berm will also provide a buffer from the interstate and the development, and encourage wildlife to stay further away from the public and future construction on the site. The established habitat area will be of better quality and of a greater benefit to FGS and other wildlife than current site conditions. Marine Bank will establish a subdivision association with covenants speaking to the mitigation and measures, in order to ensure long-term management of the restored habitat for conservation of FGS.

## **2C. Monitoring and Long-Term Management**

Martin Engineering Company will be on-site daily to ensure all tasks described above are completed during construction. Particularly, the designated monitor will quality-check the installation of the exclusionary fencing to ensure its effectiveness for deterring FGS. The long-term maintenance of Lot 1000 will be defined in the subdivision covenants. Post-construction monitoring of the created habitat will be the responsibility of Marine Bank until the establishment of the subdivision association. Any FGS found or observed on the project site will be reported to IDNR. Surveys to monitor recovery will begin in 2017, and will occur in June and September 2017, until June and September 2018. Surveys will be conducted by a qualified biologist.

## **2D. Adaptive Management**

Marine Bank will alter plans accordingly if new information is discovered prior to or during construction that it is likely to impact the effectiveness of this plan. Any changed circumstances or new information will be reported to IDNR by Marine Bank, along with proposed modifications to the conservation plan. If more than the estimated number of FGS are taken, plans will be made to adjust the post-construction monitoring period as it may take longer to recover that respective number of FGS. The subdivision association will then report any future FGS observed.

## **2E. Funding Verification**

The proposed project will be fully funded by Marine Bank. Marine Bank will fully incorporate the Conservation Plan into its construction plans, training programs, and subdivision association covenants and has the necessary funds to do so.

### **3. Alternative Actions**

In planning their commercial development project, Marine Bank sought to develop an alternative that avoids and minimizes environmental impacts to the greatest extent possible while still meeting the purpose and need of this project. The preferred alternative is described in the above sections and minimizes the impacts to FGS to the greatest extent possible while still meeting the project need to construct roadway and related infrastructure for a commercial development. Marine Bank considered establishing habitat on Lot 5, but there is much more space available on Lot 1000 for improved FGS habitat. Mitigation done on Lot 1000 facilitates connectivity and encourages FGS and other wildlife away from future development on Lot 5. Marine Bank considered setting up a conservation easement, but the covenants built into the subdivision association will better ensure the long-term management and protection of the habitat. An alternate location for the detention pond was also considered, but as the site naturally drains north to south, putting the detention pond on the north side of the property would undermine the sites ability to properly manage stormwater.

A no-build alternative was considered during the project planning. The no action alternative would require leaving the existing building and tillable fields in place. The Wabash Commercial Park site is on the south side of a commercial arterial roadway, Wabash Avenue, which is currently being widened by the Illinois Department of Transportation to manage the amount of traffic in this area of Springfield. It is preferable that business be located in an already commercially developed area that is planned and zoned for commercial use. Building the development on an alternate property in the area which may not be populated by FGS, but does not have the infrastructure to handle commercial development, is not ideal. This location was selected by Marine Bank in order to build amongst other commercial properties and stay separate from residential developments. The no-build alternative was eliminated as it does not meet the purpose and need of the project.

### **4. Continued Species Viability**

Populations of FGS fluctuate greatly from year to year and are likely influenced by occurrences of local disturbance. Such disturbances may be natural or human-caused. The winter survival rate of hibernating FGS was documented at 33-42 percent, and juvenile survival lower than that of adults. Pending the aforementioned disturbances, and considering a typical litter size, any adverse impact to individual FGS could be made up within one to two breeding cycles. Although the litter size of the local FGS population is unknown, litter size documented in the reviewed literature ranges between 6-9 pups per year.

With implementation of this Conservation Plan, incidental taking of FGS, in connection to the proposed construction project, most likely will not reduce the likelihood of the survival or recovery of FGS in the wild within the state of Illinois, the biotic community of which the FGS is a part of, or the habitat essential to the existence of FGS in Illinois, since they can be found in other locations in Illinois.

## 5. Implementing Agreement

In order to ensure compliance with the conditions described in the Incidental Take Authorization for the FGS on the Marine Bank Wabash Commercial Park development, Marine Bank and Martin Engineering Company agree to implement the measures described in the Conservation Plan.

Marine Bank will implement the following actions:

- Establish a subdivision association with covenants speaking to the long-term management of the established habitat area of Lot 1000 for FGS.
- Monitor the established habitat area. The area will be surveyed two times per year (June and September) until the subdivision association is established and takes over responsibility of monitoring, or until the end of the monitoring period. Any FGS occurrence will be reported to IDNR. Additionally, a report will be submitted after each survey.

Martin Engineering Company will implement the following actions:

- Train the contractor(s) prior to construction. The contractor(s) will be trained on FGS identification, legal responsibility, and be provided with a telephone contact list for matters related to FGS.
- Install construction fencing with built-in exclusionary silt fence around the stock pile. Fencing will be monitored daily by the site manager.
- Construct a berm along the south side of the property between the stormwater detention pond and I-72. Following the creation of the berm it will be seeded with smooth brome and a native seed mix. Construction of stormwater detention pond will be complete by early September, prior to juvenile hibernation.

The participants hereby certify that they have the legal authority to carry out their respective obligations and responsibilities under the Conservation Plan.

Signed



Marine Bank

Dated

2/12/16



Martin Engineering Company

02/12/2016

Martin Engineering Company and Marine Bank will comply with all pertinent Federal, State, and local regulations that govern proposed Wabash Commercial Park project and will provide copies of Federal authorizations that could affect the terms and conditions of any incidental take permit authorized by IDNR for this project.



## REFERENCES

- Duggan, J. M., R. L. Schooley, and E. J. Heske. 2011. Modeling occupancy dynamics of a rare species, Franklin's ground squirrel, with limited data: Are simple connectivity metrics adequate? *Landscape Ecology* 26: 1477-1490.
- Erlie, D. A., and J. R. Tester. 1984. Population ecology of sciurids in northwestern Minnesota. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 98: 1-6.
- Hofmann, J. E. 1998. A survey of Franklin's ground squirrel (*Spermophilus franklinii*) in east-central Illinois. Illinois Natural History Survey, Center for Biodiversity Technical Report 1988 11: 1-32.
- Huebschman, J. J. 2007. Distribution, abundance, and habitat associations of Franklin's ground squirrel (*Spermophilus franklinii* Sabine 1822). Illinois Natural History Survey Bulletin 38: 1-58.
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- Murie, J. O. 1973. Population characteristics and phenology of a Franklin ground squirrel (*Spermophilus franklinii*) colony in Alberta, Canada. *American Midland Naturalist* 90: 334-340.
- Ostroff, A. C. and E. J. Finck. 2003. *Spermophilus franklinii*. *Mammalian Species* 724: 1-5.
- Sowls, L. K. 1948. The Franklin ground squirrel, *Citellus franklinii* (Sabine), and its relationship to nesting ducks. *Journal of Mammalogy* 29: 113-137.
- Young, C. L. 2012. Response of the Franklin's ground squirrel to recreational trail development in Springfield, IL. M. S. Thesis, University of Illinois at Springfield.

## ATTACHMENTS

- A. DNR Signoff and EcoCAT
- B. IHPA Signoff
- C. Site Map
- D. Plat Map
- E. Construction Timeline
- F. Burrow Survey conducted 12/15/2015, with map of burrow locations
- G. Cross Sections of berm height and drainage plan details

**ATTACHMENT A. IDNR Signoff and EcoCATs**



**Illinois Department of  
Natural Resources**

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271  
<http://dnr.state.il.us>

Bruce Rauner, Governor  
Wayne Rosenthal, Director

November 25, 2015

Adam Pallai  
Martin Engineering Company  
3223 South Meadowbrook  
Springfield, IL 62711

**RE: Wabash Commercial Park**  
**Project Number(s): 1605100 [10243]**  
**County: Sangamon**

Dear Applicant:

This letter is in reference to the project you recently submitted for consultation. The natural resource review provided by EcoCAT identified protected resources that may be in the vicinity of the proposed action. The Department has evaluated this information and concluded that adverse effects are unlikely. Therefore, consultation under 17 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1075 is terminated.

This consultation is valid for two years unless new information becomes available that was not previously considered; the proposed action is modified; or additional species, essential habitat, or Natural Areas are identified in the vicinity. If the project has not been implemented within two years of the date of this letter, or any of the above listed conditions develop, a new consultation is necessary.

The natural resource review reflects the information existing in the Illinois Natural Heritage Database at the time of the project submittal, and should not be regarded as a final statement on the site being considered, nor should it be a substitute for detailed site surveys or field surveys required for environmental assessments. If additional protected resources are encountered during the project's implementation, you must comply with the applicable statutes and regulations. Also, note that termination does not imply IDNR's authorization or endorsement of the proposed action.

Please contact me if you have questions regarding this review.

Natalia Jones  
Division of Ecosystems and Environment  
217-785-5500



# Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271  
www.dnr.illinois.gov

Bruce Rauner, Governor  
Wayne A. Rosenthal, Director

December 01, 2015

Adam Pallai  
Martin Engineering Company  
3223 South Meadowbrook

Springfield, IL 62711

**RE: Wabash Commercial Park**  
**Project Number(s): 1605101 [10243]**  
**County: Sangamon**

Dear Mr. Pallai:

This letter concerns the Endangered Species Consultation for the project noted above, located in Sangamon County, Township 15 North, Range 6 West, Section 14. This project was submitted for consultation in accordance with the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act [520 ILCS 10/11], the Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act [525 ILCS 30/17], and Title 17 Illinois Administrative Code Part 1075.

The project involves construction of roadway and related infrastructure for a commercial development.

The Department has completed its review of the project and determined that the state-threatened Franklin's Ground Squirrel (*Poliocitellus franklinii*) identified by EcoCAT in the vicinity is likely to be affected.

The project's activities are likely to result in take of this listed species, which is a violation of the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act. "Take" means, in reference to animals and animal products, to harm, hunt, shoot, pursue, lure, wound, kill, destroy, harass, gig, spear, ensnare, trap, capture, collect, or to attempt to engage in such a conduct. Because of the likelihood of a take, the Department recommends that you apply for Incidental Take Authorization (ITA) for Franklin's Ground Squirrel in accordance with 17 Ill Adm. Code Part

1080. Be advised, the ITA process can take up to four months to complete. Communication concerning the ITA application should be directed to Jenny Skufca, Office of Resource Conservation, 217-557-8243 or Jenny.Skufca@illinois.gov.

Consultation under 17 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1075 is completed. In accordance with 17 Ill. Adm. Code 1075.40(h), please notify the Department of your decision regarding this recommendation.

This consultation is valid for two years unless new information becomes available that was not previously considered; the proposed action is modified; or additional species, essential habitat, or Natural Areas are identified in the vicinity. If the project has not been implemented within two years of the date of this letter, or any of the above listed conditions develop, a new consultation is necessary.

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Please contact me if you have questions regarding this review.

Sincerely,  
Natalia Jones  
Impact Assessment Section  
217-785-5500  
natalia.jones@illinois.gov

*Applicant:* Martin Engineering Company  
*Contact:* Adam Pallai  
*Address:* 3223 South Meadowbrook  
 Springfield, IL 62711

*IDNR Project* 1605101  
*Number:* 11/20/2015  
*Date:* 10243  
*Alternate Number:*

*Project:* Wabash Commercial Park  
*Address:* 4630 Wabash Avenue, Springfield

*Description:* Construct roadway and related infrastructure for a commercial development Existing area has elevated berm and overgrown areas.

### Natural Resource Review Results

#### Consultation for Endangered Species Protection and Natural Areas Preservation (Part 1075)

The Illinois Natural Heritage Database shows the following protected resources may be in the vicinity of the project location:

Franklin's Ground Squirrel (*Spermophilus franklinii*)

Franklin's Ground Squirrel (*Spermophilus franklinii*)

**An IDNR staff member will evaluate this information and contact you to request additional information or to terminate consultation if adverse effects are unlikely.**

#### Location

The applicant is responsible for the accuracy of the location submitted for the project.

*County:* Sangamon  
*Township, Range,*  
*Section:* 15N, 6W, 14



#### **IL Department of Natural Resources**

##### **Contact**

Natalia Jones  
 217-785-5500  
 Division of Ecosystems & Environment

#### **Government Jurisdiction**

IL Environmental Protection  
 Agency  
 Water Permits  
 1021 N Grand Ave E  
 Springfield, Illinois 62794

#### **Disclaimer**

The Illinois Natural Heritage Database cannot provide a conclusive statement on the presence, absence, or condition of natural resources in Illinois. This review reflects the information existing in the Database at the time of this inquiry, and should not be regarded as a final statement on the site being considered, nor should it be a substitute for detailed site surveys or field surveys required for environmental assessments. If additional protected resources are encountered during the project's implementation, compliance with applicable statutes and regulations is required.

## **Terms of Use**

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1. The IDNR EcoCAT website was developed so that units of local government, state agencies and the public could request information or begin natural resource consultations on-line for the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act, Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act, and Illinois Interagency Wetland Policy Act. EcoCAT uses databases, Geographic Information System mapping, and a set of programmed decision rules to determine if proposed actions are in the vicinity of protected natural resources. By indicating your agreement to the Terms of Use for this application, you warrant that you will not use this web site for any other purpose.
2. Unauthorized attempts to upload, download, or change information on this website are strictly prohibited and may be punishable under the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act of 1986 and/or the National Information Infrastructure Protection Act.
3. IDNR reserves the right to enhance, modify, alter, or suspend the website at any time without notice, or to terminate or restrict access.

## **Security**

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Unauthorized use, tampering with or modification of this system, including supporting hardware or software, may subject the violator to criminal and civil penalties. In the event of unauthorized intrusion, all relevant information regarding possible violation of law may be provided to law enforcement officials.

## **Privacy**

EcoCAT generates a public record subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act. Otherwise, IDNR uses the information submitted to EcoCAT solely for internal tracking purposes.

*Applicant:* Martin Engineering Company  
*Contact:* Adam Pallai  
*Address:* 3223 South Meadowbrook  
 Springfield, IL 62711

*IDNR Project Number:* 1605100  
 11/20/2015  
*Date:* 10243  
*Alternate Number:*

*Project Address:* Wabash Commercial Park  
 4630 Wabash Avenue, Springfield

*Description:* Construct roadway and related infrastructure for a commercial development.

Existing area is tillable field

### Natural Resource Review Results

#### Consultation for Endangered Species Protection and Natural Areas Preservation (Part 1075)

The Illinois Natural Heritage Database shows the following protected resources may be in the vicinity of the project location:

Franklin's Ground Squirrel (*Spermophilus franklinii*)

Franklin's Ground Squirrel (*Spermophilus franklinii*)

**An IDNR staff member will evaluate this information and contact you to request additional information or to terminate consultation if adverse effects are unlikely.**

#### Location

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*County:* Sangamon  
*Township, Range,*  
*Section:* 15N, 6W, 14



#### **IL Department of Natural Resources Contact**

Natalia Jones  
 217-785-5500  
 Division of Ecosystems & Environment

#### **Government Jurisdiction**

IL Environmental Protection  
 Agency  
 Water Permits  
 1021 N Grand Ave E  
 Springfield, Illinois 62794

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By using this website, you acknowledge that you have read and agree to these terms. These terms may be revised by IDNR as necessary. If you continue to use the EcoCAT application after we post changes to these terms, it will mean that you accept such changes. If at any time you do not accept the Terms of Use, you may not continue to use the website.

1. The IDNR EcoCAT website was developed so that units of local government, state agencies and the public could request information or begin natural resource consultations on-line for the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act, Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act, and Illinois Interagency Wetland Policy Act. EcoCAT uses databases, Geographic Information System mapping, and a set of programmed decision rules to determine if proposed actions are in the vicinity of protected natural resources. By indicating your agreement to the Terms of Use for this application, you warrant that you will not use this web site for any other purpose.
2. Unauthorized attempts to upload, download, or change information on this website are strictly prohibited and may be punishable under the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act of 1986 and/or the National Information Infrastructure Protection Act.
3. IDNR reserves the right to enhance, modify, alter, or suspend the website at any time without notice, or to terminate or restrict access.

## **Security**

EcoCAT operates on a state of Illinois computer system. We may use software to monitor traffic and to identify unauthorized attempts to upload, download, or change information, to cause harm or otherwise to damage this site. Unauthorized attempts to upload, download, or change information on this server is strictly prohibited by law.

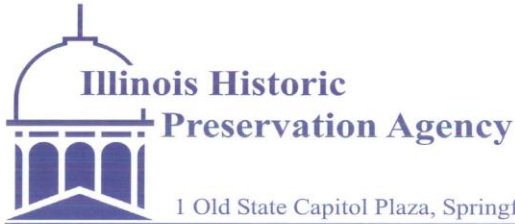
Unauthorized use, tampering with or modification of this system, including supporting hardware or software, may subject the violator to criminal and civil penalties. In the event of unauthorized intrusion, all relevant information regarding possible violation of law may be provided to law enforcement officials.

## **Privacy**

EcoCAT generates a public record subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act. Otherwise, IDNR uses the information submitted to EcoCAT solely for internal tracking purposes.



**ATTACHMENT B. IHPA Signoff**



1 Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield, IL 62701-1512

Sangamon County

Springfield

Demolition and New Construction, Wabash Commercial Park

4630 W. Wabash Ave.

MEC-10243

IHPA Log #015102615

FAX (217) 524-7525

[www.illinoishistory.gov](http://www.illinoishistory.gov)

10243  
From  
✓ SRW  
AP

**RECEIVED**  
NOV 16 2015  
MARTIN ENGINEERING CO.

November 12, 2015

Adam Pallai  
Martin Engineering Company  
3223 S. Meadowbrook Road  
Springfield, IL 62711

Dear Mr. Pallai:

This letter is to inform you that we have reviewed the information provided concerning the referenced project.

Our review of the records indicates that no historic, architectural or archaeological sites exist within the project area.

Please retain this letter in your files as evidence of compliance with Section 4 of the Illinois State Agency Historic Resources Preservation Act (20 ILCS 3420/1 et. seq.). This clearance remains in effect for two years from date of issuance. It does not pertain to any discovery during construction, nor is it a clearance for purposes of the Illinois Human Skeletal Remains Protection Act (20 ILCS 3440).

If you have any further questions, please contact me at 217/785-5031.

Sincerely,



Rachel Leibowitz, Ph.D.  
Deputy State Historic  
Preservation Officer

For TTY communication, dial 888-440-9009. It is not a voice or fax line.

ATTACHMENT C. Site Map

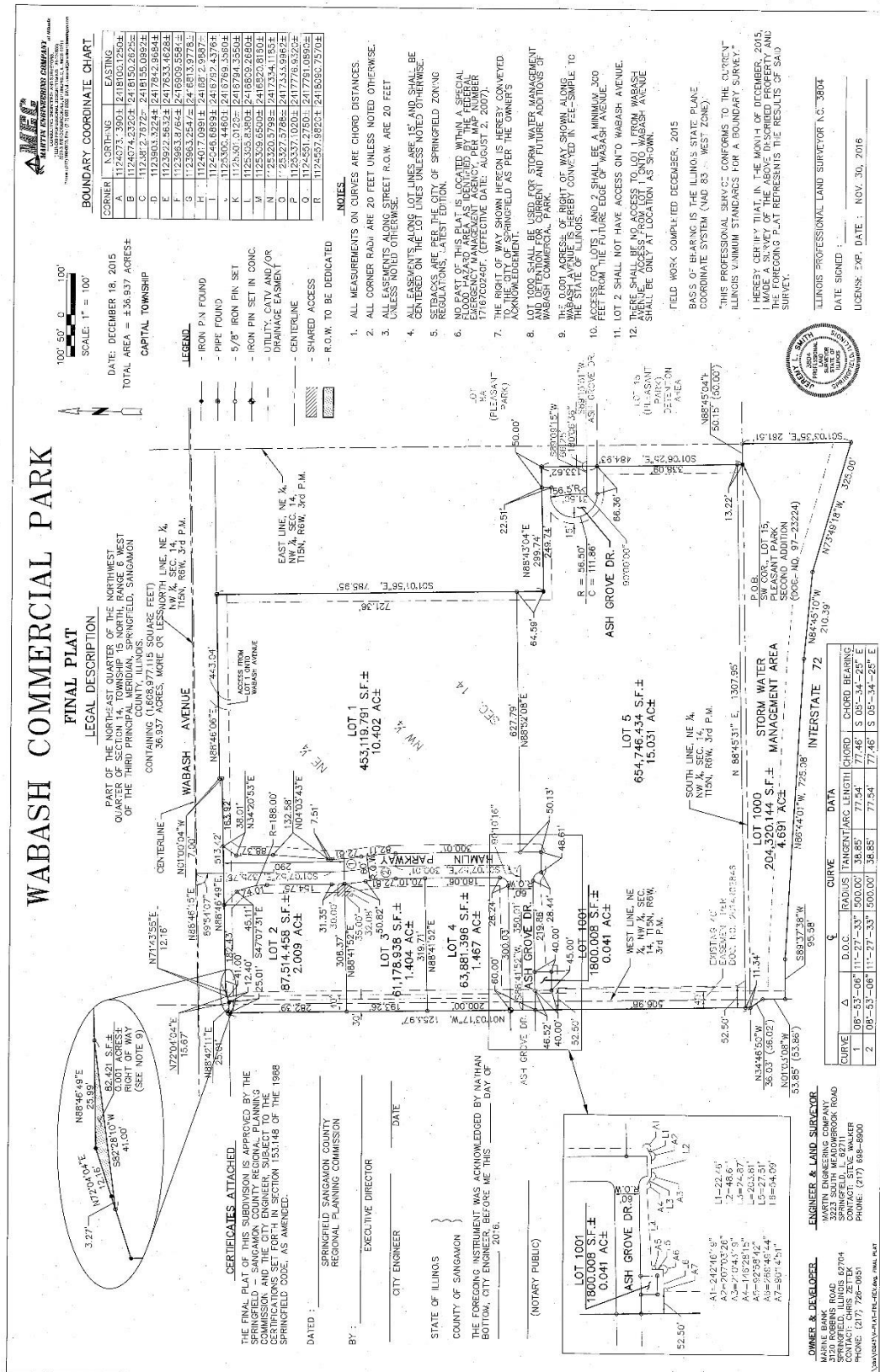
**LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 14, ALL IN TOWNSHIP 15 NORTH, RANGE 6 WEST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS. TOTAL AREA = ±36.951 ACRES



**LOCATION MAP**

# ATTACHMENT D. Plat Map



# ATTACHMENT E. Construction Schedule

## WABASH COMMERCIAL PARK CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE ~ 2016

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOTES
BIDS OPENED - INTERNAL INFRASTRUCTURE				OPEN BID 1st AWARD 15th							
IEPA PERMIT ISSUED				4/15/2016							
IDOT PERMIT ISSUED				4/15/2016							IDOT review time unknown
FORCE MAIN / SANITARY SEWER / PUMP STATION				4/15/2016	TO	6/1/2016					
TURN LANE BIDS OPENED					5/1/2016						
STORM SEWER					5/1/2016	6/15/2016					
TURN LANE CONSTRUCTION						6/1/2016	TO	8/1/2016			
WATER MAIN						6/15/2016	7/15/2016				
ITA APPROVED / FGS HIBERNATION OVER								8/1/2016			
DETENTION POND EXCAVATION / ROADWAY GRADING								8/1/2016	9/1/2016		
CONCRETE CURBS									9/1/2016	10/1/2016	
PAVING										10/1/2015 10/15/2016	

DATE: JANUARY 25, 2016

MEC No. 10243

**ATTACHMENT F. Burrow Survey conducted 12/15/2015**

<b>Burrow #</b>	<b>Location Description</b>	<b>Cluster?</b>	<b>Photo?</b>
1	Southwest berm, southeast area	No	Yes
2	Southwest berm, east side. Slightly caved in	No	Yes
3	Southwest berm, north side	Yes w/#4	Yes
4	Southwest berm, north side, just south of Burrow # 3	Yes w/#3	Yes
5	Berm just east of existing building, west side	No	Yes
6	Berm just east of existing building, south side	No	Yes
7	Northeast corner savannah area, south half of savannah area	No	Yes
8	Northeast corner - savannah area, northeast quadrant	Yes w/#9	Yes
9	Northeast corner - savannah area, east side	Yes w/#8	Yes
10	South berm, southeast portion of property, 10 m from south edge of field	Yes w/#11	Yes
11	South berm, southeast portion of property, 10 m from south edge of field	Yes w/#10	Yes

**Additional Notes:**

Other mammals seen: Rabbit.

Saw numerous rabbit droppings, spooked at least 5 rabbits, and saw a hawk-killed rabbit.

Most digging disturbance appears to be from rabbits. Several holes were at base of green, leafy vegetation and there were chew marks at the base of those plants.

The burrows listed in the chart above were larger than the holes dug by the rabbits and tunneled where the smaller holes did not.

Burrow 1





Burrow 2





Burrow 3





Burrow 4





Burrow 5





Burrow 6





Burrow 7





Burrow 8





Burrow 9





Burrow 10





Burrow 11





Burrows 8 and 9 = 1 burrow system



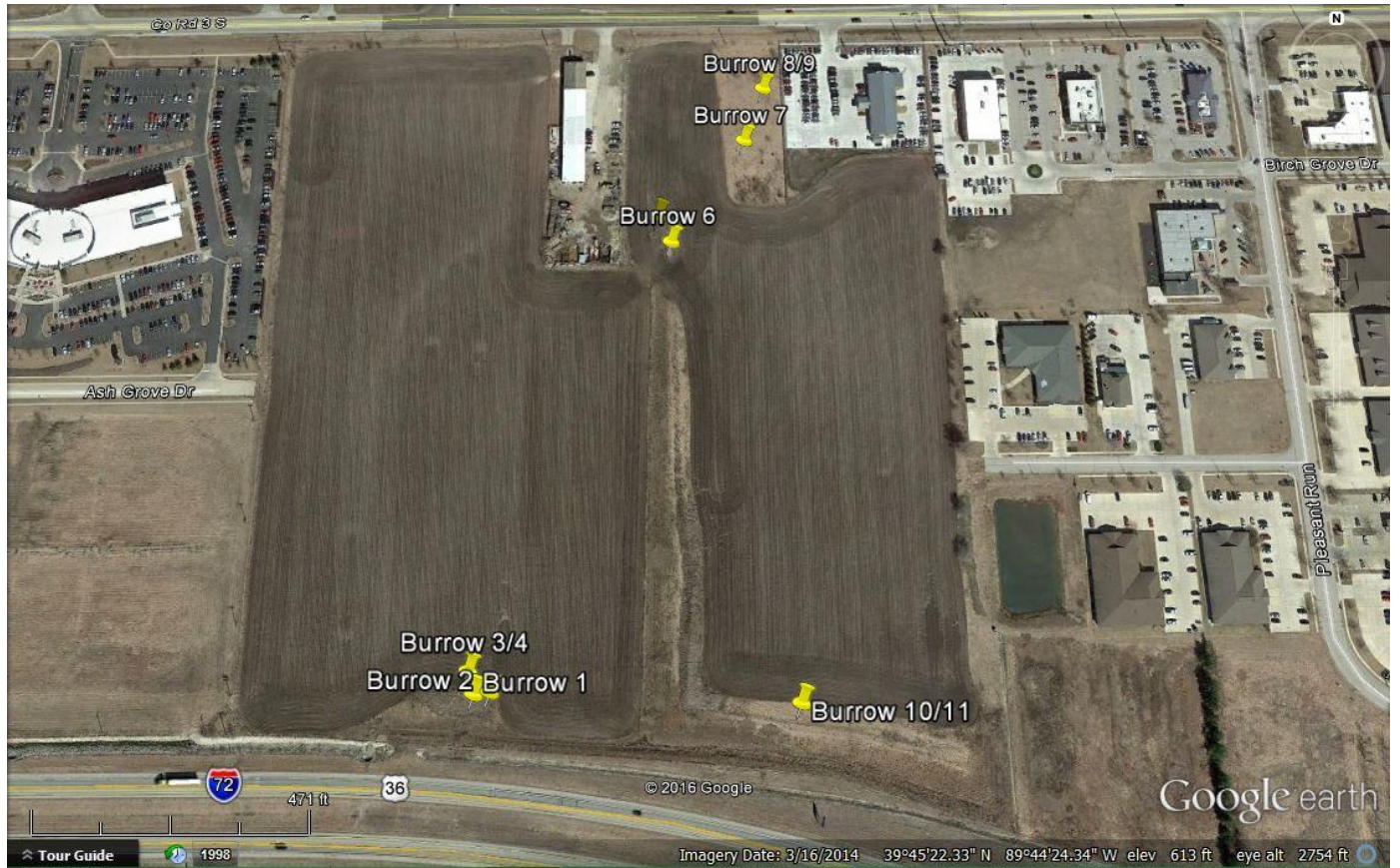


Burrows 10 and 11 = 1 burrow system

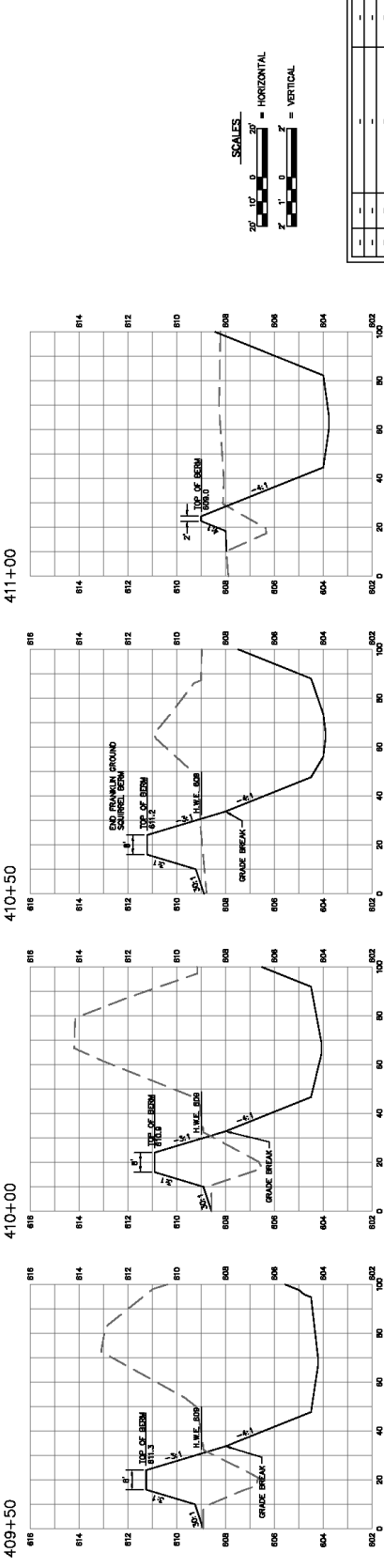
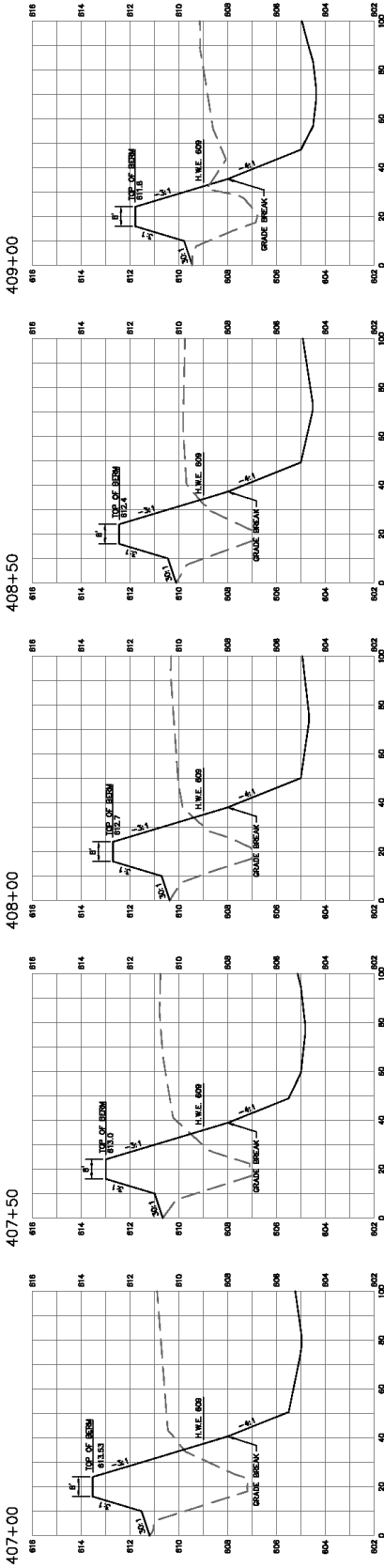




# Map of burrow locations







PROJECT	WABASH COMMERCIAL PARK
DATE	08/20/18
DRAWN BY	AMPC
CHECKED BY	AMPC
SCALE	AS SHOWN
SHEET NO.	35
TOTAL SHEETS	35
PROJECT NO.	18-0000000000
DATE PLOTTED	08/20/18
PLotted by	AMPC
PROJECT	WABASH COMMERCIAL PARK
DATE	08/20/18
DRAWN BY	AMPC
CHECKED BY	AMPC
SCALE	AS SHOWN
SHEET NO.	35
TOTAL SHEETS	35
PROJECT NO.	18-0000000000
DATE PLOTTED	08/20/18
PLotted by	AMPC

FOR CITY REVIEW

