



Township of Oro-Medonte Communal Tile Fields Performance Report 2025

Horseshoe Valley Municipal Communal Tile Fields & Sewage Collection Systems Annual Report

(Prepared in accordance with Environmental Compliance Approvals, Section 6 and Consolidated Linear Infrastructure Environmental Compliance Approvals, Schedule E, Section 4.6)

Period Covering: January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025

February 11, 2026

COMMUNAL TILE FIELDS PERFORMANCE REPORT 2025

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1 Introduction

The Township of Oro-Medonte (Township) has prepared this report to satisfy the requirements of the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks' Environmental Compliance Approvals (ECAs), Section 6 and Consolidated Linear Infrastructure Environmental Compliance Approval (CLI-ECA), Schedule E, Section 4, as outlined below.

This report covers the period of January 1 to December 31, 2025, and applies to the following municipally owned and operated sewage works and collection systems:

- Horseshoe Communal Tile Field 1 – ECA# 8000-BD9SEA
- Horseshoe Communal Tile Field 2 – ECA# 8649-BVQJ2Q
- Horseshoe Communal Tile Field 3 – ECA# 9622-C6NMVN
- Horseshoe Communal Tile Field 4 – ECA# 7776-BRGLAP
- Horseshoe Communal Tile Field 5 – ECA# 9708-BDAHGS
- Horseshoe Communal Tile Field 6 – ECA# 3726-BCZLBB
- Horseshoe Communal Tile Field 7 – ECA# 2781-BD8KZG
- Communal Tile Sewage Collection System - CLI-ECA# 126-W601

The above ECAs and CLI-ECA were issued to the Township between the years of 2019 and 2023 under Sections 20.2 and 20.3 of Part II.1 of the Environmental Protection Act for the approval of municipal domestic sewage treatment and collection for select locations in the Horseshoe Valley area.

2 Reporting Requirements

2.1 ECA, Terms and Conditions, Section 6: Reporting Requirements

Section 6 of the referenced ECA's Terms and Conditions requires the Township to prepare performance reports on a calendar year basis and submit them, upon request by the Ministry, to the District Manager by March 31 of the calendar year following the reported period. The report shall contain, but is not limited to, the following information pertaining to the reporting period:

- A review and assessment of the performance of the Works, including general operational condition and any potential indicators of failure.
- A description of any operating problems encountered and corrective actions taken.
- A record of all maintenance carried out on any major structure, equipment, apparatus, mechanism or thing forming part of all Works located at the property including, but not limited to: records of maintenance inspections for the treatment system, records of septic tank effluent filters cleaning, records of septic tank pump-outs, records of sludge pump-outs accumulated from the treatment system, records of visual inspections of all disposal systems.

- A summary of any effluent quality assurance or control measures undertaken in the reporting period.
- A summary of any complaints received during the reporting period and any steps taken to address the complaints.
- A summary of all spill or abnormal discharge events.
- Any other information the District Manager requires from time to time.

2.2 CLI-ECA, Schedule E, Section 4: Reporting Requirements

Schedule E, Section 4 of the Township's CLI-ECA requires the preparation of performance reports on a calendar year basis and submit them to the Ministry District Manager by March 31 of the calendar year following the reported period. The report shall contain, but is not limited to, the following information pertaining to the reporting period:

- Includes a summary of any operating problems encountered and corrective actions taken.
- Includes a summary of all calibration, maintenance, and repairs carried out on any major structure, equipment, apparatus, mechanism, or thing forming part of the Municipal Sewage Collection System.
- Includes a summary of any complaints related to the sewage works received during the reporting period and any steps taken to address the complaints.
- Includes a summary of all alterations to the authorized system within the reporting period that are authorized by this approval including the list of alterations that pose a Significant Drinking Water Threat.
- Includes a summary of all collection system overflows and spills of sewage including;
 - a) Dates;
 - b) Volumes and durations;
 - c) If applicable, loadings for total suspended solids, BOD, total phosphorous, and total Kjeldahl nitrogen, and sampling results for E.coli.
 - d) Disinfection, if any; and,
 - e) Any adverse impact(s) and any corrective actions, if applicable.
- Includes a summary of efforts made to reduce Collection System Overflows, Spills, STP Overflows, and or STP Bypasses, including the following items, as applicable:
 - a) A description of projects undertaken and completed in the Authorized System that result in overall overflow reduction or elimination including expenditures and proposed projects to eliminate overflows with estimated

- b) budget forecast for the year following that for which the report is submitted.
- c) Details of the establishment and maintenance of a PPCP, including a summary of project progress compared to the PPCP's timelines.
- d) An assessment of the effectiveness of each action taken.
- e) An assessment of the ability to meet Procedure F-5-1 or Procedure F-5-5 objectives (as applicable) and, if able to meet the objectives, an overview of next steps and estimated timelines to meet the objectives.
- f) Public reporting approach, including proactive efforts.

3 Compliance Reporting Requirement

3.1 Availability of the Annual Performance Report

In accordance with Section 4 of the referenced CLI-ECA's Schedule E, a copy of the report is available to the public who are served by the system, free of charge from the following outlets:

- Township of Oro-Medonte's website (www.oro-medonte.ca); and,
- Public request at the Township's Administration Centre, located at 148 Line 7 South, Oro-Medonte.

The public is advised of the report's availability and how to obtain a copy, without charge, on the Township of Oro-Medonte's website through annual public reporting to Council and on the Environmental Services dedicated landing pages under the 'Wastewater Services' section.

4 Communal Tile Field & Collection System Descriptions

The Township owns and operates seven (7) Communal Tile Fields (Tile Fields) and their associated sanitary collection systems within the Horseshoe Valley area, which services 97 homes as identified in Appendix A.

4.1 Communal Tile Field 1

Wastewater System Number: 120003799

Wastewater System Type & Classification: Wastewater Collection Class 1

Communal Tile Field 1 is located behind 23, 25, 27, and 29 Cathedral Pines Road and services five (5) properties, each equipped with its own septic tank that provides primary treatment. Effluent from these private septic tanks flows into the associated municipal collection system and is conveyed to the communal tile field for subsurface disposal through a siphon/dosing chamber and leaching bed. The collection system includes approximately 237 metres of gravity sanitary sewer main and two maintenance holes.

4.2 Communal Tile Field 2

Wastewater System Number: 120003806

Wastewater System Type & Classification: Wastewater Collection Class 1

Communal Tile Field 2 is located behind 12 Pine Point Road and services nine (9) properties, each equipped with its own septic tank that provides primary treatment. Effluent from these private septic tanks flows into the associated municipal collection system and is conveyed to the communal tile field for subsurface disposal through a siphon/dosing chamber and leaching bed. The collection system includes approximately 285.5 m of gravity sanitary sewer main and 3 maintenance holes.

4.3 Communal Tile Field 3

Wastewater System Number: 120003815

Wastewater System Type & Classification: Wastewater Collection Class 1

Communal Tile Field 3 is located behind 2 and 4 Maplecrest Court and services three (3) properties, each equipped with its own septic tank that provides primary treatment. Effluent from these private septic tanks flows into the associated municipal collection system and is conveyed to the communal tile field for subsurface disposal through a siphon/dosing chamber and leaching bed. The collection system includes approximately 257.6 m of gravity sanitary sewer main and 3 maintenance holes.

4.4 Communal Tile Field 4

Wastewater System Number: 120003824

Wastewater System Type & Classification: Wastewater Collection Class 1

Communal Tile Field 4 is located between 27 and 29 Pine Ridge Trail and services fourteen (14) properties, each equipped with its own septic tank that provides primary treatment. Effluent from these private septic tanks flows into the associated municipal collection system and is conveyed to the communal tile field for subsurface disposal through a siphon/dosing chamber and leaching bed. The collection system includes approximately 442.7m of gravity sanitary sewer main and 7 maintenance holes.

4.5 Communal Tile Field 5

Wastewater System Number: 120003833

Wastewater System Type & Classification: Wastewater Collection Class 1

Communal Tile Field 5 is located behind 1, 3, 5, and 7 Pine Ridge Trail and services twenty-two (22) properties, each equipped with its own septic tank that provides primary treatment. Effluent from these private septic tanks flows into the associated municipal collection system and is conveyed to the communal tile field for subsurface disposal through a siphon/dosing chamber and leaching bed. The collection system includes approximately 515.6m of gravity sanitary sewer main and 7 maintenance holes.

4.6 Communal Tile Field 6

Wastewater System Number: 120003842

Wastewater System Type & Classification: Wastewater Collection Class 1

Communal Tile Field 6 is located behind 15 and 17 Beechwood Road and services twenty-six (26) properties. Unlike users connected to the other communal tile fields, these properties do not have individual private septic tanks. Instead, effluent flows directly from each property through the municipal collection system to a communal septic tank and then to a second septic tank, creating a two-stage treatment sequence before being conveyed to the communal tile field for subsurface disposal through a siphon/dosing chamber and leaching bed. The collection system includes approximately 559.6 metres of gravity sanitary sewer main and seven maintenance holes.

4.7 Communal Tile Field 7

Wastewater System Number: 120003851

Wastewater System Type & Classification: Wastewater Collection Class 1

Communal Tile Field 7 is located south of the municipal water service road between Country Club Lane and Valleycrest Drive. and services eighteen (18) properties, each equipped with its own septic tank that provides primary treatment. Effluent from these private septic tanks flows into the associated municipal collection system and is conveyed to the communal tile field for subsurface disposal through a siphon/dosing chamber and leaching bed. The collection system includes approximately 535.7 m of gravity sanitary sewer main and 7 maintenance holes.

5 System Performance Review & Maintenance Objectives

Environmental Services is available to respond twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, three hundred and sixty-five (365) days a year for service calls or emergencies related to the municipal Communal Tile Fields. All Environmental Services Technicians are licenced under Ontario Regulation 129/04 (Regulation Licensing of Sewage Works Operators). No emergency maintenance and/or investigation was required during this reporting period.

Draft updates to the Communal Tile Fields Operations Manual and Quality Management System have been completed and are currently under review. The updated program is being developed using a quality management system framework similar to the Municipal Drinking Water Licensing Program and will be aligned with the requirements of CSA W217 Ontario Wastewater Management System (WWMS) standard, which came into effect in 2025. Incorporating this standard ensures the program reflects current industry expectations for wastewater system oversight, documentation, and continuous improvement.

Given the proximity to the Horseshoe Highlands Municipal Drinking Water System and the related Wellhead Protection Area, several lots serviced by the Tile Fields are subject to provincial legislation (Ontario Regulation 315/10, enacted in 2011) requiring

mandatory on-site sewage maintenance inspections. This program, administered by the Building Department under the authority of the Ontario Building Code, is ongoing. Wellhead Protection and Septic Maintenance Inspections were tracked for properties surrounding the communal tile fields, as these systems play an important role in safeguarding groundwater quality and supporting the long-term performance of the communal tile fields. The Township reviewed inspection results for all users within the Wellhead Protection Area, noting compliance with regular septic maintenance requirements and identifying any issues that could pose a risk to groundwater or system loading. Inspections operate on a five-year cycle (2022–2026). As of December 31, 2025, data provided by the Building Department confirmed that of the 196 properties within the area, 1 has been inspected, 71 are exempt, and 124 remain pending. This program reflects the Township’s proactive approach to source water protection and its commitment to maintaining safe, sustainable wastewater infrastructure.

5.1 Maintenance Activities & Inspection Records

Environmental Services performs visual inspections of the tile fields, associated tanks, distribution boxes, and the sanitary collection system. An external contractor supports this work by completing filter cleaning and replacement, solids removal (sewage pump-outs), sanitary system cleaning, and closed-circuit television (CCTV) inspections.

In 2025, the following maintenance activities, in addition to routine maintenance activities were carried out:

- Monthly visual inspections of all Tile Fields were completed from May through October in accordance with the Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA).
- No concerns were identified during these inspections, with no visual evidence of bed breakout, erosion, tank surcharging, piping issues, blockages, or clogged inlets.
- Grass and vegetative cover at all Tile Fields were maintained as required throughout the May through October period.

Maintenance and repairs conducted on the Authorized System during this reporting period are outlined below in Table 1.

Table 1: 2025 Maintenance and Repair Summary Table

Date	Facility	Maintenance Details
January 2025	Tile Field 5	Debris was removed from the sanitary collection system at maintenance holes 55 and 57.
January 2025	Tile Field 6	Debris was removed from the sanitary collection system at maintenance hole 62.
January 2025	Tile Field 4	Debris was removed from the sanitary collection system at maintenance hole 41.
October 2025	Tile Field 6	Scheduled tank maintenance and inspection with support from an external contractor. The work included pumping and inspecting the tank, backflushing, and cleaning the sewer main and baffle.

Table 1: 2025 Maintenance and Repair Summary Table (continued)

Date	Facility	Maintenance Details
October 2025	Tile Field 6	An inspection related to troubleshooting the dose counter. The siphon tank was pumped, inspected, and tested. Environmental Services is working with a contractor to further troubleshoot the issue.

5.1.1 Private Lot Septic System Maintenance and Compliance Reporting

Property owners with private lot-level septic tanks (Tile Fields 1–5, and 7) are encouraged to inspect, service, and pump out their tanks at least once every three years and submit the service record to Environmental Services. These private systems provide the primary level of treatment before effluent enters the municipal communal tile fields, making regular maintenance essential to overall system performance.

In 2025, Environmental Services contacted 16 property owners connected to the communal tile fields who had no documented solids removal records and/or inspections since 2020. Monitoring and following up on these records support best practices for private septic maintenance and help protect the long-term performance and reliability of the communal tile field systems. The private septic system documentation and compliance efforts are summarized in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Private Septic System Documentation and Compliance Summary

System Overview	
Category	Count
Total Properties Connect to the Communal Tile Fields (1-7)	97
Properties with private septic systems (pretreatment) (Applicable to properties on Tile Fields 1–5 and 7)	71
Properties connected but not in service	1
2025 Compliance Actions	
Action	Result / Percentage
Notices issued for missing septic service records (since 2020)	16
Septic service records submitted after 2025 notice	11 (68%)
Septic service records not submitted	5
Overall Documentation Status (2020–2025)	
Status Category	Count / Percentage
Properties requiring regular septic service record submission	70
In good standing (service records submitted within last 5 yrs)	65 (93%)
Upcoming 2026 Requirements	
Requirement	Count / Percentage
Properties due for inspection/solids removal in 2026	15 (21%)
Properties with septic service records outstanding from 2025	5

5.2 Effluent Quality Assurance and Control Measures

The Environmental Compliance Approvals (ECAs) require daily measurement of effluent discharged to the Tile Fields to ensure design flow limits are not exceeded. These measurements also help the Township assess system capacity for current and future needs.

Flow-measurement options were discussed with the MECP due to challenges associated with the remote locations of the Tile Fields, including the lack of hydro service and the fact that some of the Tile Fields are situated within a golf course. These discussions began in 2019, and in 2020, AECOM confirmed that electronic flow metering had been explored but was found to be cost-prohibitive due to installation constraints, partial pipe flow, lack of power at siphon chambers, and equipment costs. MECP staff raised no concerns with the Township’s proposal use dose counters read monthly to calculate average daily flows instead.

Based on this guidance, the Township uses manual event counters to collect monthly data and estimate average daily flow. As of 2025, all but Tile Field 5 have dose counters installed. However, due to the very low flows experienced in some Tile Fields, the dosing counters have not always operated reliably, and staff continue to troubleshoot these issues to improve data accuracy.

Despite the age of the Tile Fields, they continue to operate in excellent condition, with no evidence of historical overloading. The AECOM ‘Horseshoe Communal Septic System Assessment’ (September 2018) report noted that the Tile Fields were originally designed to manage flows greater than those produced by the current service connections.

5.3 Maintenance (Effluent Filter Cleaning/Replacement & Solids Removal)

Regular maintenance activities, including tank effluent filter cleaning and/or replacement (as required) as well as solids removal, were completed by Espey D. Robert Excavating & Septic Services Ltd., as outlined in Table 3.

Table 3: Filter Cleaning/Replacement & Solids Removal Records

Date	Location	Effluent Filter Cleaning / Filter Replacement	Solids Removal
2025-01-28	Tile Field #7	Cleaned Filters	n/a
2025-02-25	Tile Field #7	Replaced Filters	n/a
2025-03-23	Tile Field #7	Replaced Filters	n/a
2025-04-22	Tile Field #6	n/a	Solids Removed
2025-04-22	Tile Field #7	Replaced Filters	Solids Removed
2025-05-26	Tile Field #7	Replaced Filters	n/a
2025-06-26	Tile Field #7	Replaced Filters	n/a
2025-07-28	Tile Field #7	Cleaned Filters	n/a

Table 3: Filter Cleaning/Replacement & Solids Removal Records (continued)

Date	Location	Effluent Filter Cleaning / Filter Replacement	Solids Removal
2025-07-28	Tile Field #6	n/a	Solids Removed
2025-08-29	Tile Field #7	Cleaned Filters	n/a
2025-10-08	Tile Field #6	n/a	Solids Removed
2025-10-08	Tile Field #7	Replaced Filters	n/a
2025-10-31	Tile Field #6	Cleaned Filters	Solids Removed
2025-11-26	Tile Field #7	Cleaned Filters	n/a
2025-12-19	Tile Field #7	Cleaned Filters	n/a

5.4 Sampling & Testing

The referenced ECAs require quarterly grab samples from the syphon/dosing chambers, analyzed for Five-Day Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD₅) and Total Suspended Solids (TSS). These parameters offer a general indication of wastewater quality and overall system performance. Tables 4 and 5 summarize the 2025 BOD₅ and TSS results.

Table 4: BOD5 Results Summary

Sample Date	TF1 (mg/L)	TF2 (mg/L)	TF3 (mg/L)	TF4 (mg/L)	TF5 (mg/L)	TF6 (mg/L)	TF7 (mg/L)
2025/03/24	23	112	60	21	62	173	12
2025/05/05	17	113	88	88	239	136	10
2025/09/02	7	120	62	136	126	269	124
2025/11/26	12	80	44	62	56	124	91

*Note: 'TF' indicates 'Tile Field'

Table 5: TSS Results Summary

Sample Date	TF1 (mg/L)	TF2 (mg/L)	TF3 (mg/L)	TF4 (mg/L)	TF5 (mg/L)	TF6 (mg/L)	TF7 (mg/L)
2025/03/24	12	230	46	44	32	36	4
2025/05/05	9	70	76	39	303	44	4
2025/09/02	5	59	21	74	39	105	43
2025/11/26	6	100	10	102	20	42	46

*Note: 'TF' indicates 'Tile Field'

6 Consumer Complaints

There were two (2) consumer complaints received during this reporting period, and details are summarized in the table on the following page.

Table 6: Compliant Details & Resolution Summary

Date	Compliant Details & Resolution
2025/04/11	<p>Tile Field: 4 Compliant Category: Backup / Surcharge Compliant Details: Homeowner reported intermittent basement toilet backup and overflow occurring when water was used on the upper floor of the home. Resolution: The issue was determined not to be related to the municipal system. The backup appeared to originate on the private side of the property. The homeowner was advised to contact a licensed plumber for further investigation of the private plumbing.</p>
2025/08/05	<p>Tile Field: 6 Compliant Category: Backup / Surcharge Compliant Details: Homeowner reported water backing up in laundry sink. Resolution: The issue was determined not to be related to the municipal system. The homeowner was advised to contact a licensed plumber for further investigation of the private plumbing.</p>

7 Spills or Abnormal Discharge Events

No spills, bypasses or abnormal discharge events were observed during this reporting period. Any spills or discharge events would be recorded and addressed in accordance with Part X of the Environmental Protection Act, Ontario Regulation 675 (as amended) and reported to MECP, both by telephone and in writing, in accordance with ECAs and the CLI-ECA requirements.

8 Summary of Alterations to the Authorized System

No alterations were made to the Tile Fields or their associated sewage collection systems within the reporting period that required authorization by ECA and CLI-ECA approvals.

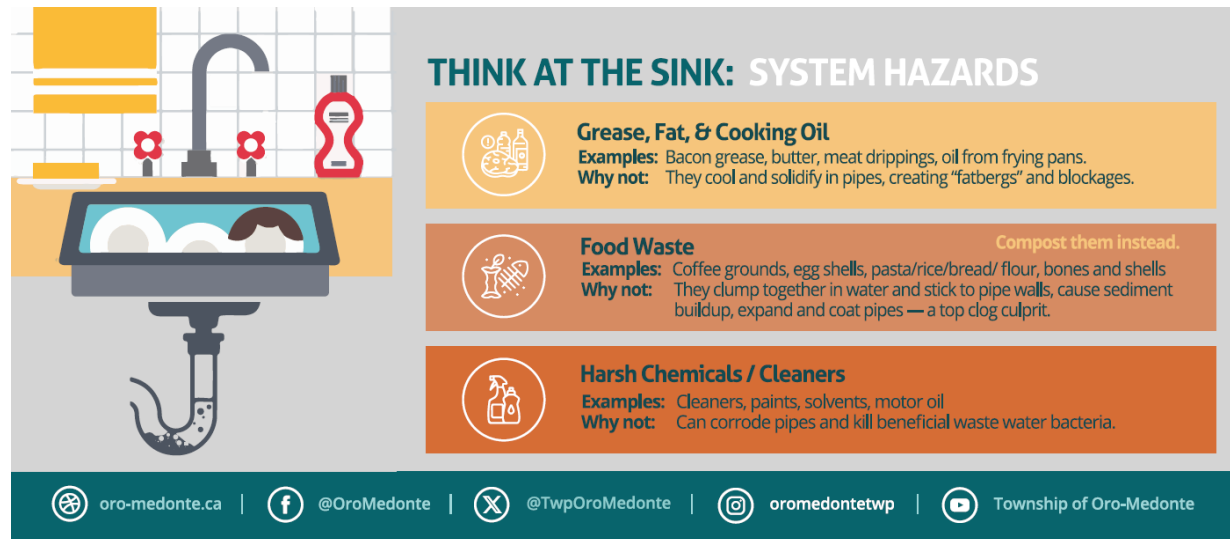
9 Public Education and Outreach Initiatives

Environmental Services continued its customer education and outreach efforts in 2025 to support the proper use and long-term performance of the municipal communal tile field systems. As part of this work, all municipal communal file system users received a “Think Before You Flush/Put Down the Sink: System Hazards” mailer with both third and fourth quarter utility bills, as featured in Figure 1. These reminders help residents understand how everyday household practices can impact system health and reinforce

9 Public Education and Outreach Initiatives (continued)

the importance of keeping harmful materials out of the municipal communal tile field system.

Figure 1: ‘Think at the Sink: System Hazards’ Educational Outreach Mailer



10 Financial Planning

The communal tile field municipal system operates on a user-fee model, meaning only those who receive the service pay for it. While Sewage System Financial Plans are not currently regulated in the same way as Drinking Water Financial Plans, Township staff are developing a similar framework to support the long-term delivery of sewage services. A financial plan is essential for prioritizing future projects, meeting operational goals, and providing residents with a clear understanding of long-term service costs.

On November 22, 2023, Council endorsed a 10-Year Communal Tile Field Financial Plan, including multi-year user rates (Motion No. SC231122-3). This plan strengthens financial sustainability, supports ongoing operations, and contributes to the capital reserve fund for long-term asset management. The 2023 Financial Plan is available on the Township website for public viewing at www.oro-medonte.ca.

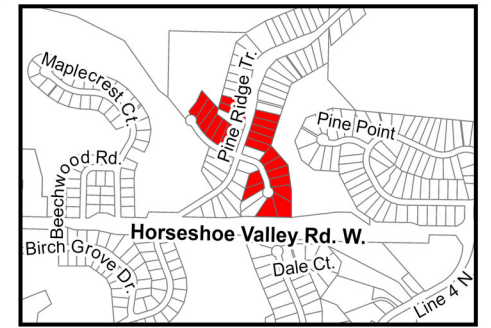
11 Conclusion

It is the belief of the Township of Oro-Medonte that this report satisfies the requirements of ECAs, Section 6, and the CLI-ECA, Schedule E, Section 4.6.

Any questions regarding this report should be directed to Environmental Services.

Appendix A – Communal Tile System Maps

-  Manhole
-  Service Laterals
-  Tile Bed
-  Serviced Property
-  Easement
- Gravity Mains
 -  150mm
 -  100mm



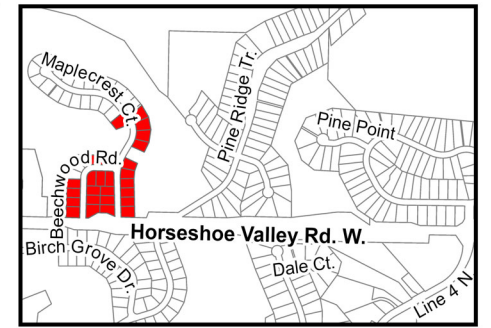
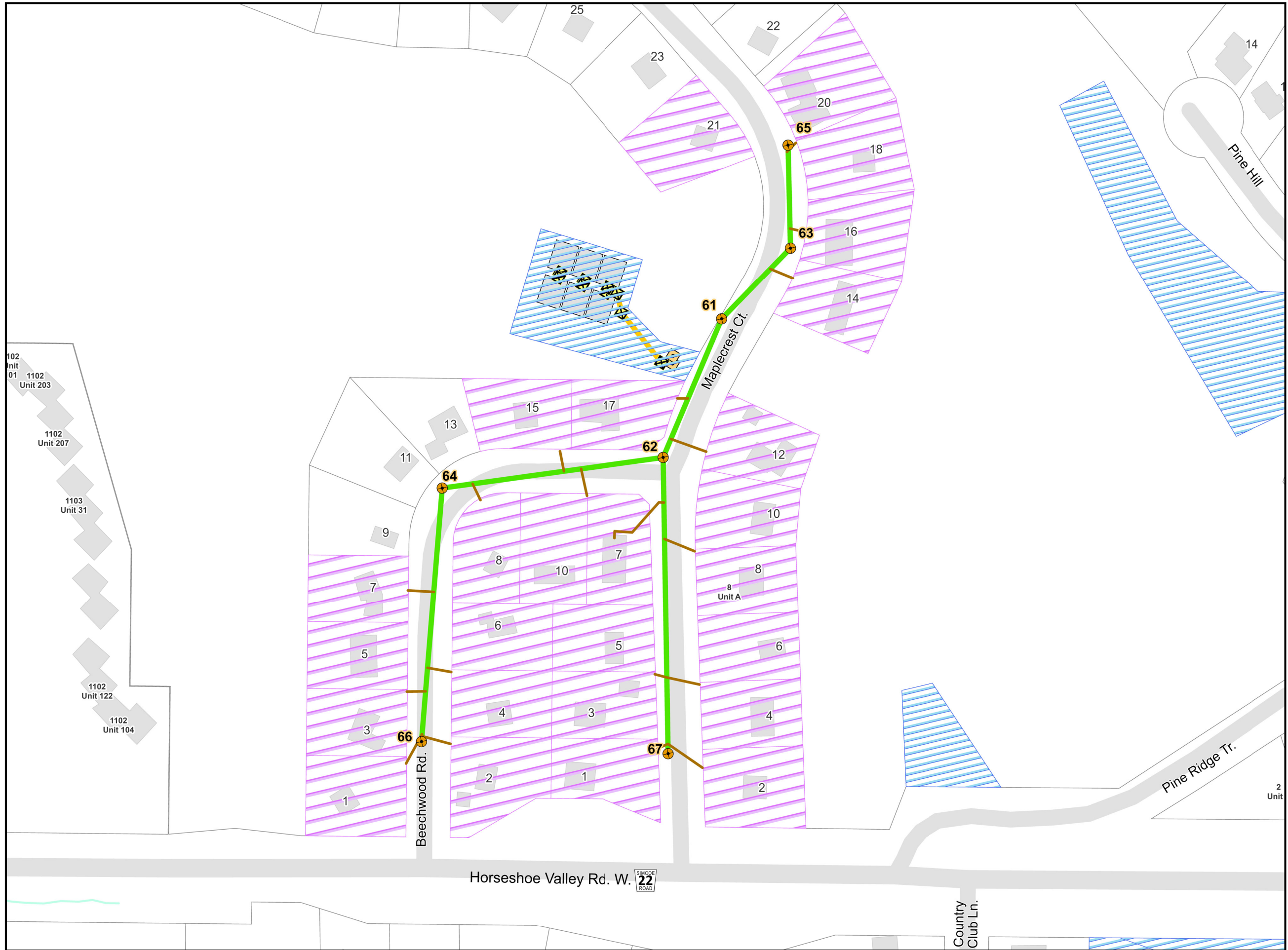
	Distribution Box
	Syphon/Dosing Chamber
	Manhole
	Service Laterals
	Tile Bed
	Served Property
	Easement
Gravity Mains	
	150mm

Wastewater System Plan
Tile Field 5
 January 2025

Township of
Oro Medonte
Proud Heritage, Exciting Future

Horseshoe Valley Rd. W.

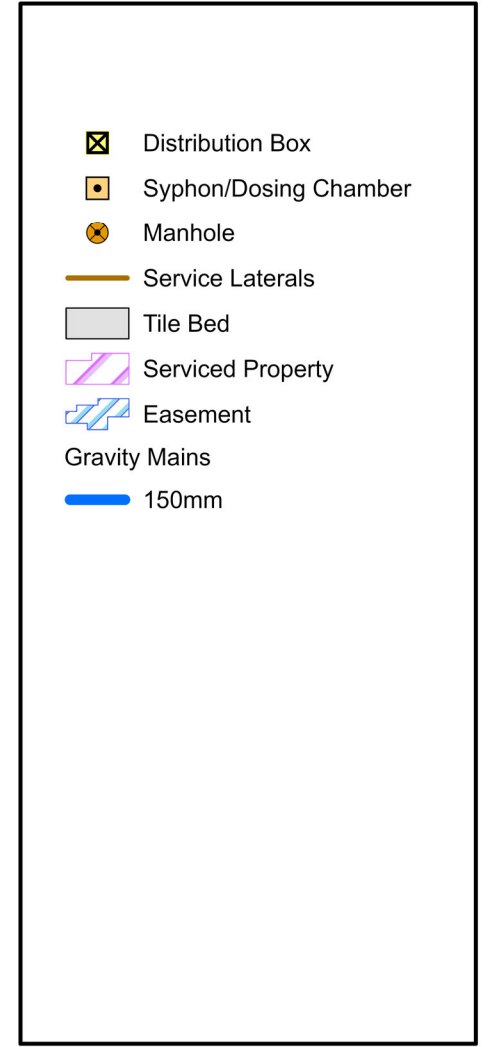
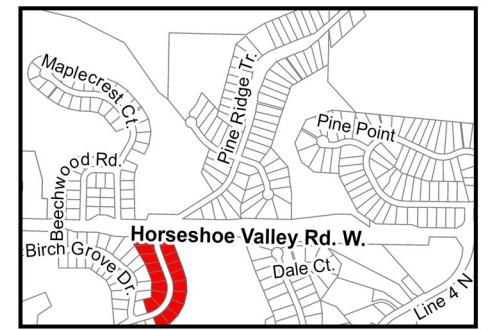
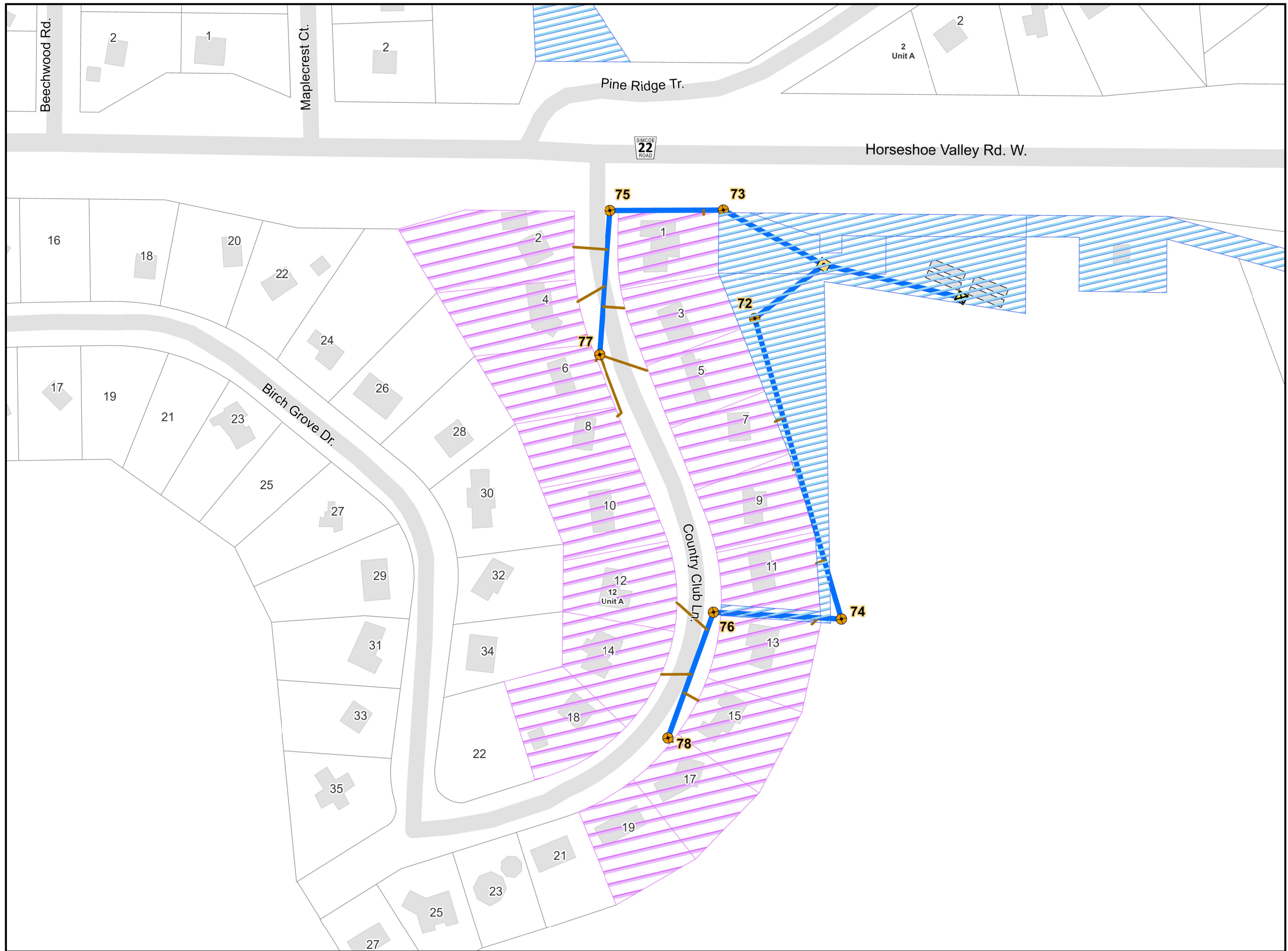
Country Club Ln.



	Distribution Box
	Syphon/Dosing Chamber
	Manhole
	Service Laterals
	Tile Bed
	Serviced Property
	Easement
Gravity Mains	
	200mm
	100mm

Wastewater System Plan
Tile Field 6
 January 2025

Township of
Oro Medonte
 Proud Heritage, Exciting Future



Wastewater System Plan
Tile Field 7
 January 2025

Township of
Oro Medonte
Proud Heritage, Exciting Future

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