CITY OF PORTSMOUTH LEGAL DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

DATE: AUGUST 12, 2021

TO: JULIET WALKER, PLANNING DIRECTOR

FROM: TREVOR P. MCCOURT, STAFF ATTORNEY

ZACHARY CRONIN, ASSISTANT CITY ENGINEER

RE: PLANNING BOARD REFERRAL - ACQUISITION OF SEWER LINE EASEMENTS

AND PROPOSED RELEASE OF PAPER STREET

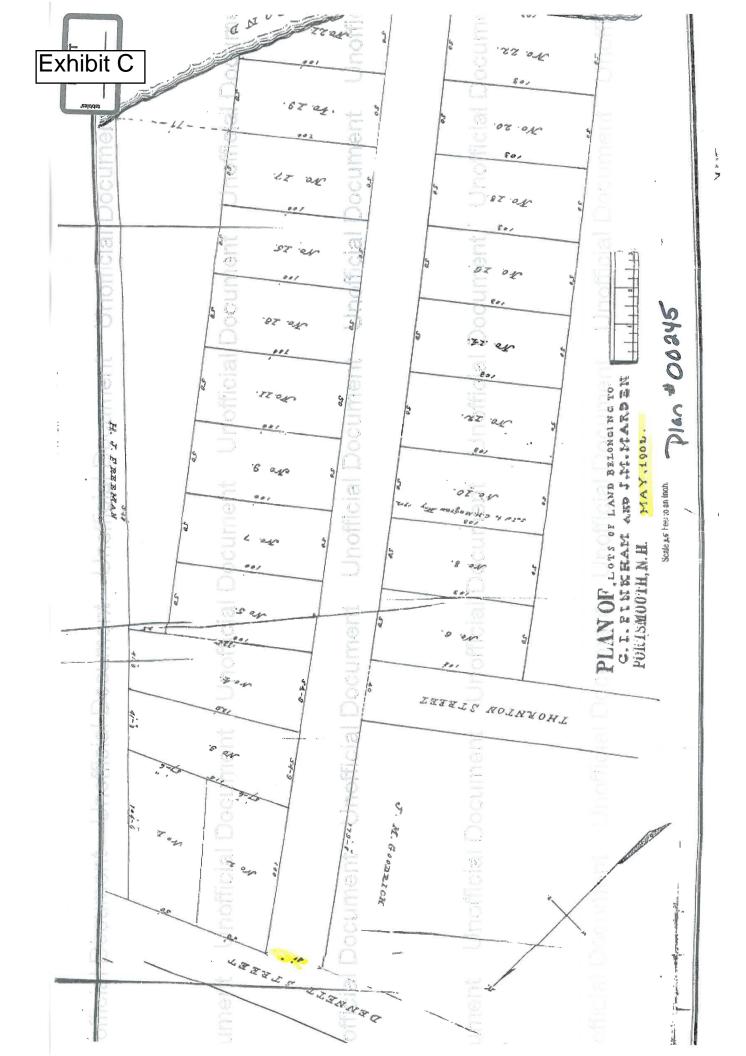
In order to complete the Sagamore Avenue Sewer Extension project, the City requires sewer line easements within a private right of way known as Sagamore Avenue West. Three easements are required from property owners that will directly benefit from the public sewer extension. Those property owners are: Debra Dupont of 911 Sagamore Avenue; Hogsweave LLC of 912 Sagamore Avenue; and the Heidi S. Ricci Revocable Trust of 913 Sagamore Avenue, as shown on Exhibit A. Each of these proposed easements are contained within an existing private right of way easement, and would therefore leave property values unaffected while providing public sewer access.

In addition to the three easements described above, a fourth easement is required over property of Mark Simpson, located on Sagamore Avenue, which contains exclusively a private right-of-way (no structures on the property). Mr. Simpson resides at 28 Thornton Street and is not benefited by the public sewer line extension. In consideration for the grant of a sewer line easement over the private right of way, Mr. Simpson requests the City convey by quitclaim deed any interest it may have in a portion of a paper street, called Ruth Street, adjacent to his home at 28 Thornton Street. See attached Exhibit B. A tax map showing the area is attached as Exhibit D.

By way of background, the City acquired title to what is now Ruth Street via a public dedication pursuant to a plan recorded at the Rockingham County Registry of Deeds in 1902 as "Plan of Lots of Land Belonging to C.I. Pinkham and J.M. Marden", shown as Exhibit C. This portion of Ruth Street which is a paper street has not been used, paved, or opened for public use in over one hundred years. Furthermore, the City has no continued need for this paper street. Exhibit E shows that no utilities currently pass through this portion of the paper street. The Department of Public Works has confirmed no future interest in developing utilities through this property. Finally, on July 11, 2020, the City Council voted to release an adjacent portion of this paper street, and that portion is also shown on Exhibit B.



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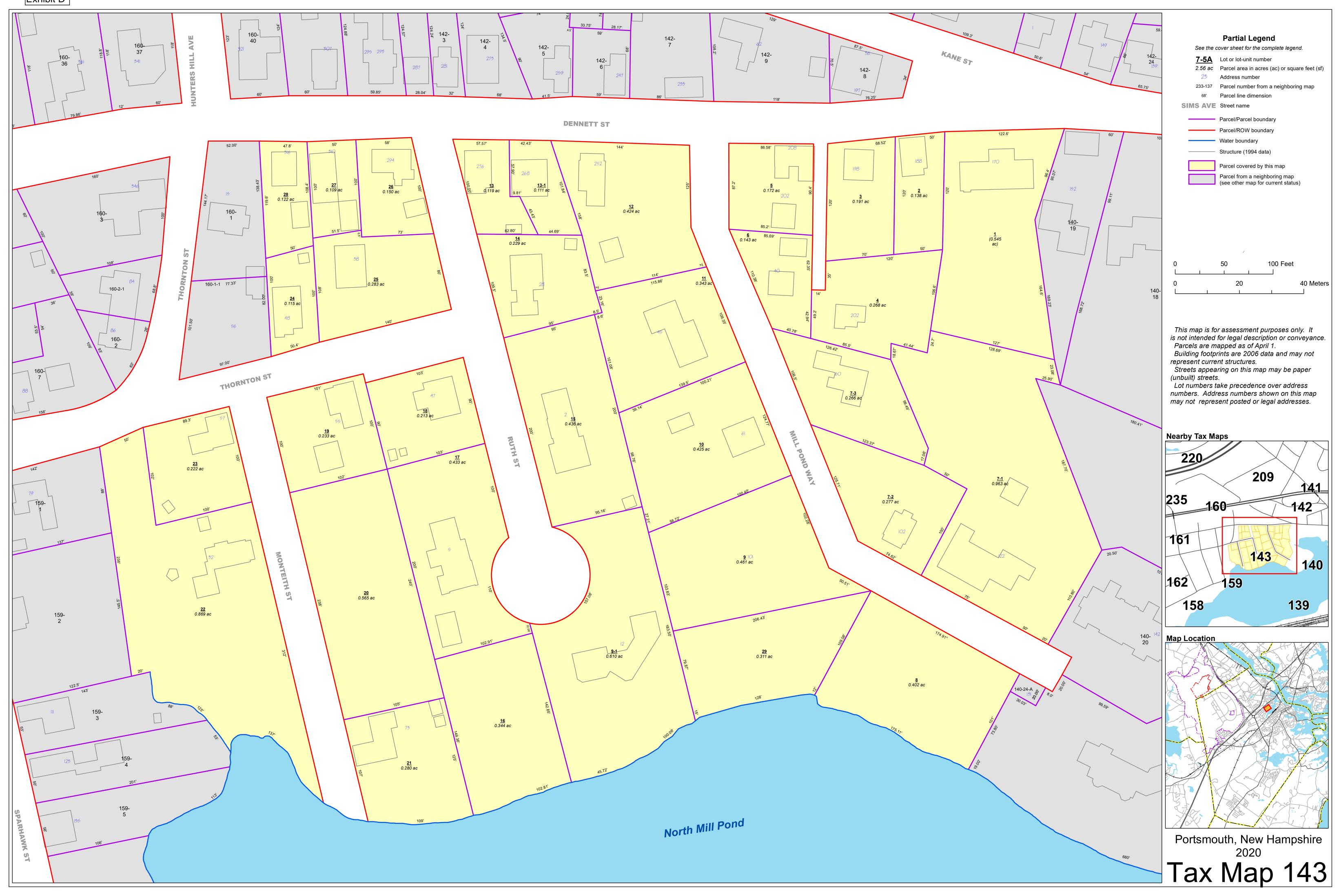


Exhibit E

