



**April 30, 2026**

**Limited Environmental Review and Finding of No Significant Impact**

**Village of LaGrange – Lorain County  
Water Meter Replacement  
Loan number: FS390499-0009**

The attached Limited Environmental Review (LER) is for a project in the Village of LaGrange which the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) intends to finance through Water Supply Revolving Loan Account (WSRLA) 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: Water Meter Replacement

Applicant: Village of LaGrange  
301 Liberty Street  
LaGrange, Ohio 44050

Loan Number: FS390499-0009

### **Project Summary**

The Village of LaGrange, located in Lorain County, is requesting \$866,137 in funding from the Ohio Water Supply Revolving Loan Account (WSRLA) for a project to install new (replacement) water meters throughout the village. Due to the nature of the installation work, impacts will be negligible.

### **History and Existing Conditions**

The Village of LaGrange supplies potable water to approximately 2,600 people through 1,100 service connections and approximately 11.5 miles of water distribution lines. The village also owns and operates one elevated water storage tank (500,000-gallon capacity) and one booster pumping station supplying the distribution system and elevated storage facilities. The village purchases water from the Rural Lorain County Water Authority to supply the water distribution system.

Ninety percent of the village's water meters have exceeded their life expectancy. This affects reading accuracy as well as the ability to monitor minimal flows. Three of the existing water meters are in pits, and the remainder are in private residences or buildings.

Figure 1 shows the Village of LaGrange's water distribution system.

### **Project Description**

This project involves the installation of 1,168 new (replacement) water meters for all their current customers as well as at the master meter.

### **Implementation**

The estimated cost for this project is \$866,137, which the village intends to borrow from the WSRLA at the small-community rate of 2.75% over a 20-year loan repayment period. The village will save

approximately \$190,830 compared to borrowing at the market rate of 4.50%. WSRLA interest rates are set monthly and may change for a later loan award.

The average annual water bill is approximately \$499. The median household income (MHI) is \$83,943. The annual water bill is 0.59% of the MHI and is higher than the Ohio average annual water bill of \$477.

Construction is expected to start following loan award and take six months to complete.

### **Public Participation**

The contractor will work with the village to develop a letter introducing the project to residents. The letter will outline the project plan, provide contact numbers, provide information about a planned public meeting, and will be included in a water bill. The contractor will distribute an information flyer at the public meeting, as well as provide information on the village website.

Additionally, the contractor will attempt to canvass each address and leave a door hanger with instructions for scheduling the work, if they cannot reach the resident. For any resident who has not scheduled water meter replacement, the contract will work with the village to develop a follow-up letter with instructions for authorizing the work.

Water meter installation appointments will be booked within a two-hour window. If an installer expects to be late or is unable to attend a scheduled appointment, the affected customer will be informed prior to the end of the appointment block.

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 Village of LaGrange to be made available according to their public notification procedures.

### **Conclusion**

The proposed project meets the criteria for an LER; namely, it is an action within an existing public water distribution system, which involves improvements to 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.** No important environmental resources will be disturbed by replacing water meters located on or within existing buildings.

**Is cost effective.** There is no alternative to the necessary replacement of old and outdated meters.

**Is not a controversial action.** There is no known controversy nor is there any expected given the nature of the project and that costs associated with it will not increase water rates.

**Does not create a new, or relocate an existing, discharge to surface or ground waters, does not create a new source of water withdrawals from either surface or ground waters, or significantly increase the amount of water withdrawn from an existing water source, or substantially increase the volume of discharge or loading of pollutants from an existing source or from new facilities to receiving waters.** This project does not include the construction of new point source outfalls, nor will it involve a substantial increase in water distribution or withdrawal.

**Will not provide capacity to serve a population substantially greater than the existing population.** This project does not involve any changes to the drinking water supply/distribution system.

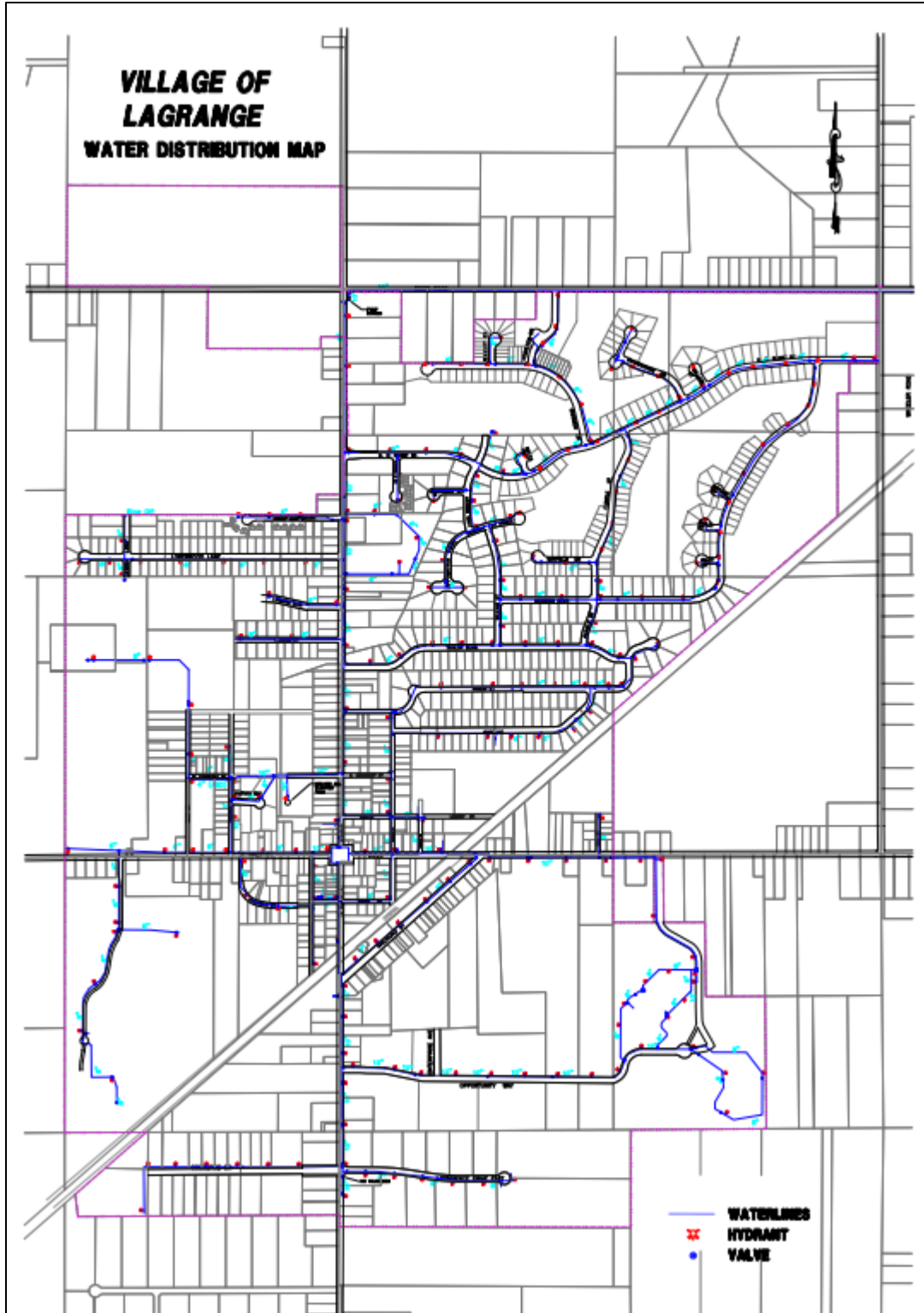
Based upon Ohio EPA's review of the planning information and the materials presented in this LER, it is concluded that this project will have no significant adverse impact as it relates to environmental features. This is because these features do not exist in the project area, the features exist but will not be adversely affected, or the impacts will be temporary and mitigated.

The project will result in modern water metering equipment, allowing LaGrange to better monitor water usage and locate potential leaks.

### **Contact Information**

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**Figure 1. Village of LaGrange water distribution map**