

December 15, 2017

Global Project #IN17004

Christie Stanifer, Environmental Coordinator Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Fish and Wildlife 402 West Washington St, Room W273 Indianapolis, IN 46204-2781 (317) 232-8163 cstanifer@dnr.in.gov

RE: request for DFW early coordination/environmental review for Town of Long Beach "Stop 24 Dune Lakeshore Access Overlook & Restoration" project

Dear Ms. Stanifer,

The Town of Long Beach, Indiana, is requesting an early coordination review by the Indiana DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife for a proposed public improvement project known as the "Stop 24 Dune Lakeshore Access Overlook & Restoration." The project is sponsored by the municipality and will be implemented on public, Town-owned property. The project includes coastal dune restoration activities and public access improvements that meet ADA/ABA standards.

We are writing today on behalf of the Town as both their design and grant consultant for the project.

The requested DFW review for this project is required as a component of 2018 Indiana Lake Michigan Coastal Program (LMCP) Coastal Grant Program funding request/proposal for the proposed improvements. The Town's LMCP Grant Pre-Proposal has been approved for final submission; the Final Proposal is due Friday December 15, 2017, by 5:00pm (CST).

Project Location:

2402 Lake Shore Drive, Long Beach IN 46360 LaPorte County Lat/Long: 41.746761, -86.853794 UTM: 16T 512168, 4621692

Please reference attached map exhibits:

- Exhibit A USGS Michigan City East Quadrangle map
- Exhibit B Beacon (LaPorte County) aerial-image parcel map
- Exhibit C Existing Conditions graphic, including site images

Project Description:

Overview:

"Stop 24" is the Town of Long Beach's only true lakefront park space, and the only natural community open-space of any meaningful size for several miles. The publicly owned fore-, secondary-, and upland-sand dunes present on the site are estimated to be 90% covered in invasive and non-native colonizing species. Degraded vegetation and insufficiently planned/engineered public access is contributing to



erosive dune conditions. Existing non-accessible (non-ADA) conditions provide challenges for accessing the site's core features for those with limited mobility needs, a concern for likely site users (highest State percentile class for aged >64 within 1-1/2 mile radius of site).

The purpose of this project is to provide ABA/ADA-compliant natural resource public access improvements, 0.6-acres of critical native dune vegetation restoration and dune stabilization at the Town of Long Beach's public dune and lakeshore access site. The project will also educate and train Town maintenance staff and others about native dune vegetation including proper maintenance requirements.

Proposed Improvements:

The core focus of this project is providing varied, stable, and sustainable public access site improvements that meet all current State, local and Federal accessibility requirements. Budget funds will be used to provide ADA/ABA-compliant access to the Lake Michigan public beach/lakeshore, to the site's restored fore- and secondary- dune landscape, and to a new public street-level community vista overlook feature.

Universal site access will be achieved by installation of a combination of continuous street-to-beach, ADA-compliant natural permeable gravel aggregate paths with erosion-resistant "geo-grid" underlayment and a new wood boardwalk, sloped at ADA/ABA-compliant maximum slope angles, in addition to a new limited-mobility constructed stairway.

Restoration will occur to reestablish the dune site's pre-settlement ecological habitat, namely whole-site removal of invasive species and replanting of native fore-, secondary-, and upland dune grasslands (marram species dominant) on approximately 0.6-acres of sand dunes.

In addition to flora restoration, dune stabilization of the existing secondary dune slopes most susceptible to dune trampling and wind erosion will be achieved through installation of a cascading series of flat stacked boulders designed to anchor the dune slopes while simultaneously providing passive nature-viewing recreational opportunities for site users.

Please reference attached construction plans for full description of proposed improvements:

- Exhibit D schematic site plan graphic
- Exhibit E scaled construction site plan set (5 pages)

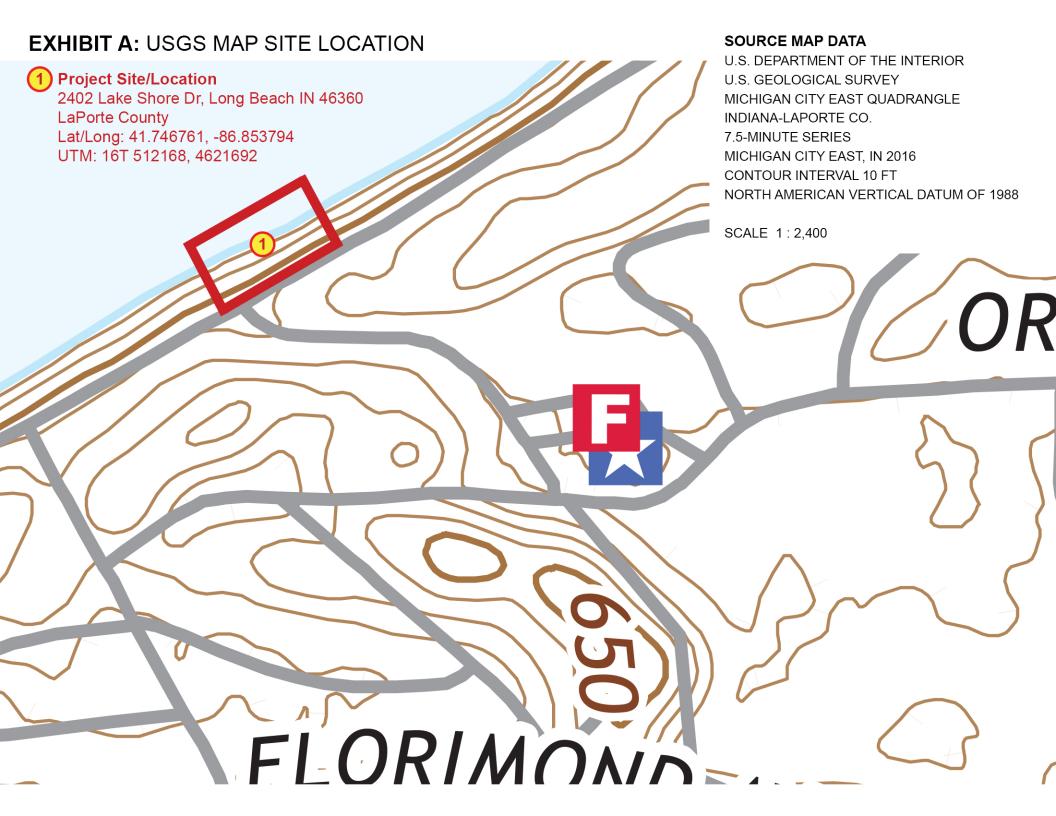
Response Request:

As stated above, this review request is a requirement of the Town's LMCP 2018 grant funding request due December 15, 2017. Please send a copy of your response letter to LMCP Program Manager Maggie Byrne via email: mbyrne@dnr.in.gov

Sincerely, and on behalf of the Town of Long Beach,

Scott Kuchta Global Engineering (219) 872-4444 x301

scott@global-landsurveying.com



Beacon[™] LaPorte County, IN



Overview Legend Road Centerlines

Parcels

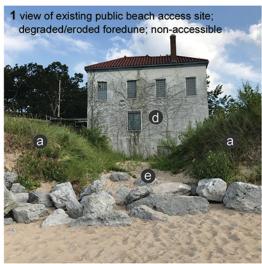
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Developed by
Schneider Corporation

EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

- . COMMUNITY'S ONLY LAKEFRONT DUNE/BEACH PARK SPACE
- . 1.5 MILE SERVICE AREA DOMINATED BY EPA'S "ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE" CATEGORIES OF AGED 64+ AND LOW-INCOME
- . FORMER WATER MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE PUMP HOUSE IN PROCESS OF BEING DEMOLISHED, COMPLETELY REMOVED (DEMOLITION INDEPENDENT OF THIS GRANT PROJECT/REQUEST)
- . EXISTING DUNE GRADES AND ECOLOGY REQUIRE RESTORATION
- . ONLY SIGNIFICANT PRESERVED DUNE SITE IN COMMUNITY
- . EXISTING SITE ACCESS FEATURES INACCESSIBLE PER ADA/ABA
- . HEAVILY USED ACCESS ROUTES ARE ERODED, UNSUSTAINABLE



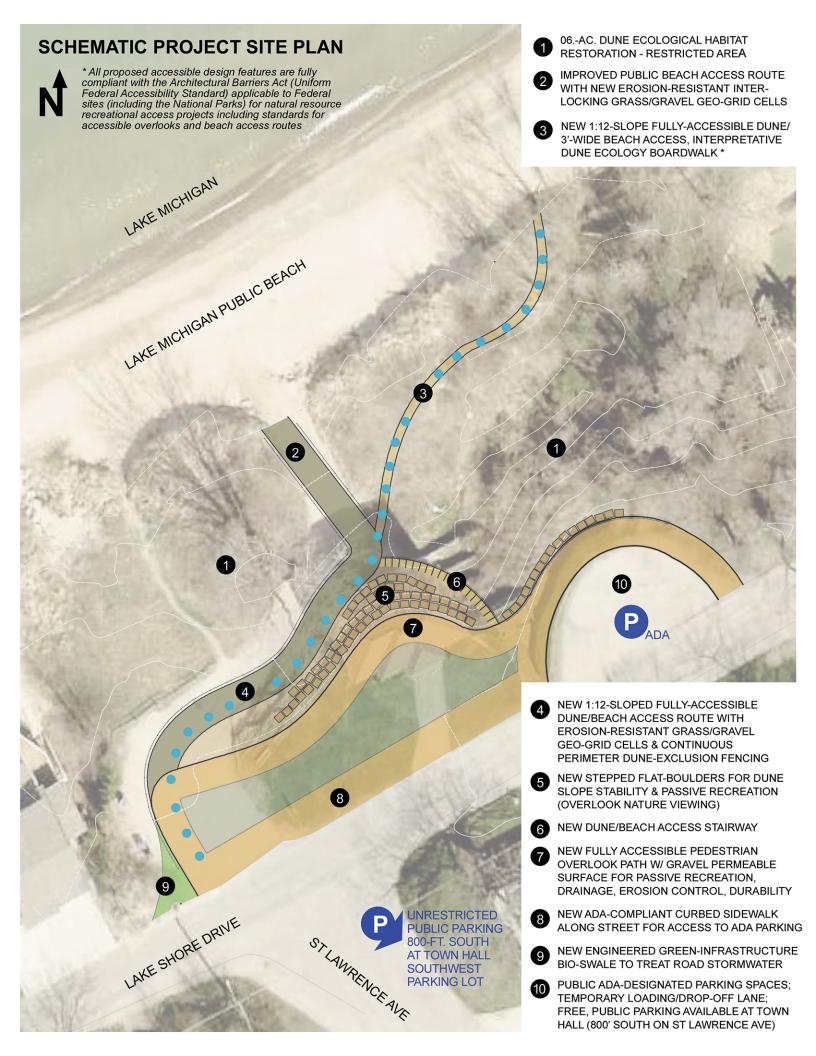


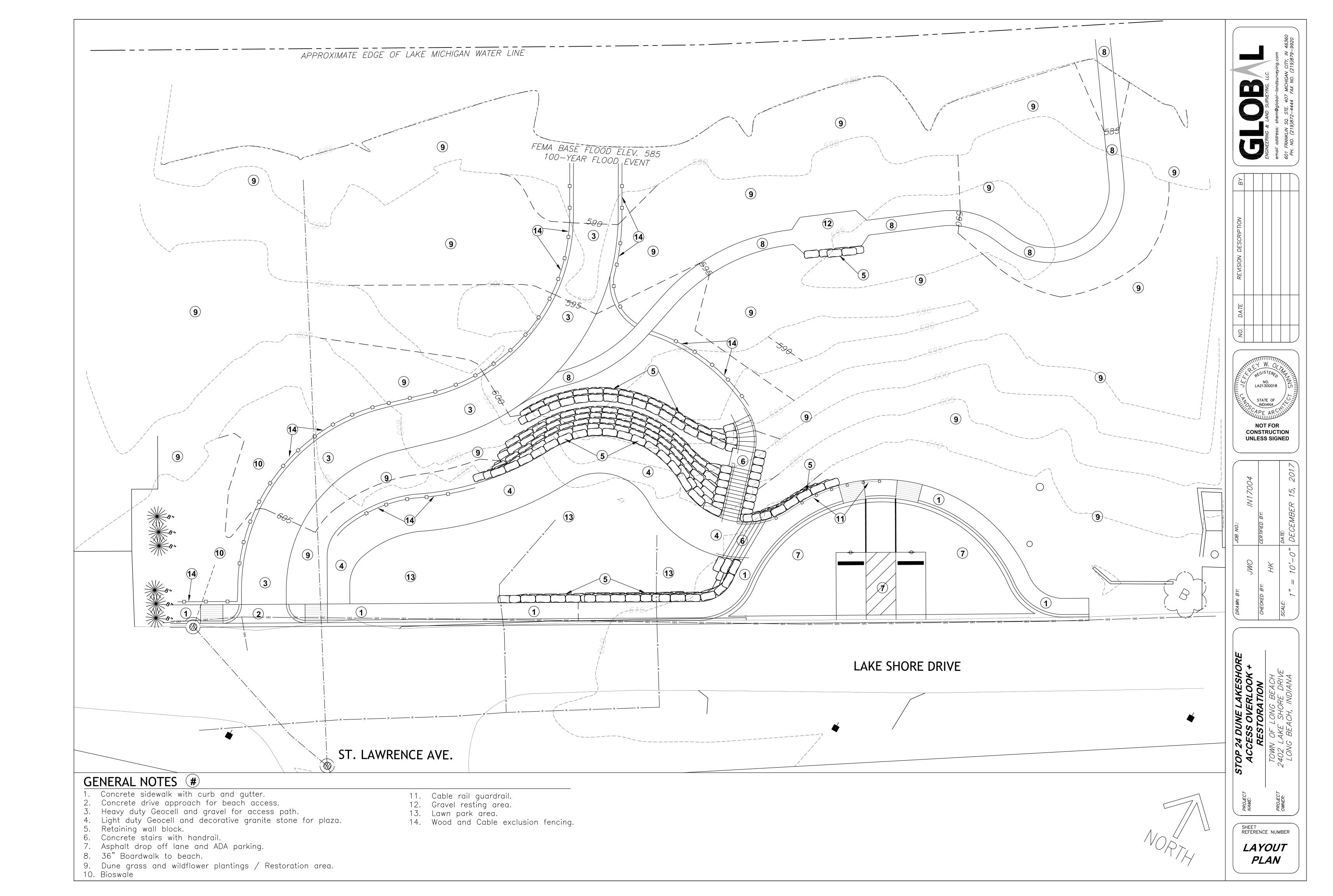


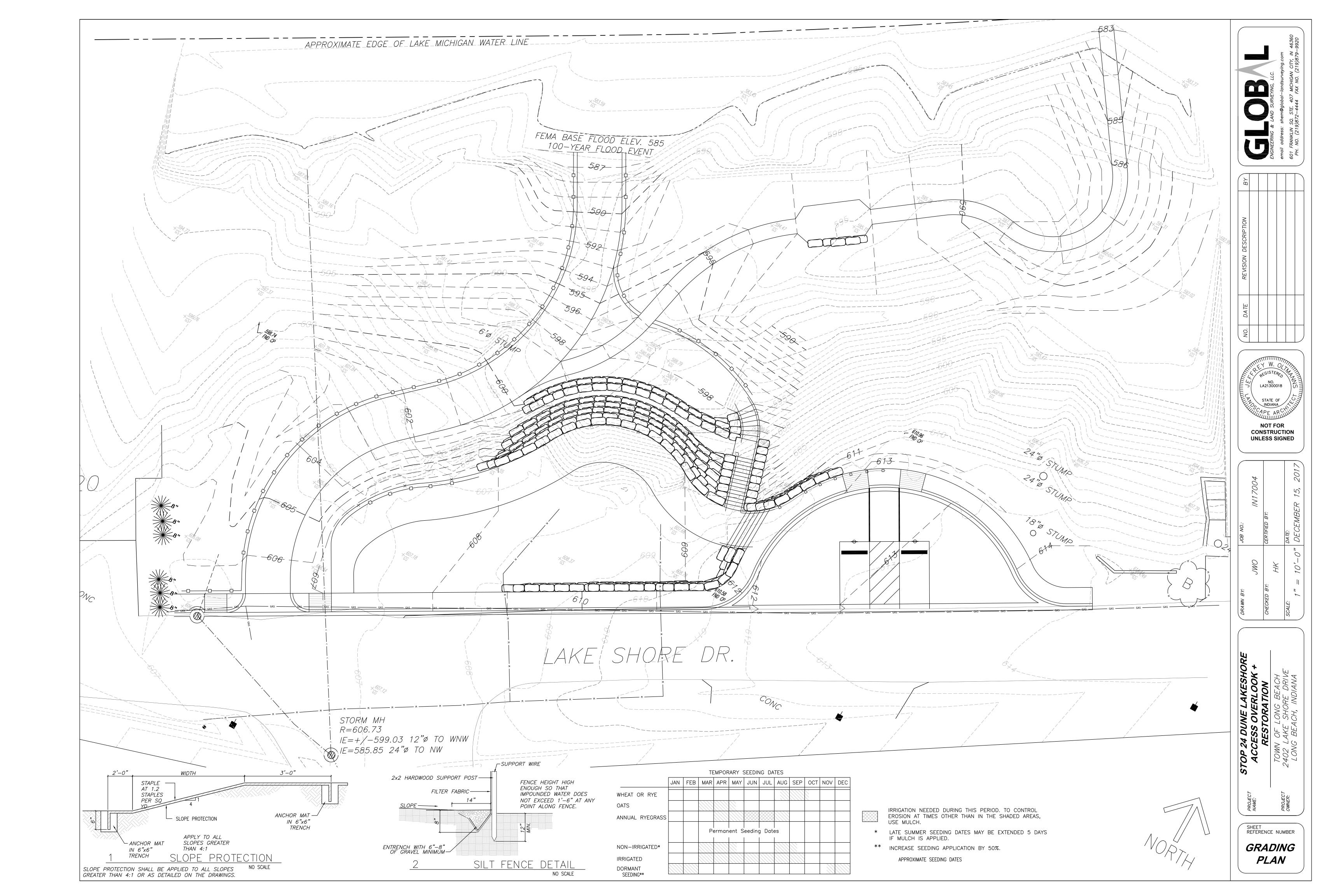


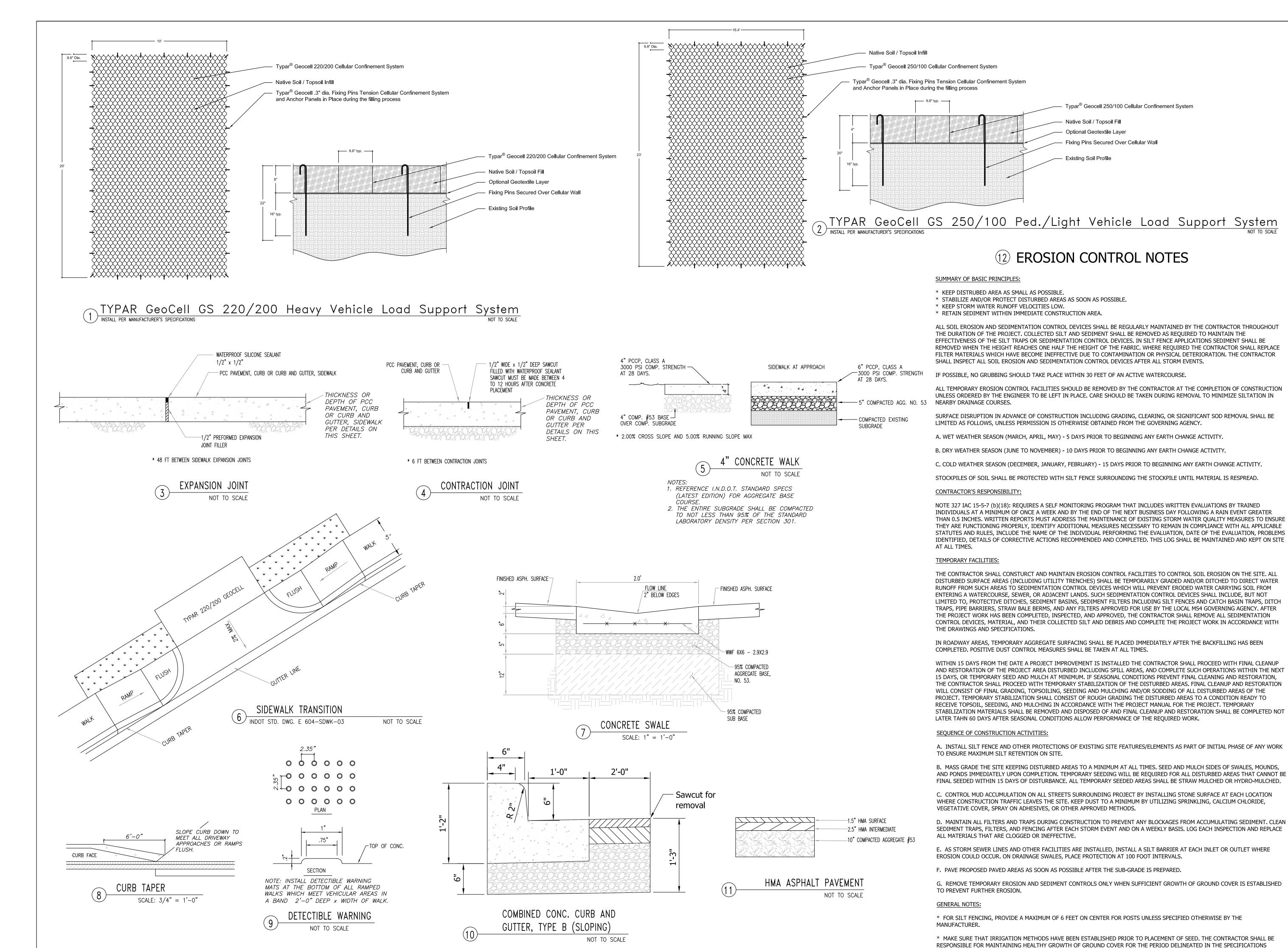


- a 0.6-acres of degraded dune flora; estimated 85% non-native, incl. Tree-of-Heaven, Black Locust, turf grass; additional 10% invasive disturbance species incl. Cottonwood, Grape Vine, Willow
- b existing degraded foot path and wood stair dune/beach access path; to be removed & restricted
- c existing oversized, meandering and erosive gravel parking and pedestrian entrance; to be removed
- d existing Pump House building; Town currently in process of removing structure (not part of this grant)
- e existing public beach access route; erosive soils; ill-defined route through meandering foredune cut
- f existing secondary dune; project calls for secondary dune restoration including grade stabilization
- g existing automobile parking and access area; to remain and continue to serve site access









ENGINEERING & LAND SURVEYING, LLC.
email address: shem@global-landsurveying.com
601 FRANKLIN SQ. STE. 407 MICHIGAN CITY, IN 46360
PH. NO. (219)872-4444 FAX NO. (219)879-9920

NO. DATE REVISION DESCRIPTION BY

NO.
LA21300018

STATE OF INDIANA

NOT FOR
CONSTRUCTION
UNLESS SIGNED

JWO
CERTIFIED BY:
HK
DATE:
DATE:
DECEMBER 15, 2017

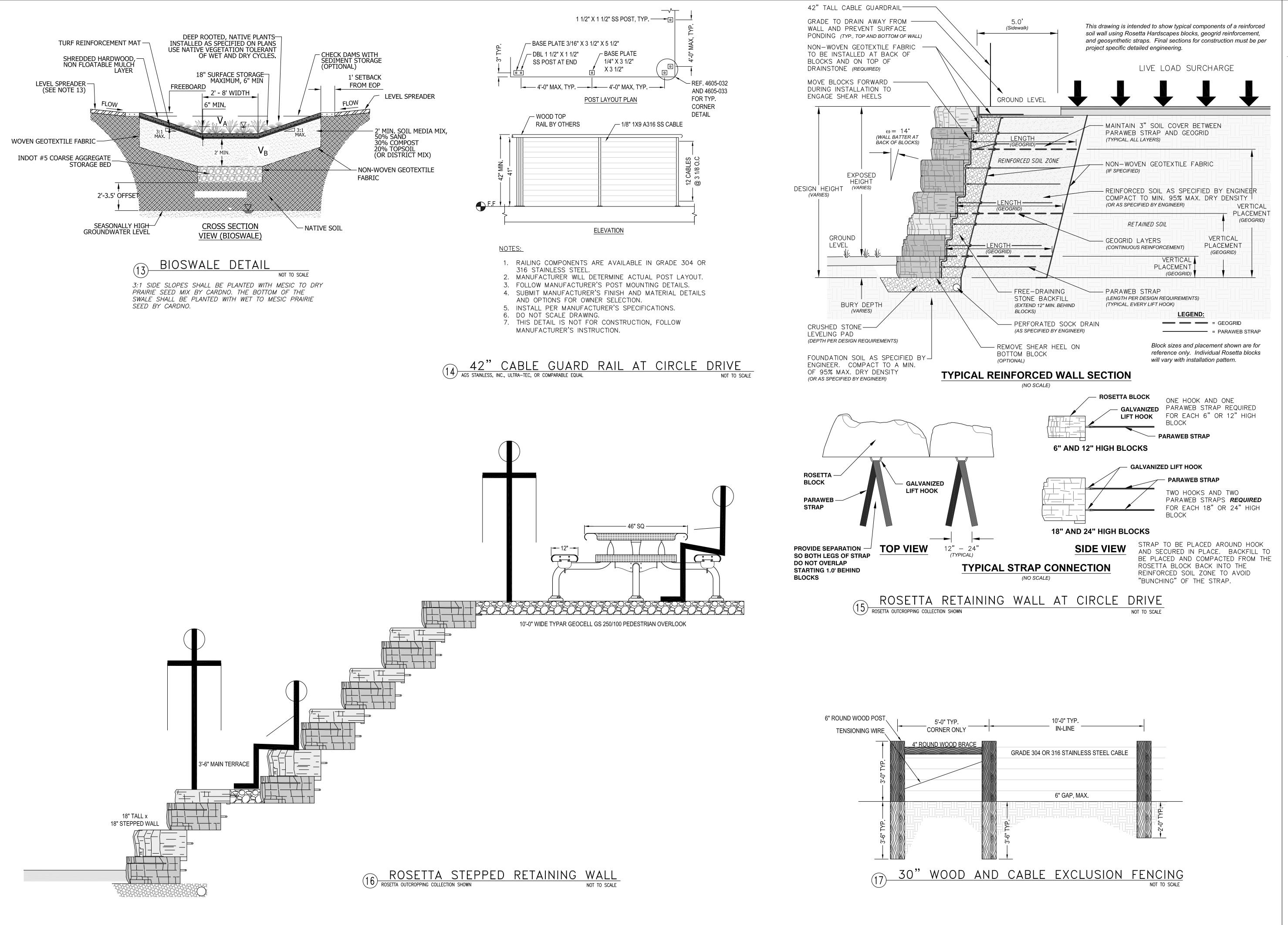
STOP 24 DUNE LAKESHORE
ACCESS OVERLOOK +
RESTORATION
TOWN OF LONG BEACH
2402 LAKE SHORE DRIVE

SHEET REFERENCE NUMBER

DETAILS

SHEET

UNLESS THE OWNER RELEASES THE CONTRACTOR FROM THIS RESPONSIBILITY IN WRITING.

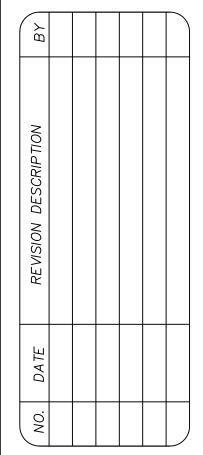


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ACCESS OVERLOOK +

RESTORATION

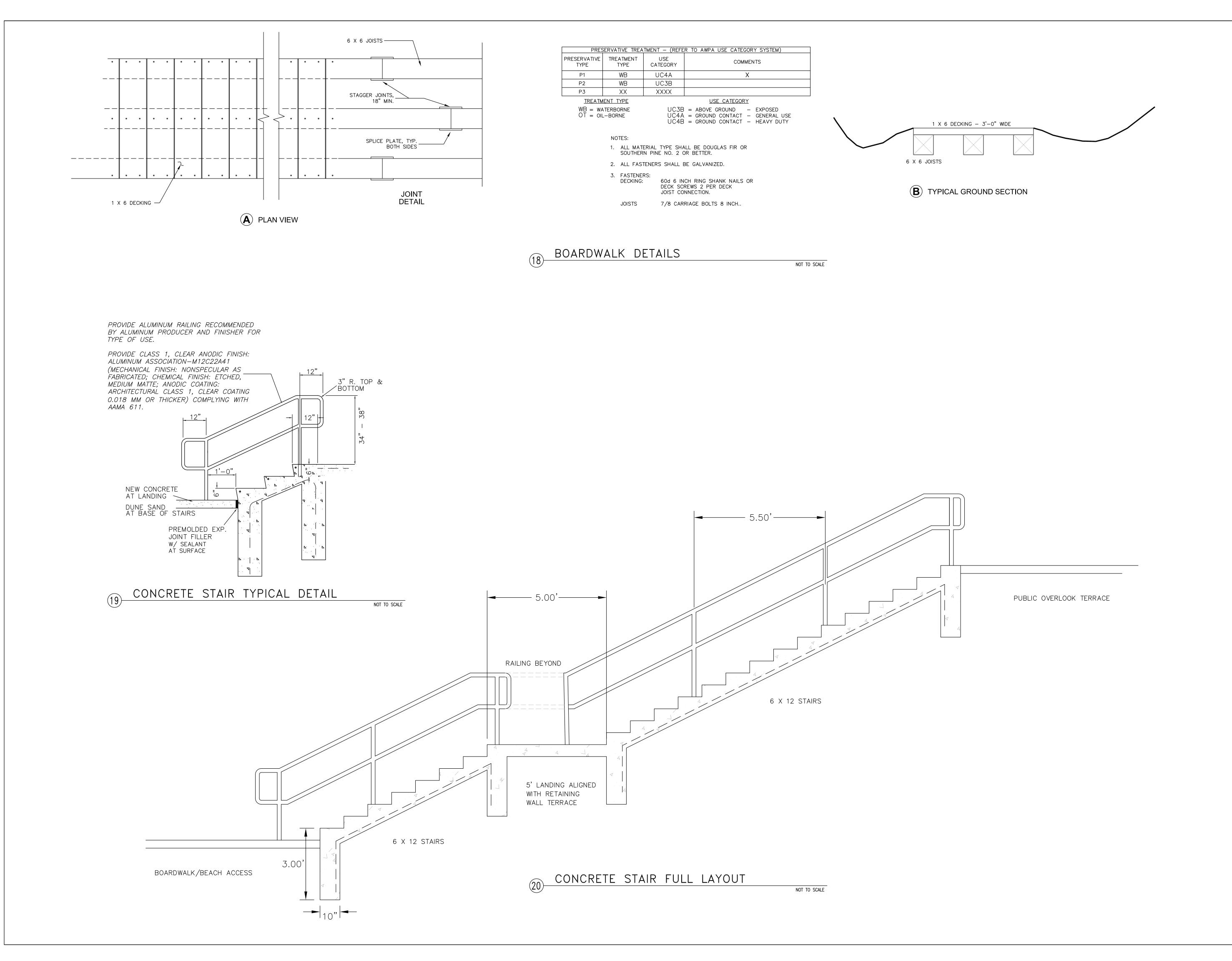
TOWN OF LONG BEACH

S402 LAKE SHORE DRIVE

LONG BEACH, INDIANA

SHEET
REFERENCE NUMBER

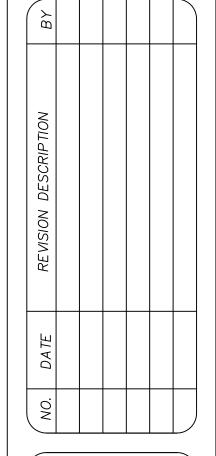
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OMS	IN17004
CHECKED BY:	CERTIFIED BY:
HK	
SCALE:	DA TE:
AS INDICATED	DECEMBER 15, 2017

STOP 24 DUNE LAKESHORE

ACCESS OVERLOOK +

RESTORATION

TOWN OF LONG BEACH

TOWN BEACH

TO

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