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"Bettering Iowa since 1970"

April 29, 2026

RE: Drainage District No. 69
Existing Lower Main Tile Televising Report
Palo Alto County, Iowa
JWA PROJECT NO: E24108

Dear Board members and landowners:

At the Drainage District No. 69 (DD69) improvements hearing on August 12, 2025 televising the lower approximately 5,700 feet of the existing Main Tile was approved. This reach of the Main Tile will be relieved of the drainage water from approximately 1,384 acres of land via the approved drainage improvement project (which will re-route the water a different direction to a new outlet location on the Drainage District No. 5 Main Open Ditch), allowing it a much-improved drainage coefficient. The landowners asked that we determine the current condition of the tile.

B&B Farm Drainage, who is also the contractor for the improvement project, located the tile and provided access locations for Pete Howe Sanitation Inc. (of Spencer, IA) to run a wheeled crawler-type camera in the tile. A portion of the tile was televised in December 2025, the remainder televised in early April 2026. The bill for televising was $2,937.50 and $1,840.00 for locating, digging up, and patching the tile for a total of **$4,777.50**. The videos are available at both our office and the Auditor's office.

A map of the access points and televised reaches is enclosed. In order to minimize the number of access points (to limit the expense) we televised in both the upstream and downstream direction from each access point. We do not have 100% coverage of the reach. In two cases the crawler camera could not make it around a bend in the pipe. In one case, due to a software issue the video was overwritten and lost.

Observations/Conclusions:
There is a known history of issues with the Main Tile in the NE ¼ of Section 9 near its outlet into the DD5 Main Open Ditch. The condition of the tile was observed to be poorest near the outlet, and slowly improves as the tile extends northward. At the south end of the tile, west of 430th Ave, there is some minor misalignment of the tile along with longitudinal cracking along the top and sides of the pipe. Occasionally the top of the pipe has begun to buckle, estimated at up to 1-inch. From the south end, once the tile crosses to the east side of 430th Ave its condition slowly improves as it progresses northward. The cracks become less severe and less frequent. Beyond the north crossing of 430th Ave the tile appears to be in good condition.

Although a portion of the tile is in a degraded condition, it is difficult to anticipate how quickly the pipe will worsen, potentially to the point where replacement would be necessary. In our opinion a "wait and see" approach is the best path forward at this time. In the future if it becomes clear the tile is failing, and the cost of continued repairs/maintenance is becoming excessive, replacement can be considered. If replacement is needed, the tile could be replaced with equal size or smaller tile due to the reduced area drained.

We recommend this letter report be mailed to the landowners who will be served by the lower Main Tile of DD69 (less than 400 acres). If desired, a meeting could also be held to discuss this report with the landowners.

Sincerely,

JACOBSON-WESTERGARD & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Collin J. Klingbeil, PE

Encl: Lower Main Tile Televising Map

Cc: Carmen Moser, Palo Alto County Auditor

Drainage District No. 69
2026 Lower Main Tile Televising

Emmetsburg Township
Palo Alto County, Iowa

JACOBSON-WESTERGARD
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Consulting Engineers & Land Surveyors
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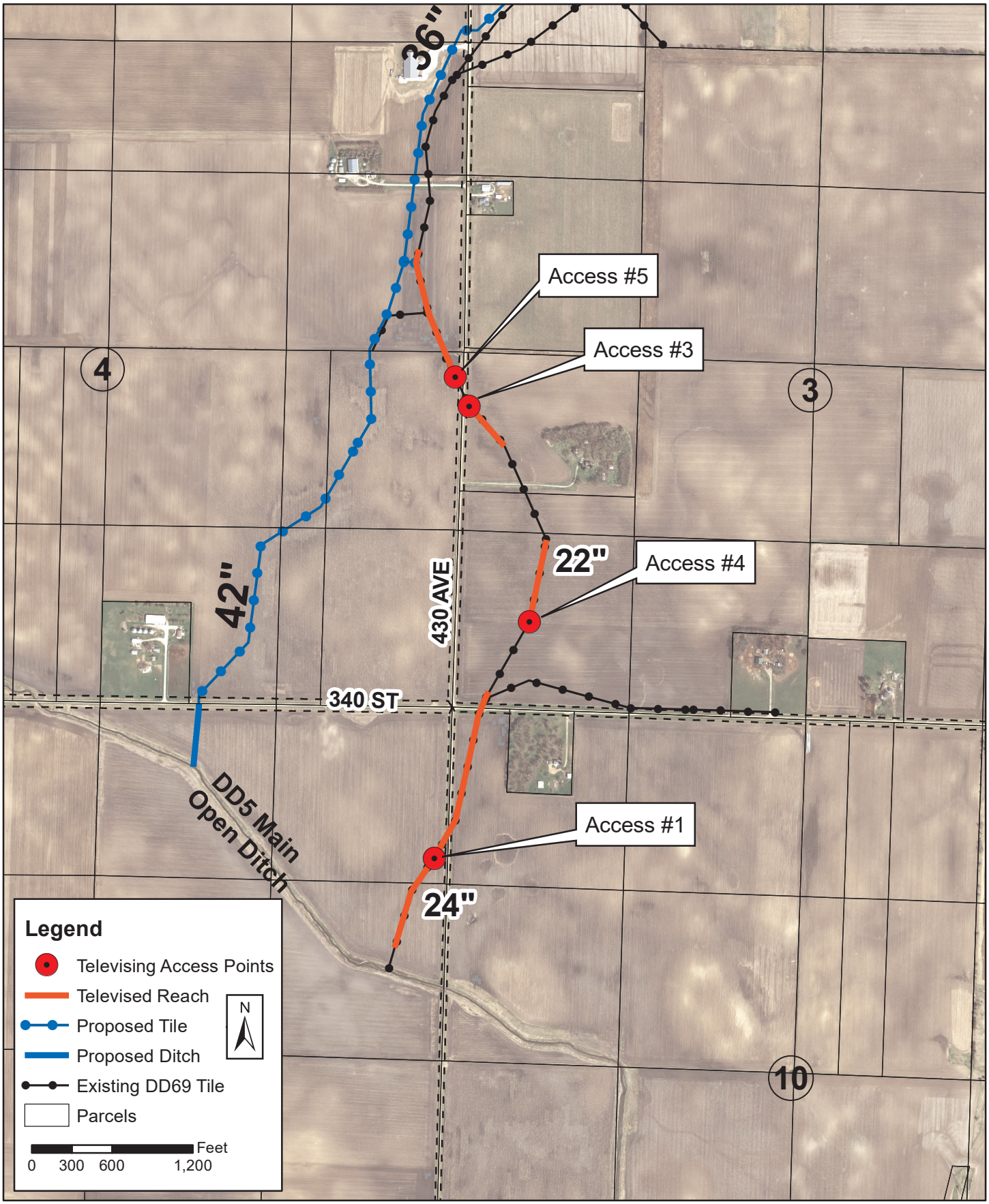

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