



# Illinois Department of Transportation

Office of Highways Project Implementation / Region 1 / District 1  
201 West Center Court / Schaumburg, Illinois 60196-1096

Project and Environmental Studies  
IL 131  
Sunset Avenue to Russell Road  
Lake County

April 28, 2017

Mr. Tim Prescott  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
United States Department of Agriculture  
2118 West Park Court  
Champaign, IL 61821

Dear Mr. Prescott:

The Illinois Department of Transportation (Department) is currently conducting preliminary engineering and environmental (Phase I) studies for the improvement of IL 131 from Sunset Avenue to Russell Road in Lake County. This improvement is not currently included in the Department's FY 2017-2022 Proposed Highway Improvement Program. However, this project will be included in our priorities for future funding considerations among similar improvement needs throughout the region. The general scope of work for this project is anticipated to consist of roadway widening and reconstruction to provide two lanes in each direction separated by median, bicycle and pedestrian accommodations, and intersection and drainage improvements.

The Phase I study is being conducted as an Environmental Assessment and has been coordinated through the NEPA/404 merger process. A preferred build alternative has been approved by the cooperating agencies.

The purpose of this letter is to verify whether further coordination with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) is required as part of our environmental studies. The most recent municipal comprehensive plans have been reviewed, and we have met with the municipalities within the study area. The project is anticipated to convert 2.27 acres of farmland outside urbanized areas, which is less than three acres per mile of the project. There are an additional 6.33 acres of farmland to be converted in urbanized areas which are not included in this assessment because it is our understanding that urbanized acres are not subject to the Farmland Protection Policy Act per Section 523.10 B(5).

Mr. Tim Prescott  
April 28, 2017  
Page 2

The following items are attached for your reference.

- Project location map
- AD-1006 form
- Tables with project data, farmland data, and soil impacts
- Prime and Important Farmland exhibit illustrating municipal boundaries, US Census Urbanized Area, existing right-of-way, and proposed right-of-way
- Soil Types (NRCS) Exhibit Map
- Land Cover Exhibit

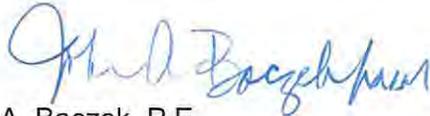
Please complete the appropriate sections of the AD-1006 form and then send to IDOA to complete the Site Assessment sections. Once you receive a completed form from IDOA, please send us a copy.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Lori Brown, Project Manager, at (847) 705-4477.

Very truly yours,

Anthony J. Quigley, P.E.  
Region One Engineer

By:

  
John A. Baczek, P.E.

Project and Environmental Studies Section Chief

Enclosures

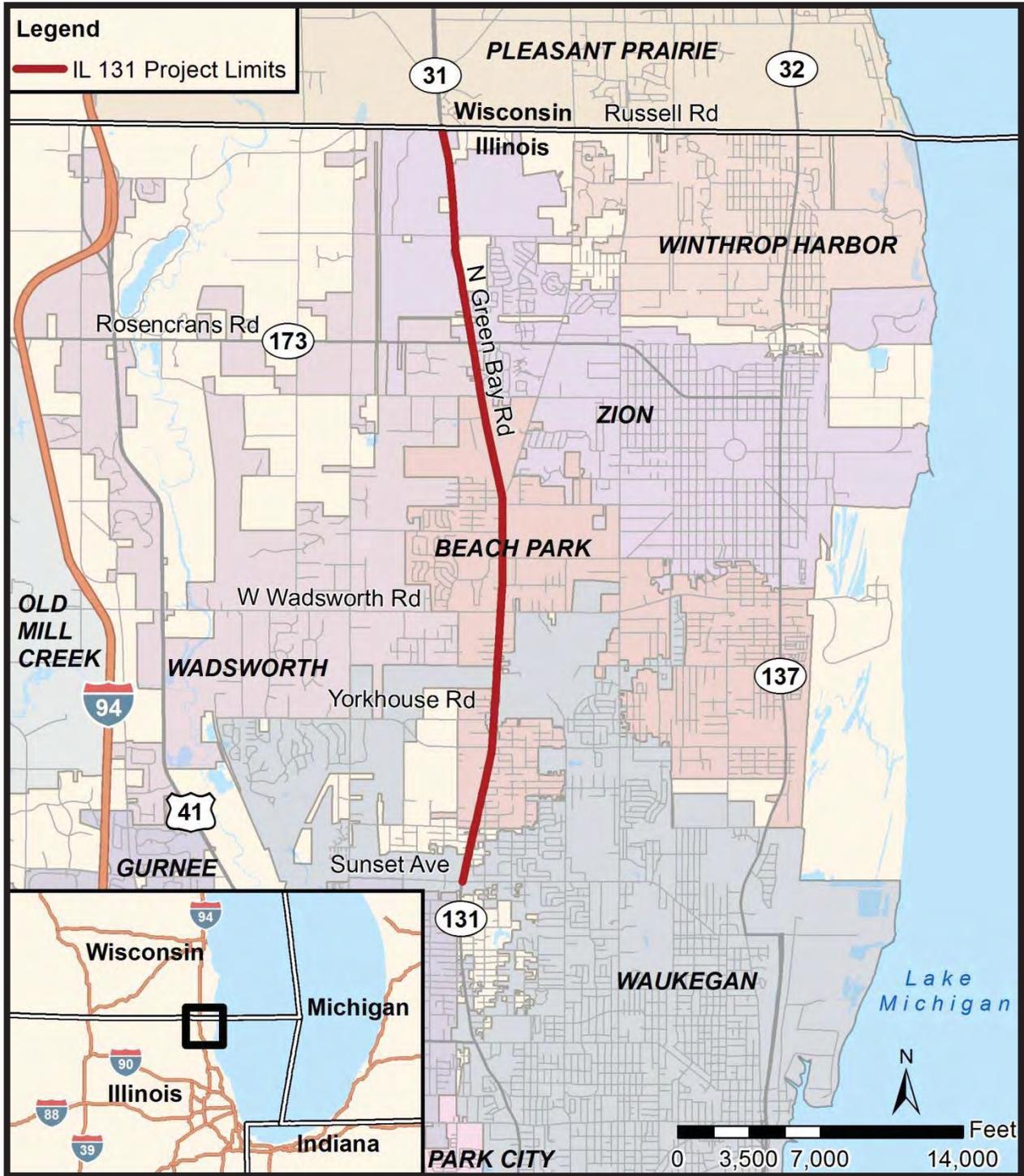
cc: Mr. Terry Savko

bcc: John Sherrill  
Sam Mead  
File

S:\WP\p&es\CONSULT\Projects - Active\IL 131 from Russell to Sunset\Environmental\Agriculture\2017-4-21  
LTR Farmland Impacts USDA.docx

**Project Location Map**

IL 131 (Green Bay Road)  
Russell Road to Sunset Avenue  
Lake County, IL  
P-91-352-07



**FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING**

<b>PART I</b> (To be completed by Federal Agency)		Date Of Land Evaluation Request <b>3/31/2017</b>				
Name of Project <b>IL 131 from Russell Ave. to Sunset Ave.</b>		Federal Agency Involved <b>FHWA</b>				
Proposed Land Use <b>Roadway Widening</b>		County and State <b>Lake County, IL</b>				
<b>PART II</b> (To be completed by NRCS)		Date Request Received By NRCS		Person Completing Form:		
Does the site contain Prime, Unique, Statewide or Local Important Farmland? <i>(If no, the FPPA does not apply - do not complete additional parts of this form)</i>		YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Acres Irrigated	Average Farm Size	
Major Crop(s)	Farmable Land In Govt. Jurisdiction Acres:            %	Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres:            %				
Name of Land Evaluation System Used	Name of State or Local Site Assessment System	Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS				
<b>PART III</b> (To be completed by Federal Agency)		Alternative Site Rating				
		Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D	
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly		2.27				
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly		0				
C. Total Acres In Site		2.27				
<b>PART IV</b> (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information						
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland						
B. Total Acres Statewide Important or Local Important Farmland						
C. Percentage Of Farmland in County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted						
D. Percentage Of Farmland in Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value						
<b>PART V</b> (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Criterion Relative Value of Farmland To Be Converted (Scale of 0 to 100 Points)						
<b>PART VI</b> (To be completed by Federal Agency) Site Assessment Criteria <i>(Criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5 b. For Corridor project use form NRCS-CPA-106)</i>		<b>Maximum Points</b>	Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D
1. Area In Non-urban Use		(15)				
2. Perimeter In Non-urban Use		(10)				
3. Percent Of Site Being Farmed		(20)				
4. Protection Provided By State and Local Government		(20)				
5. Distance From Urban Built-up Area		(15)				
6. Distance To Urban Support Services		(15)				
7. Size Of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average		(10)				
8. Creation Of Non-farmable Farmland		(10)				
9. Availability Of Farm Support Services		(5)				
10. On-Farm Investments		(20)				
11. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services		(10)				
12. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use		(10)				
TOTAL SITE ASSESSMENT POINTS		160	0	0	0	0
<b>PART VII</b> (To be completed by Federal Agency)						
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)		100	0	0	0	0
Total Site Assessment (From Part VI above or local site assessment)		160	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)</b>		260	0	0	0	0
Site Selected:	Date Of Selection	Was A Local Site Assessment Used? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>				
Reason For Selection:						
Name of Federal agency representative completing this form:					Date:	

(See Instructions on reverse side)

Table 1  
Project Data

Item	
Project Length	7.3 miles
Location of Proposed Alignment	On Existing
Proposed Right-of-Way and Temporary Easements Required	53.50 acres

**Table 2**  
**Farmland Data**

Item	Land Not Already in Urban Development <sup>1</sup>	Land Already in Urban Development <sup>1</sup>
Number of Farm Parcels Affected	2 <sup>2</sup>	19
Farmland Impacts	2.27 acres	6.33 acres
Farmland Impacts per Project Mile	0.31 acres/mile	0.87 acres/mile
Number and Type of Severed Farm Parcels	0	0
Number and Locations of Uneconomical Remnants	0	0
Number and Location of Landlocked Parcels	0	0
Relocation of Rural Residences and Farm Buildings	0	0
Centennial or Sesquicentennial Farms Impacted	0	0
Offsite Agricultural Land Required for Borrow	0	0
Minimization of Agricultural Impacts	Yes	
Effects of Proposed Drainage on Farmland	Same as Existing	
Prime and Important Farmland Required for Mitigation	Not Applicable	
Need for Adverse Travel	The proposed improvements will not sever or landlock any farm units, nor will it impact any farm drainage systems. Access to eight farms will not be changed, because the preferred alternative includes a two-way left turn lane in these areas. Access to the 13 remaining farms will be restricted to right-in/right-out movements due to the construction of a raised median. These impacts will be minimized by U-turn locations approximately every 1/4 mile and at intersections with traffic lights.	

<sup>1</sup> Land already in urban development defined by Section 658.2(a) of the FPPA to include:

- Lands identified as “urbanized area” (UA on the U.S. Census Bureau Map). Source: [http://www2.census.gov/geo/maps/dc10map/UAUC\\_RefMap/ua/ua16264\\_chicago\\_il--in/DC10UA16264\\_001.pdf](http://www2.census.gov/geo/maps/dc10map/UAUC_RefMap/ua/ua16264_chicago_il--in/DC10UA16264_001.pdf); and
- Lands identified as “urban-built-up” on the USDA Important Farmland Maps per Section 523.10 of the FPPA Manual. This includes lands identified by National Resources Inventory (NRI) mapping as urban built-up areas (or developed land cover per current NRI terminology). Source: National Land Cover Database (2011) <https://www.mrlc.gov/nlcd2011.php>

<sup>2</sup> Farmland Parcels PIN 03-01-400-022 and PIN 04-18-100-033.

Table 3  
Soil Impacts

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Land Not Already in Urban Development (acres)	Land Already in Urban Development (acres)
153A	Ozaukee silt loam, 2 to 4 percent slopes	0.35	0.61
232A	Ashkum silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	0.00	0.13
298A	Beecher silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	0.05	0.02
330A	Peotone silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	0.00	0.02
442A	Mundelein silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	0.11	0.33
530B	Ozaukee silt loam, 2 to 4 percent slopes	0.00	0.84
530C2	Ozaukee silt loam, 4 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	0.15	1.43
530D2	Ozaukee silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	1.25	0.14
531B	Markham silt loam, 2 to 4 percent slopes	0.34	1.68
531C2	Markham silt loam, 4 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	0.00	0.22
830	Landfill	0.02	0.00
984B	Barrington and Varna silt loams, 2 to 4 percent slopes	0.00	0.85
1103A	Houghton muck, undrained, 0 to 2 percent slopes	0.00	0.06
<b>Total</b>		<b>2.27</b>	<b>6.33</b>

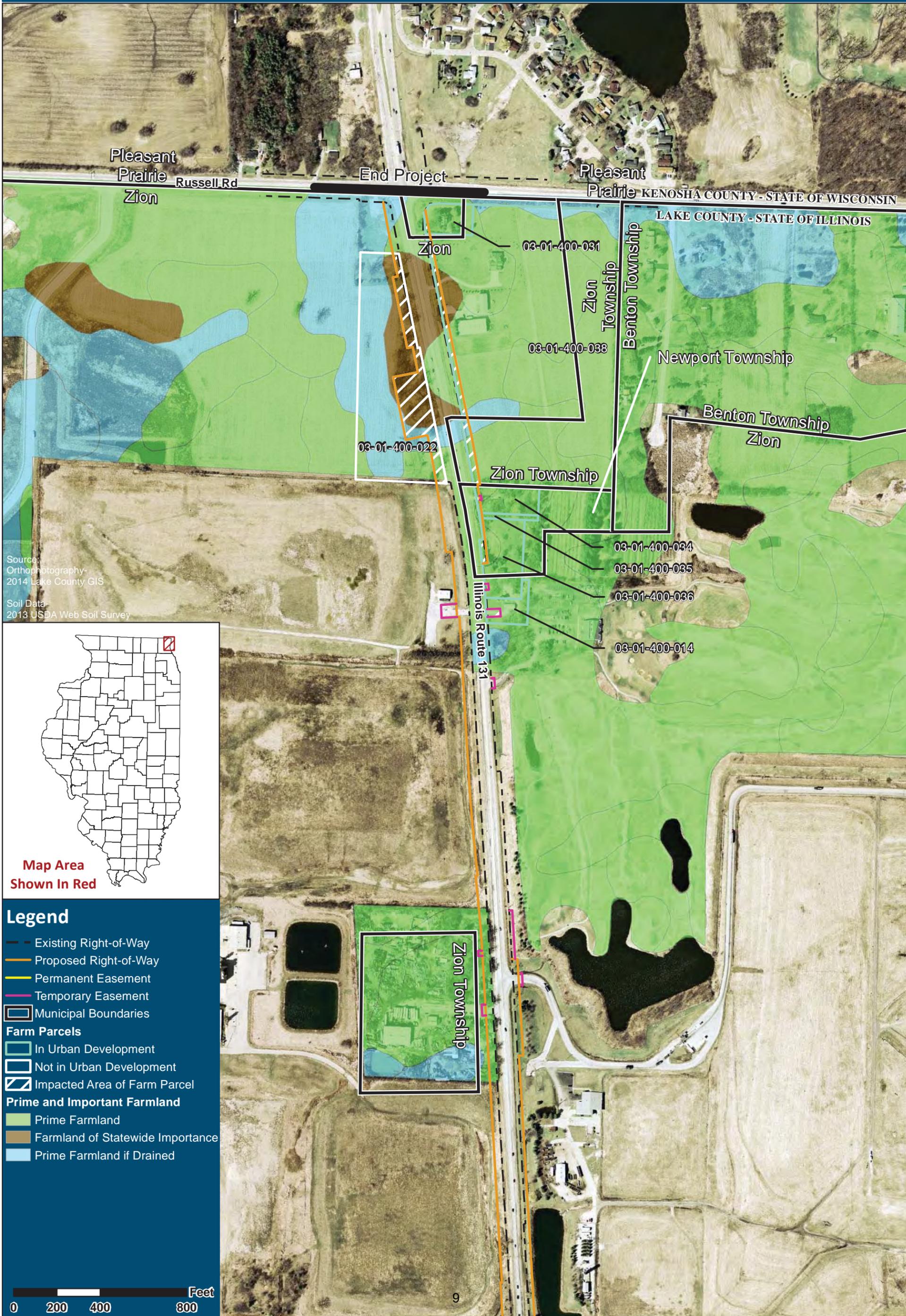
**Table 4**  
**Preferred Alternative Farmland Soil Impacts**

Soil Type*	Proposed New Right-of-Way (acres)	Temporary Easement (acres)	Permanent Easement (acres)	Total (acres)
Prime farmland	5.85	0.10	0.00	5.95
Farmland of statewide importance	1.39	0.00	0.00	1.39
Not prime farmland	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.08
Prime farmland if drained	1.18	0.00	0.00	1.18
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>8.50</b>	<b>0.10</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>8.60</b>

\* No unique farmland occurs in the project area.

Source: NRCS web soil survey <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>

# State Route 131 Prime and Important Farmland



Source:  
Orthophotography-  
2014 Lake County GIS  
Soil Data-  
2013 USDA Web Soil Survey



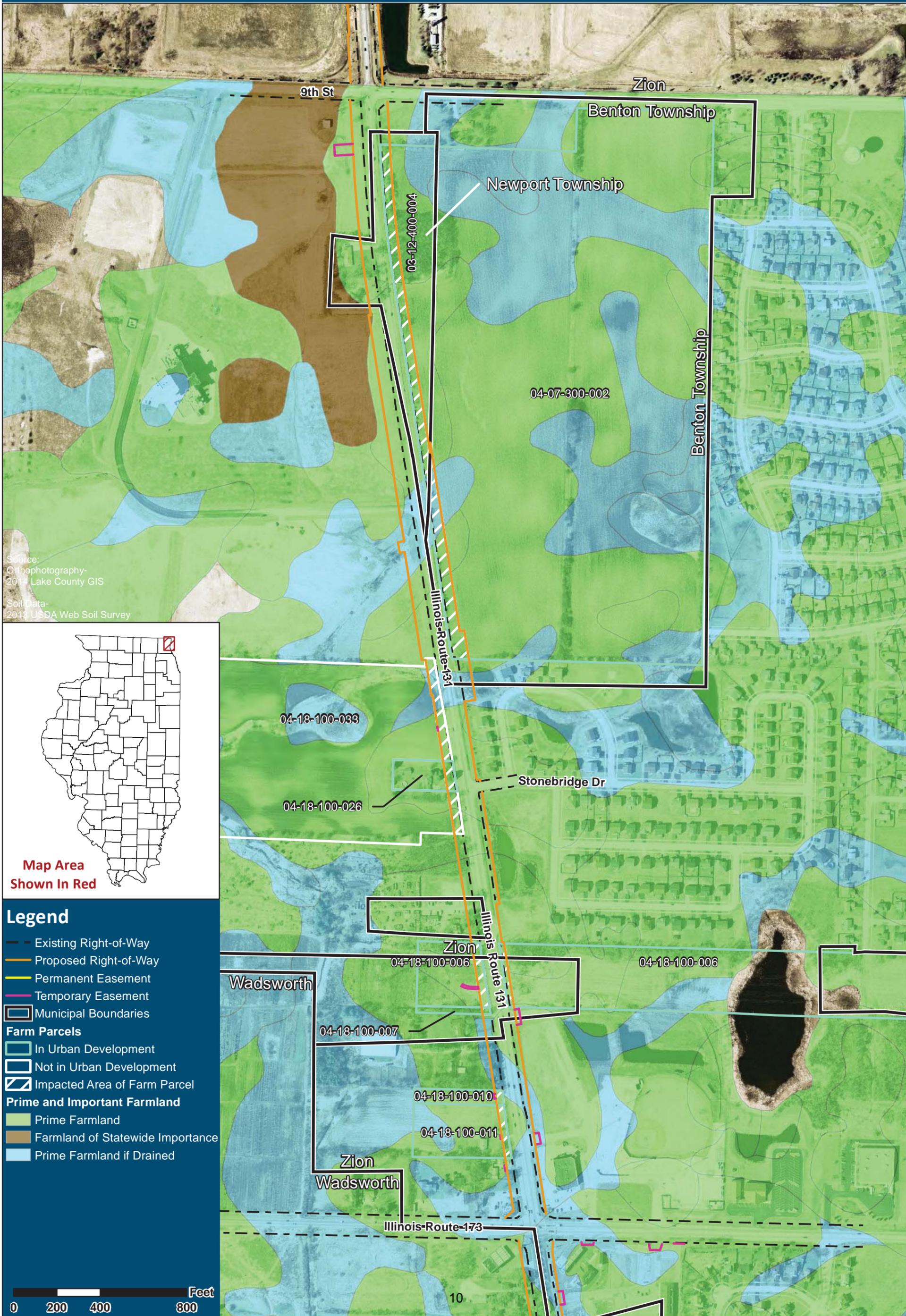
Map Area  
Shown In Red

## Legend

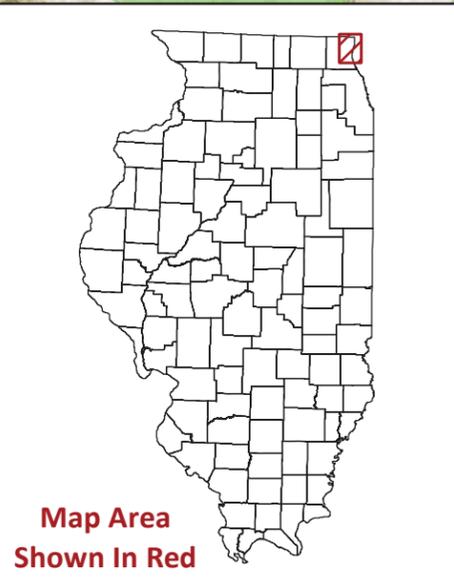
- Existing Right-of-Way
- Proposed Right-of-Way
- Permanent Easement
- Temporary Easement
- Municipal Boundaries
- Farm Parcels**
- In Urban Development
- Not in Urban Development
- Impacted Area of Farm Parcel
- Prime and Important Farmland**
- Prime Farmland
- Farmland of Statewide Importance
- Prime Farmland if Drained



# State Route 131 Prime and Important Farmland



Source:  
Orthophotography-  
2013 Lake County GIS  
Soil Data-  
2013 USDA Web Soil Survey

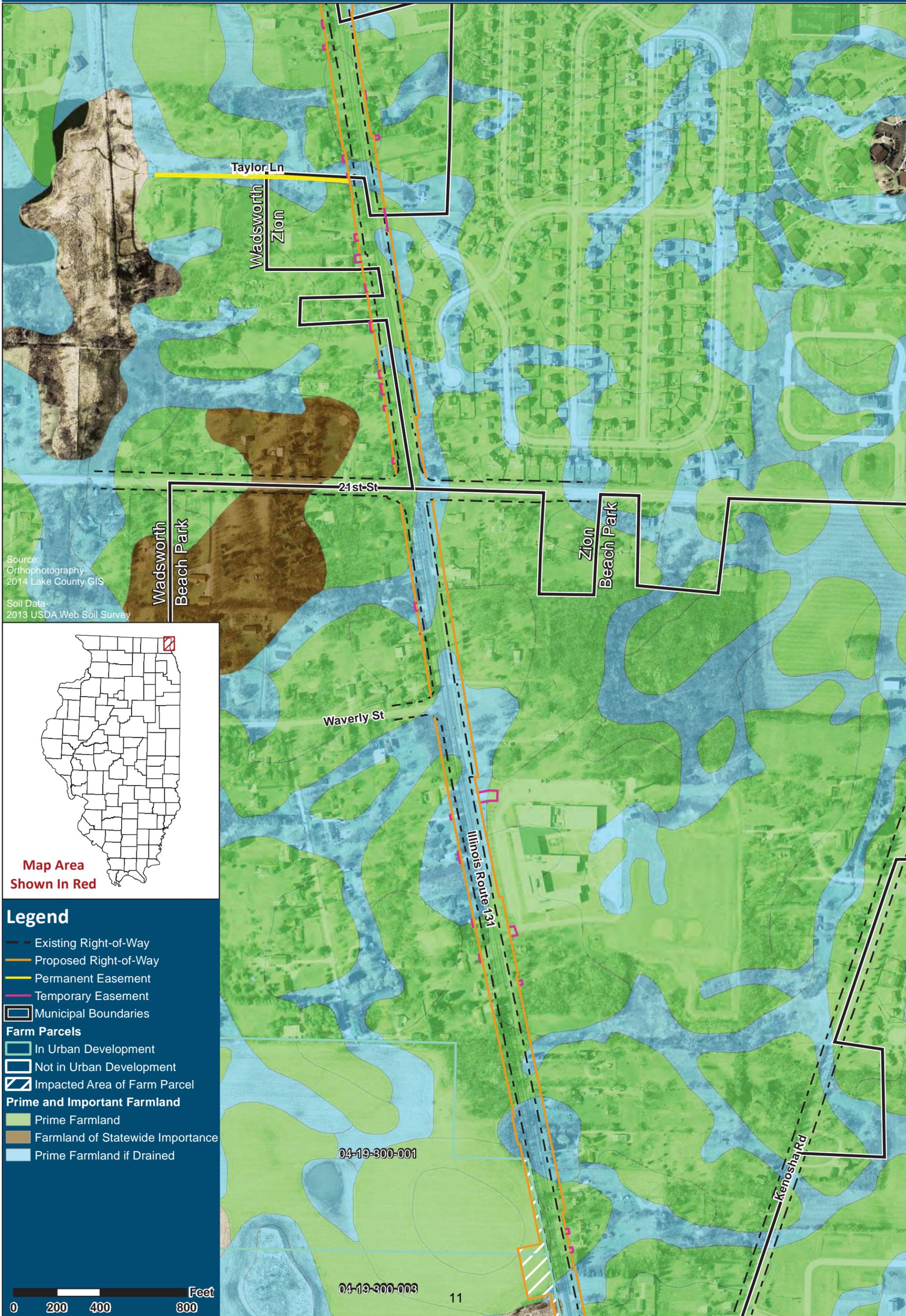


## Legend

- Existing Right-of-Way
- Proposed Right-of-Way
- Permanent Easement
- Temporary Easement
- Municipal Boundaries
- Farm Parcels**
- In Urban Development
- Not in Urban Development
- Impacted Area of Farm Parcel
- Prime and Important Farmland**
- Prime Farmland
- Farmland of Statewide Importance
- Prime Farmland if Drained



# State Route 131 Prime and Important Farmland



Source:  
Orthophotography-  
2014 Lake County GIS  
Soil Data-  
2013 USDA Web Soil Survey



Map Area  
Shown In Red

## Legend

- Existing Right-of-Way
- Proposed Right-of-Way
- Permanent Easement
- Temporary Easement
- Municipal Boundaries
- Farm Parcels**
- In Urban Development
- Not in Urban Development
- Impacted Area of Farm Parcel
- Prime and Important Farmland**
- Prime Farmland
- Farmland of Statewide Importance
- Prime Farmland if Drained

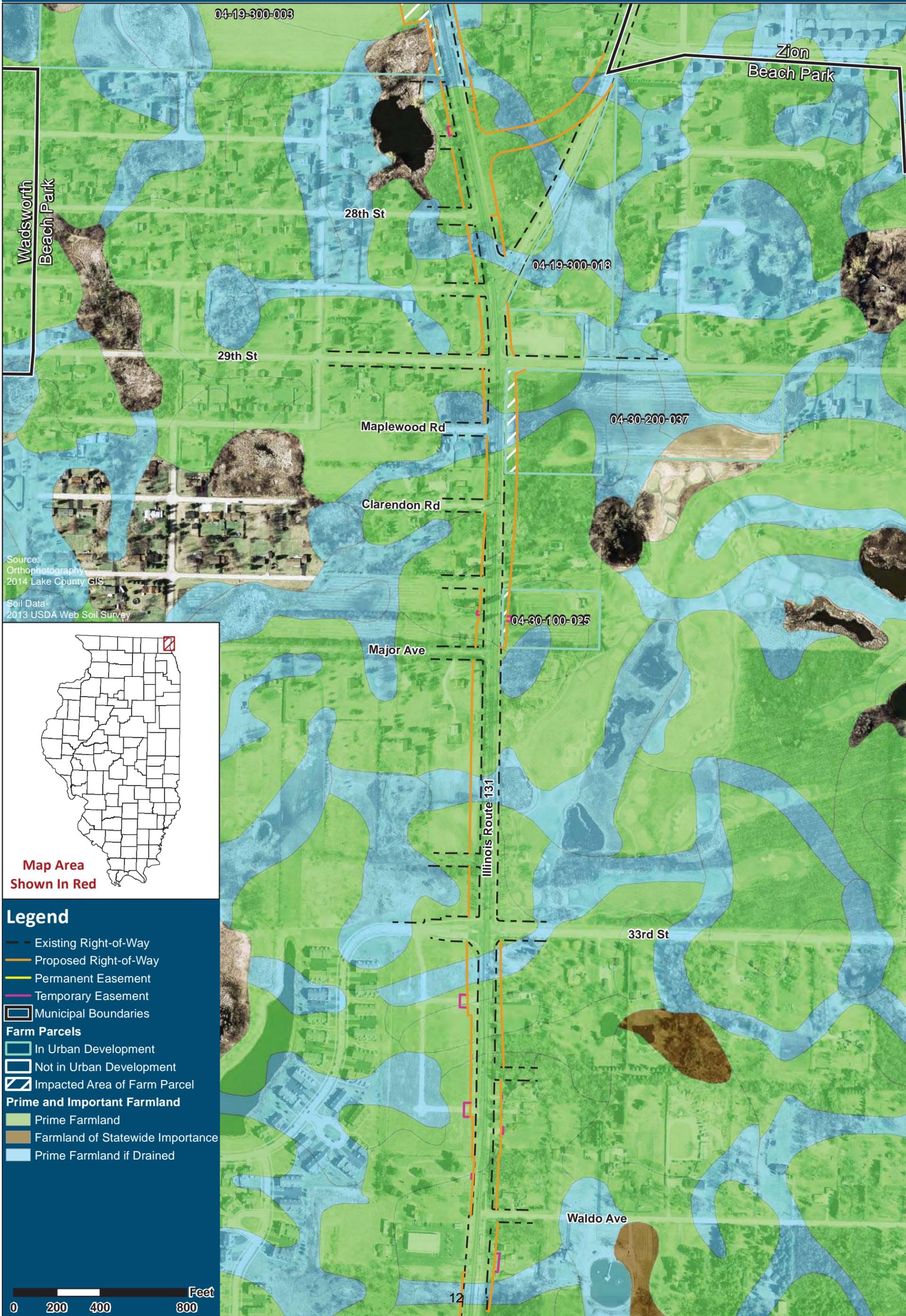


04-19-300-001

04-19-300-003

11

# State Route 131 Prime and Important Farmland



Source:  
Orthophotography  
2014 Lake County GIS  
Soil Data:  
2013 USDA Web Soil Survey



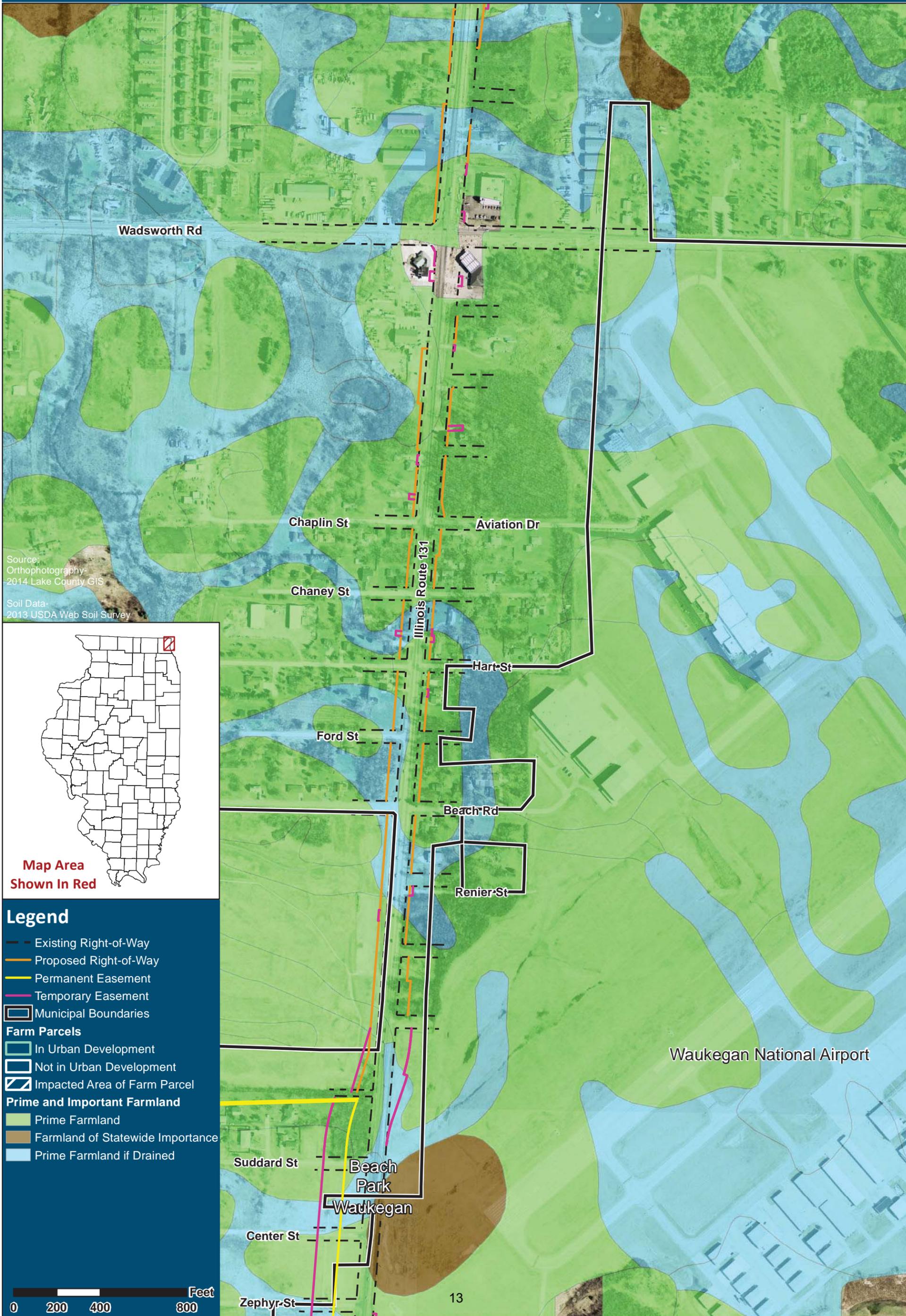
Map Area  
Shown In Red

## Legend

- Existing Right-of-Way
- Proposed Right-of-Way
- Permanent Easement
- Temporary Easement
- Municipal Boundaries
- Farm Parcels**
- In Urban Development
- Not in Urban Development
- Impacted Area of Farm Parcel
- Prime and Important Farmland**
- Prime Farmland
- Farmland of Statewide Importance
- Prime Farmland if Drained

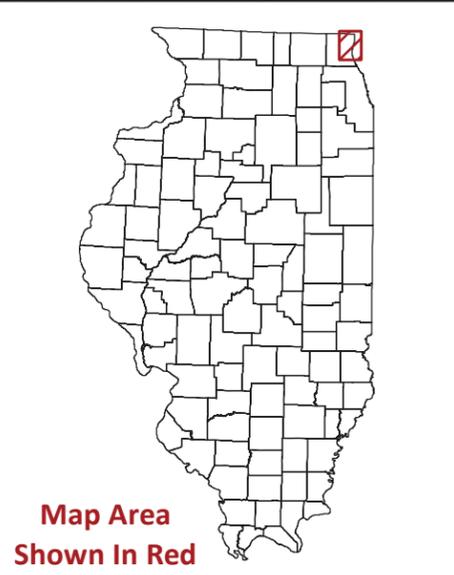


# State Route 131 Prime and Important Farmland



Source:  
Orthophotography  
2014 Lake County GIS

Soil Data-  
2013 USDA Web Soil Survey



**Legend**

- Existing Right-of-Way
- Proposed Right-of-Way
- Permanent Easement
- Temporary Easement
- Municipal Boundaries

**Farm Parcels**

- In Urban Development
- Not in Urban Development
- Impacted Area of Farm Parcel

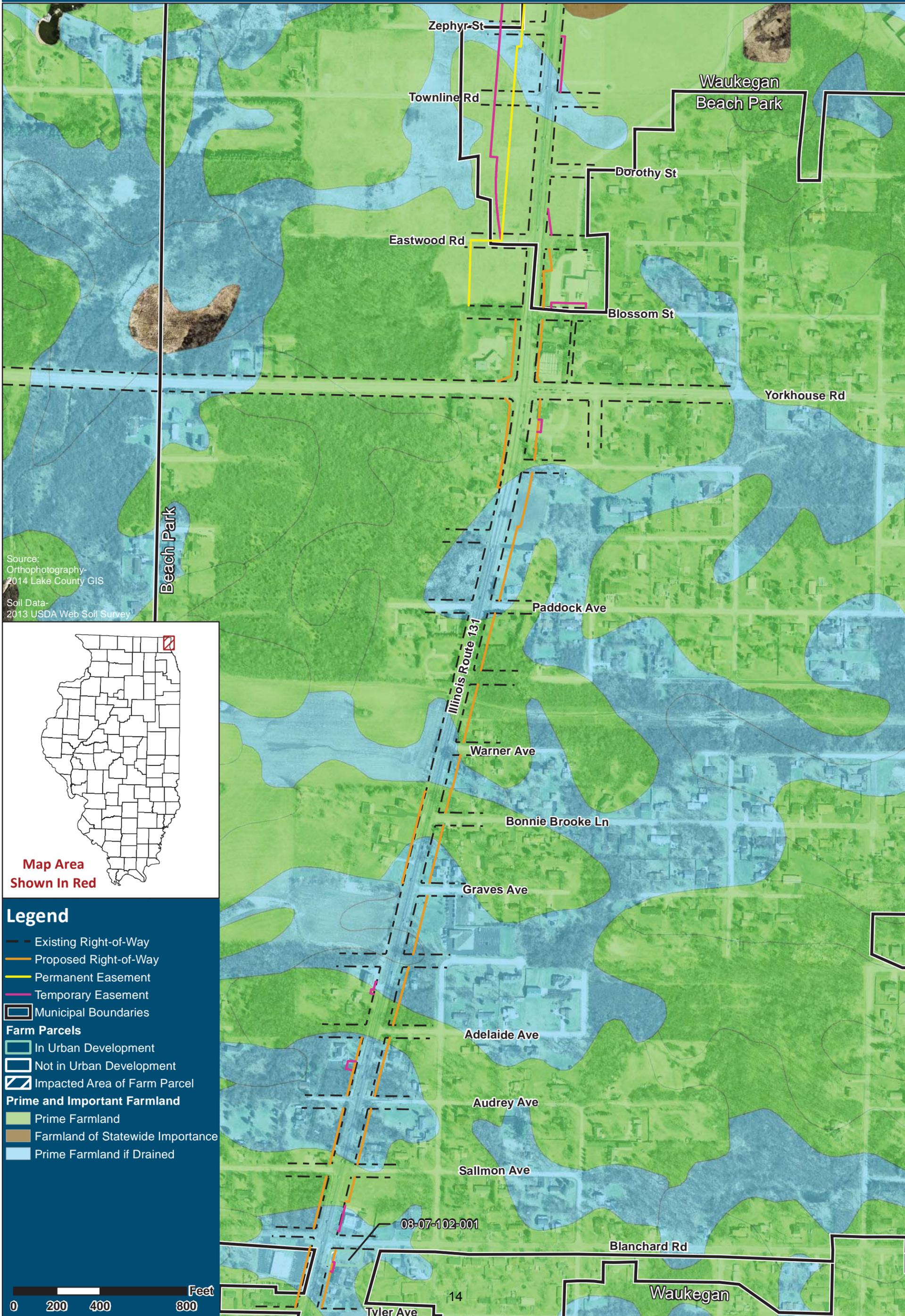
**Prime and Important Farmland**

- Prime Farmland
- Farmland of Statewide Importance
- Prime Farmland if Drained

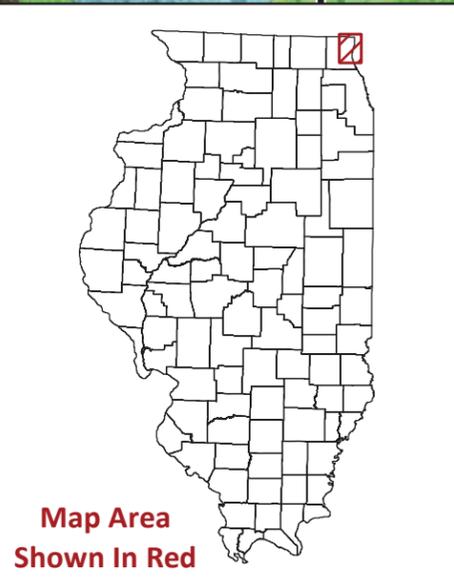
0 200 400 800 Feet

13

# State Route 131 Prime and Important Farmland



Source:  
Orthophotography-  
2014 Lake County GIS  
Soil Data-  
2013 USDA Web Soil Survey

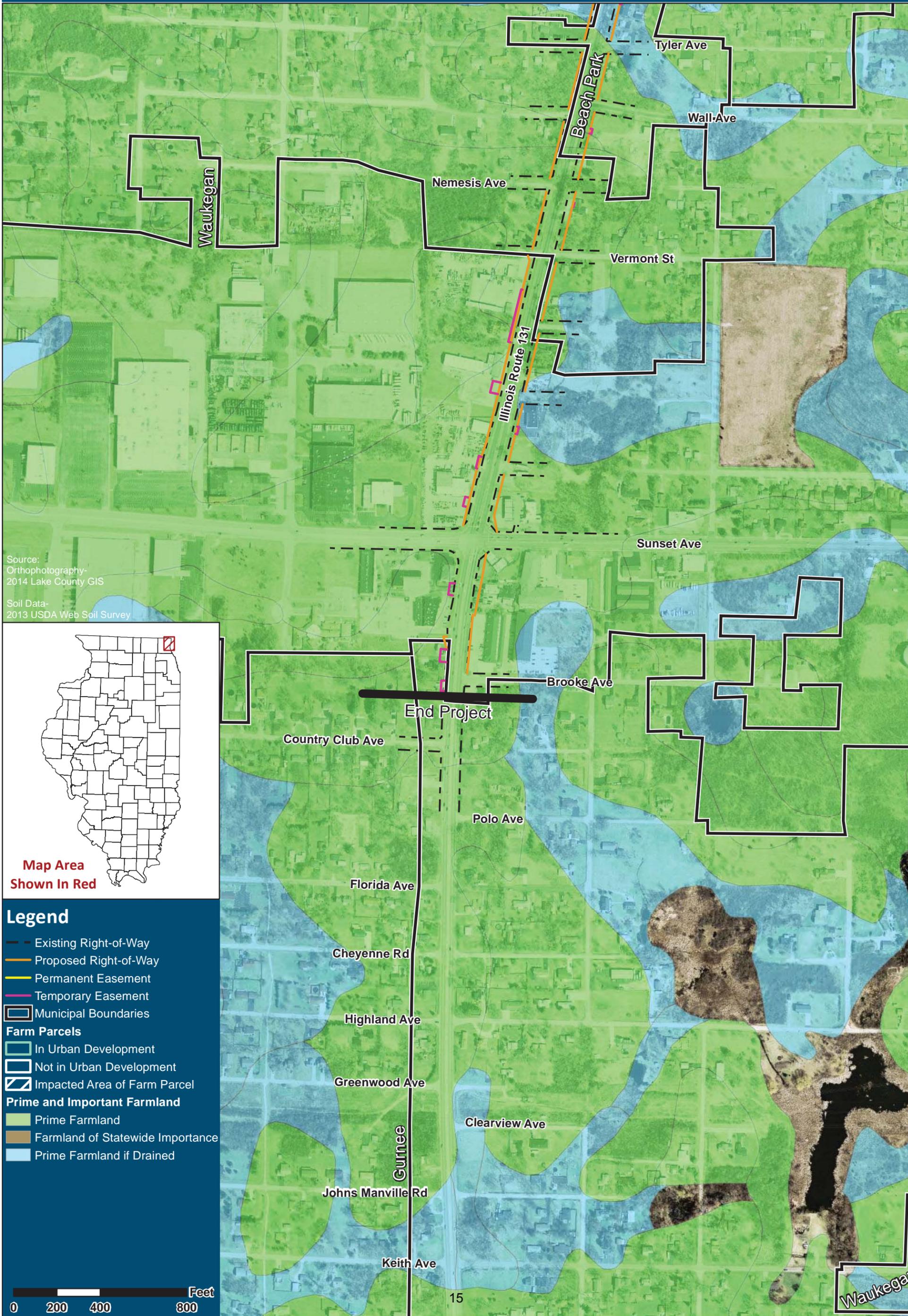


## Legend

- Existing Right-of-Way
- Proposed Right-of-Way
- Permanent Easement
- Temporary Easement
- Municipal Boundaries
- Farm Parcels**
- In Urban Development
- Not in Urban Development
- Impacted Area of Farm Parcel
- Prime and Important Farmland**
- Prime Farmland
- Farmland of Statewide Importance
- Prime Farmland if Drained



# State Route 131 Prime and Important Farmland



Source:  
Orthophotography-  
2014 Lake County GIS

Soil Data-  
2013 USDA Web Soil Survey



**Map Area  
Shown In Red**

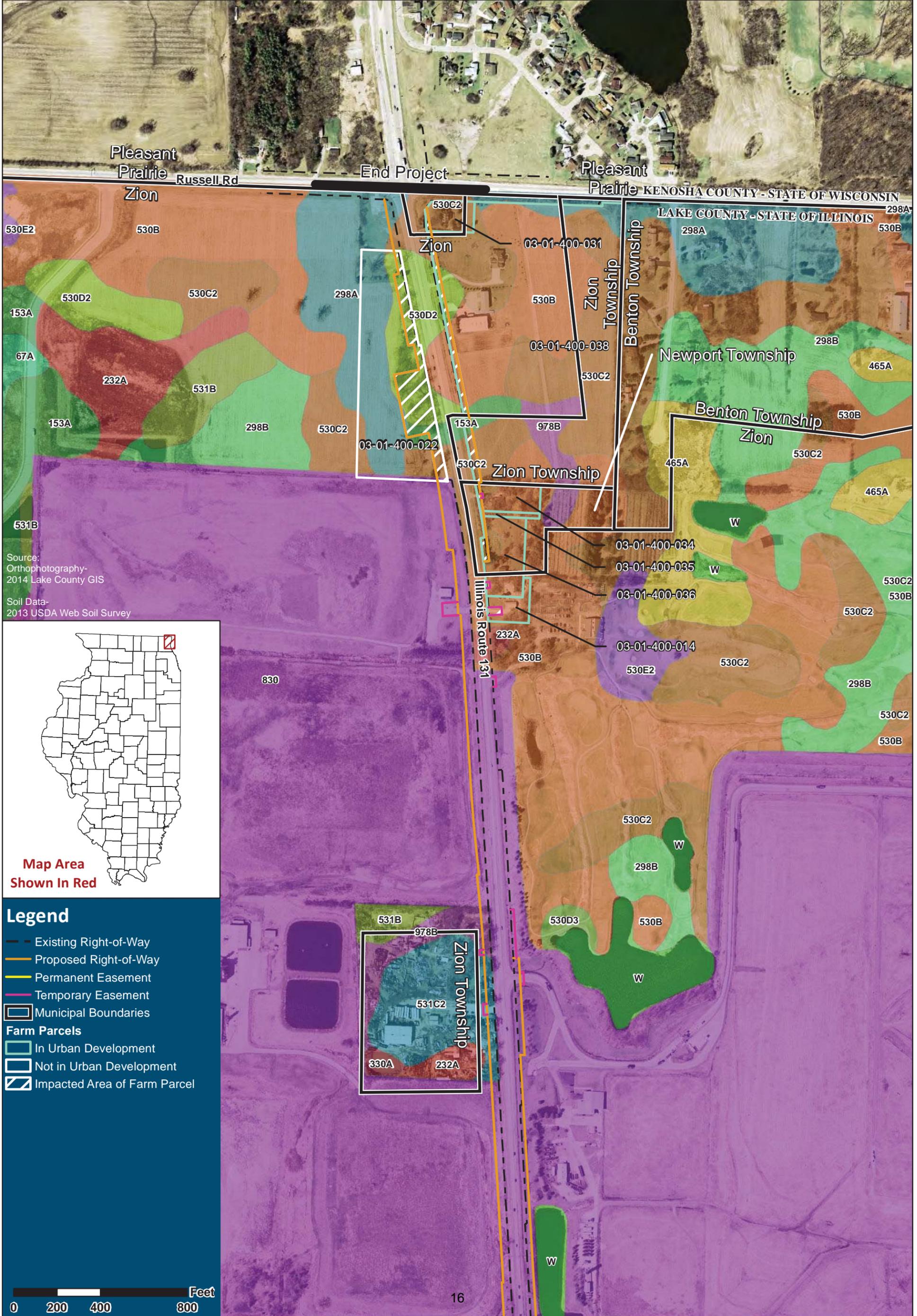
## Legend

- Existing Right-of-Way
- Proposed Right-of-Way
- Permanent Easement
- Temporary Easement
- Municipal Boundaries
- Farm Parcels**
- In Urban Development
- Not in Urban Development
- Impacted Area of Farm Parcel
- Prime and Important Farmland**
- Prime Farmland
- Farmland of Statewide Importance
- Prime Farmland if Drained

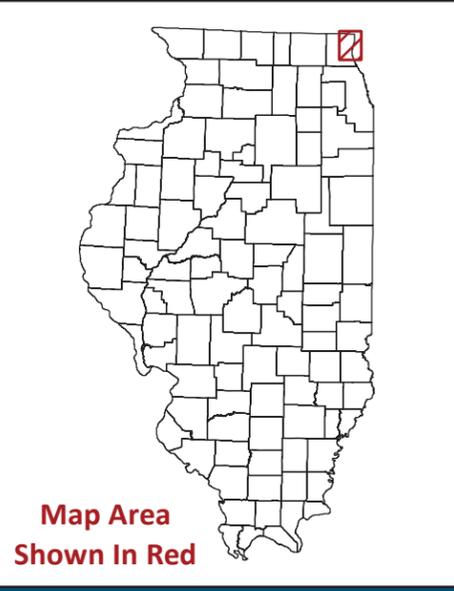


Waukegan

# State Route 131 Soil Types



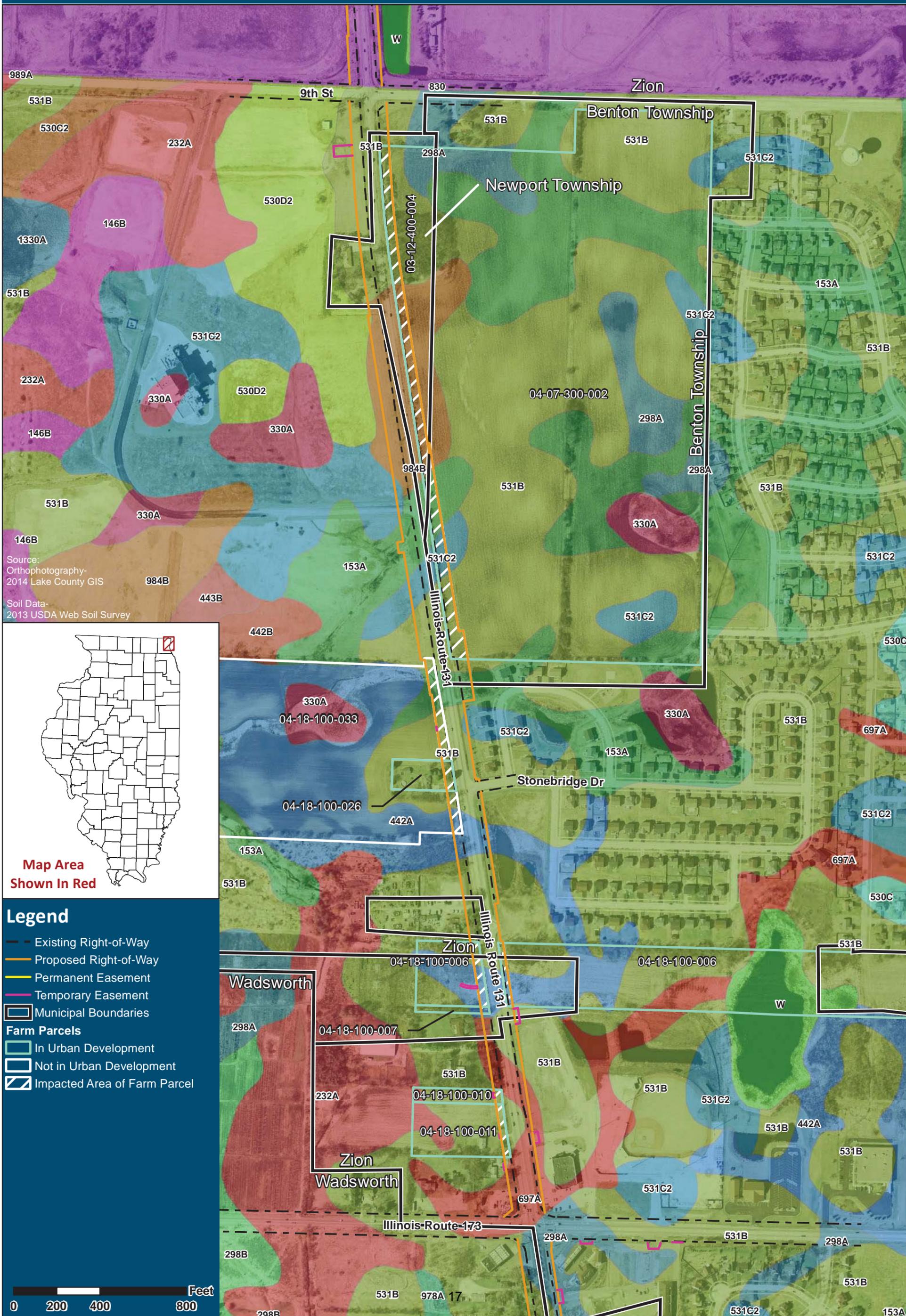
Source:  
Orthophotography-  
2014 Lake County GIS  
Soil Data-  
2013 USDA Web Soil Survey



- Legend**
- Existing Right-of-Way
  - Proposed Right-of-Way
  - Permanent Easement
  - Temporary Easement
  - Municipal Boundaries
- Farm Parcels**
- In Urban Development
  - Not in Urban Development
  - Impacted Area of Farm Parcel

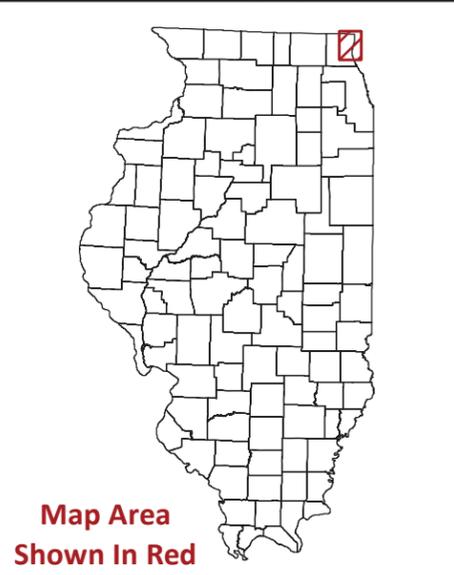


# State Route 131 Soil Types



Source:  
Orthophotography-  
2014 Lake County GIS

Soil Data-  
2013 USDA Web Soil Survey



- Legend**
- Existing Right-of-Way
  - Proposed Right-of-Way
  - Permanent Easement
  - Temporary Easement
  - Municipal Boundaries
  - Farm Parcels**
  - In Urban Development
  - Not in Urban Development
  - Impacted Area of Farm Parcel

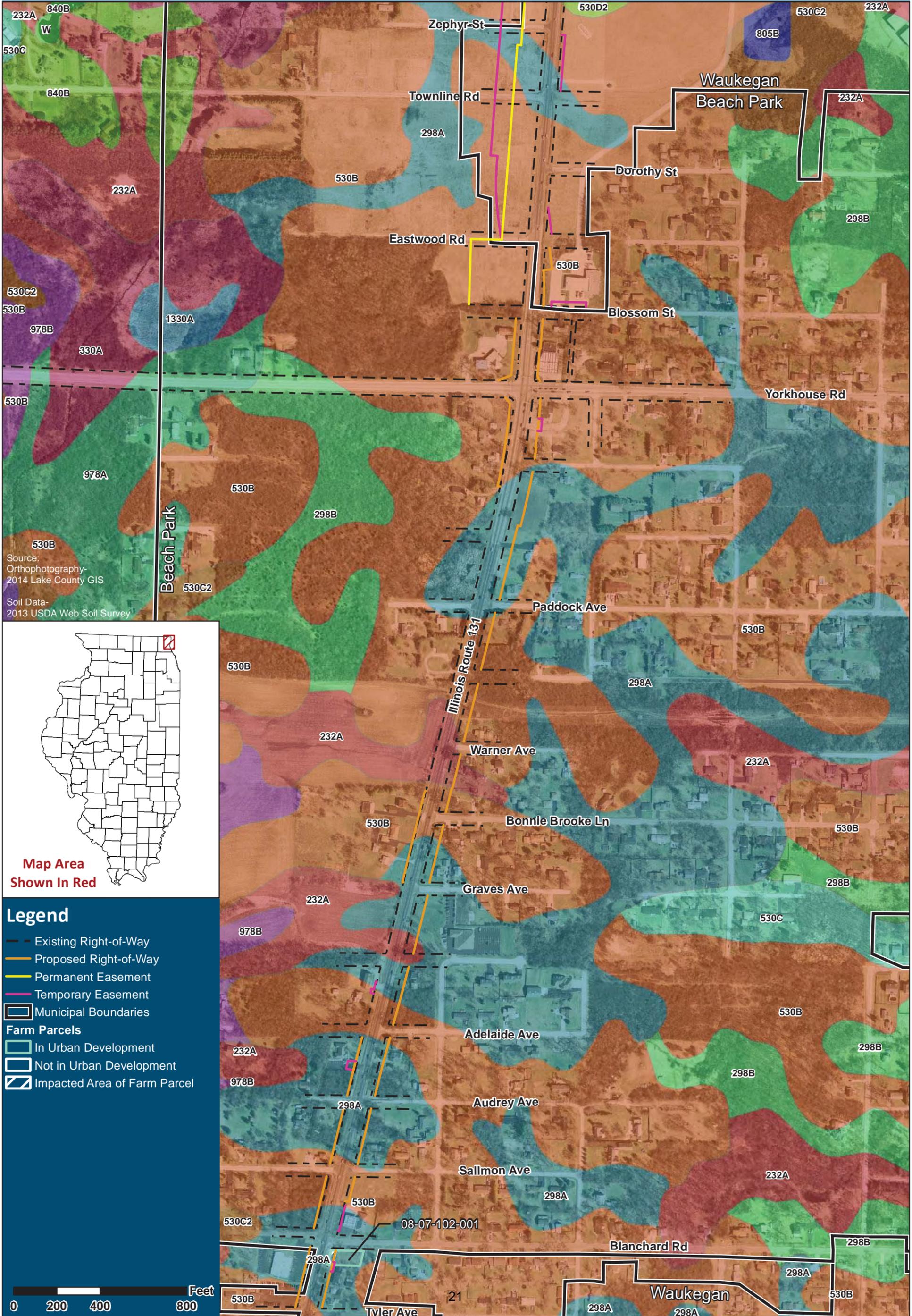








# State Route 131 Soil Types



Source:  
Orthophotography-  
2014 Lake County GIS

Soil Data-  
2013 USDA Web Soil Survey

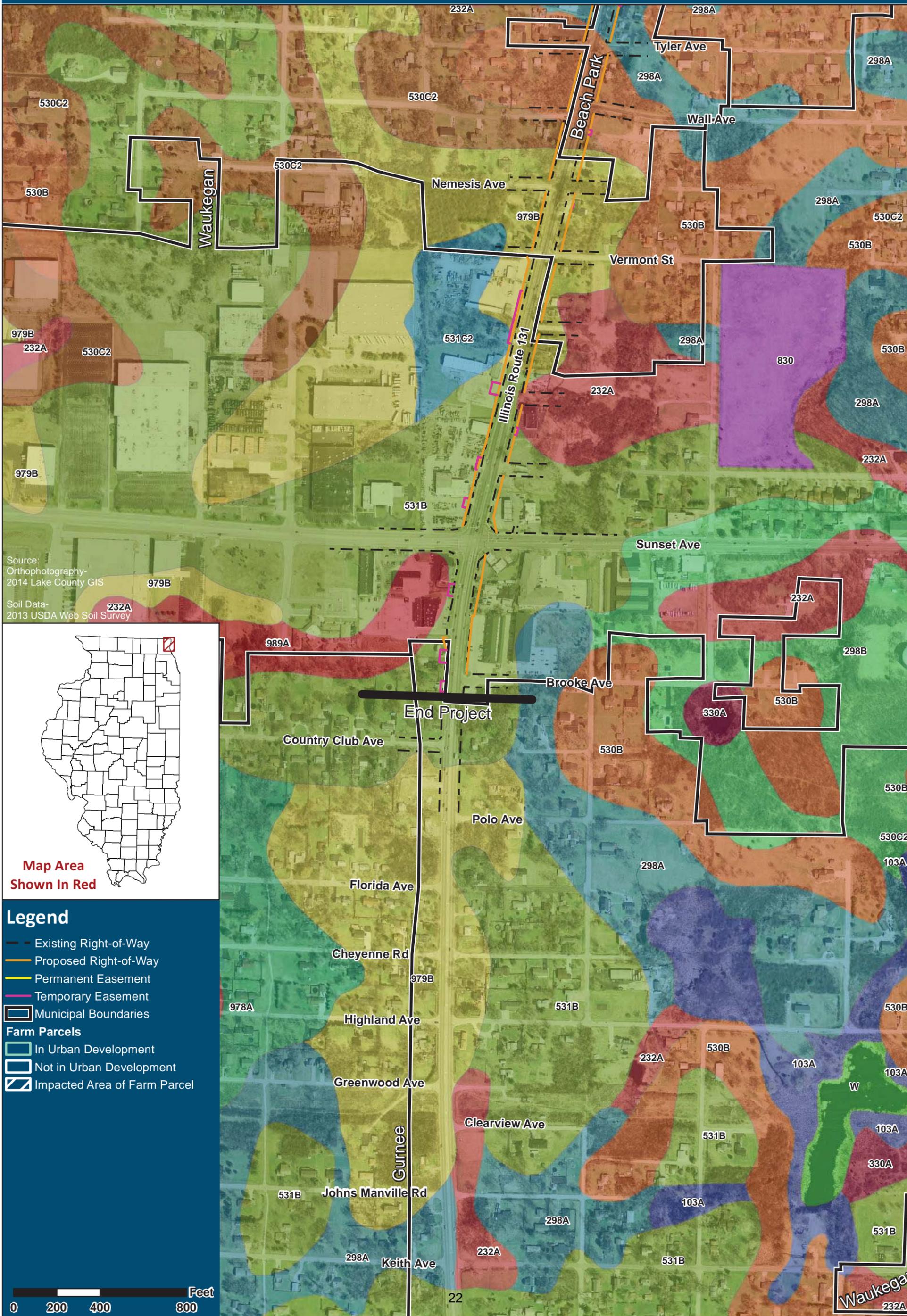


## Legend

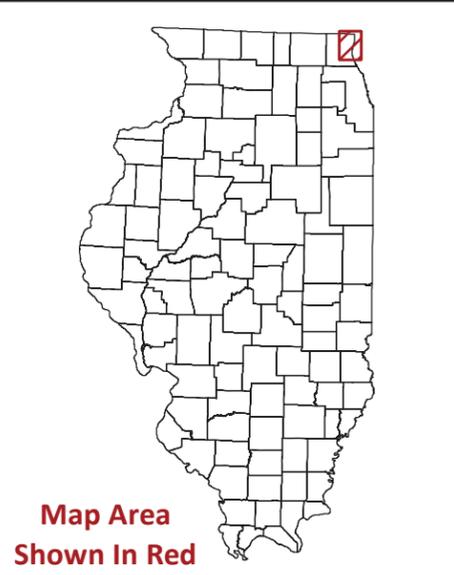
- Existing Right-of-Way
- Proposed Right-of-Way
- Permanent Easement
- Temporary Easement
- Municipal Boundaries
- Farm Parcels**
- In Urban Development
- Not in Urban Development
- Impacted Area of Farm Parcel



# State Route 131 Soil Types



Source:  
Orthophotography-  
2014 Lake County GIS  
Soil Data-  
2013 USDA Web Soil Survey

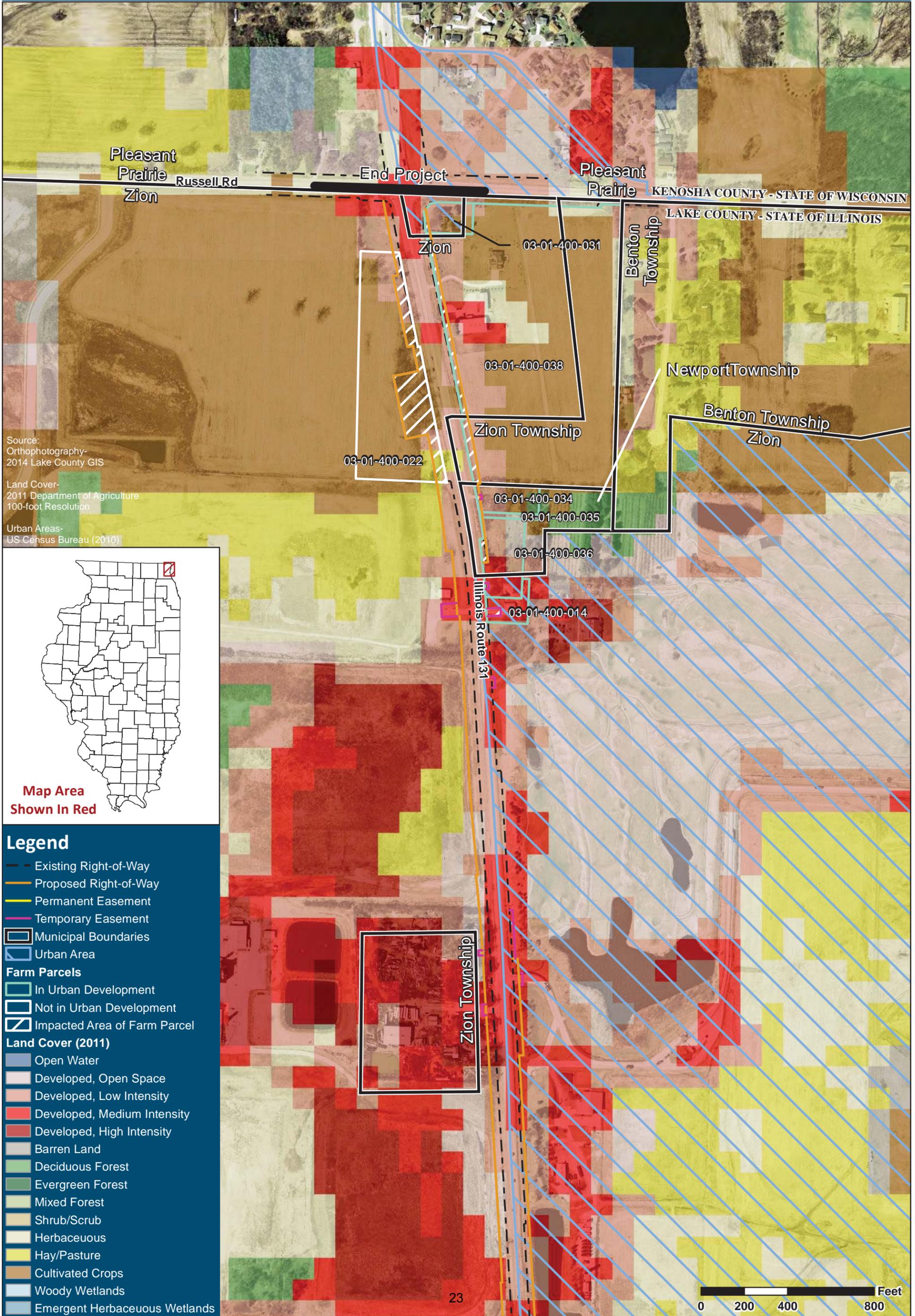


- Legend**
- Existing Right-of-Way
  - Proposed Right-of-Way
  - Permanent Easement
  - Temporary Easement
  - Municipal Boundaries
  - Farm Parcels**
  - In Urban Development
  - Not in Urban Development
  - Impacted Area of Farm Parcel



Waukegan  
232A

# State Route 131 Land Cover



Source:  
Orthophotography-  
2014 Lake County GIS

Land Cover-  
2011 Department of Agriculture  
100-foot Resolution

Urban Areas-  
US Census Bureau (2010)



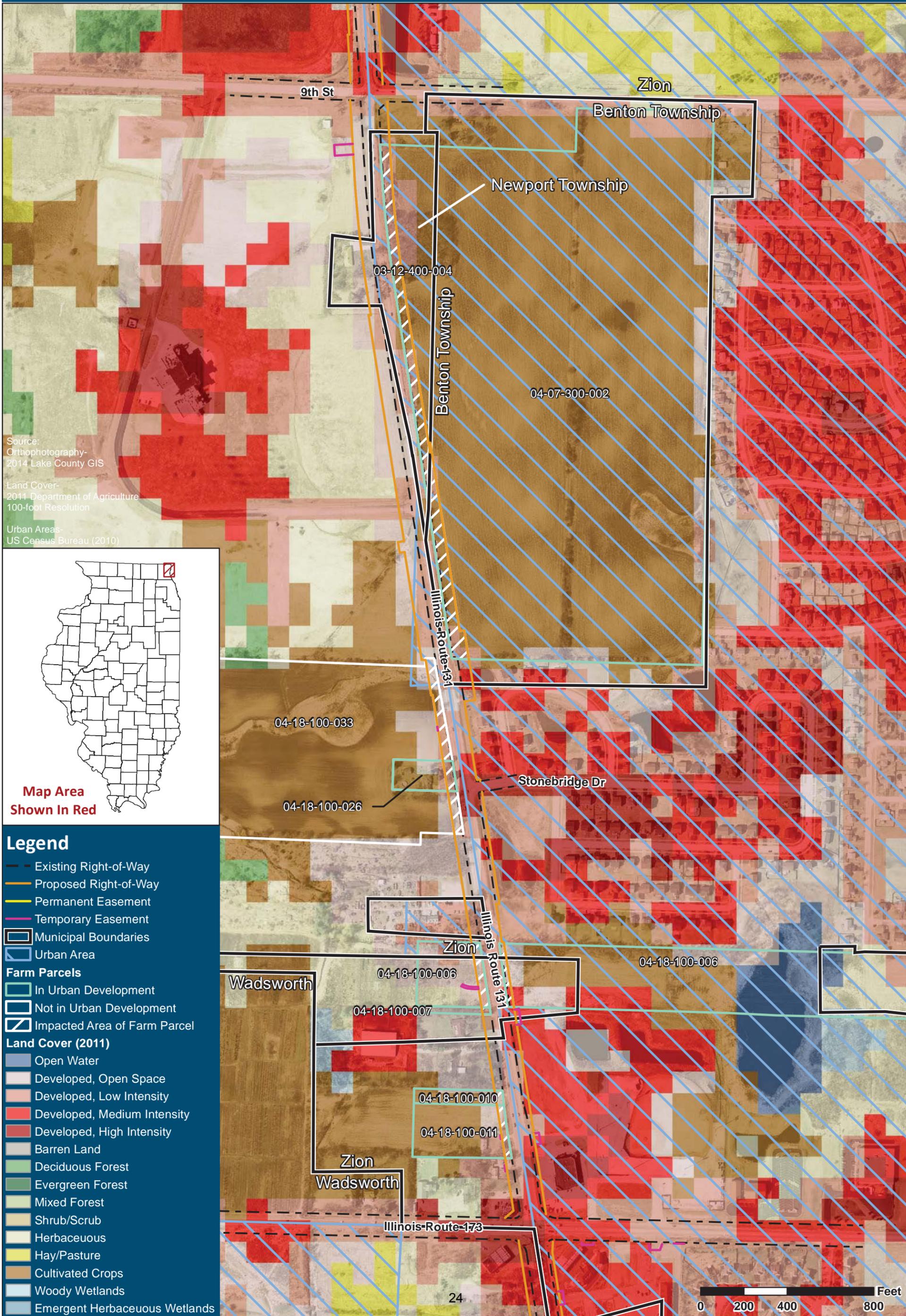
Map Area  
Shown In Red

## Legend

- Existing Right-of-Way
- Proposed Right-of-Way
- Permanent Easement
- Temporary Easement
- Municipal Boundaries
- Urban Area
- Farm Parcels**
- In Urban Development
- Not in Urban Development
- Impacted Area of Farm Parcel
- Land Cover (2011)**
- Open Water
- Developed, Open Space
- Developed, Low Intensity
- Developed, Medium Intensity
- Developed, High Intensity
- Barren Land
- Deciduous Forest
- Evergreen Forest
- Mixed Forest
- Shrub/Scrub
- Herbaceous
- Hay/Pasture
- Cultivated Crops
- Woody Wetlands
- Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands



# State Route 131 Land Cover



Source:  
Orthophotography-  
2014 Lake County GIS

Land Cover-  
2011 Department of Agriculture  
100-foot Resolution

Urban Areas-  
US Census Bureau (2010)

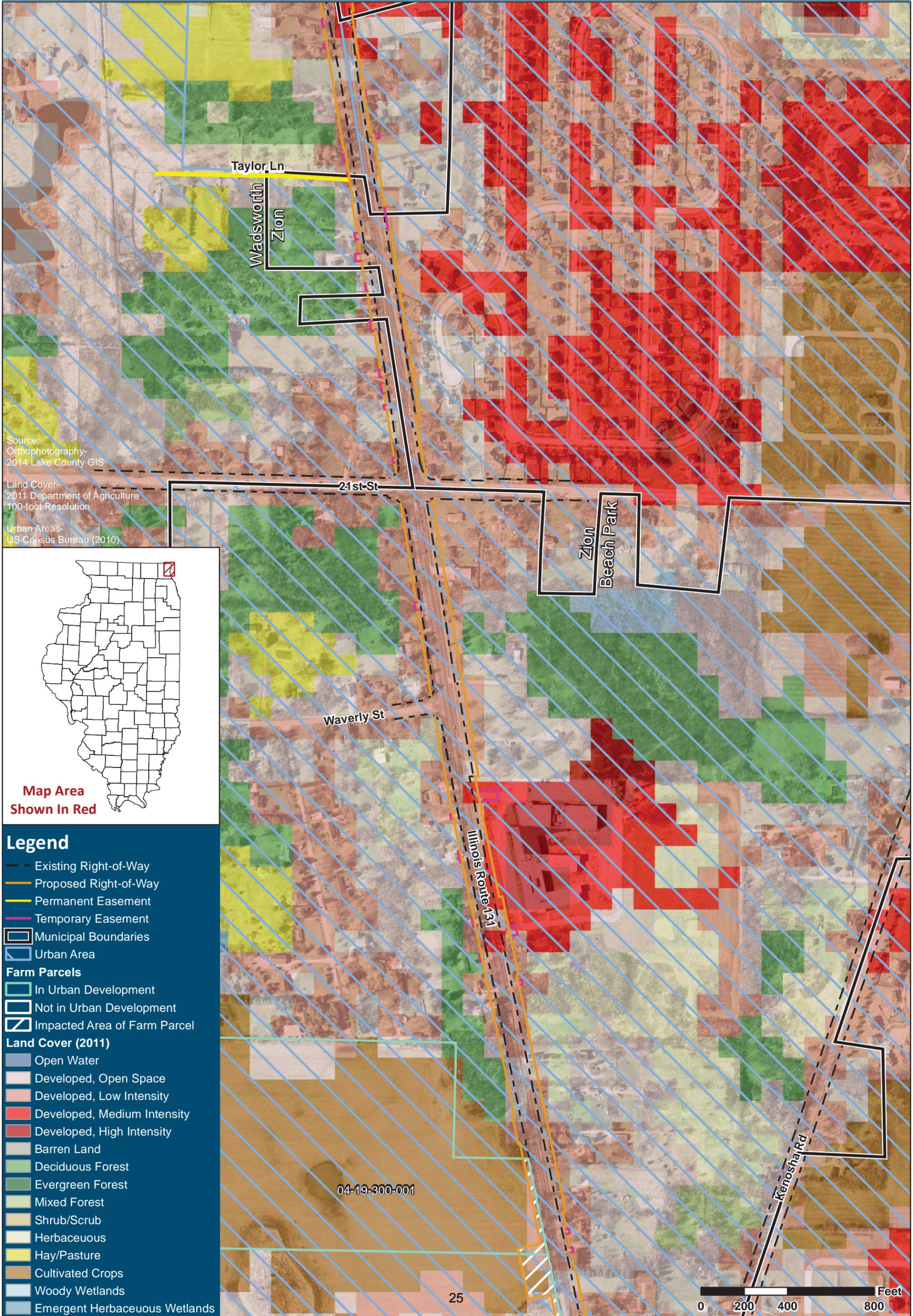


## Legend

- Existing Right-of-Way
- Proposed Right-of-Way
- Permanent Easement
- Temporary Easement
- Municipal Boundaries
- Urban Area
- Farm Parcels**
- In Urban Development
- Not in Urban Development
- Impacted Area of Farm Parcel
- Land Cover (2011)**
- Open Water
- Developed, Open Space
- Developed, Low Intensity
- Developed, Medium Intensity
- Developed, High Intensity
- Barren Land
- Deciduous Forest
- Evergreen Forest
- Mixed Forest
- Shrub/Scrub
- Herbaceous
- Hay/Pasture
- Cultivated Crops
- Woody Wetlands
- Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands



# State Route 131 Land Cover



Source:  
Orthophotography-  
2014 Lake County GIS

Land Cover-  
2011 Department of Agriculture  
100-foot Resolution

Urban Areas-  
US Census Bureau (2010)



**Map Area  
Shown In Red**

## Legend

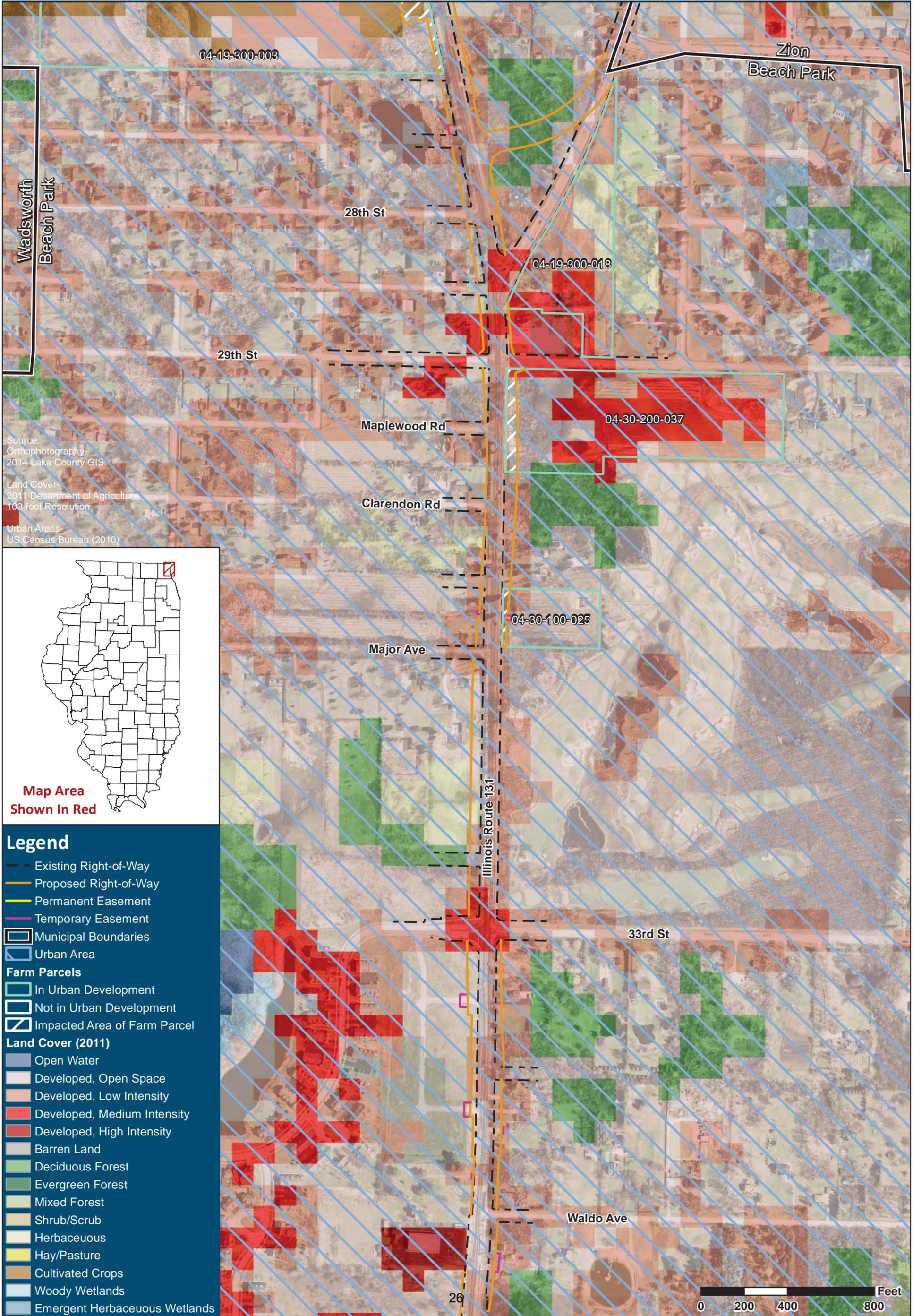
- Existing Right-of-Way
- Proposed Right-of-Way
- Permanent Easement
- Temporary Easement
- Municipal Boundaries
- Urban Area
- Farm Parcels**
- In Urban Development
- Not in Urban Development
- Impacted Area of Farm Parcel
- Land Cover (2011)**
- Open Water
- Developed, Open Space
- Developed, Low Intensity
- Developed, Medium Intensity
- Developed, High Intensity
- Barren Land
- Deciduous Forest
- Evergreen Forest
- Mixed Forest
- Shrub/Scrub
- Herbaceous
- Hay/Pasture
- Cultivated Crops
- Woody Wetlands
- Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands



04-19-300-001

25

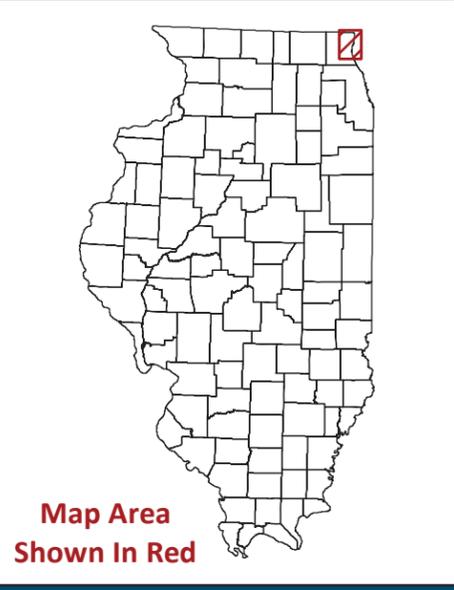
# State Route 131 Land Cover



Source:  
Orthophotography-  
2014 Lake County GIS

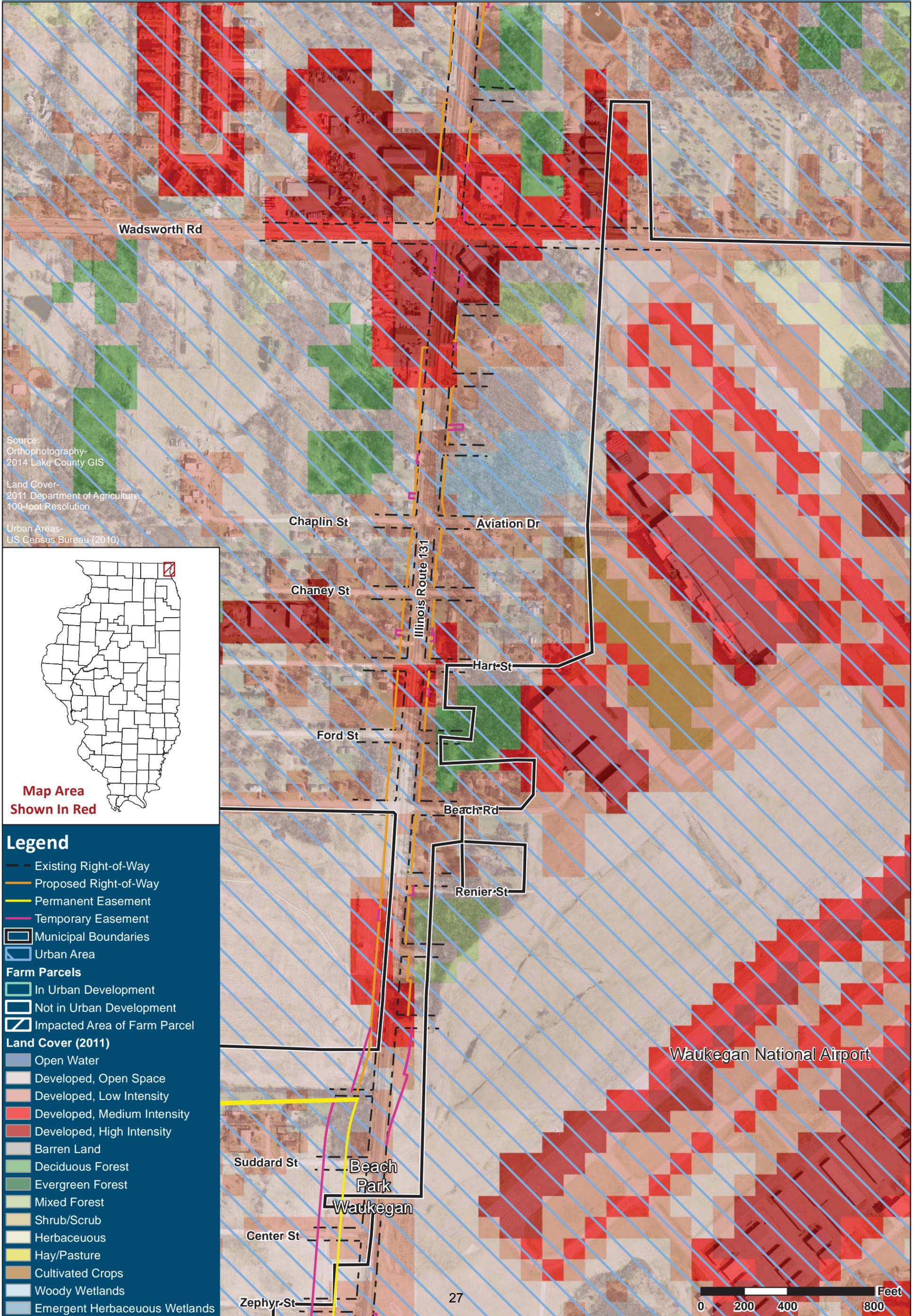
Land Cover-  
2011 Department of Agriculture  
100-foot Resolution

Urban Areas-  
US Census Bureau (2010)



- Legend**
- Existing Right-of-Way
  - Proposed Right-of-Way
  - Permanent Easement
  - Temporary Easement
  - ▭ Municipal Boundaries
  - ▭ Urban Area
- Farm Parcels**
- ▭ In Urban Development
  - ▭ Not in Urban Development
  - ▭ Impacted Area of Farm Parcel
- Land Cover (2011)**
- ▭ Open Water
  - ▭ Developed, Open Space
  - ▭ Developed, Low Intensity
  - ▭ Developed, Medium Intensity
  - ▭ Developed, High Intensity
  - ▭ Barren Land
  - ▭ Deciduous Forest
  - ▭ Evergreen Forest
  - ▭ Mixed Forest
  - ▭ Shrub/Scrub
  - ▭ Herbaceous
  - ▭ Hay/Pasture
  - ▭ Cultivated Crops
  - ▭ Woody Wetlands
  - ▭ Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands

# State Route 131 Land Cover



Source:  
Orthophotography-  
2014 Lake County GIS

Land Cover-  
2011 Department of Agriculture  
100-foot Resolution

Urban Areas-  
US Census Bureau (2010)

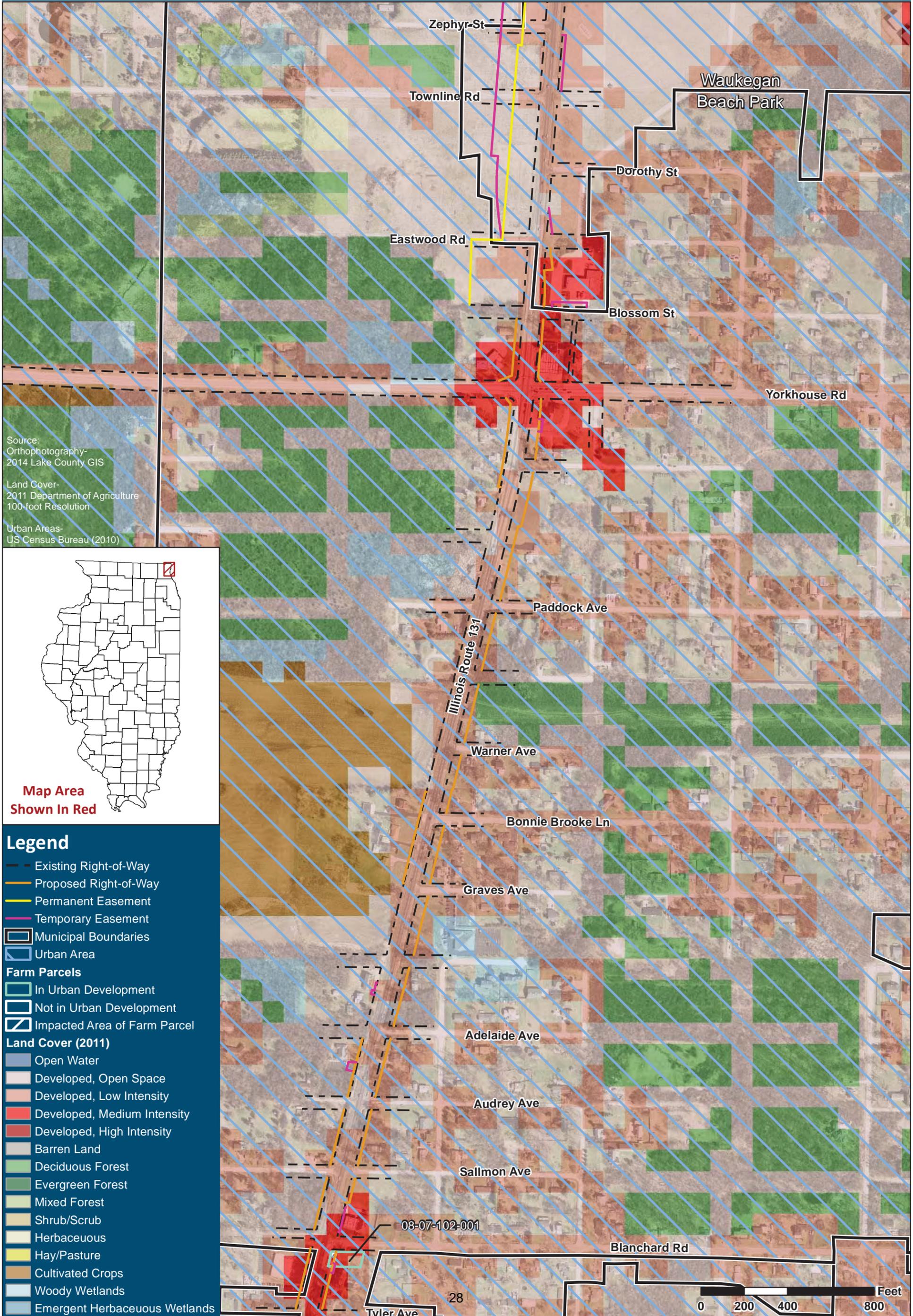


Map Area  
Shown In Red

## Legend

- Existing Right-of-Way
- Proposed Right-of-Way
- Permanent Easement
- Temporary Easement
- Municipal Boundaries
- Urban Area
- Farm Parcels**
- In Urban Development
- Not in Urban Development
- Impacted Area of Farm Parcel
- Land Cover (2011)**
- Open Water
- Developed, Open Space
- Developed, Low Intensity
- Developed, Medium Intensity
- Developed, High Intensity
- Barren Land
- Deciduous Forest
- Evergreen Forest
- Mixed Forest
- Shrub/Scrub
- Herbaceous
- Hay/Pasture
- Cultivated Crops
- Woody Wetlands
- Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands

# State Route 131 Land Cover



Source:  
Orthophotography-  
2014 Lake County GIS

Land Cover-  
2011 Department of Agriculture  
100-foot Resolution

Urban Areas-  
US Census Bureau (2010)



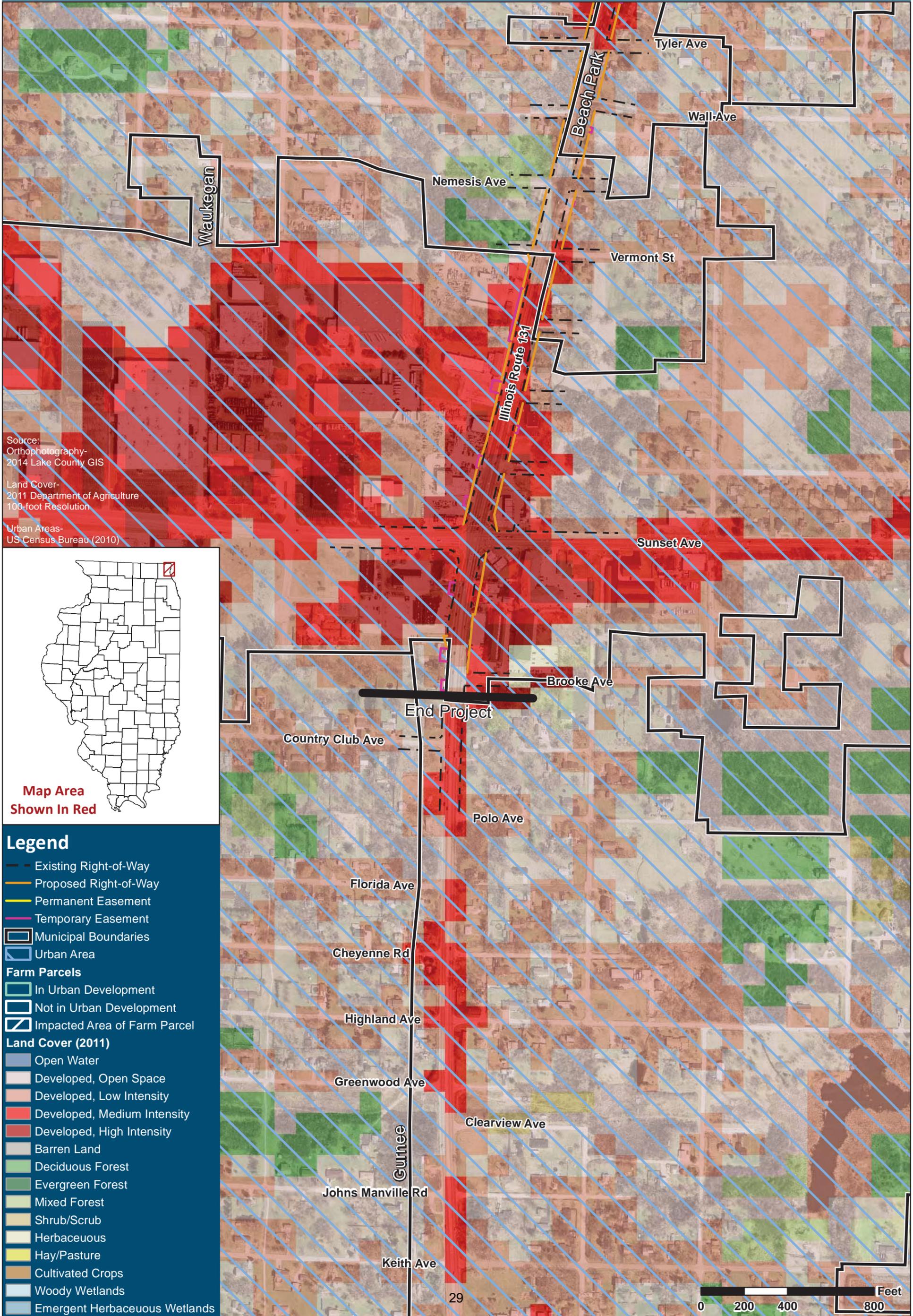
**Map Area  
Shown In Red**

## Legend

- Existing Right-of-Way
- Proposed Right-of-Way
- Permanent Easement
- Temporary Easement
- Municipal Boundaries
- Urban Area
- Farm Parcels**
- In Urban Development
- Not in Urban Development
- Impacted Area of Farm Parcel
- Land Cover (2011)**
- Open Water
- Developed, Open Space
- Developed, Low Intensity
- Developed, Medium Intensity
- Developed, High Intensity
- Barren Land
- Deciduous Forest
- Evergreen Forest
- Mixed Forest
- Shrub/Scrub
- Herbaceous
- Hay/Pasture
- Cultivated Crops
- Woody Wetlands
- Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands



# State Route 131 Land Cover



Source:  
Orthophotography-  
2014 Lake County GIS

Land Cover-  
2011 Department of Agriculture  
100-foot Resolution

Urban Areas-  
US Census Bureau (2010)



## Legend

- Existing Right-of-Way
- Proposed Right-of-Way
- Permanent Easement
- Temporary Easement
- Municipal Boundaries
- Urban Area
- Farm Parcels**
- In Urban Development
- Not in Urban Development
- Impacted Area of Farm Parcel
- Land Cover (2011)**
- Open Water
- Developed, Open Space
- Developed, Low Intensity
- Developed, Medium Intensity
- Developed, High Intensity
- Barren Land
- Deciduous Forest
- Evergreen Forest
- Mixed Forest
- Shrub/Scrub
- Herbaceous
- Hay/Pasture
- Cultivated Crops
- Woody Wetlands
- Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands

