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City of Simonton

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## ***Culvert & Ditch***

### ***Policy & Procedure***

#### **Maintenance**

It shall be the policy of the City of Simonton to have all culverts and ditches set or repaired by Fort Bend County or TXDOT depending on the location of the ditch or culvert. Minor maintenance of culvert and ditch such as mowing, debris removal, and removing leaves will be the responsibility of the resident whose property is connected to the culvert/ditch.

#### **Deep Ditch Mowing Qualifications**

A resident can make a written request to have their ditch included on the deep ditch mowing list. Council has the authority to determine each deep ditch request. Consideration for the deep ditch list are verified under following criteria: (see Appendix A)

A slope with 23 degree axis and above will be deemed a deep ditch.

A slope with 18 to 23 degree axis will be considered by council.

A slope with 18 degree axis and less will be denied by council and not considered a deep ditch.

Appeals to the deep ditch determination are addressed to city council. Once a property's ditch is approved by council it will be added to the deep ditch mowing map. This map is provided to Simonton's current landscape vendor to mow the areas considered a deep ditch. The expense of mowing a deep ditch is paid by the City of Simonton under their current budget.

#### **Culvert & Ditch Requests**

In order to evaluate the wear on a culvert or ditch a request should be addressed to the City of Simonton. A request for a new culvert or repair to an existing culvert needs to be address to City of Simonton permitting department to be referred to Fort Bend County Road and Bridge. Supportive documentation of the culvert should be attached to requests.

##### **New Culvert Requests:**

Fill out Pipe Permit form located on the City Website at the following address  
<http://simontontexas.gov/forms-applications/>

##### **Repair or Replace Existing Culvert:**

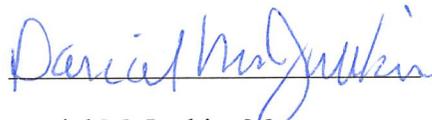
Send an email with photos of the culvert or ditch to be repaired/replaced to City Hall at the following email address: cityhall@simontontexas.gov. Simonton Building Department will forward the request to Fort Bend Road and Bridge to assess. The resident will be notified once the county has made recommendation.

### New, Repair, and Replacement of Culverts & Ditch

In the event that a culvert is accessed by Fort Bend County Road and Bridge to be damaged due to natural causes, the City will make a request to council to have the culvert replaced or repaired on the city's budget item road work. When the Mayor deems it is in the public interests of community health, safety or welfare and the cost of repair is less than \$500 dollars the Mayor may make the decision to have the expense paid from the city's budget without prior approval of council.

New, not prior existing culverts, are the property owner's responsibility and expense. Repair and replacement of culverts that were damaged due to negligence or unnatural causes will be the expense of the property owner whose property is connected to the culvert/ditch. The City of Simonton takes the recommendation of Fort Bend County and Council to access the nature of the culvert on a case by case basis.

Adopted and approved by Simonton City Council this 19 day of January 2016.



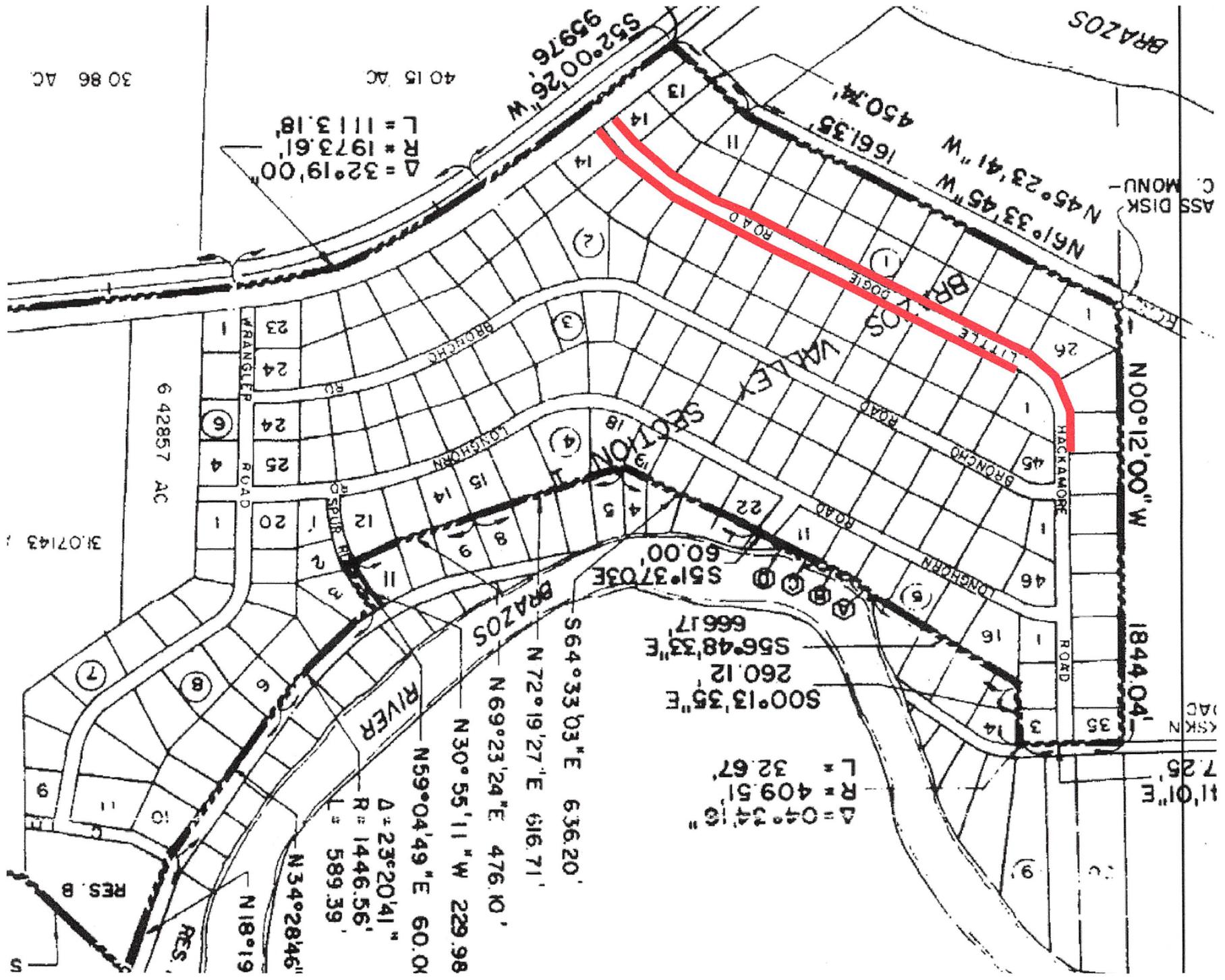
Daniel McJunkin, Mayor

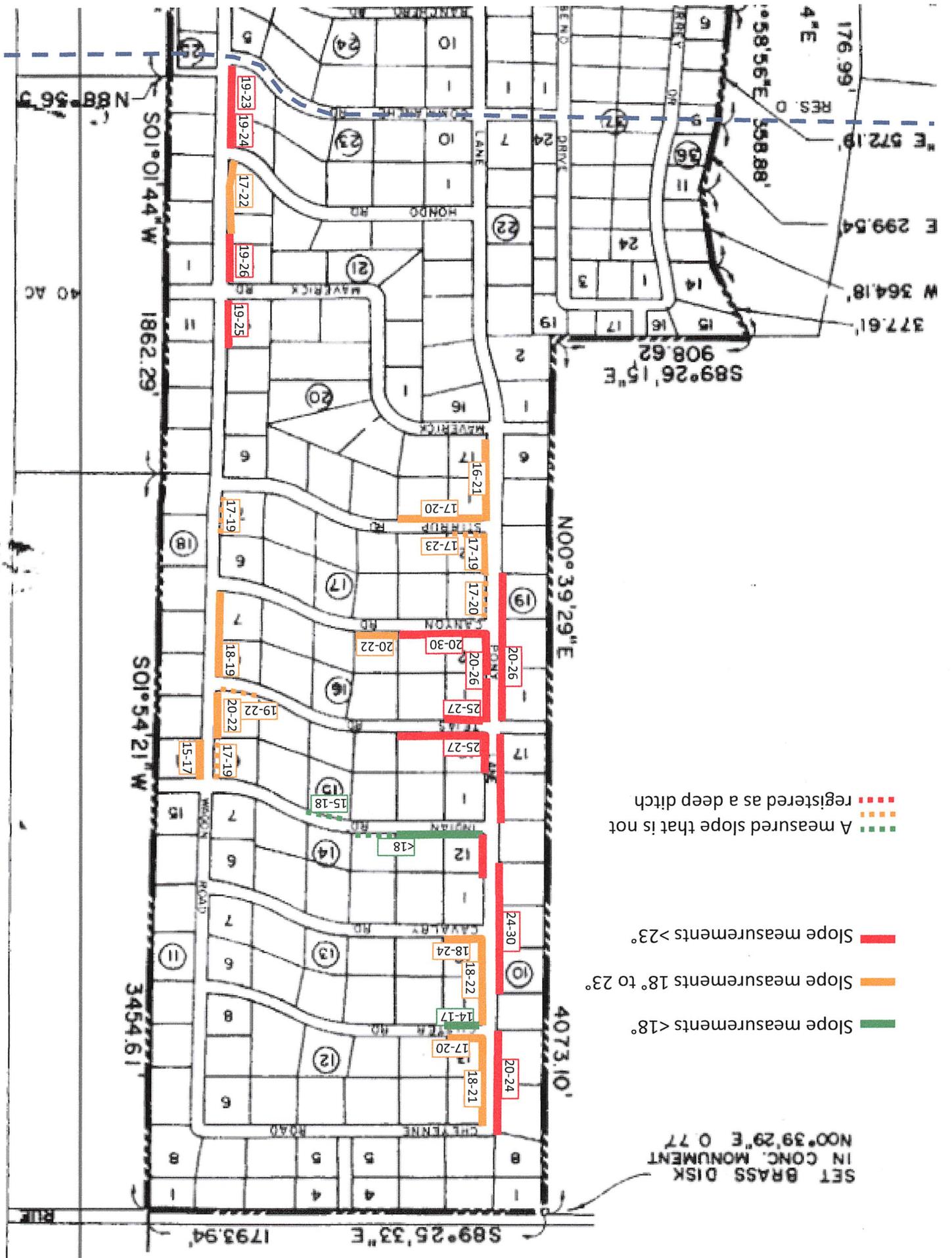
Attest:



S. Elliott, City Secretary

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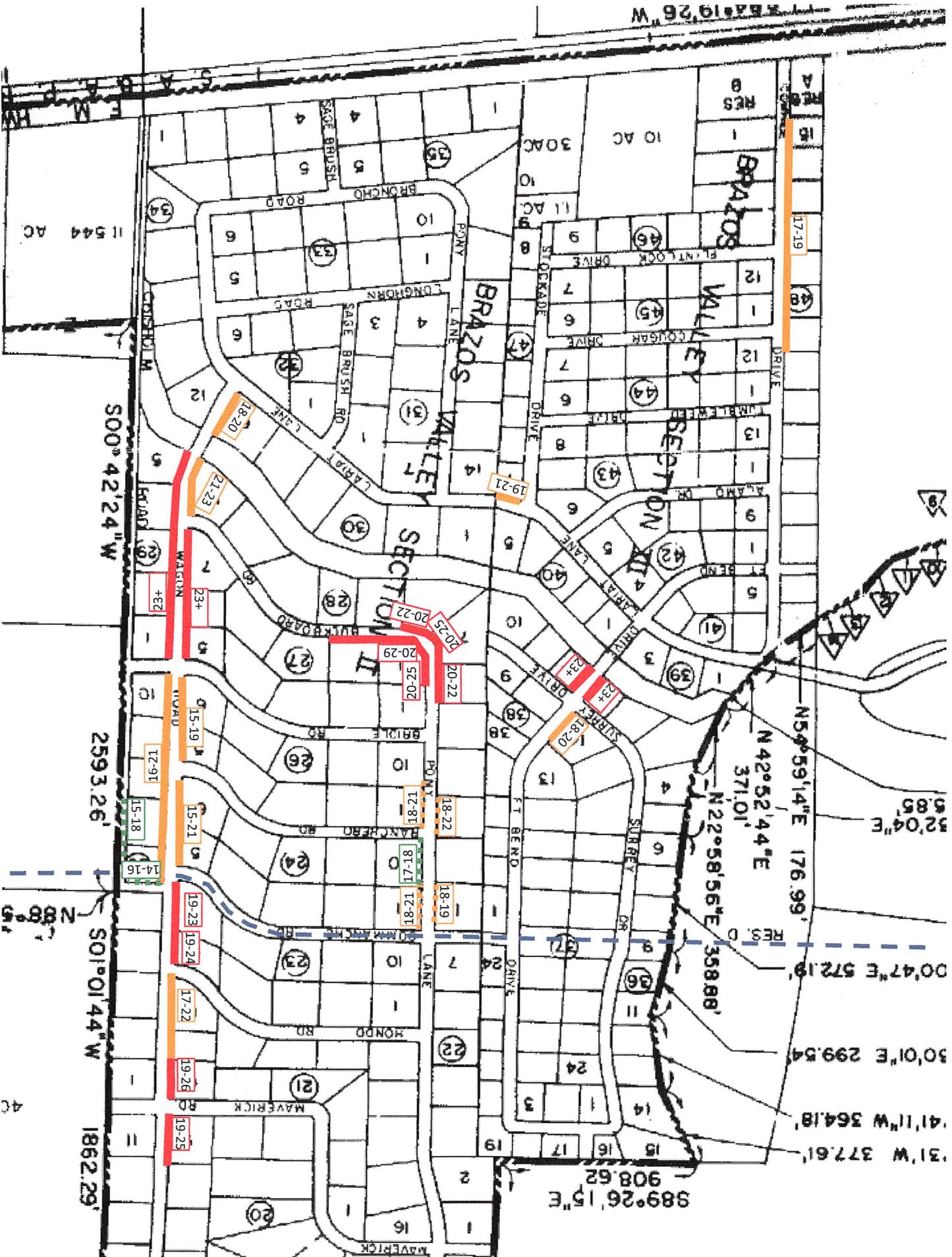


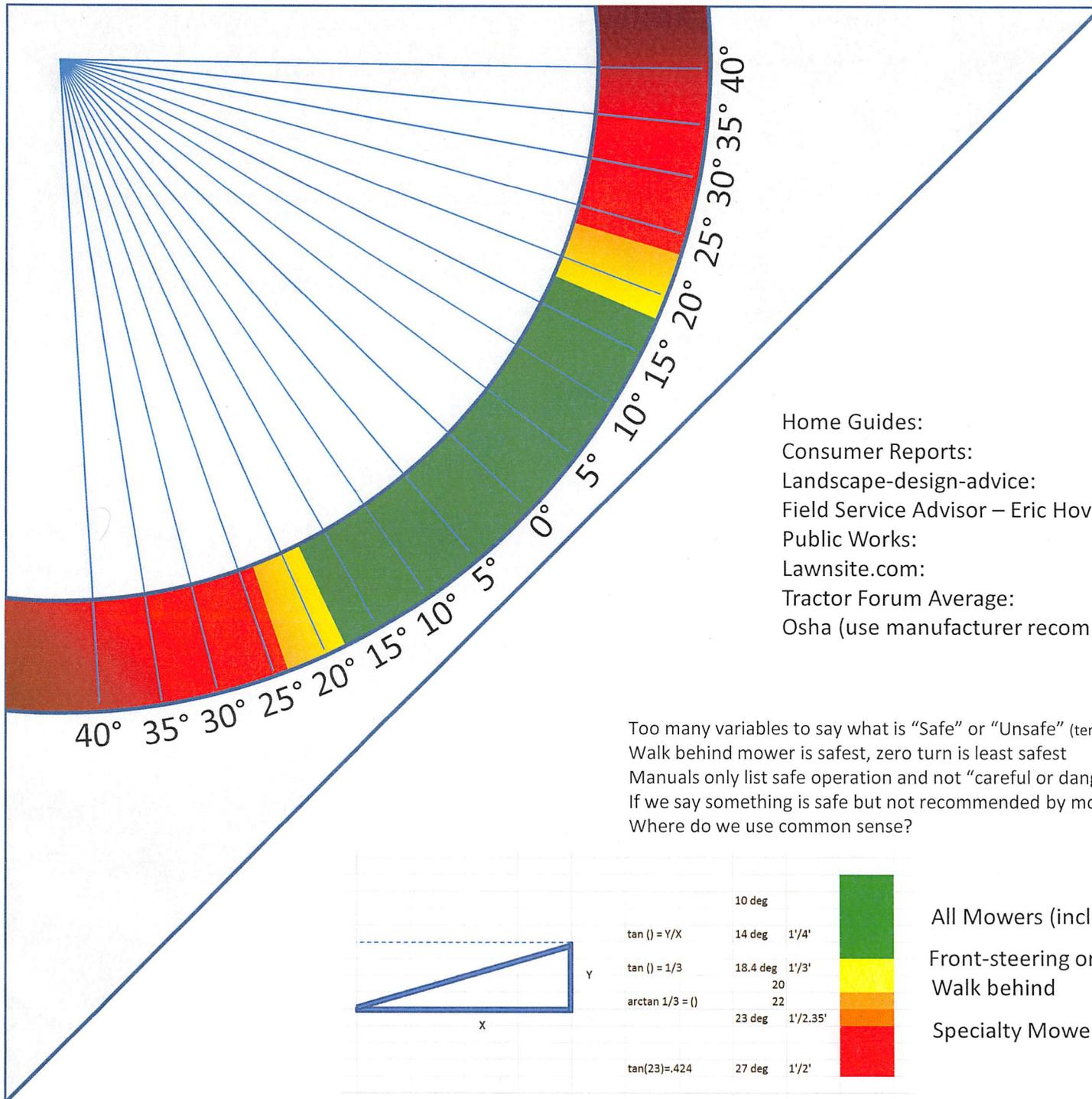
---- registered as a deep ditch  
---- A measured slope that is not

---- Slope measurements > 23°  
---- Slope measurements 18° to 23°  
---- Slope measurements < 18°

SET BRASS DISK  
 IN CONC. MONUMENT  
 N00°39'29"E 0.77

11544 AC





	Safe	Careful	Dangerous
Home Guides:	<15	16-20	21+
Consumer Reports:	<15	NA	NA
Landscape-design-advice:	NA	NA	33+
Field Service Advisor – Eric Hovan:	NA	NA	30+
Public Works:	NA	NA	21+
Lawnsite.com:	<18	18-30	30+
Tractor Forum Average:	<18	18-23	23+
Osha (use manufacturer recommendation or <15)			

Too many variables to say what is "Safe" or "Unsafe" (terrain, age of person or equipment, conditions, etc...)  
 Walk behind mower is safest, zero turn is least safest  
 Manuals only list safe operation and not "careful or dangerous"  
 If we say something is safe but not recommended by mower, are we liable?  
 Where do we use common sense?

