



NEWS RELEASE

****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

TO: The Republic
QMIX News
White River Broadcasting
WHUM News
Hope Star Journal

FROM: Jeff Bergman

DATE: January 25, 2023

RE: City of Columbus Plan Commission Jurisdiction Changes

Columbus Plan Commission to Consider Jurisdictional Area Changes

The jurisdiction of the City of Columbus Plan Commission includes all land incorporated into the City of Columbus as well as properties outside the city limits in a specific extraterritorial or “2-mile” area. Indiana law allows city and town plan commissions throughout the state to establish this expanded jurisdiction provided it extends no further than 2 miles from each’s incorporated city or town boundaries. This extended jurisdiction is not automatic, nor does it expand as does the city or town itself. Each plan commission must take specific steps, specified in Indiana law, to establish their jurisdiction. This extended jurisdiction applies only to the community’s land use planning and zoning authority, and not to property tax rate, police authority, fire protection, road maintenance, other municipal laws, etc.

The City of Columbus Plan Commission has exercised a “2-mile” jurisdiction since 1960. The current jurisdictional limits were largely established in 1999, but refined to better follow roads and property lines in 2000. At that time, the eastern extent of the Columbus jurisdiction was based on the presence of Otter Creek Golf Course as a remote area of incorporated Columbus that existed disconnected from the rest of the city. Indiana law allows noncontiguous incorporated areas for municipally-owned fire stations, sewage treatment plants, golf courses, and other similar facilities. However, the sale of the Otter Creek Golf Course to a private entity in October 2022 negates its eligibility to remain in the city limits. The property will automatically become disannexed one year later, in October of 2023. As a result of this disannexation, the Plan Commission must re-draw its jurisdictional boundaries to be, at most, within 2-miles of the remaining city limits.

Therefore, at its February 8, 2023 meeting, the City of Columbus Plan Commission will consider a resolution revising its extraterritorial jurisdictional boundary. To the east, in the area of the Otter Creek Golf Course, the jurisdiction will recede from approximately 1/2 mile east of State Road 46 to the vicinity of county road 500 East (please refer to the attached maps).

Also to be considered will be the revision of the Commission’s jurisdictional boundary to the north of Columbus. In this area the revision would correct previous 1999 and 2000 oversights that resulted in certain properties being partially in the jurisdiction of the Columbus Pan Commission and partially in the jurisdiction of the Bartholomew County Plan Commission. In these instances, the Columbus jurisdiction is

also proposed to recede, with the affected properties then being located entirely in the jurisdiction of Bartholomew County (please again refer to the attached maps).

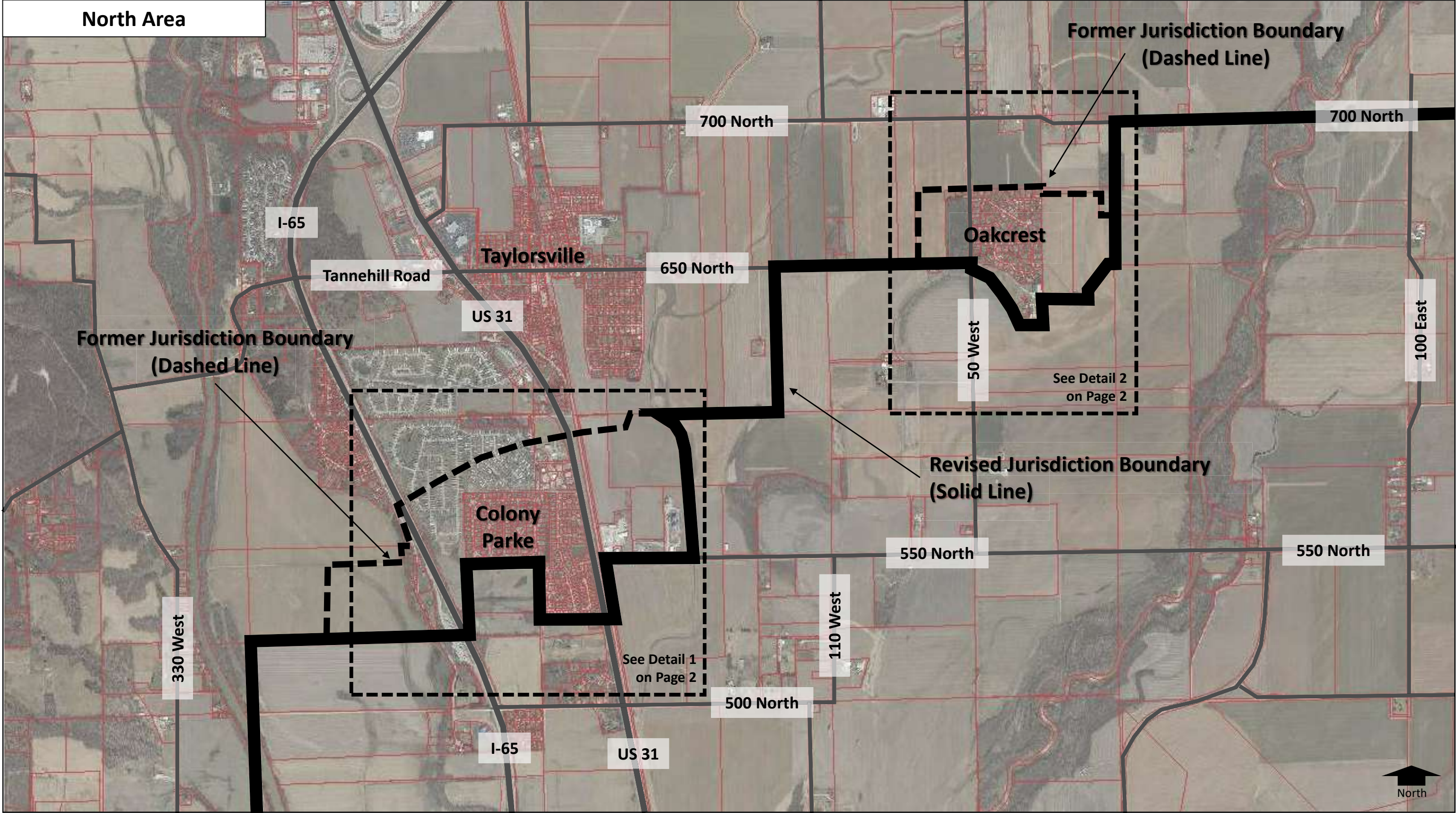
The February 8, 2023 Columbus Plan Commission meeting will begin at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Columbus City Hall. Interested members of the public are welcome to attend and will have the opportunity to speak on this topic. The public is also welcome to contact Planning Director Jeff Bergman with any questions at 812.376.2550 or jbergman@columbus.in.gov. The proposed resolution adopting the revised jurisdiction, as well as the supporting maps, will be posted on the Planning Department website at: <https://www.columbus.in.gov/planning/agendas-materials/> (at the link for the February 8, 2023 City of Columbus Plan Commission Meeting).

Any jurisdiction change made by the Columbus Plan Commission is anticipated to be effective after corresponding action by Bartholomew County, specifically the updating of its comprehensive plan and official zoning map to reflect the newly added territory.

Media questions regarding this matter may likewise be directed to Jeff Bergman, Planning Director, at 812.376.2550 or jbergman@columbus.in.gov.

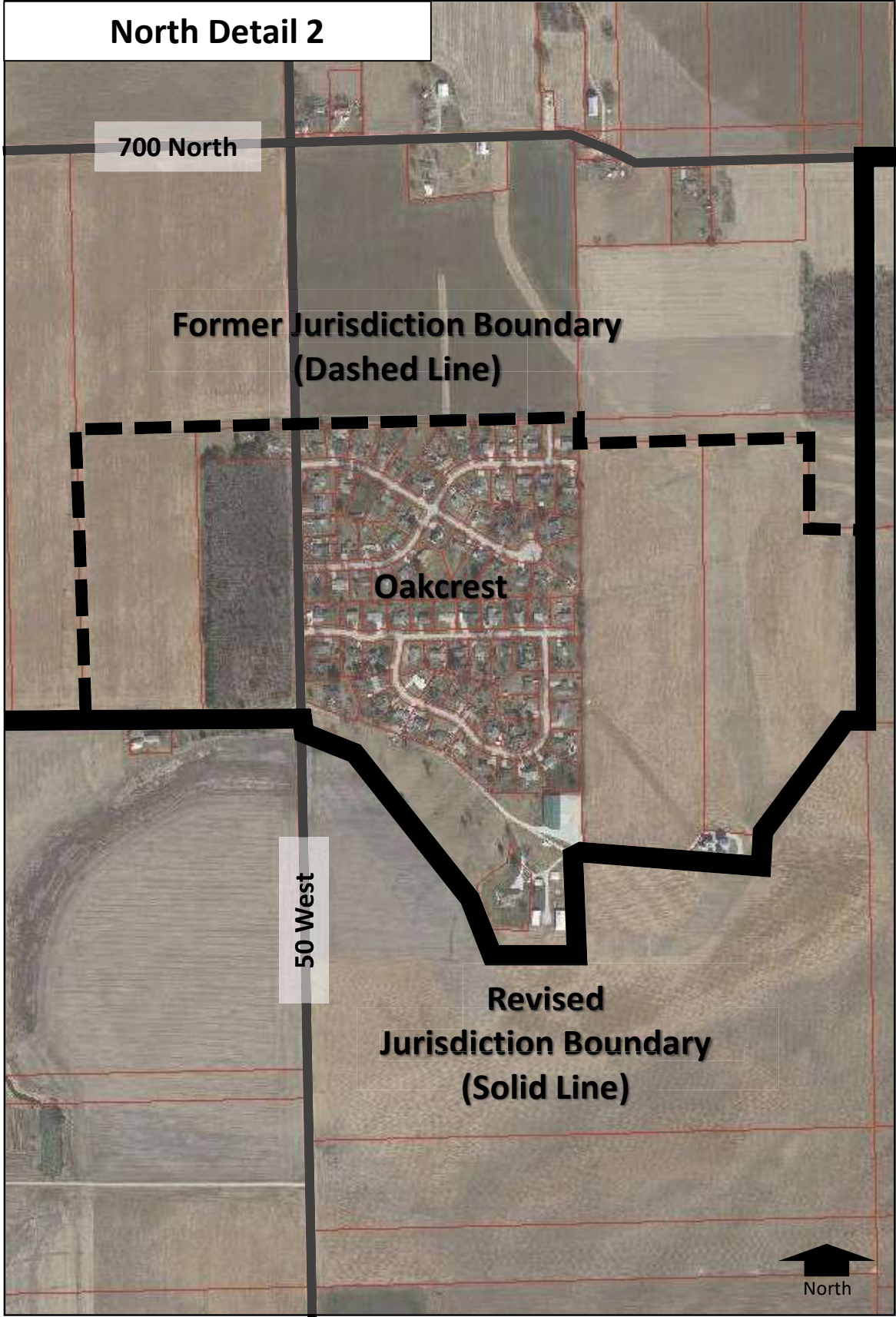
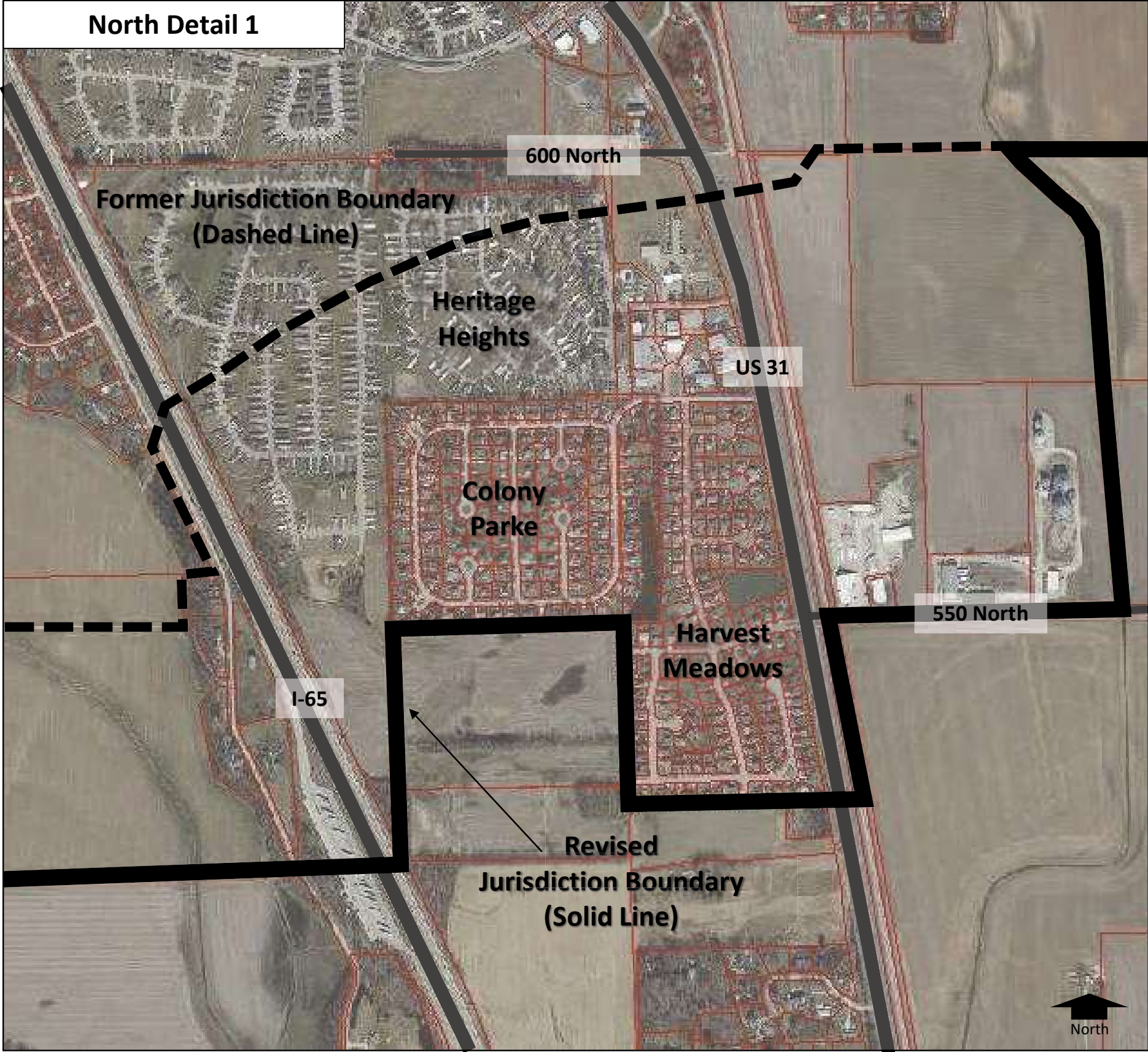
City of Columbus Plan Commission Jurisdiction Revisions

Commission Resolution No. 1, 2023 Exhibit "A" (Page 1 of 4) – North Revisions **Proposed**



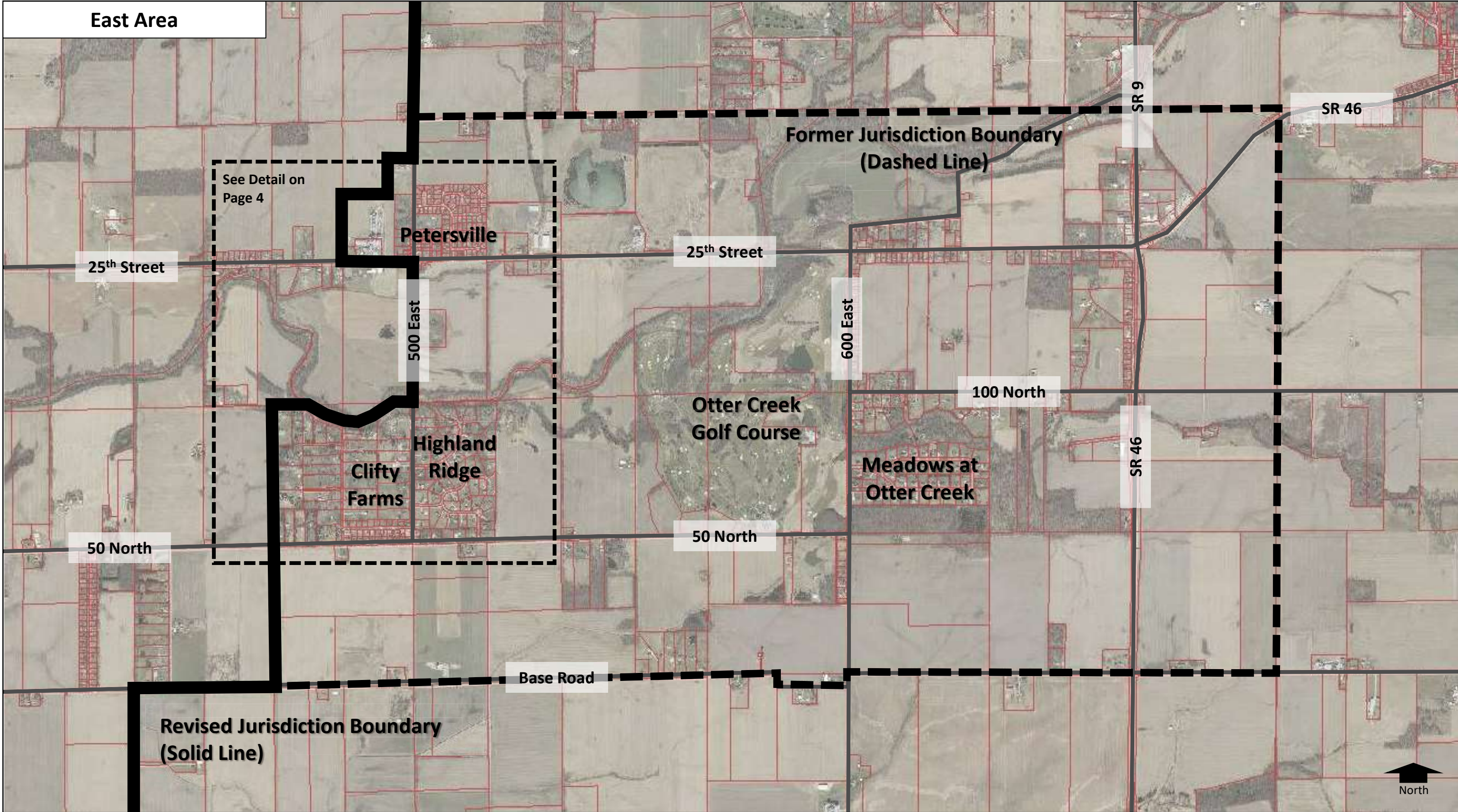
City of Columbus Plan Commission Jurisdiction Revisions

Commission Resolution No. 1, 2023 Exhibit "A" (Page 2 of 4) – North Details **Proposed**



City of Columbus Plan Commission Jurisdiction Revisions

Commission Resolution No. 1, 2023 Exhibit "A" (Page 3 of 4) – East Revisions **Proposed**



City of Columbus Plan Commission Jurisdiction Revisions

Commission Resolution No. 1, 2023 Exhibit "A" (Page 4 of 4) – East Detail & Jurisdiction Overview **Proposed**

