



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New England District
**696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Comment Period Begins: May 8, 2012
Comment Period Ends: June 8, 2012
File Number: NAE-2012-497
In Reply Refer To: Kevin R. Kotelly, P.E.
Phone: (978) 318-8703
E-mail: kevin.r.kotelly@usace.army.mil

The District Engineer has received a permit application to conduct work in waters of the United States as described below.

APPLICANT

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation

ACTIVITY

To perform work and to place fill and structures below the high tide line of waters of the United States in order to perform a beach nourishment project at Winthrop Beach, Winthrop, Massachusetts. The project also includes dredging below the high tide line of existing material from a tombolo located at Winthrop Beach for redistribution within the beach nourishment area. The beach nourishment area will cover approximately 50.6 acres and will require approximately 500,000 cubic yards (CY) of sand and gravel material. The majority of the nourishment material will be obtained from an upland source, the abandoned I-95 embankment in Saugus, Massachusetts. A tombolo of sand and gravel exists behind the five breakwaters at Winthrop Beach. As stated above, a portion of the nourishment material is proposed to be excavated from the tombolo. The purpose of the project is shore protection at Winthrop Beach.

The beach nourishment will consist of an area north of the five breakwaters and an area south of the five breakwaters. The north nourishment area will be 30.7 acres in area and consist of 350,000 CY of beach nourishment obtained from the I-95 embankment site. The south nourishment area will be 19.9 acres in area and consist of 90,000 CY of material obtained from the dredging of the tombolo. The two nourishment footprints combined will require 440,000 CY of material. However, 500,000 CY of material is needed in anticipation of some losses and unusable material. The Corps of Engineers will verify that the material is compatible prior to the final permit decision.

Material from the I-95 embankment site will be transported to Winthrop Beach via dump trucks. The dump trucks will approach Winthrop Beach by driving south on Winthrop Shore Drive. Trucks will enter onto Winthrop Beach from the beach opening near Cutler Street or at an existing opening at Tewksbury Street. The openings at Cutler and Tewksbury Street will require that 50 feet of seawall cap be temporarily removed. On the beach, a truck unloading area will be established, consisting of a temporary surface of crushed stone that will be removed after all material is delivered. The trucks will pull onto the beach on the temporary stone surface and back up to the unloading area. After unloading, the trucks will pull off the beach onto Winthrop Shore Drive and drive north on the return trip to the Saugus borrow site. The material will be spread within the nourishment area using bulldozers. The applicant has estimated that between 20,600 and 24,700 truck trips from Saugus will be required.

Material from the tombolo will be excavated using land based mechanical equipment and placed in dump trucks for transport to the southern nourishment area. The material on the southern nourishment area will also be spread using bulldozers.

The construction duration for the nourishment project is expected to take approximately 8 months. Due to this duration, temporary structures may be required to limit longshore and cross-shore losses of the material during placement. It is anticipated that temporary groins will periodically be placed within the footprint of the nourishment area consisting of steel sheet pile walls that extend from the base of the seawall approximately 200 feet offshore. In addition, a shore parallel section of sheet pile at the seaward end of the temporary groin will be installed to minimize offshore losses. Once the nourishment has been placed within a given area, the temporary groin will be removed.

In addition to the beach nourishment project, the work will also include modifications to the five existing groins along Winthrop Beach. The existing groins will remain in place, but will have the concrete cap that exists on top of the groins broken up into pieces and existing stones will be stabilized. Also, a new terminal groin will be constructed north of Locust Street. The existing groins will be completely buried by the proposed beach nourishment project. The terminal groin is designed to contain the beach nourishment template in place.

The work is described on the enclosed plans entitled, "Proposed Beach Restoration At Winthrop Beach in Atlantic Ocean, County of Suffolk, MA," on 13 sheets, and dated, April, 2012.

MITIGATION

The Winthrop Beach nourishment project will cover 50.6 acres of intertidal and subtidal habitat. Temporary loss of shellfish resources will occur as a result of initial burial, however, these likely will recover through natural seeding from adjacent beaches. The applicant has not proposed any compensatory mitigation. They anticipate that once equilibrated, the proposed beach nourishment project will significantly increase the width of the intertidal beach, providing a long term enhancement of shellfish habitat.

WATERWAY AND LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED WORK

This work is proposed in the Atlantic Ocean along Winthrop Shore Drive in Winthrop, Massachusetts. The site coordinates are: Latitude 42°22'42.8" N, Longitude 70°58'18.5" W.

AUTHORITY

Permits are required pursuant to:

- Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899
- Section 404 of the Clean Water Act
- Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act).

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which may reasonably accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are: conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural value, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain value, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Where the activity involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States or the transportation of dredged material for the purpose of disposing it in ocean waters, the evaluation of the impact of the activity in the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act, and/or Section 103 of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 as amended.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-267), requires all federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH).

This project will impact approximately 50.6 acres of Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) for various life stages of the following species: atlantic cod (*Gadus morhua*), haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*), pollock (*Pollachius virens*), whiting (*Merluccius bilinearis*), red hake (*Urophycis chuss*), white hake (*Urophycis tenuis*), winter flounder (*Pseudopleuronectes americanus*), yellowtail flounder (*Limanda ferruginea*), windowpane flounder (*Scophthalmus aquosus*), American plaice (*Hippoglossoides platessoides*), ocean pout (*Macrozoarces americanus*), Atlantic halibut (*Hippoglossus hippoglossus*), Atlantic sea scallop (*Placopecten magellanicus*), Atlantic sea herring (*Clupea harengus*), bluefish (*Pomatomus saltatrix*), long finned squid (*Loligo pealeii*), short finned squid (*Illex illecebrosus*), Atlantic butterfish (*Peprilus triacanthus*), Atlantic mackerel (*Scomber scombrus*), summer flounder (*Paralichthys dentatus*), scup (*Stenotomus chrysops*), black sea bass (*Centropristis striata*), surf clam (*Spisula solidissima*), and bluefin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*). This habitat consists of nearshore intertidal and subtidal sands and gravels. Loss of this habitat may adversely affect the species listed above. However, the District Engineer has made a preliminary determination that the site-specific adverse effect will not be substantial. Further consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding EFH conservation recommendations is being conducted and will be concluded prior to the final decision.

NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT

Based on his initial review, the District Engineer has determined that little likelihood exists for the proposed work to impinge upon properties with cultural or Native American significance, or listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, no further consideration of the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, is necessary. This determination is based upon one or more of the following:

- a. The permit area has been extensively modified by previous work.
- b. The permit area has been recently created.

- c. The proposed activity is of limited nature and scope.
- d. Review of the latest published version of the National Register shows that no presence of registered properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein are in the permit area or general vicinity.
- e. Coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer and/or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer(s)

ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSULTATION

The New England District, Army Corps of Engineers has reviewed the list of species protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, which might occur at the project site. It is our preliminary determination that the proposed activity for which authorization is being sought is designed, situated or will be operated/used in such a manner that it is not likely to adversely affect any Federally listed endangered or threatened species or their designated critical habitat. Consultation with the appropriate Federal Agency regarding the presence and potential impacts to listed species or critical habitat will be conducted.

The States of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island have approved **Coastal Zone Management Programs**. Where applicable the applicant states that any proposed activity will comply with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the approved Coastal Zone Management Program. By this Public Notice, we are requesting the State concurrence or objection to the applicant's consistency statement.

The following authorizations have been applied for, or have been, or will be obtained:

- Permit, License or Assent from State.
- Permit from Local Wetland Agency or Conservation Commission.
- Water Quality Certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

In order to properly evaluate the proposal, we are seeking public comment. Anyone wishing to comment is encouraged to do so. **Comments should be submitted in writing by the above date.** If you have any questions, please contact Kevin Kotelly at (978) 318-8703, (800) 343-4789 or (800) 362-4367, if calling from within Massachusetts.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for a public hearing shall specifically state the reasons for holding a public hearing. The Corps holds public hearings for the purpose of obtaining public comments when that is the best means for understanding a wide variety of concerns from a diverse segment of the public.

The initial determinations made herein will be reviewed in light of facts submitted in response to this notice. All comments will be considered a matter of public record. Copies of letters of objection will be forwarded to the applicant who will normally be requested to contact objectors directly in an effort to reach an understanding.

THIS NOTICE IS NOT AN AUTHORIZATION TO DO ANY WORK.

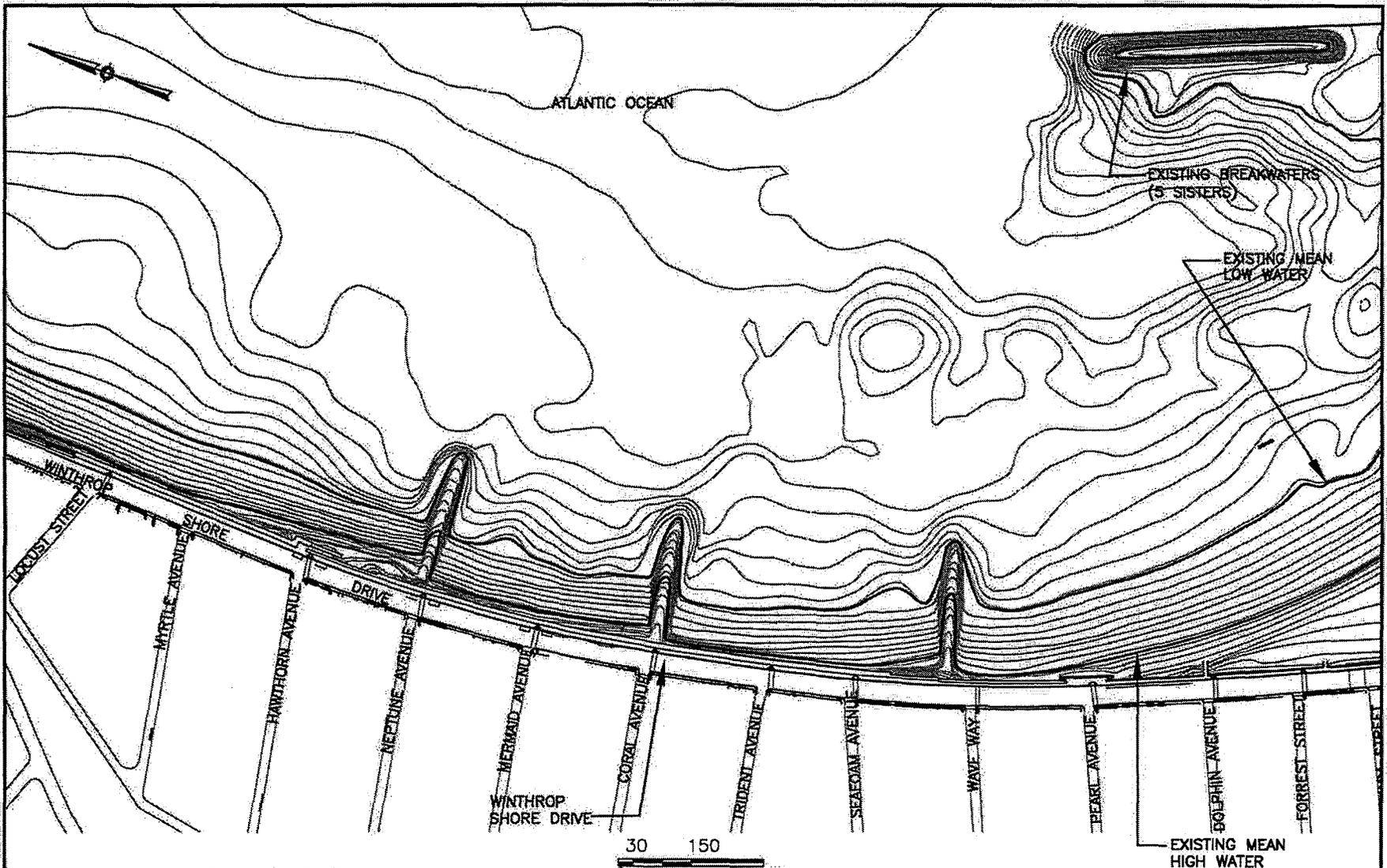


Karen K. Adams
Chief, Permits and Enforcement Branch
Regulatory Division

If you would prefer not to continue receiving Public Notices, please contact Ms. Tina Chaisson at (978) 318-8058 or e-mail her at bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil. You may also check here () and return this portion of the Public Notice to: Bettina Chaisson, Regulatory Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____



VERTICAL DATUM: BOSTON CITY BASE

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION
251 CAUSEWAY STREET
BOSTON, MA. 02114

WINTHROP BEACH NORTH
EXISTING CONDITION PLAN (SHEET 1 OF 2)

DATE: APRIL, 2012

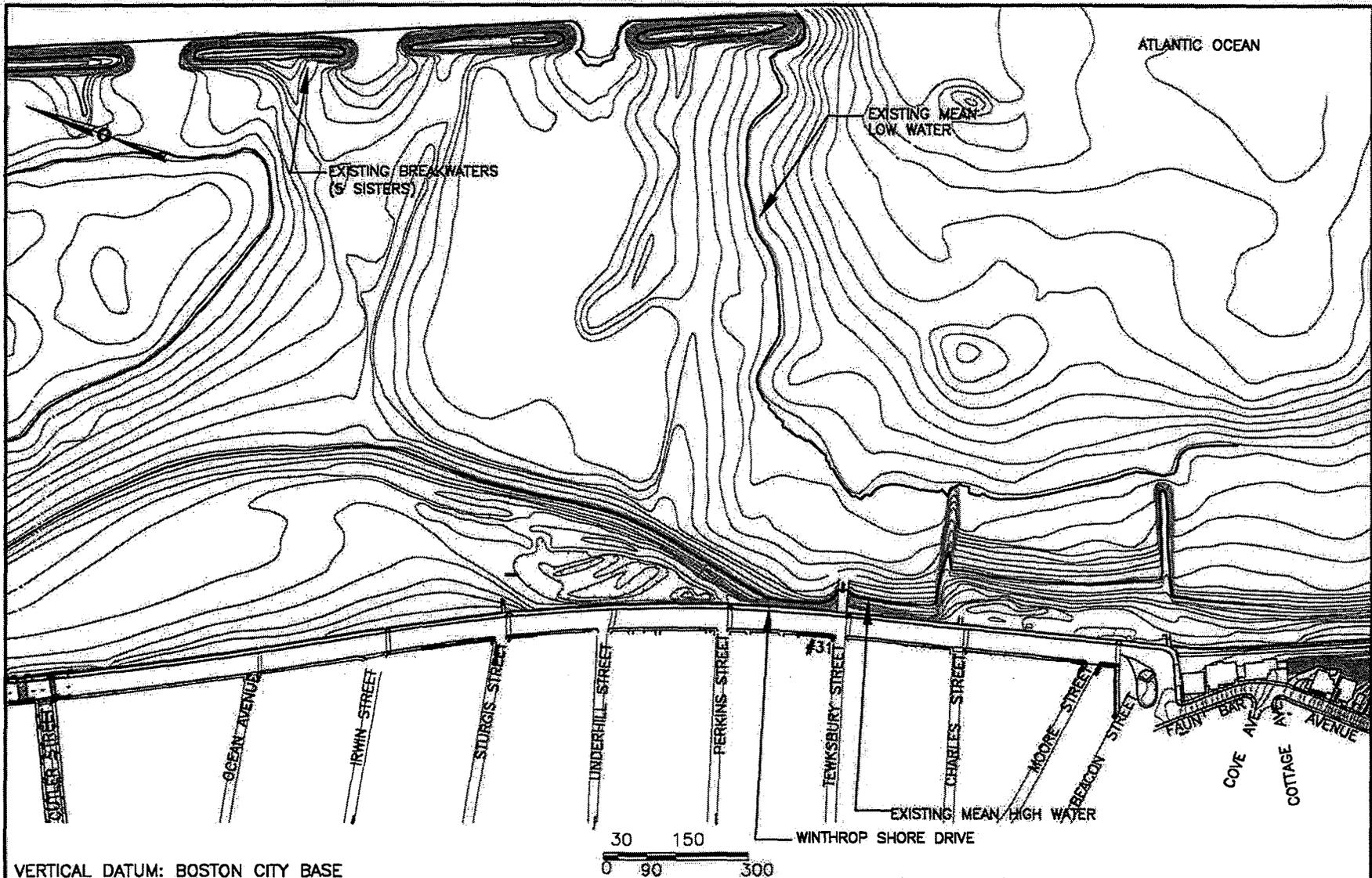
PLANS COURTESY OF:

Parsons Brinckerhoff, Inc
75 Arlington St Boston, MA 02116
PH (617)426-7330 FAX (617)482-8467

AT: WINTHROP BEACH NORTH
IN: ATLANTIC OCEAN
SUFFOLK COUNTY
STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS

APPLICATION BY:
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

SHEET 1 OF 13



VERTICAL DATUM: BOSTON CITY BASE

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION
251 CAUSEWAY STREET
BOSTON, MA. 02114

WINTHROP BEACH SOUTH
EXISTING CONDITION PLAN (SHEET 2 OF 2)

DATE: APRIL, 2012

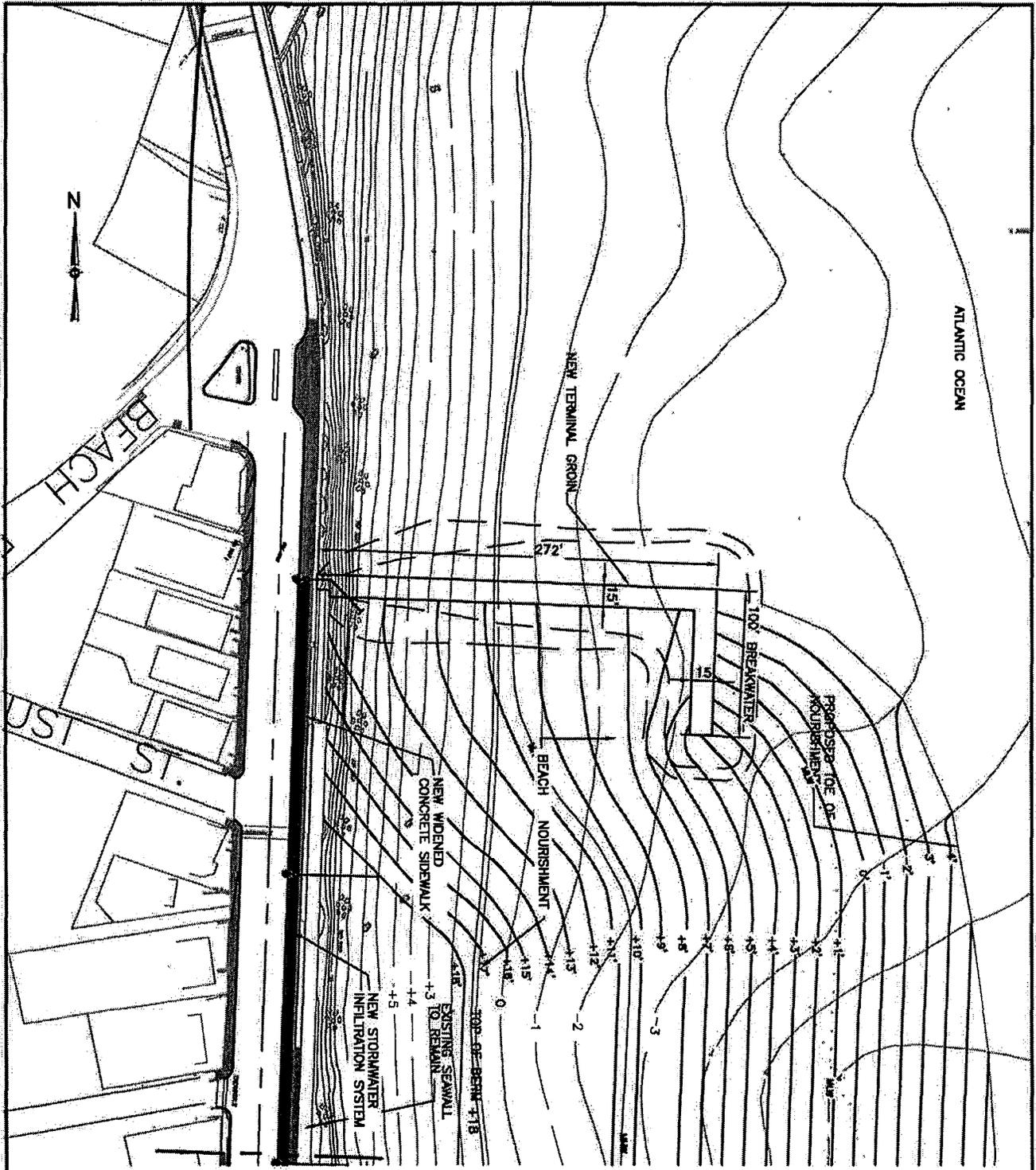
PLANS COURTESY OF:

Parsons Brinckerhoff, Inc
75 Arlington St Boston, MA 02116
PH: (617)426-7330 FAX (617)482-9487

AT: WINTHROP BEACH SOUTH
IN: ATLANTIC OCEAN
SUFFOLK COUNTY
STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS

APPLICATION BY:
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

SHEET 2 OF 13



VERTICAL DATUM: BOSTON CITY BASE

PURPOSE: BEACH NOURISHMENT FOR SHORE PROTECTION

DATUM: MLW = 1.2
MHW = 10.5
HTL = 12.9

ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS;
SEE ATTACHED SHEETS

WINTHROP BEACH
SHEET 1 OF 8
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0 30 100

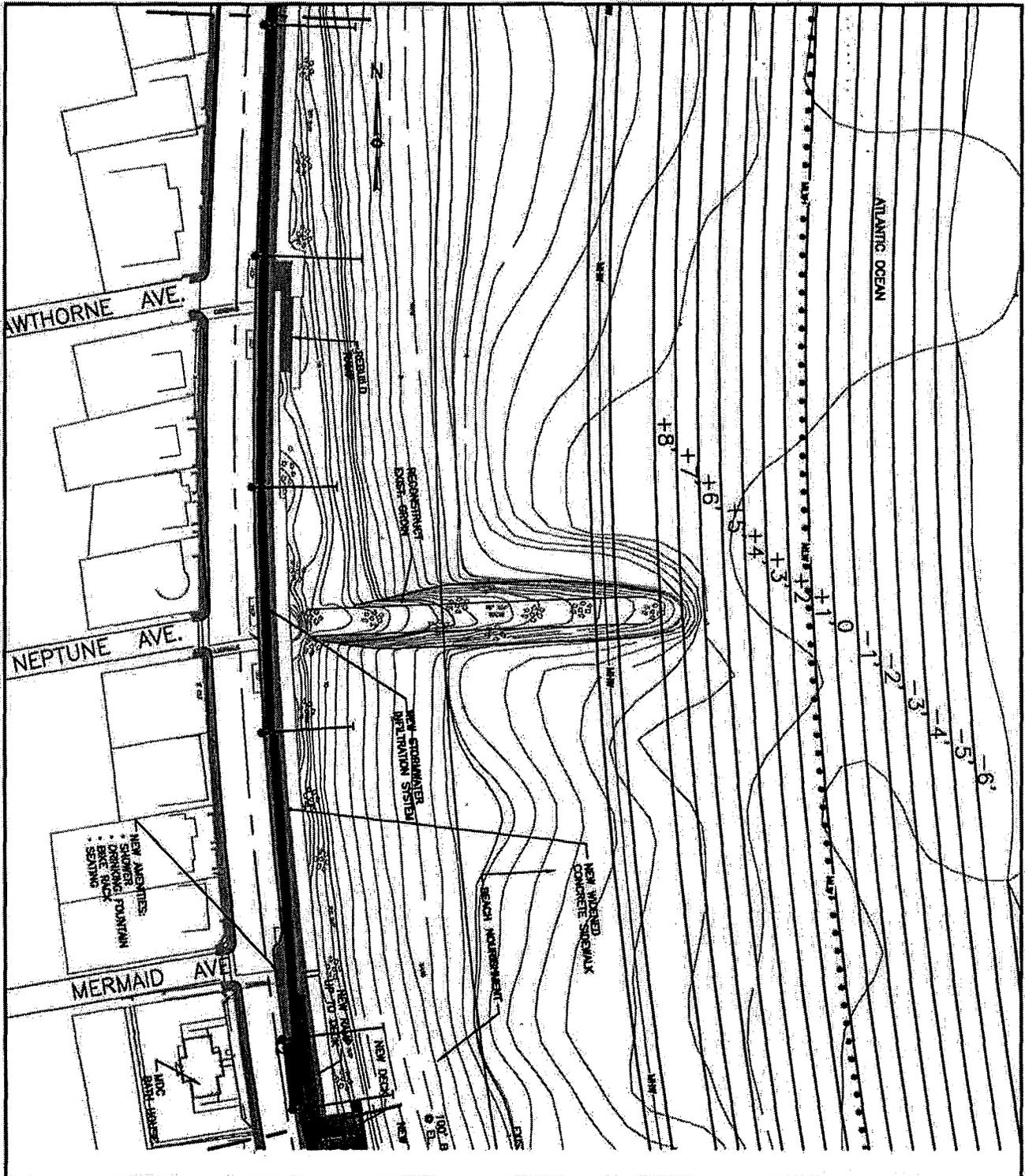
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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION
251 CAUSEWAY STREET
BOSTON, MA. 02114

PROPOSED BEACH RESTORATION AT WINTHROP BEACH IN ATLANTIC OCEAN COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, MA

APPLICATION BY:
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

DATE: APRIL, 2012 SHEET 3 OF 13



PURPOSE: BEACH NOURISHMENT
FOR SHORE PROTECTION

DATUM: MLW = 1.2
MHW = 10.5
HTL = 12.9

ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS:
SEE ATTACHED SHEETS

WINTHROP BEACH
SHEET 2 OF 8
10 50

0 30 100
SCALE: 1"=100'

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND RECREATION
251 CAUSEWAY STREET
BOSTON, MA. 02114

PROPOSED BEACH RESTORATION
AT WINTHROP BEACH
IN ATLANTIC OCEAN
COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, MA

APPLICATION BY:
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND RECREATION

DATE: APRIL, 2012 SHEET 4 OF 13



VERTICAL DATUM: BOSTON CITY BASE

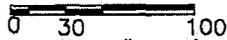
PURPOSE: BEACH NOURISHMENT
FOR SHORE PROTECTION

DATUM: MLW = 1.2
MHW = 10.5
HTL = 12.9

ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS:
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WINTHROP BEACH

SHEET 3 OF 8
10 50



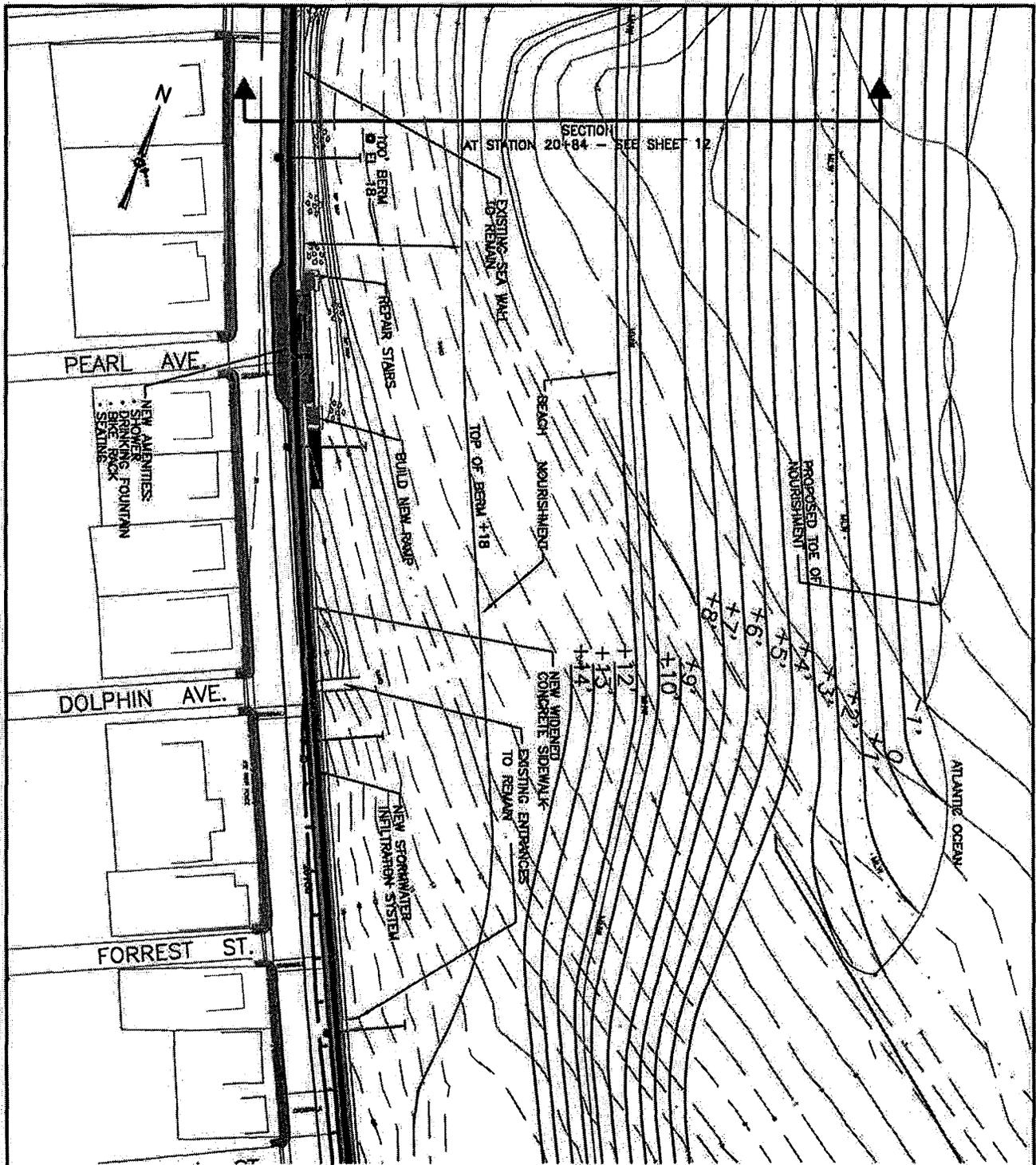
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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND RECREATION
251 CAUSEWAY STREET
BOSTON, MA. 02114

PROPOSED BEACH RESTORATION
AT WINTHROP BEACH
IN ATLANTIC OCEAN
COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, MA

APPLICATION BY:
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND RECREATION

DATE: APRIL, 2012 SHEET 5 OF 13



VERTICAL DATUM: BOSTON CITY BASE

PURPOSE: BEACH NOURISHMENT FOR SHORE PROTECTION

DATUM: MLW = 1.2
 MHW = 10.5
 HTL = 12.9

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WINTHROP BEACH

SHEET 4 OF 8

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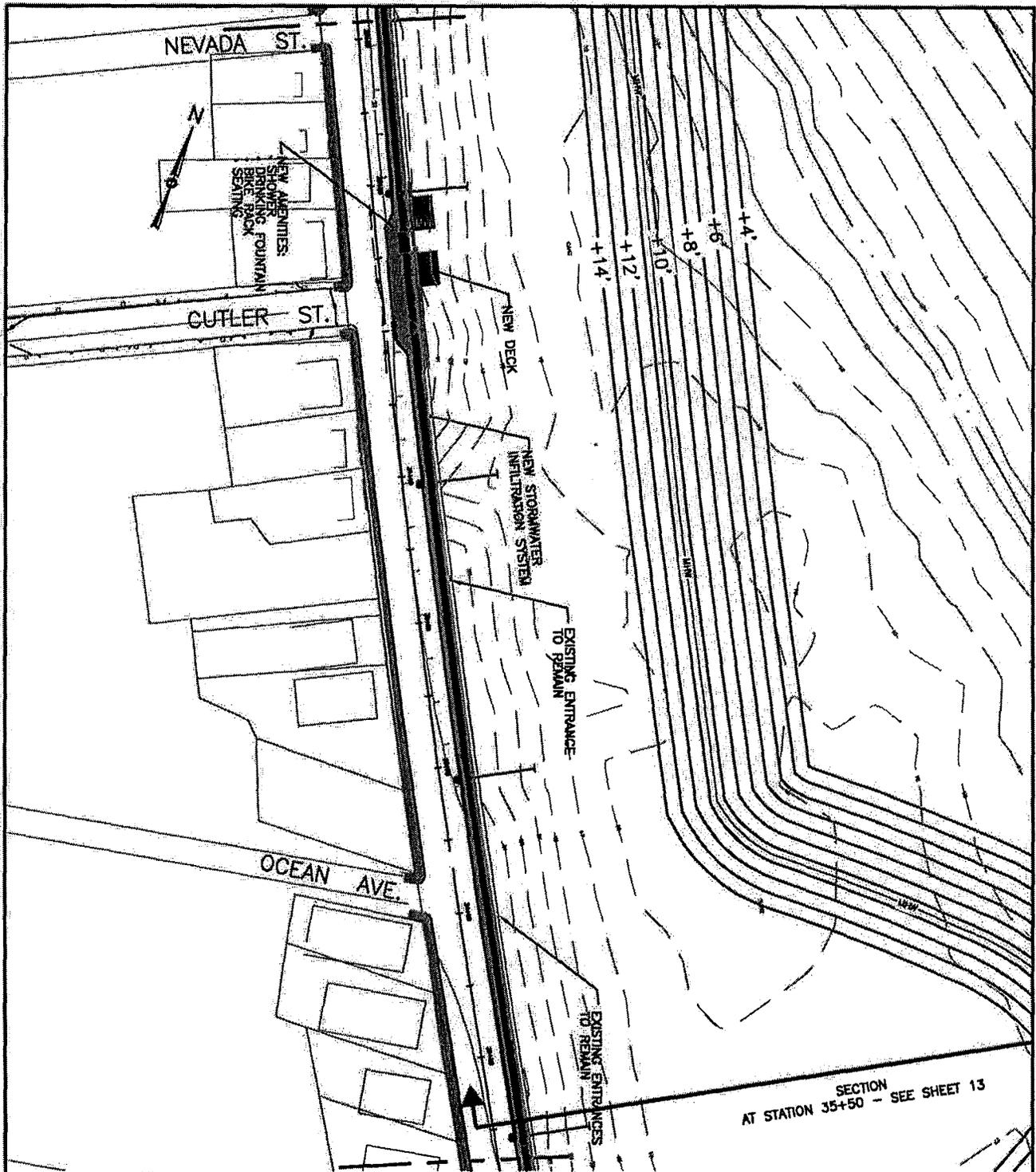
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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION
 251 CAUSEWAY STREET
 BOSTON, MA. 02114

PROPOSED BEACH RESTORATION AT WINTHROP BEACH IN ATLANTIC OCEAN COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, MA

APPLICATION BY:
 DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

DATE: APRIL, 2012 SHEET 6 OF 12



VERTICAL DATUM: BOSTON CITY BASE

PURPOSE: BEACH NOURISHMENT FOR SHORE PROTECTION

DATUM: MLW = 1.2
MHW = 10.5
HTL = 12.9

ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS:
SEE ATTACHED SHEETS

WINTHROP BEACH

SHEET 5 OF 9

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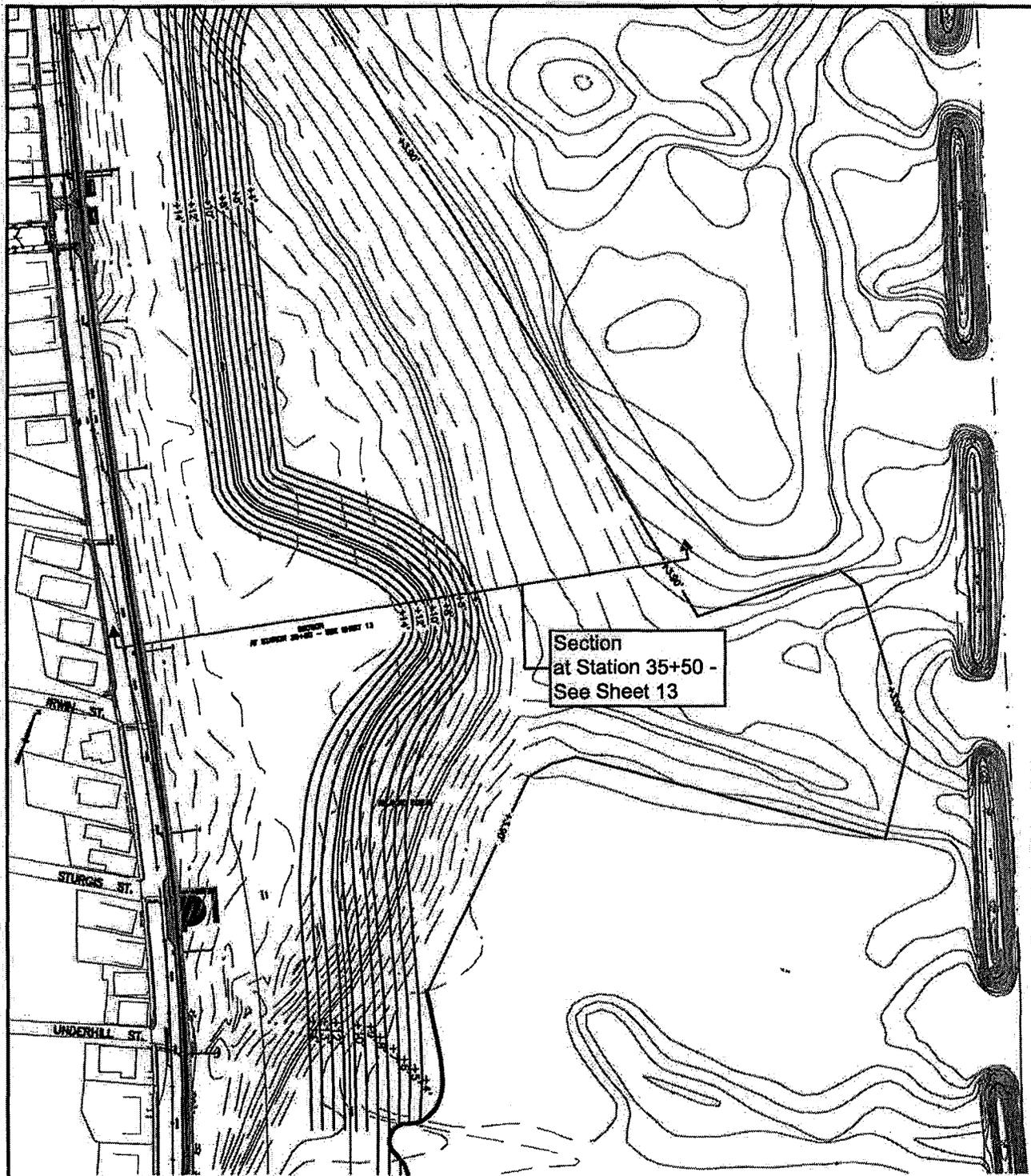
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION
251 CAUSEWAY STREET
BOSTON, MA. 02114

PROPOSED BEACH RESTORATION AT WINTHROP BEACH IN ATLANTIC OCEAN COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, MA

APPLICATION BY:
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

DATE: APRIL, 2012 SHEET 7 OF 13

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VERTICAL DATUM: BOSTON CITY BASE

PURPOSE: BEACH NOURISHMENT
FOR SHORE PROTECTION

DATUM: MLW = 1.2
MHW = 10.5
HTL = 12.9

ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS:
SEE ATTACHED SHEETS

WINTHROP BEACH
SHEET 6 OF 9

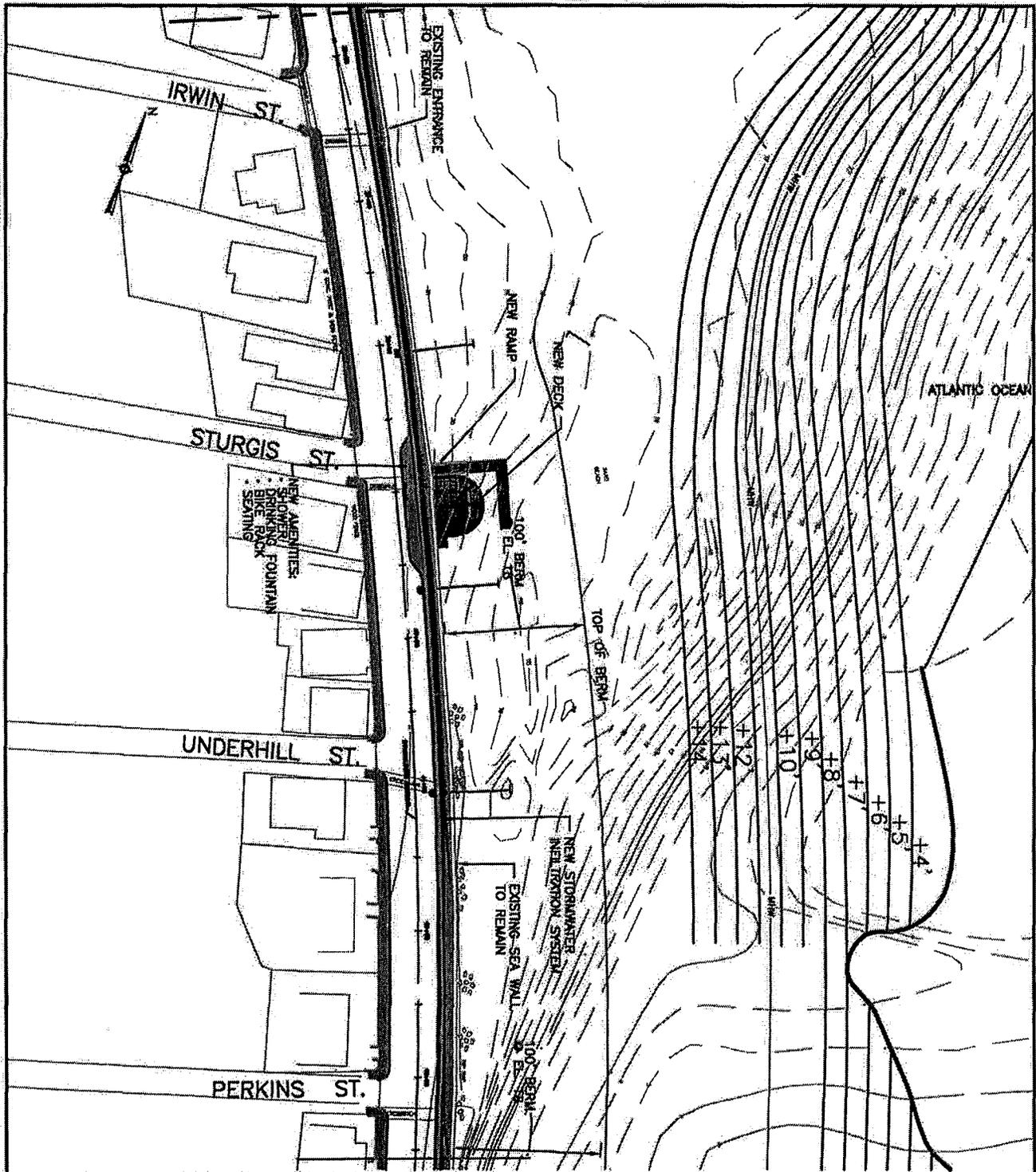
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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND RECREATION
251 CAUSEWAY STREET
BOSTON, MA. 02114

PROPOSED BEACH RESTORATION
AT WINTHROP BEACH
IN ATLANTIC OCEAN
COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, MA

APPLICATION BY:
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND RECREATION

DATE: APRIL, 2012 SHEET 8 OF 13



VERTICAL DATUM: BOSTON CITY BASE

PURPOSE: BEACH NOURISHMENT FOR SHORE PROTECTION

DATUM: MLW = 1.2
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WINTHROP BEACH
SHEET 6 OF 8

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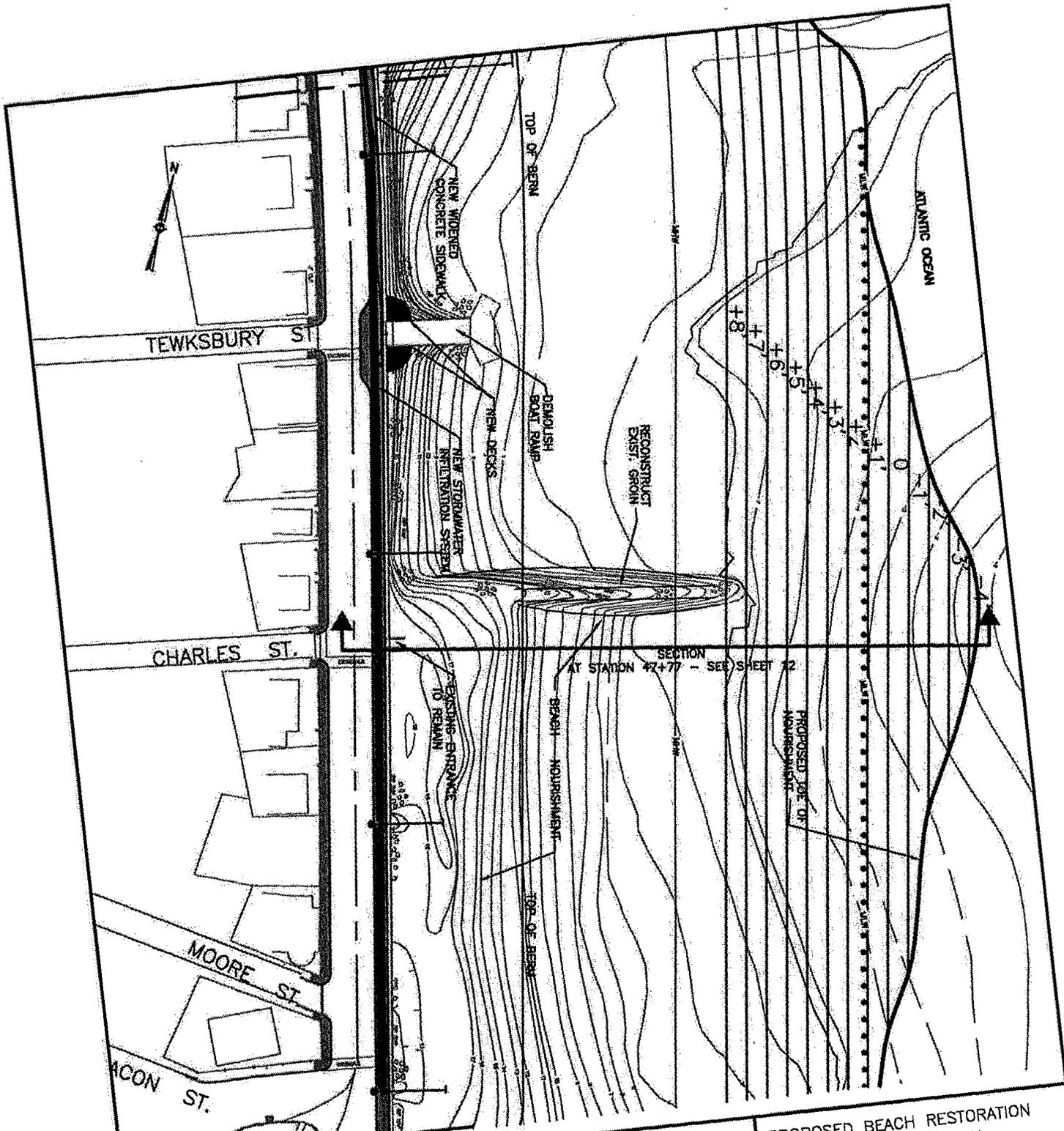
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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION
251 CAUSEWAY STREET
BOSTON, MA. 02114

PROPOSED BEACH RESTORATION AT WINTHROP BEACH IN ATLANTIC OCEAN COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, MA

APPLICATION BY:
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

DATE: APRIL, 2012 SHEET 9 OF 13

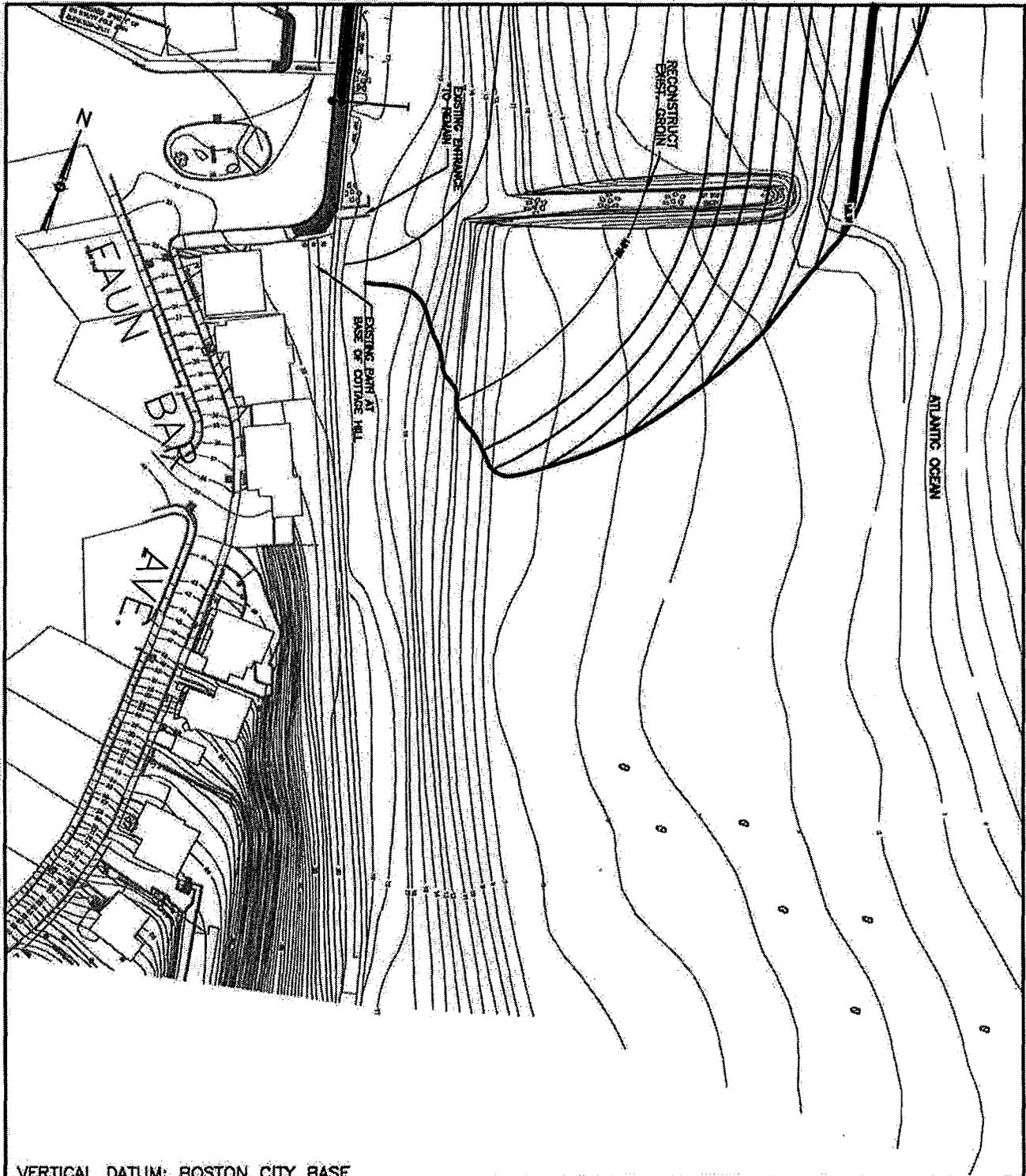


VERTICAL DATUM: BOSTON CITY BASE

PURPOSE: BEACH NOURISHMENT FOR SHORE PROTECTION
 DATUM: MLW = 1.2
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WINTHROP BEACH
 SHEET 7 OF 8
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 SCALE: 1"=100'
 DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
 AND RECREATION
 251 CAUSEWAY STREET
 BOSTON, MA. 02114

PROPOSED BEACH RESTORATION
 AT WINTHROP BEACH
 IN ATLANTIC OCEAN
 COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, MA
 APPLICATION BY:
 DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
 AND RECREATION
 DATE: MARCH, 2012 SHEET 10 OF 13



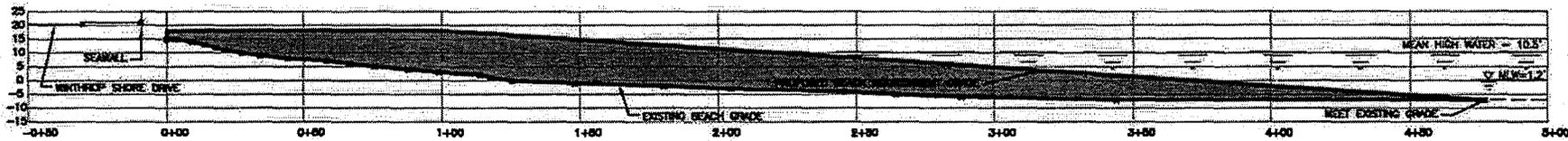
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PURPOSE: BEACH NOURISHMENT FOR SHORE PROTECTION
 DATUM: MLW = 1.2
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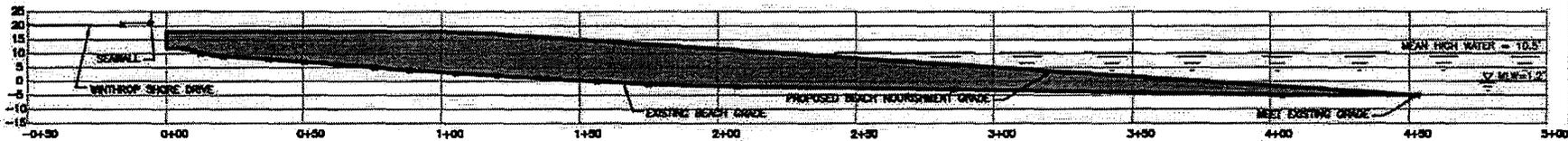
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 SHEET 8 OF 8
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 DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION
 251 CAUSEWAY STREET
 BOSTON, MA. 02114

PROPOSED BEACH RESTORATION AT WINTHROP BEACH IN ATLANTIC OCEAN COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, MA
 APPLICATION BY:
 DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION
 DATE: APRIL, 2012 SHEET 11 OF 13

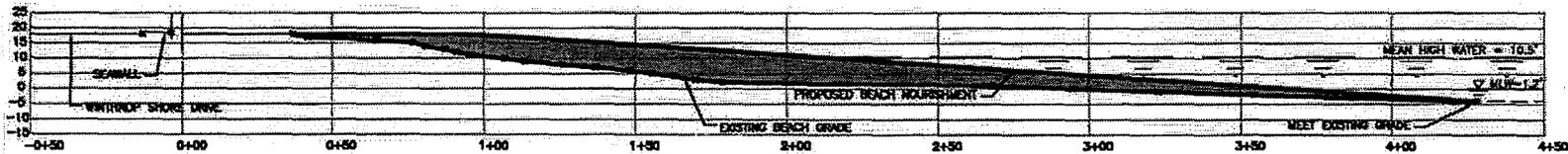
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WINTHROP SHORE DRIVE BEACH NOURISHMENT
STATION 13+18

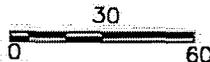


WINTHROP SHORE DRIVE BEACH NOURISHMENT
STATION 20+84



WINTHROP SHORE DRIVE BEACH NOURISHMENT
STATION 47+77

VERTICAL DATUM: BOSTON CITY BASE



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION
251 CAUSEWAY STREET
BOSTON, MA. 02114

SECTIONS THROUGH BEACH NOURISHMENT

DATE: APRIL, 2012

PLANS COURTESY OF:

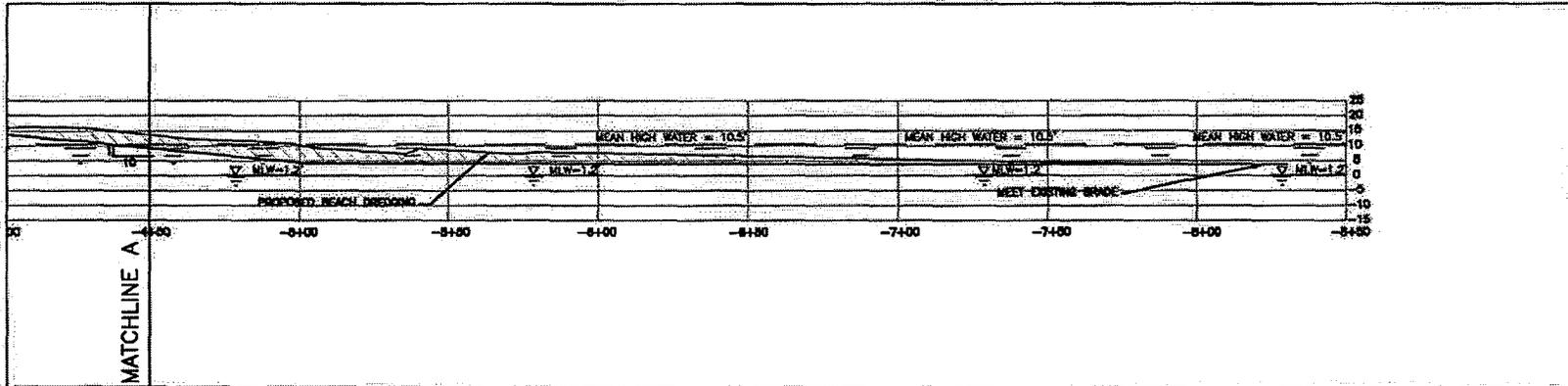
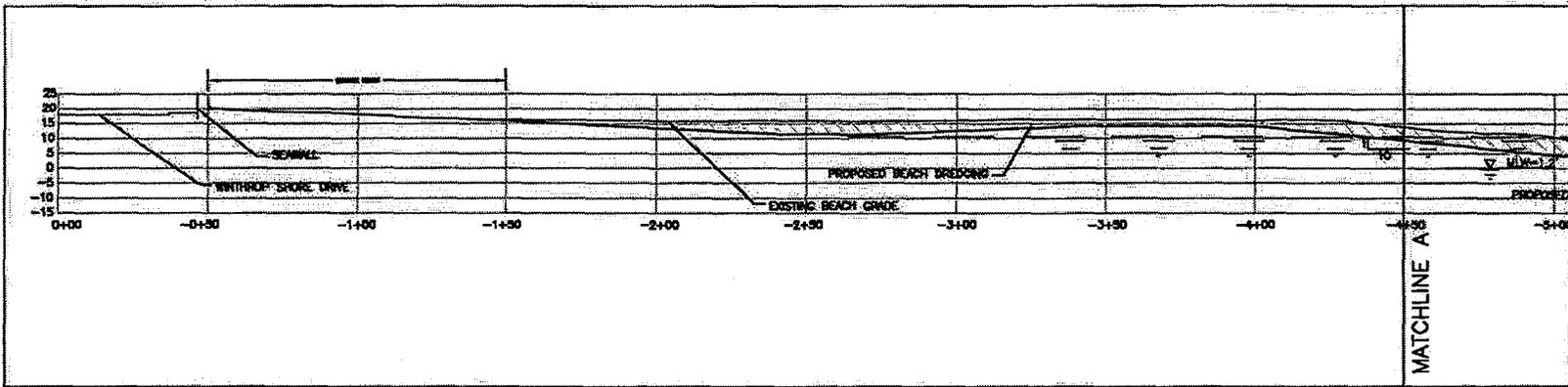
Parsons Brinckerhoff, Inc.
75 Arlington St Boston, MA 02118
PH (617)426-7330 FAX (617)482-9487

AT: WINTHROP BEACH
IN: ATLANTIC OCEAN
SUFFOLK COUNTY
STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS

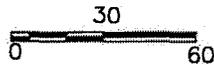
APPLICATION BY:
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

SHEET 12 OF 13

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WINTHROP SHORE DRIVE BEACH DREDGING
STATION 35+50



VERTICAL DATUM: BOSTON CITY BASE

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION
251 CAUSEWAY STREET
BOSTON, MA. 02114

SECTIONS THROUGH BEACH NOURISHMENT

DATE: APRIL, 2012

PLANS COURTESY OF:

Parsons Brinckerhoff, Inc
75 Arlington St. Boston, MA 02116
PH (617)428-7330 FAX (617)482-8487

AT: WINTHROP BEACH
IN: ATLANTIC OCEAN
SUFFOLK COUNTY
STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS

APPLICATION BY:
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

SHEET 13 OF 13