

► North District Community Meeting

Date: Tuesday June 17th, 2025

Time: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Location: Northwest Buffalo Community Center, 155 Lawn Ave, Buffalo, NY 14207

ATTENDEES

Rosaleen Nogle (BSA)

Regina Harris (BSA)

Perry Pope (BSA)

Art Hall (Hallmark)

Katie Segarra (Hallmark)

Cambridge Boyd (Hallmark)

Nadia Mugisha (Arcadis)

Jaime Davidson (JMDavidson)

AGENDA

1. Queen City Clean Waters Program Overview
2. Overview of University District Specific Projects
3. Q&A

ACTION ITEMS

1. Respond to questions on FAQs Poster Board Hallmark/ PMT

MEETING SUMMARY NOTES

Queen City Clean Waters: North District Community Meeting Summary Notes

Meeting Summary – June 17th, 2025 | 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Location: North District – Northwest Buffalo Community Center, 155 Lawn Ave, Buffalo, NY 14207

Who Attended

- Queen City Clean Waters representatives
- Local partners
- Community members and residents

About the Initiative

- **Launched in early 2024**, as an update to Buffalo Sewer’s Long-Term Control Plan
- Investing **\$1 billion+** across 50+ combined sewer overflow and wastewater treatment projects in all nine council districts over the next 10–15 years
- Focus on environmental upgrades **with economic and social benefits** for local communities

History of Buffalo Sewer

- Establishment: April 8, 1935, in response to a Department of Health mandate.
- Early Challenges: Financial instability leading to the creation of a state-established authority with \$15 million capacity.
- Long-Term Control Plan:
 - Initial report submitted in 2004, approved in 2014.
 - Ongoing adjustments revealed the need for additional projects to achieve full compliance by 2022.
 - Rebranded to the Queen City Clean Waters Initiative in 2023

Stakeholder Advisory Committee

- Formed in January 2025 to ensure **community voices shape project design**
- Includes reps from Board of Block Clubs, Urban League, Health Equity groups, and block clubs
- Supports transparency, inclusion, and local leadership in the process

North District Projects:

- **Military Road Offline Storage (OLS)**
 - **Goal:** Install 11.55 million gallon tank below ground wastewater storage tank in the West Hertel Academy parking lot, near the intersection of Hertel

Avenue and Military Road. This tank will store sanitary sewage and storm water until the Bird Island Treatment Facility has enough capacity to treat the stored flow. By storing flow, the sewer installation, the modifications at the chamber will be through access at the existing manholes.

- **Location:** Military & Hertel
- **Budget:** Estimated \$96 Million
- **Timeline:** 2031-2036
- **Bird Island Treatment Facility Upgrades: Phase I**
 - **Goal:** Grit removal and cleaning of the secondary system aeration basins. Upgrades to pipes and valves for the return activated sludge system.
 - **Location:** Bird Island
 - **Budget:** Estimated \$60 Million
 - **Timeline:** In Construction 2022-2030
- **Bird Island Wastewater Treatment Facility: Phase II**
 - **Goal:** Improve sludge pumping and sedimentation tanks. Add new odor control & chlorine treatment systems. Disinfection with upgraded dosing and pumping.
 - **Location:** Bird Island
 - **Budget:** Estimated \$125 Million
 - **Timeline:** 2026-2031
- **Bird Island Wastewater Treatment Facility: Phase III**
 - **Goal:** Upgrade secondary treatment system. Improve flow into existing clarifiers and add 2 new clarifiers. Install another chlorine tank.
 - **Location:** Michigan & Riley
 - **Budget:** Estimated \$80 Million
 - **Timeline:** 2028-2031
- **Green Stormwater Infrastructure Program: Raincheck 2.0**
 - **Goal:** Reduce stormwater entering the sewer system during wet weather to prevent overflows into waterways.
 - **Location:** 500+ Locations throughout the city
 - **Timeline:** 2027 - 2028
 - **Budget:** Estimated \$88 Million

Project Impacts and Mitigation

- **Construction Impacts:**
 - Equipment and traffic on roads, temporary noise and dust.
 - Potential road and sidewalk closures, limited street parking, and detours.
 - Mitigation measures in place to minimize disruptions.
- **Environmental Compliance:**
 - State priority environmental review completed.
 - Measures to control erosion and runoff during construction.
- **Operational Benefits:**
 - Reduction in CSOs
 - Improved public health and ecosystem enhancement
 - Compliance with Environmental Protection Agency regulations

Community Engagement Highlights

- **Interactive Website:** BuffaloQCCW.org for ideas, surveys, and concerns
- **Public Forums:**
 - *In-person:* April, May & June – all nine council districts
 - *Virtual:* July 12, 10 AM–12 PM (Zoom)
- **Outreach Tools:** Mailers, social media, texts, and presence at community events like National Night Out

Upcoming Events

- **July 12 @ 10 AM:** Virtual Community Forum

Stay Connected

- Visit: BuffaloQCCW.org
- Art Hall from Hallmark Planning & Development
- Follow-up: Meeting notes, Q&A responses, and ongoing design updates will be published

Community Questions & Responses

1. **Are we still drinking chlorinated water or fluoride-treated water?**
 - Yes, to both. The water at the treatment facility is cleaned with chlorine, and fluoride is also added. You want a certain amount of chlorine to stay in the drinking water because it keeps the water safe to drink. Chlorine prevents waterborne illnesses such as typhoid from becoming an issue. Fluoride is added to help with teeth, specifically children's teeth. Our system has also moved towards the use of liquid bleach rather than chlorine.
2. **How does Buffalo Sewer Authority deal with the disposal of sludge?**
 - The Buffalo Sewer Authority incinerates their sludge. It is turned into ash, which is then sent to a landfill. Landfills are beginning to fill up, which is a challenge they are facing.
3. **Where are the landfills located that Buffalo Sewer uses to dispose of their ash from sludge incineration?**
 - Landfills are typically located in rural areas. There are ones up in Porter and others in Chaffee and Gowanda in the Western New York area.

NEXT MEETING (IF APPLICABLE)

Date of Next Meeting:	July 12 th , 2025
Time of Next Meeting:	10 AM
Location of next Meeting:	Virtual



B U F F A L O
SEWER AUTHORITY

QUEEN CITY CLEAN WATERS



NORTH Council District Meeting
Tuesday June 17, 2025

Name	Email Address	Phone Number	Neighborhood	Do you belong to a Block Club?	Would you like to receive more info?
HORTENSE		(716) 883-1900		No	Yes
Mohamed Mure	mmure98@gmail.com	716 883-1900	lower westside	no	yes
Abukar Omar		716 368 0070	lower westside	no	yes
Angab Omar		716 536 6010	lower westside	no	yes



BUFFALO

SEWER AUTHORITY

QUEEN CITY CLEAN WATERS



NORTH Council District Meeting
Tuesday June 17, 2025

Name	Email Address	Phone Number	Neighborhood	Do you belong to a Block Club?	Would you like to receive more info?
Evelyn Vossler	evossler@buffalony.gov	716 851-5116	Riverside	yes	yes
Jim Vossler	vosslerjames@gmail.com	716 851-3405	North		
Cassandra		716 908-4080	62 CROY AVE	Yes	Yes
PWINT	melanie.pwint@gmail.com	716-290-4062	Block Rock	No	Yes



BUFFALO

SEWER AUTHORITY

QUEEN CITY CLEAN WATERS



NORTH Council District Meeting
Tuesday June 17, 2025

Name	Email Address	Phone Number	Neighborhood	Do you belong to a Block Club?	Would you like to receive more info?
Jerome Silva Lygo	j-silva@buffalo-sewer.org	716-218-6122	Master	No	No
Regina Harris	rharris@buffalo-sewer.org	"	Master	yes	"

NORTH DISTRICT



Hertel North-East In-Line Storage (ILS)

Construction Timeline: Spring 2037 - Summer 2040

Description:

- Installation of a new level sensor within the sewer upstream from the intersection of Hertel and Deer. This sensor will communicate to the chamber at Hertel and Deer to build up flow within the sewer to temporarily store the flow until the Bird Island Treatment Facility has capacity to treat it. All work will be completed within existing manholes.



Military Road Offline Storage OLS (Military & Hertel)

Construction Timeline: Upcoming (2030-2037)

Description:

- Install 11.55 million gallon tank below ground wastewater storage tank in the West Hertel Academy parking lot, near the intersection of Hertel Avenue and Military Road. This tank will store sanitary sewage and storm water until the Bird Island Treatment Facility has enough capacity to treat the stored flow. By storing flow, the the sewer installation, the modifications at the chamber will be through access at the existing manholes.



Scan for more project information!





Queen City Clean Waters

Public Participation Forum

June 17, 2025 – Northwest Buffalo Center, North District

BSA Capital Projects Program Management Team:

TYLin | Greeley and Hansen
Water Solutions

Arcadis | JM Davidson Engineering | Hallmark Planning & Development | e3 Communications | Watts Architecture & Engineering | CORE
Environmental | Atlantic Testing Laboratories | Frandina Engineering and Land Surveying | KHEOPS Architecture, Engineering and Survey |
International Institute of Buffalo | Jade Stone Engineering | NASCO Construction Services | JKMuir | People Inc. | CWD Consulting

Disclaimer

- This Presentation is provided as of June 17, 2025.
- If you are viewing this Presentation after that date, subsequent events could have a material effect on this information.
- By presenting this information, Buffalo Sewer has not undertaken any obligation to update the information beyond the date of the Presentation.
- Data and other information provided are not warranted as to completeness or accuracy and are subject to change without notice.
- The views, policies, programs, and practices reflected herein also are subject to change without notice.
- This Presentation is provided for your information and convenience only.

Agenda



BACKGROUND



OVERALL PLAN



SPECIFIC PROJECTS WITHIN COUNCIL DISTRICT



OPPORTUNITIES TO STAY ENGAGED

Key Terminology



CSO: Combined
Sewer Overflow



GI: Green
Infrastructure



ILS: In-line
Storage



OLS: Off-line
Storage Tank



RTC: Real Time
Control

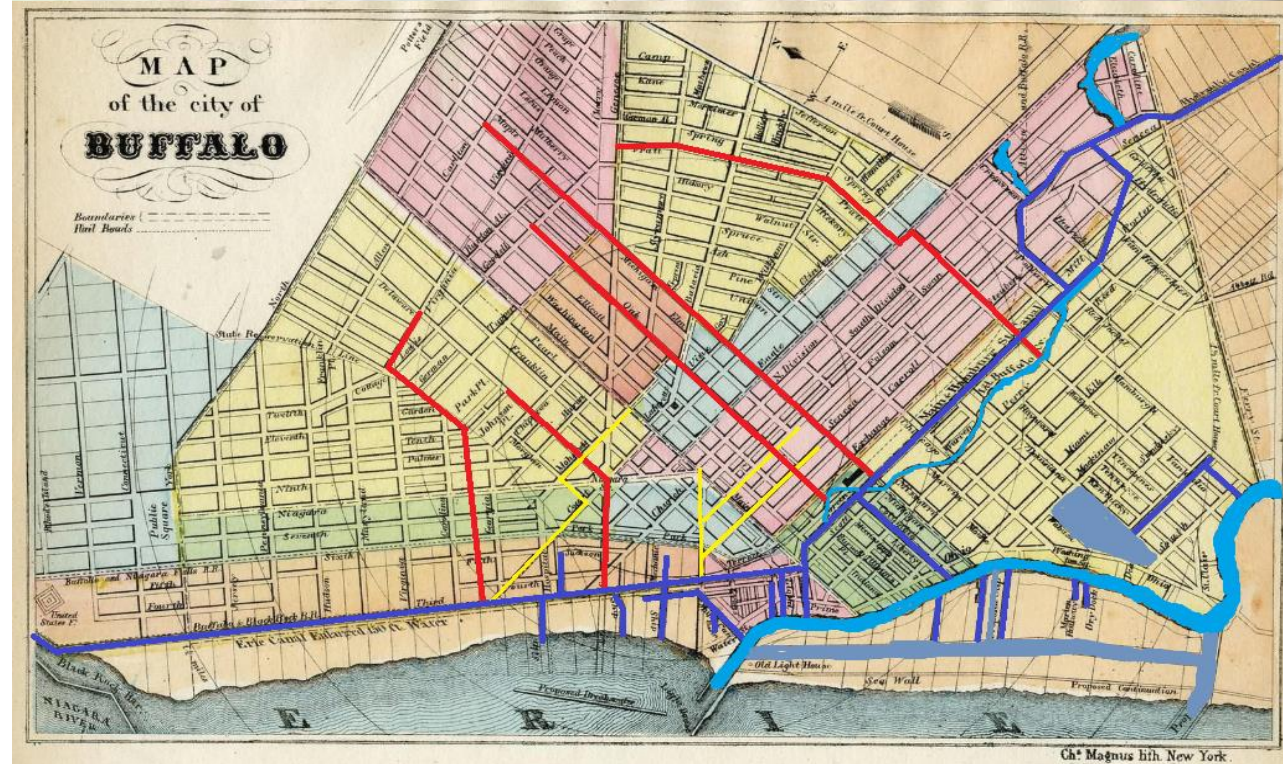


SPP: Sewer
Patrol Point

Background

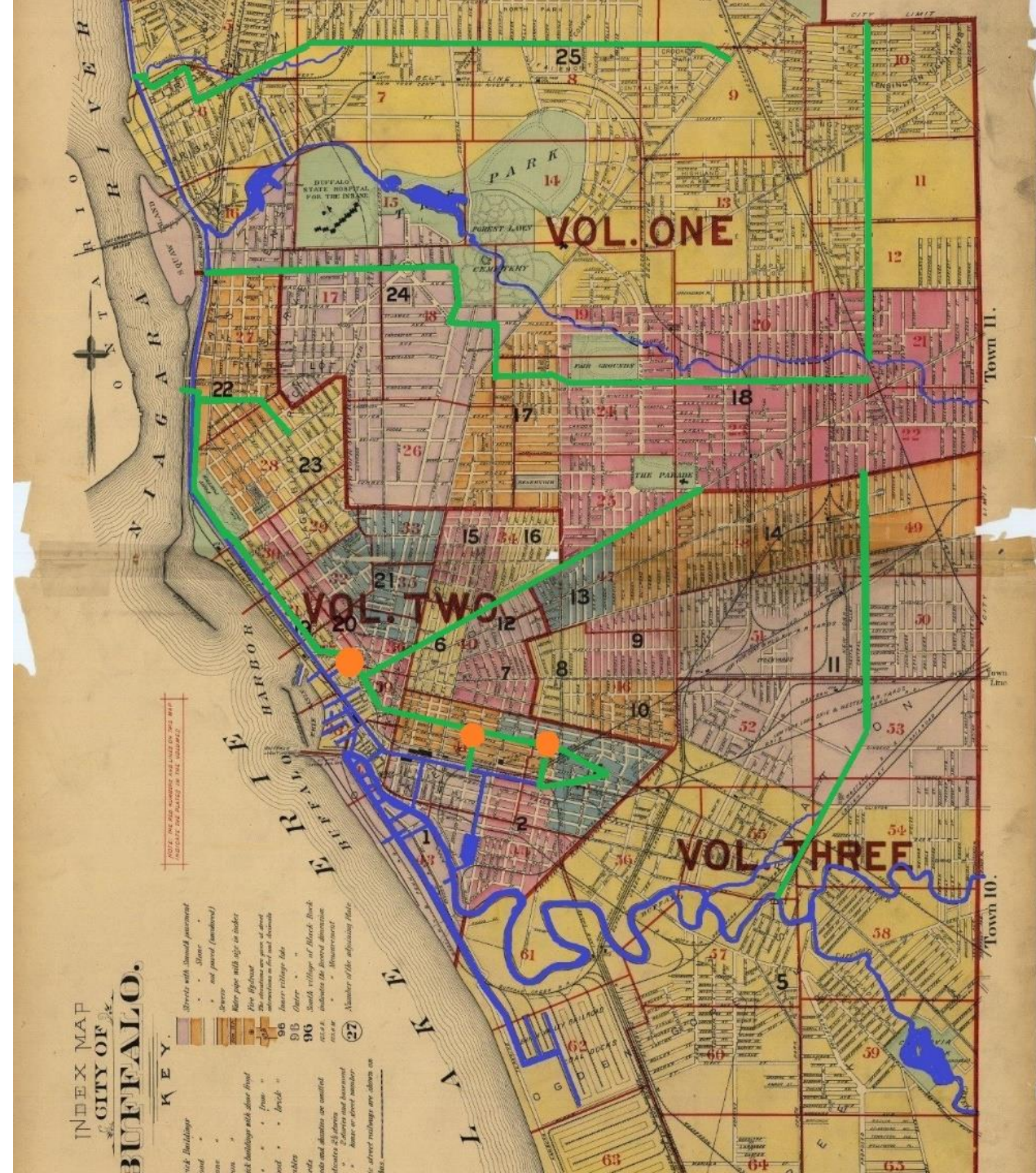
A Brief History of Buffalo's Sewers

- Erie Canal opened in 1825
- Drain the Swamp
- Cholera epidemics
 - 1832
 - 1849
 - 1852



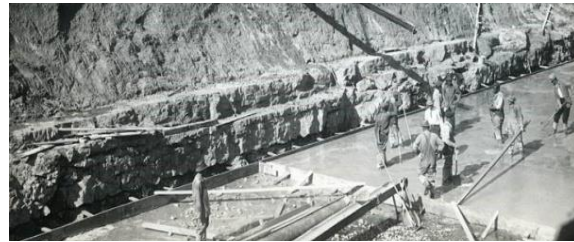
A Brief History of Buffalo's Sewers (Cont.)

- George E. Waring, Jr. 1884
- Considered, but rejected
 - Sewer separation
 - Treatment Facility
- Trunks
 - Genesee, Bird-Ferry, Hertel, Bailey, Mill Race
- Swan
 - Three flushing gates
 - Main & Hamburg Canal and Wilkenon Slip: putrid
 - 90 Degree turn at Albany Street
 - Bird Island Pier, now the tip of Freedom Park



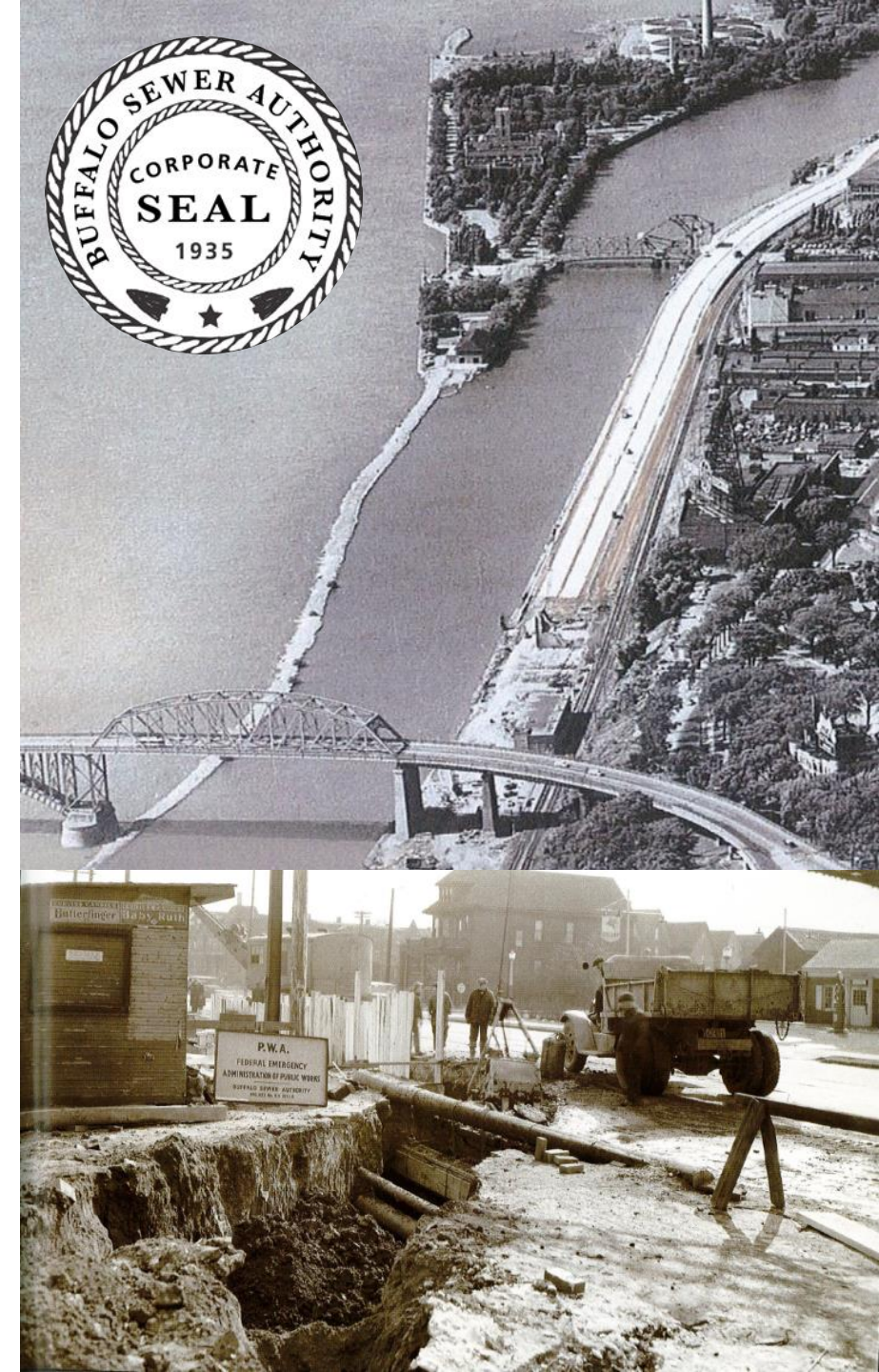
1900-1929: Burying of Waters

- Hamburg Drain
- Ohio Drain
- Scajaquada Creek to Scajaquada Drain 1925



Buffalo Sewer Authority's Founding

- 1907 Canadian Report:
 - Niagara Falls, NY Typhoid Rate
 - 0.2% Population Dying Each Year
- International Joint Commission: January 11, 1909
- 1918 Report: 80% Niagara River Pollution from Buffalo
- NYS Dept. of Health Mandate: March 1935
 - Primary Sewage Treatment Plant
 - Interceptor Sewers
- Establishment of BSA: April 8, 1935
 - \$15 M Bonding Capacity (\$344 M 2024)





1941-1970: Storm Relief and Sprawl

NYS Route 33

- Severed Bird-Ferry Trunk
- Stormwater added to system
- New pump station for stormwater and groundwater
- New trunk sewers constructed

I-198

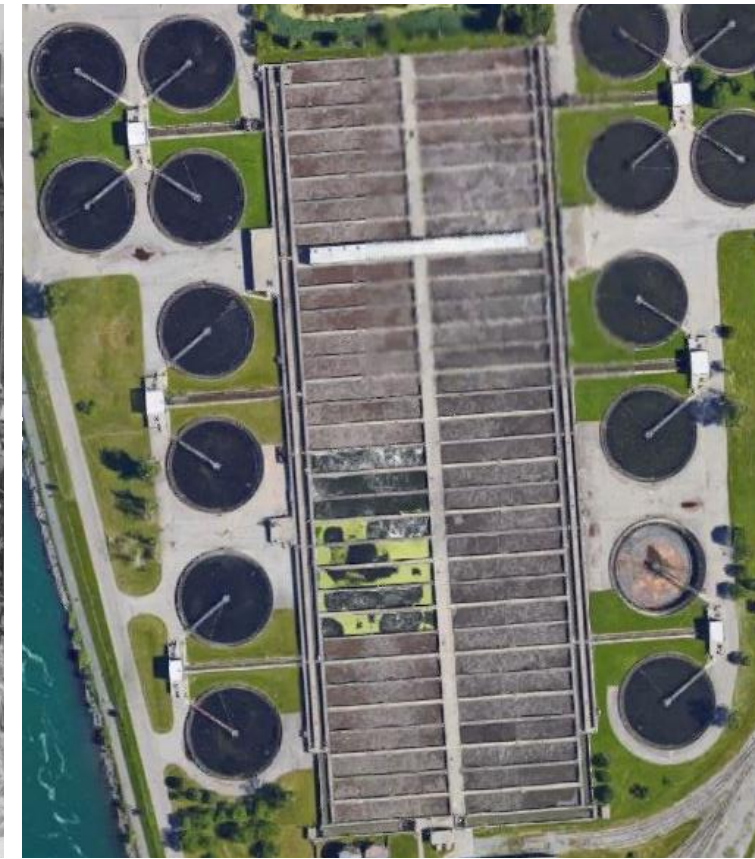
- New storm sewers
- Direct discharge to Scajaquada Creek

I-190

- Old Erie Canal bed
- On top of:
 - Swan Trunk
 - Interceptors
 - Hamburg Drain

Clean Water Act (1972)

- Scajaquada Tunnel
- Weir Modifications
 - Diversion from Scajaquada Drain to Tunnel
 - Raising of Weirs
- Kelly Island Connection
- Backwater Gates
- Secondary Treatment Process





1994

USEPA CSO
Control Policy
Issued (Required
Development of
LTCP)

2004

Submitted Initial
LTCP to New York
State Department
of Environmental
Conservation
(NYSDEC)

2007

NYSDEC/USEPA
Request
Additional
Evaluations

2009

Negotiation of
Consent Decree
Begins

2012

Submitted
LTCP Update to
USEPA/ NYSDEC
(as directed by
regulatory agency)

2014

Final LTCP Report
Submitted to
USEPA/NYSDEC

2022

Revised collection
system model is
approved

2023

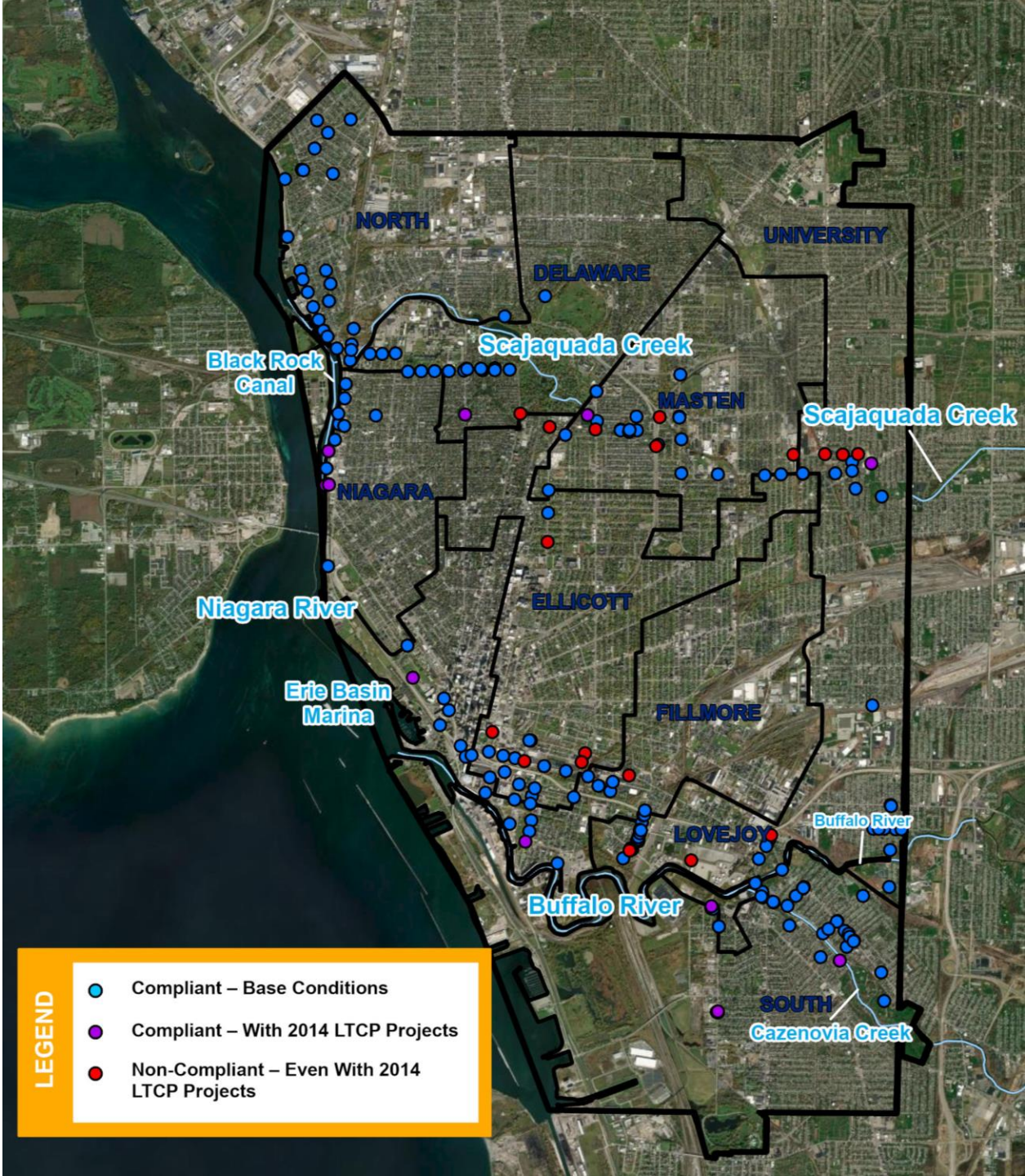
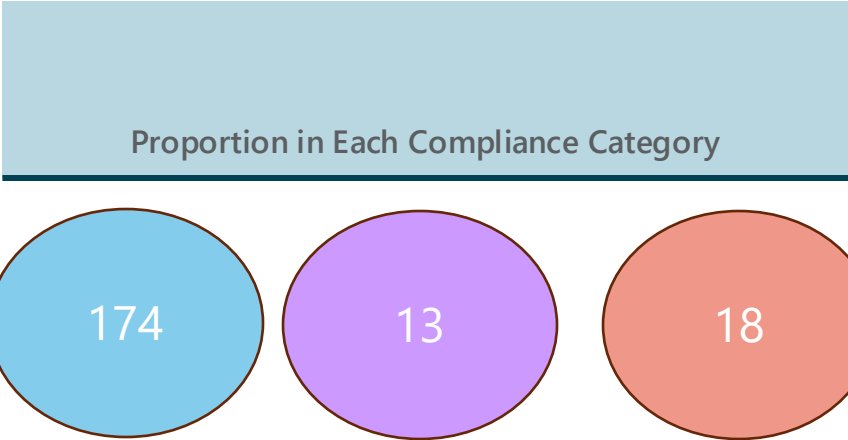
QCCW
(51 proposed
projects)
submitted to
NYSDEC

Approved Recalibration Results

- Some Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs) Already in Compliance (Some Projects Not Needed)
- LTCP Does Not Reach Compliance for Others!

Waterbody	Activation Goals	Projected Activations
Buffalo River	6	15
Niagara River	9	14
Scajaquada Creek	4	19

Sewer Patrol Points (SPP) Compliance



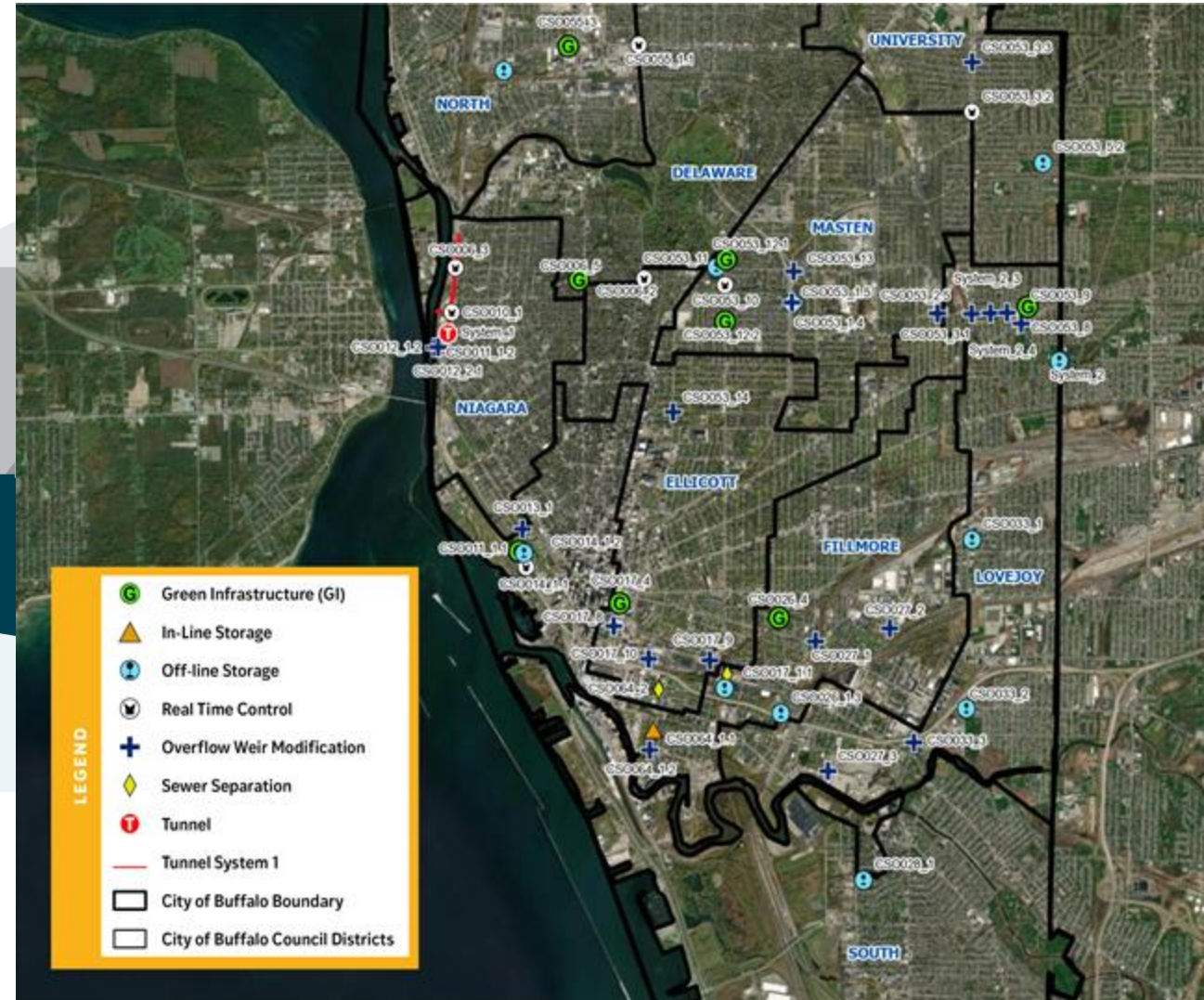
Queen City Clean Waters

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

50+
SITES

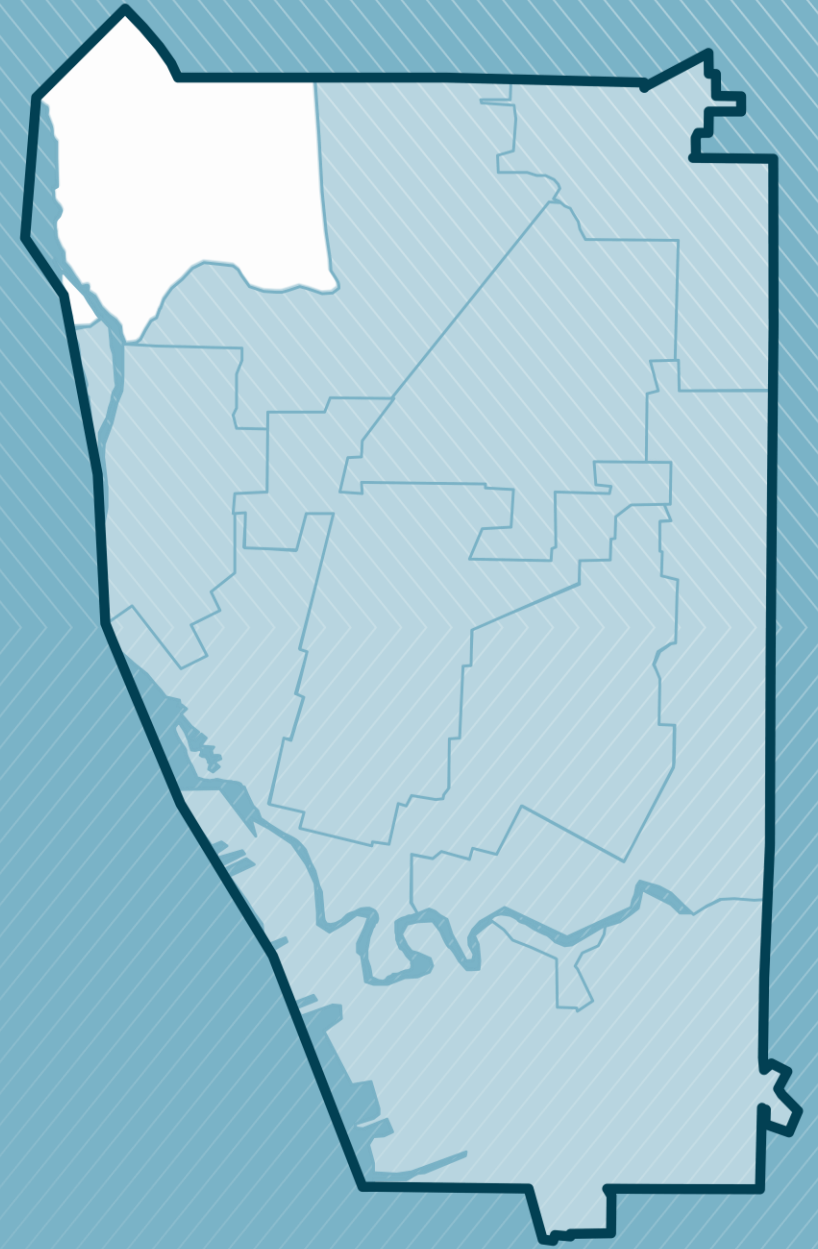
\$1
BILLION

15
YEARS



North District

Specific Projects



Military & Hertel

MILITARY ROAD OFFLINE STORAGE (OLS)

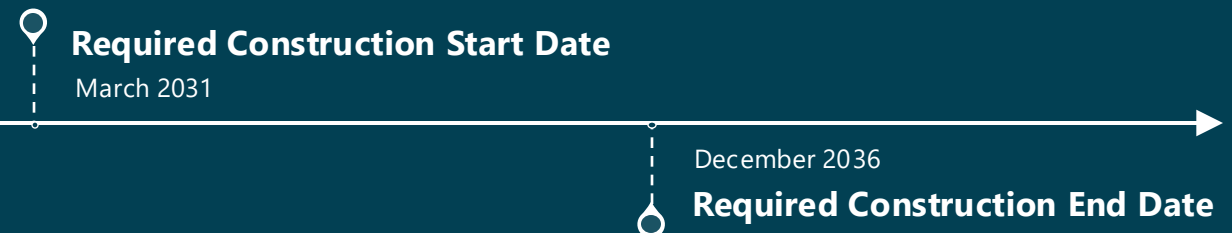
Project Description:

- 11.55 MG tank
- Stores flow diverted from the Hertel Avenue South barrel
- Located at the intersection of Hertel Avenue and Military Road (West Hertel Academy parking lot)

Estimated Cost: \$96,880,000

Waterbody Impacted: Niagara River

TIMELINE ▼



Treatment Facility Upgrades: Phase I

BIRD ISLAND WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY

Project Description:

- Grit removal and cleaning of the **secondary system** aeration basins
- Replacement of the aeration diffusers
- Replacement and upgrading of piping and valves for the return activated sludge system

Estimated Cost: \$60,553,127



TIMELINE ▼



Treatment Facility Upgrades: Phase II

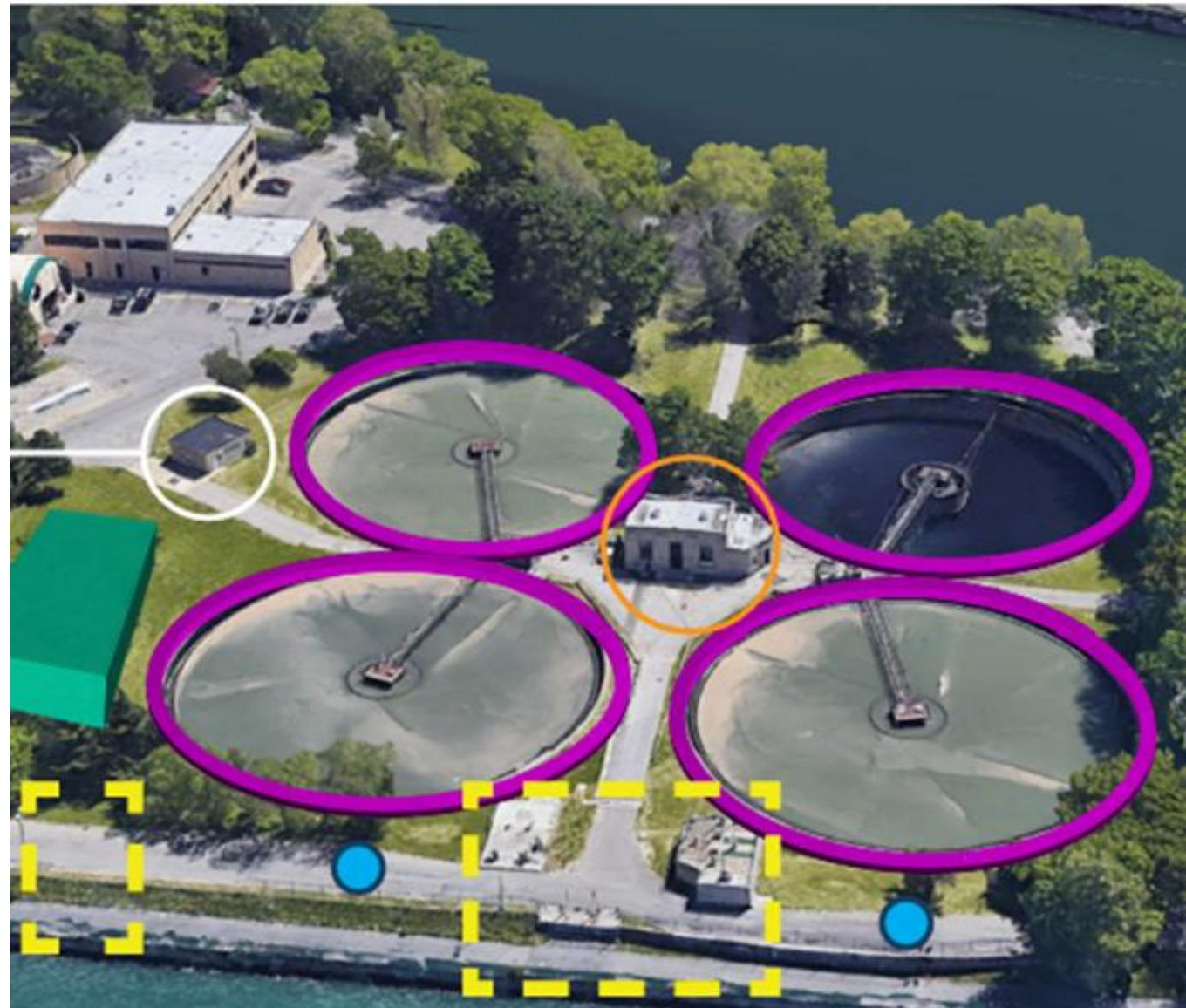
BIRD ISLAND WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY

Project Description:

- Upgrades to the existing **primary treatment system** including:
 - Sludge pumping station
 - Primary sedimentation tanks
 - New odor control system
- Installation of a new chlorine contact tank and pumping station
- New disinfection dosing system

Estimated Cost: \$125,000,000

TIMELINE ▼



Treatment Facility Upgrades: Phase III

BIRD ISLAND WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY

Project Description:

- Upgrades of the existing **secondary treatment system**
- Increasing the penetrations to the existing secondary clarifiers
- Adding two new secondary clarifiers
- Adding an additional chlorine contact tank

Estimated Cost: \$80,000,000

TIMELINE ▼



Treatment Facility Upgrades: Phase III Additional Improvements

BIRD ISLAND WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY

Project Description:

- Improvements to the secondary treatment system

Estimated Cost: \$60,000,000

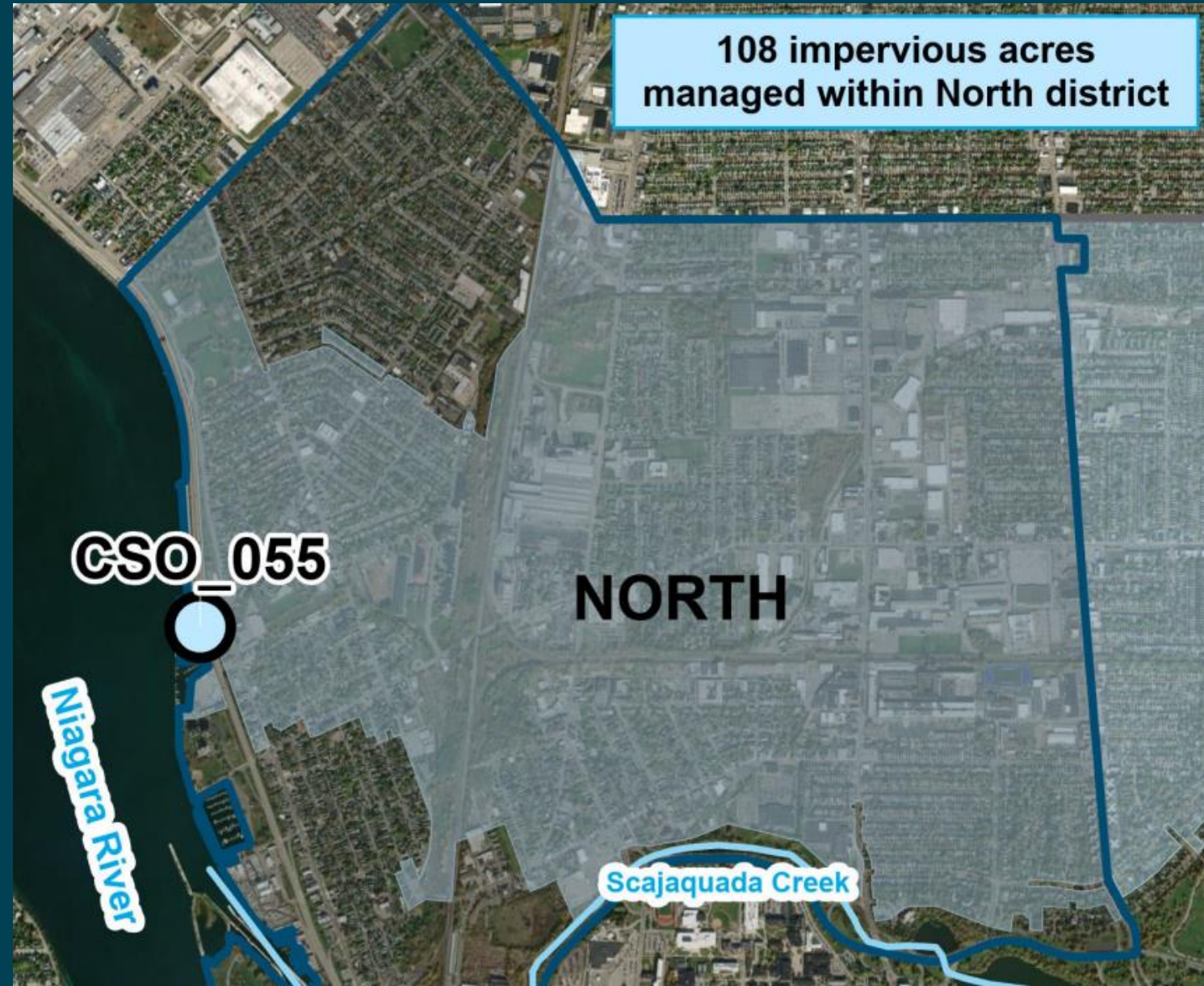


TIMELINE ▼



BSA Green Stormwater Infrastructure Program

NORTH DISTRICT GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE



Break / Q&A

Community Engagement & Stakeholder Outreach

Program Management Impact:
Equity Indicators + Desired Outcomes

1
Community Ownership

2
Capacity Building

3
Healthy Communities

4
Heritage Preservation

5
Sustainable Wealth Creation

6
New and Reformed Policy for Sustainable Development

7
Growth Management and Neighborhood Development



Observation



Discovery

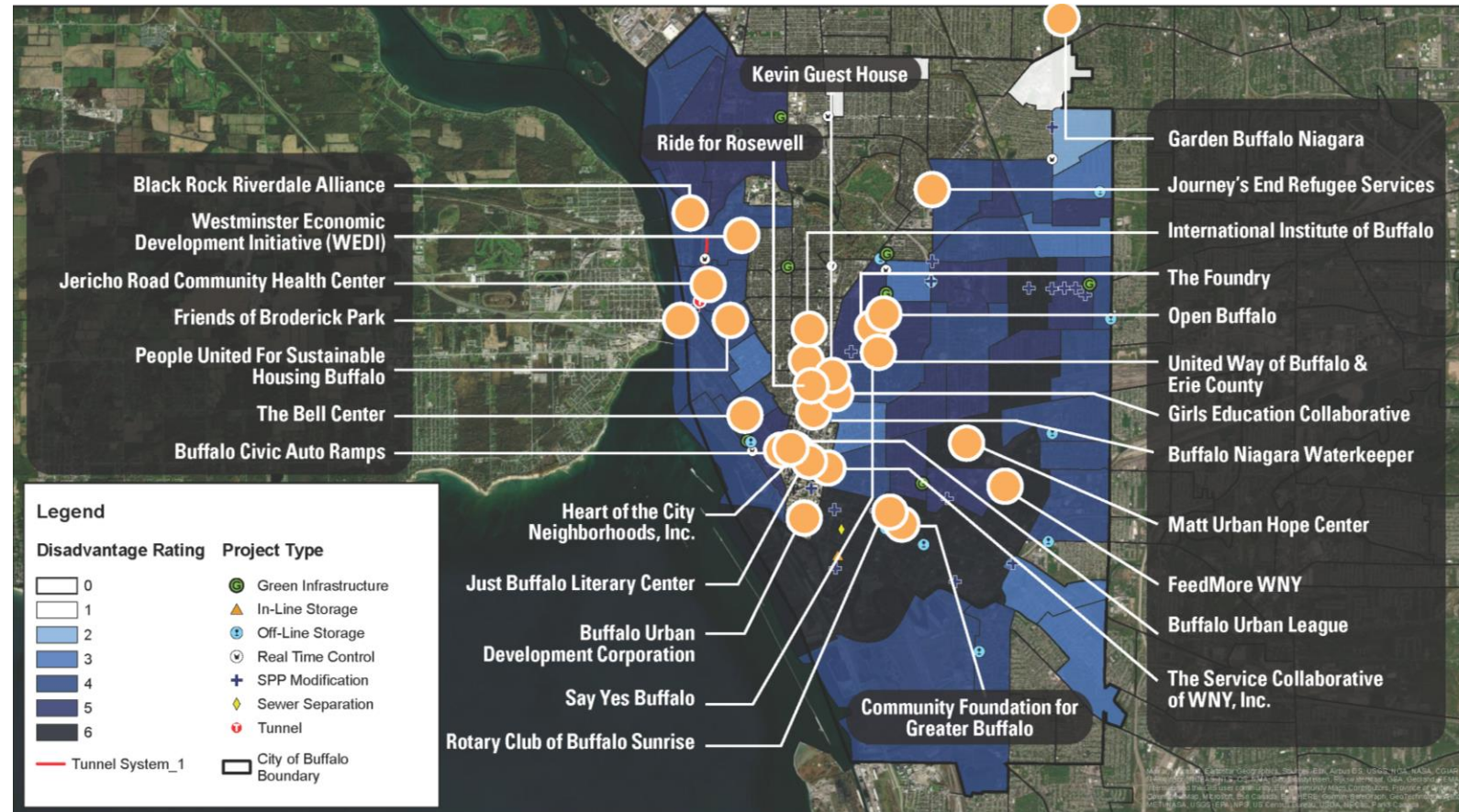


Planning and Application

Partner with Anchor Institutions to Reach the Community

Build a robust **Community Benefits Program** of community partnerships and **Stakeholder Advisory Committee** comprised of community leaders and residents

Accountability + Transparency:
Indicators, representation, how are resources distributed and made available



Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC)

The purpose of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) for the Buffalo Sewer Authority's Queen City Clean Waters Initiative is to serve as a vital bridge between the project team and the diverse communities of Buffalo. The SAC ensures that community perspectives, concerns, and insights are actively incorporated into the initiative's planning, implementation, and evaluation.

Organizations & Agencies Represented:

- Northland Workforce Training Center
- PUSH Buffalo
- Buffalo Urban League
- Board of Block Clubs
- NAACP
- Jericho Road
- Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
- Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper
- City of Buffalo Office of Strategic Planning (OSP)
- Buffalo Center for Health Equity






Buffalo Sewer wants to ensure construction and professional services contracts deliver a positive economic, environmental, and social impacts for residents.

Companies working with Buffalo Sewer are encouraged to support Buffalo nonprofits through volunteerism or financial contributions to defined community partners. The program will be included in contract terms and compliance monitoring to ensure effective participation.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM **Coming in 2025**

BSA's Commitment to the Inclusion of DBE/MWBE Firms

PURPOSE

- 
- Create economic opportunity for Disadvantaged/Minority/ Women – Owned Business Enterprise (D/MBE/WBE) firms, including firms who are new to working with BSA and/or the City of Buffalo
 - Promote meaningful teaming arrangements, mentorship, and partnership between established, experienced firms and new and/or smaller firms

Opportunities to Stay Engaged

New! Queen City Clean Waters Interactive Website

[BUFFALOQCCW.ORG](https://buffaloqccw.org)

Join Our Virtual Community!

Join the Queen City Clean Waters Interactive Website! Explore, learn, and take action to protect our local waterways. Get involved today and make a difference!

About The Initiative

The Queen City Clean Waters Initiative will reduce overflows from the City's sewers by helping flow reach the Bird Island Wastewater Treatment Facility during wet weather, instead of entering Buffalo's creeks and river. Implementing this initiative, which includes 50+ sites in total, will cost approximately \$1B over the next 15 years including \$250M in treatment facility upgrades.

+ Vision

+ Mission

Take Our Survey

Your feedback will help shape cleaner, resilient, and equitable solutions for Buffalo!

Start Now >

We need your input!

What do you think would work best to improve our Storm Water System? (Green Infrastructure, Community Initiatives, Placemaking, etc).

Share Now >

Join Our Social Map

Discover, learn, and comment on sewer improvement projects in your neighborhood

Join Now >

FAQs

+ Why is Buffalo Sewer doing these projects?

Are there any community meetings or updates planned to keep the residents informed about the progress of the construction?

+ What can I expect during construction?

How will construction affect traffic in the area?

+ How will the construction impact local businesses and services?

Will there be changes to parking or public transportation during construction?

+ How is this project being funded?

What can I expect during construction?

Sewer Patrol Point (SPP 341A) (Kerns & Genesee)

Construction Timeline: June 2026 - December 2027

Description:

-A new chamber and drop shaft connection to the Scajaquada Tunnel will be built

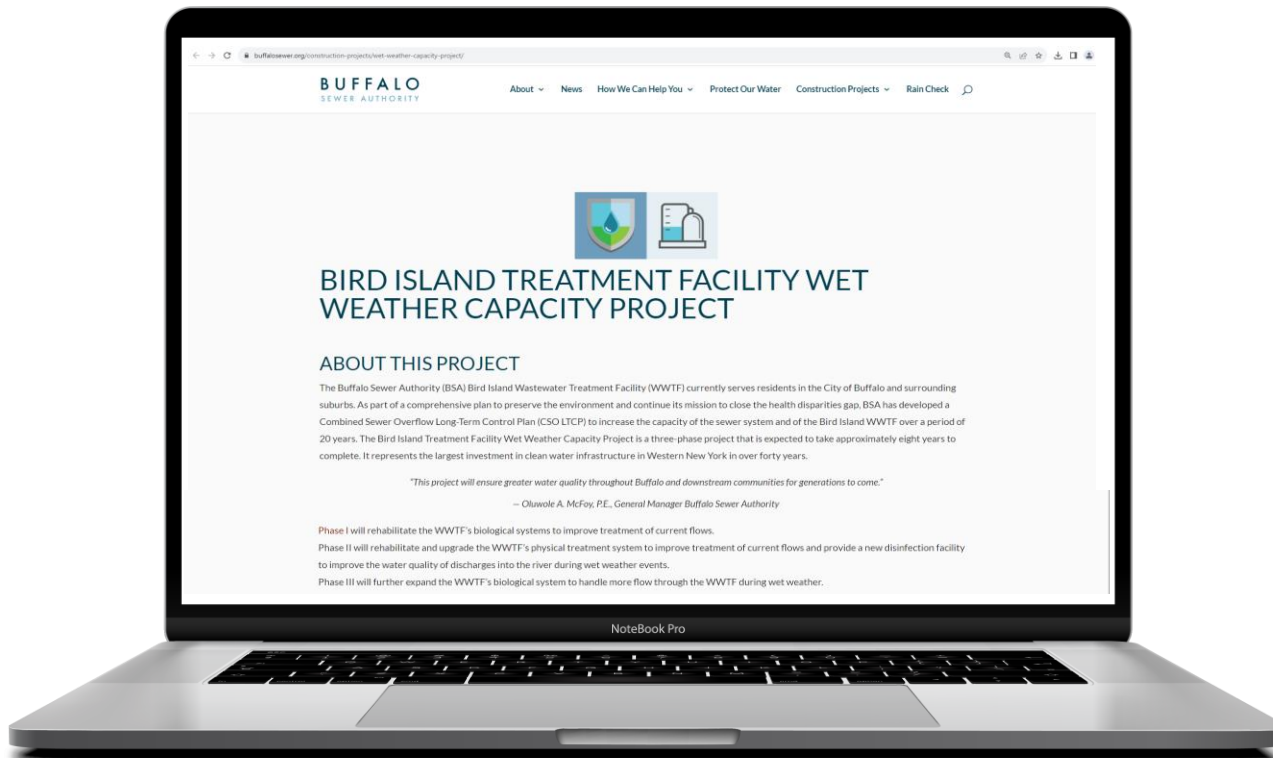
[Read more >](#)

SPP Modification

<

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Buffalo Sewer Authority Website



buffalosewer.org

Your BEST source of information!

- ✓ Consultant, Contractor, and Supplier Opportunities
- ✓ Construction Updates
- ✓ FAQs
- ✓ Board Meeting Minutes
- ✓ Public Participation Plans

Thank you!

GET IN TOUCH:



@BuffaloSewer



BuffaloSewer.org



@BuffaloSewer



BuffaloSewerAuthority