



BUFFALO
SEWER AUTHORITY

QUEEN CITY CLEAN WATERS



HALLMARK
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

QCCW Stakeholder Advisory Committee

Agenda

- 1 Updates to Pay Structure
- 2 QCCW Active Projects Update
- 3 Community Partnership Program Refresher/Update
- 4 Community Engagement Updates
 - Interactive Website
 - Engagement Activities
- 5 Updates from SAC / Potential Stakeholder Additions

Updates to Pay Structure



Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting Buffalo Sewer Project Updates

October 28, 2025 – Virtual (Microsoft Teams)

BSACapital 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

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- 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 here in also are subject to change without notice.
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Queen City Clean Waters

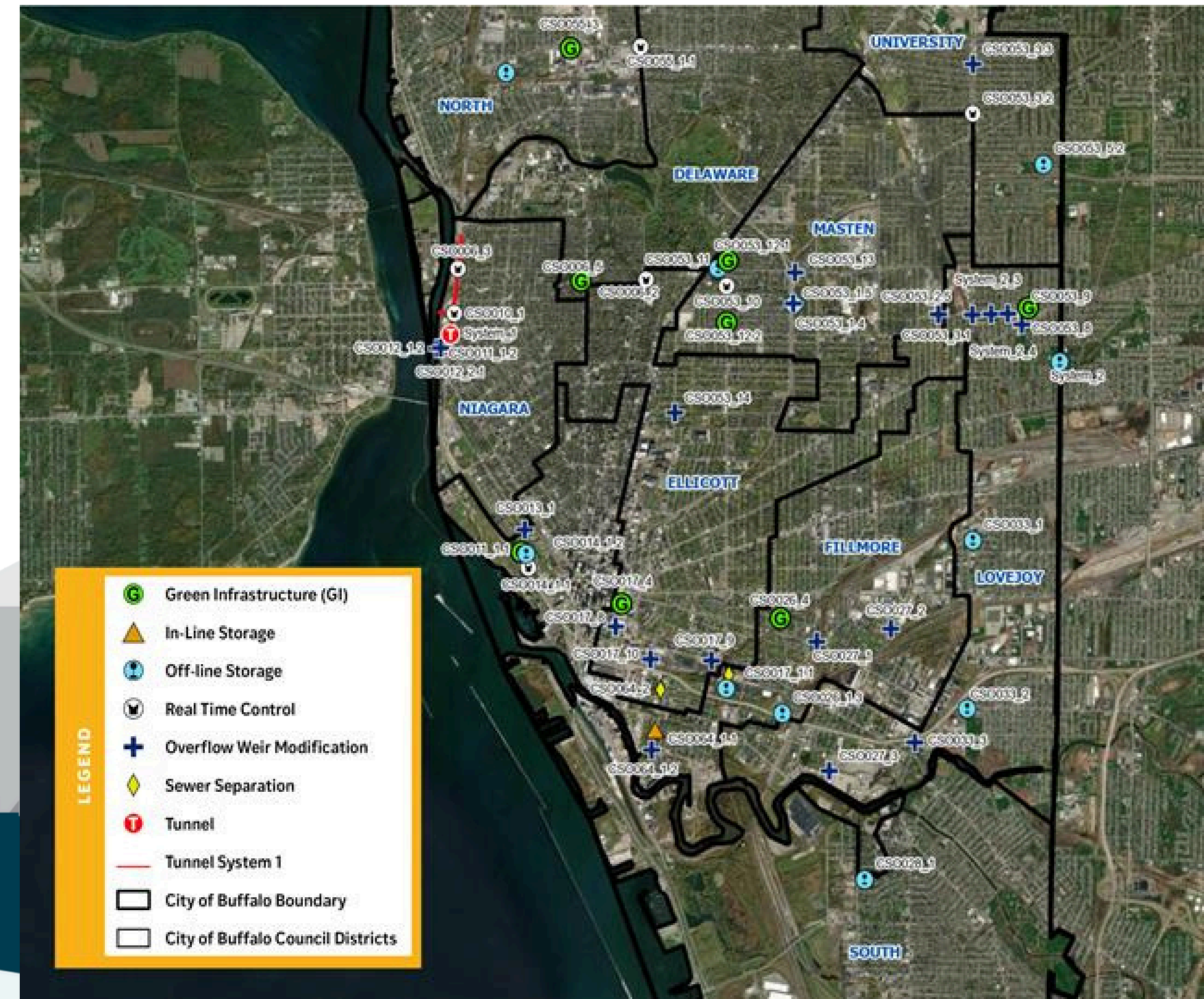
OVERVIEW



50+
SITES

\$1
BILLION

15
YEARS



Key Terminology

- **Combined Sewer:** A sewer that collects both wastewater and stormwater in the same system
- **Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO):** CSOs occur when heavy rainfall or snowmelt overwhelms a combined sewer system. When this happens, untreated wastewater is discharged directly into nearby rivers, lakes, or coastal waters.
- **Green Infrastructure (GI):** involves planting vegetation and other natural elements in urban environments to absorb and treat stormwater where it lands. Through this process, plants and soils help slow down or prevent runoff from entering the sewer system.
- **In-Line Storage (ILS):** the storage of wastewater temporarily within the existing sewer pipes
- **Off-Line Storage (OLS):** A tank that holds extra wastewater when the sewer is full, then drains it to be treated when space becomes available
- **Real Time Control (RTC):** Sewer chambers with automatic gates that open and close to store and release water in order prevent overflows
- **Sewer Patrol Point (SPP):** A chamber that directs water to the treatment plant in dry weather, or to a storage area during heavy rainfall or snowmelt



CSO: Combined
Sewer Overflow



GI: Green
Infrastructure



ILS: In-line
Storage



OLS: Off-line
Storage Tank



RTC: Real Time
Control



SPP: Sewer
Patrol Point



Potential Construction Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- Sewage odors will NOT be present in homes but may be present outside
- New traffic patterns and protective measures will be in place during construction, including:

- Partial or full road closures
- Sidewalk closures
- Limited street parking
- Possible detours (for vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians)/ relocated bus stop
- Rodent control plans
- Fencing and site visibility
- Pre-construction surveys

– **Mitigation strategies will vary based on project specifics. Impacts and resulting mitigation will vary widely project to project.**

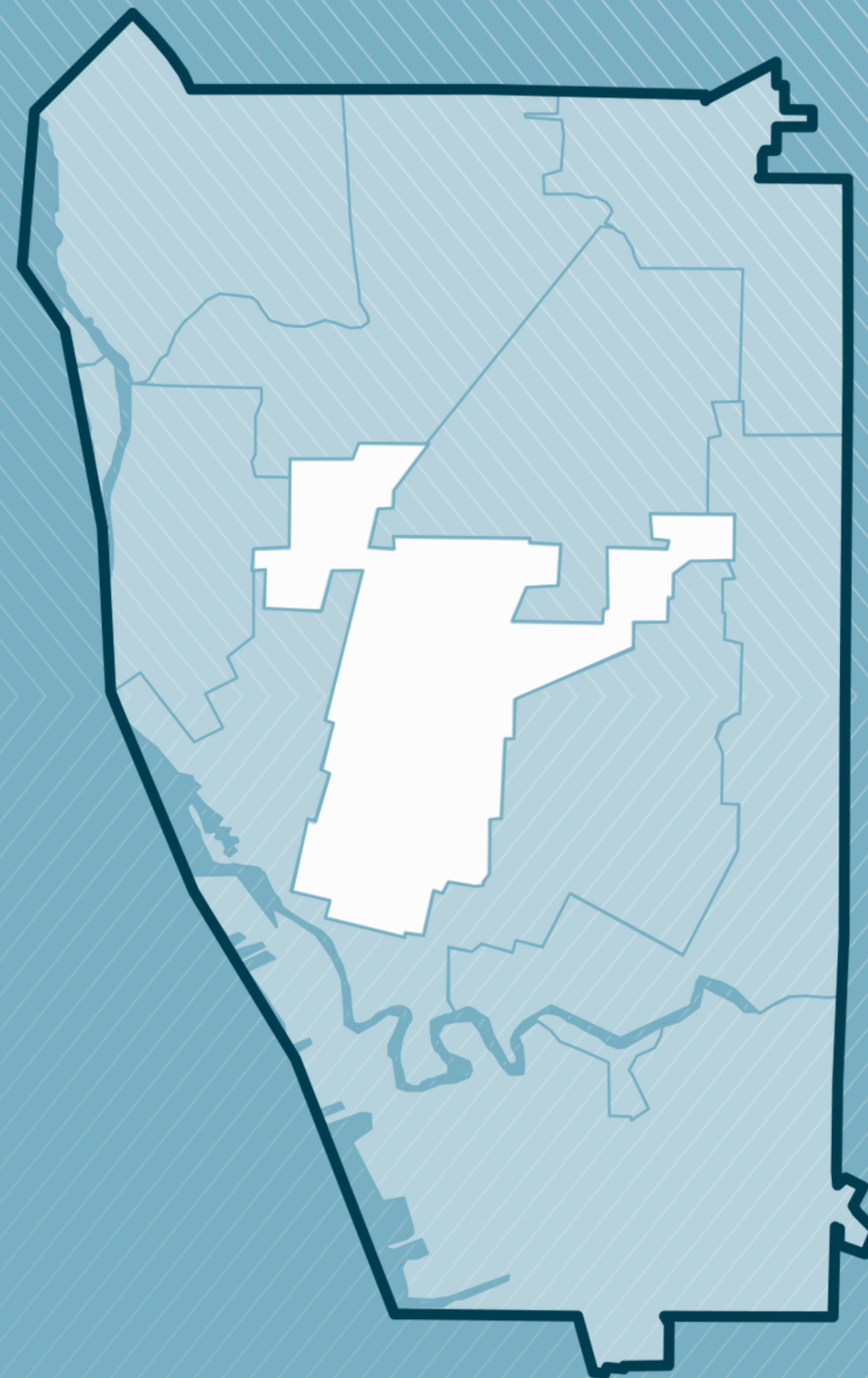


Active Projects

(Planning, Design, or Construction)

Ellicott District

Specific Projects



Gates Circle & Delaware Ave

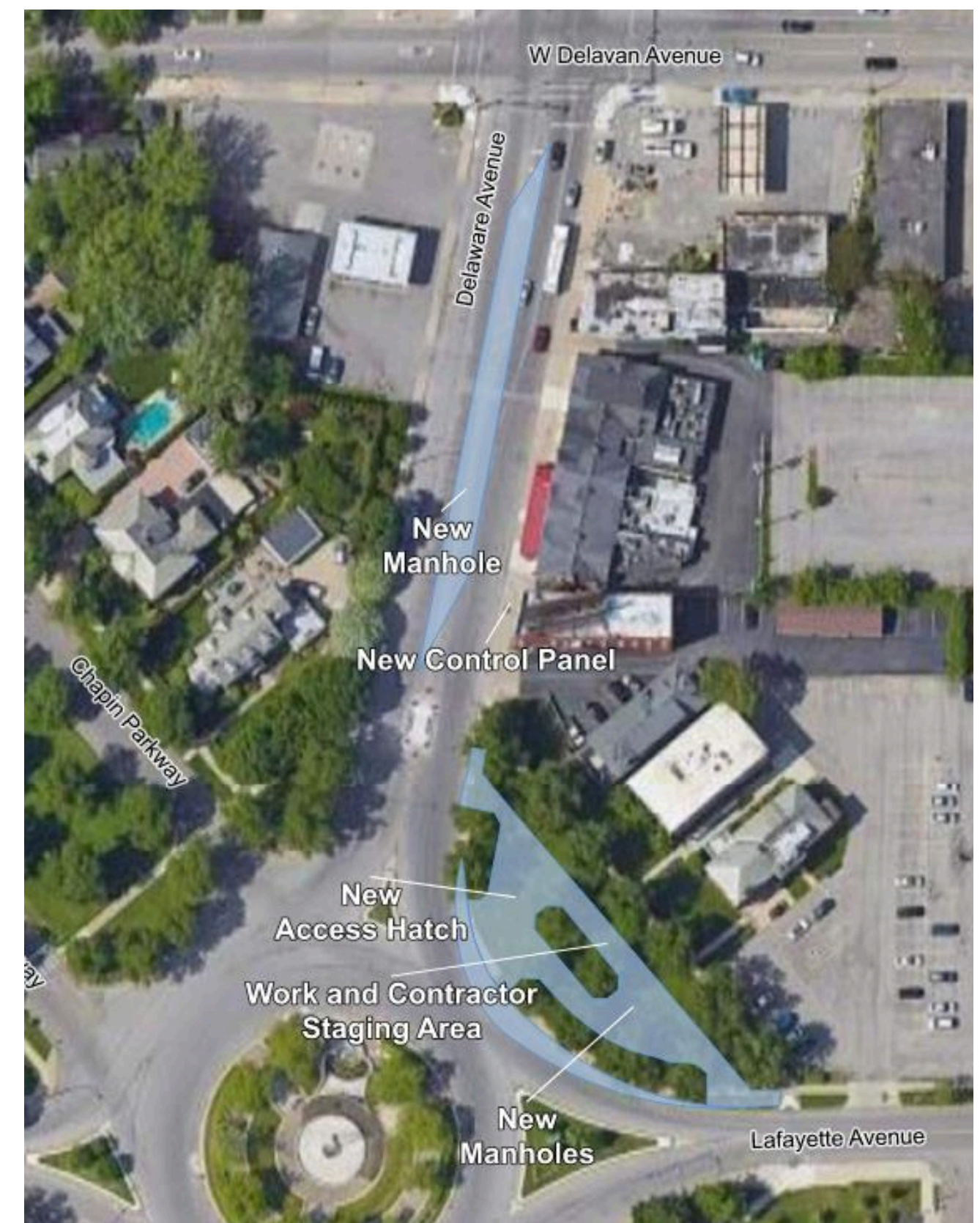
GATES CIRCLE REAL TIME CONTROL (RTC)

Project Description:

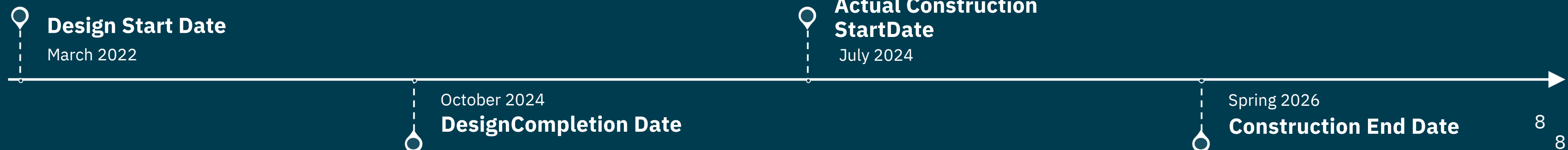
- A gate at the sewer inspection point will be controlled in real-time
- Installing two (2) new manholes with flow meters, level sensors, and a control panel

Estimated Cost: \$2,835,287

Waterbody Impacted: Black Rock Canal

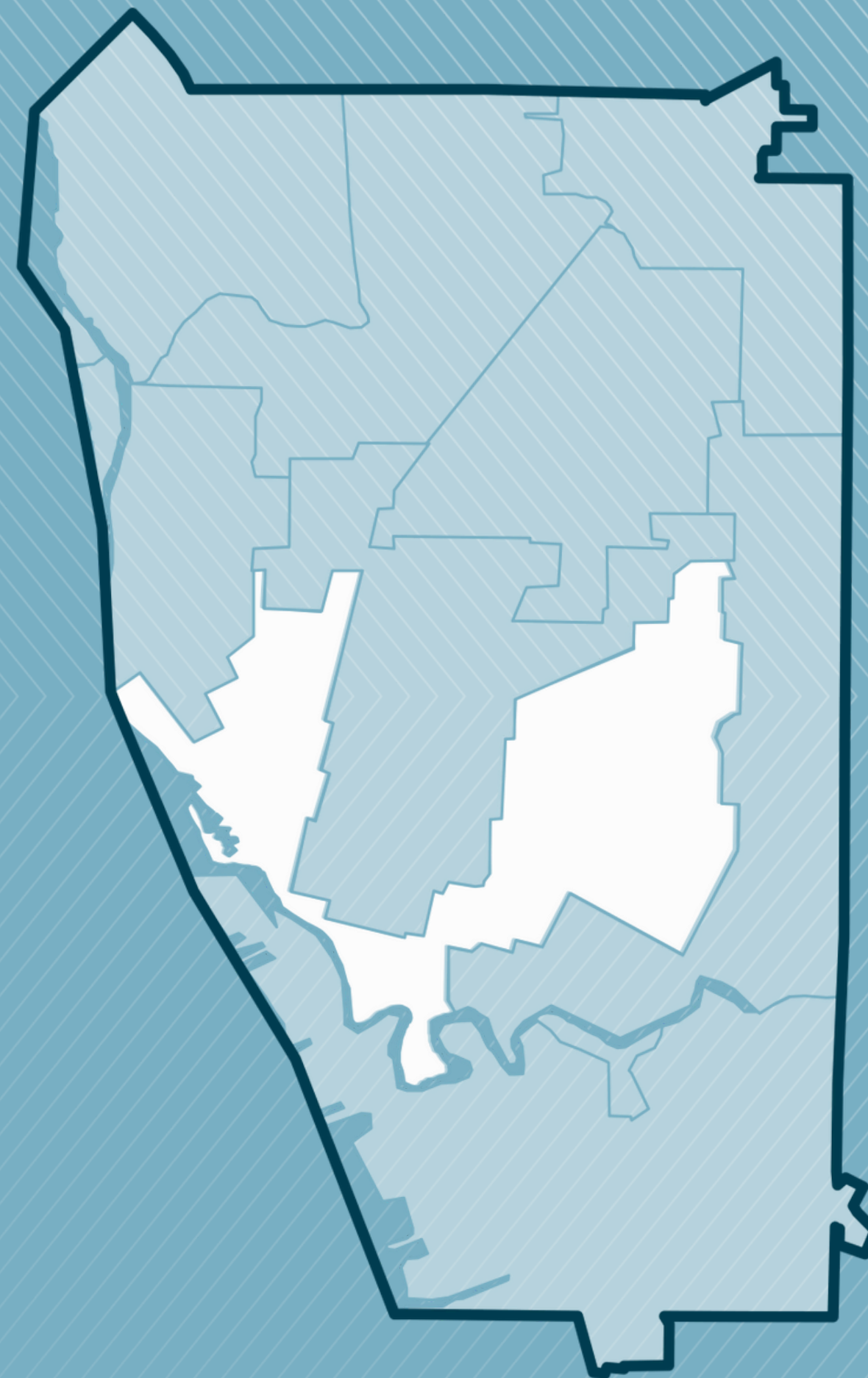


TIMELINE



Fillmore District

Specific Projects



Waterfront Park

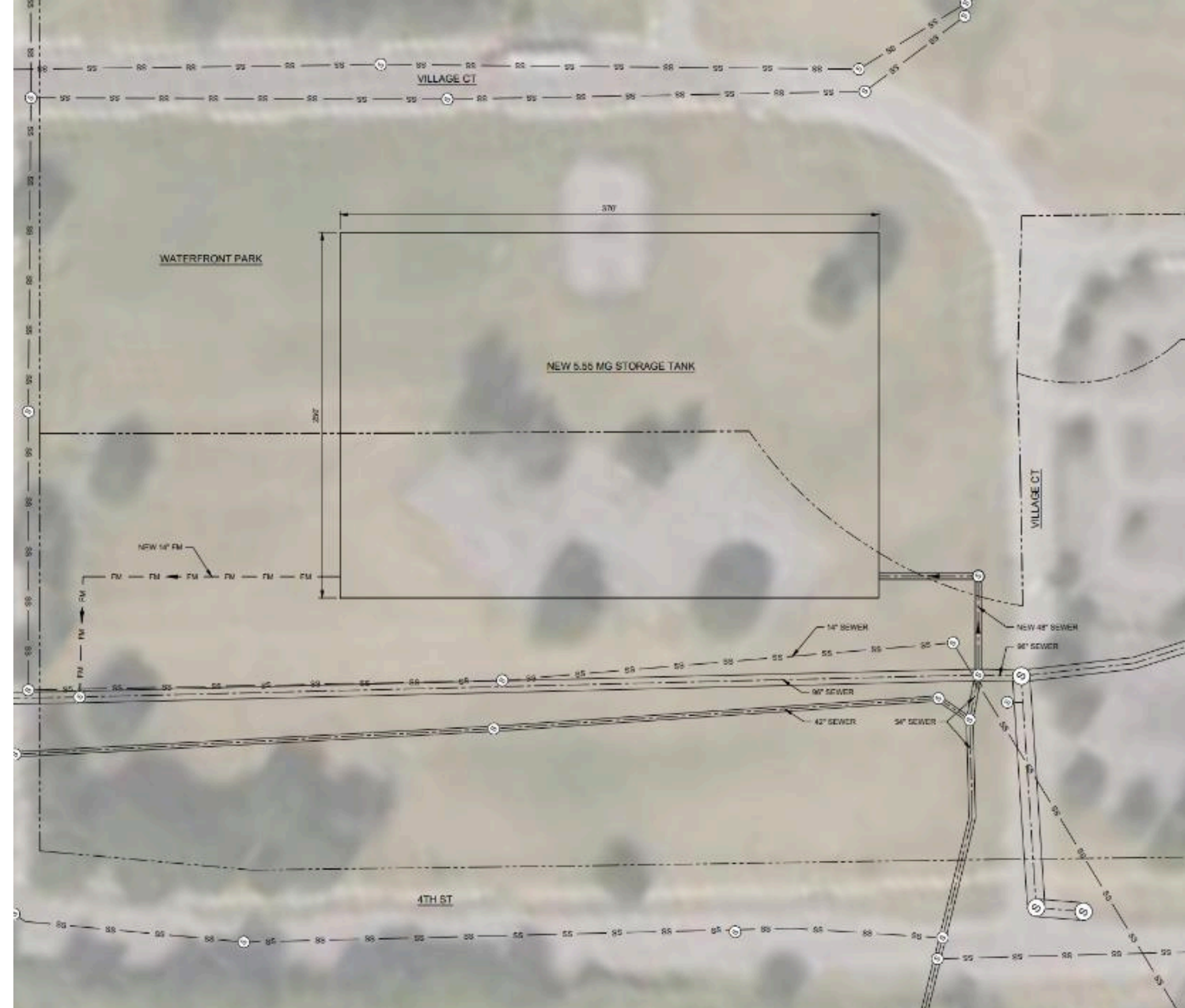
OFFLINE STORAGE (OLS)

Project Description:

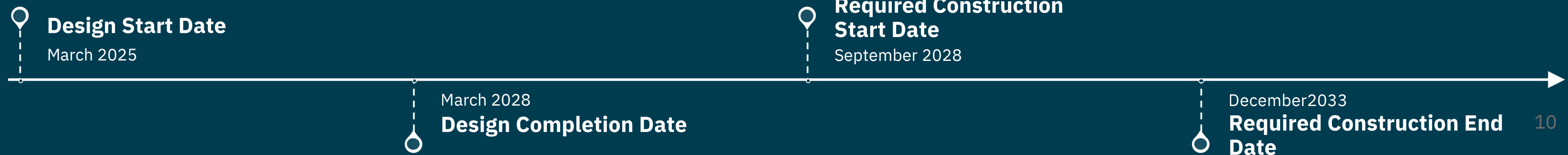
- A new 5.55 million-gallon (MG) underground offline storage tank
- Reduces overflow risk and eases Bird Island Treatment Facility load
- The tank will dewater through an attached pump station

Estimated Cost: \$62,440,000

Waterbody Impacted: Erie Basin Marina

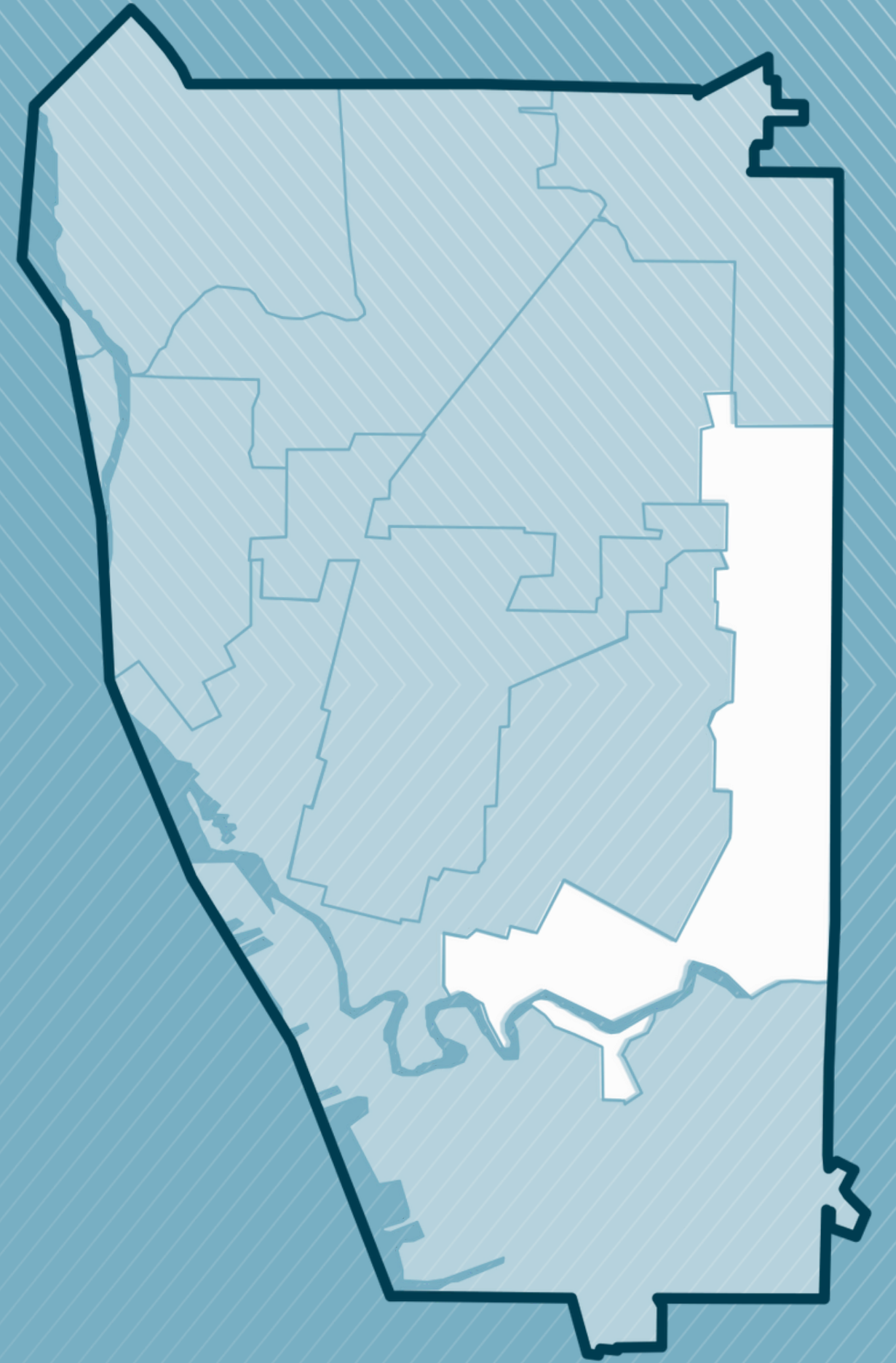


TIMELINE



Lovejoy District

Specific Projects



Bailey & Kerns

SEWER PATROL POINT (SPP 338)

ProjectDescription:

- The weir wall will be raised
- The weir length will also be increased to ensure that, when necessary, enough water can be carried over it fast enough.

Estimated Cost: \$3,061,400.00

Waterbody Impacted: Scajaquada Creek



TIMELINE

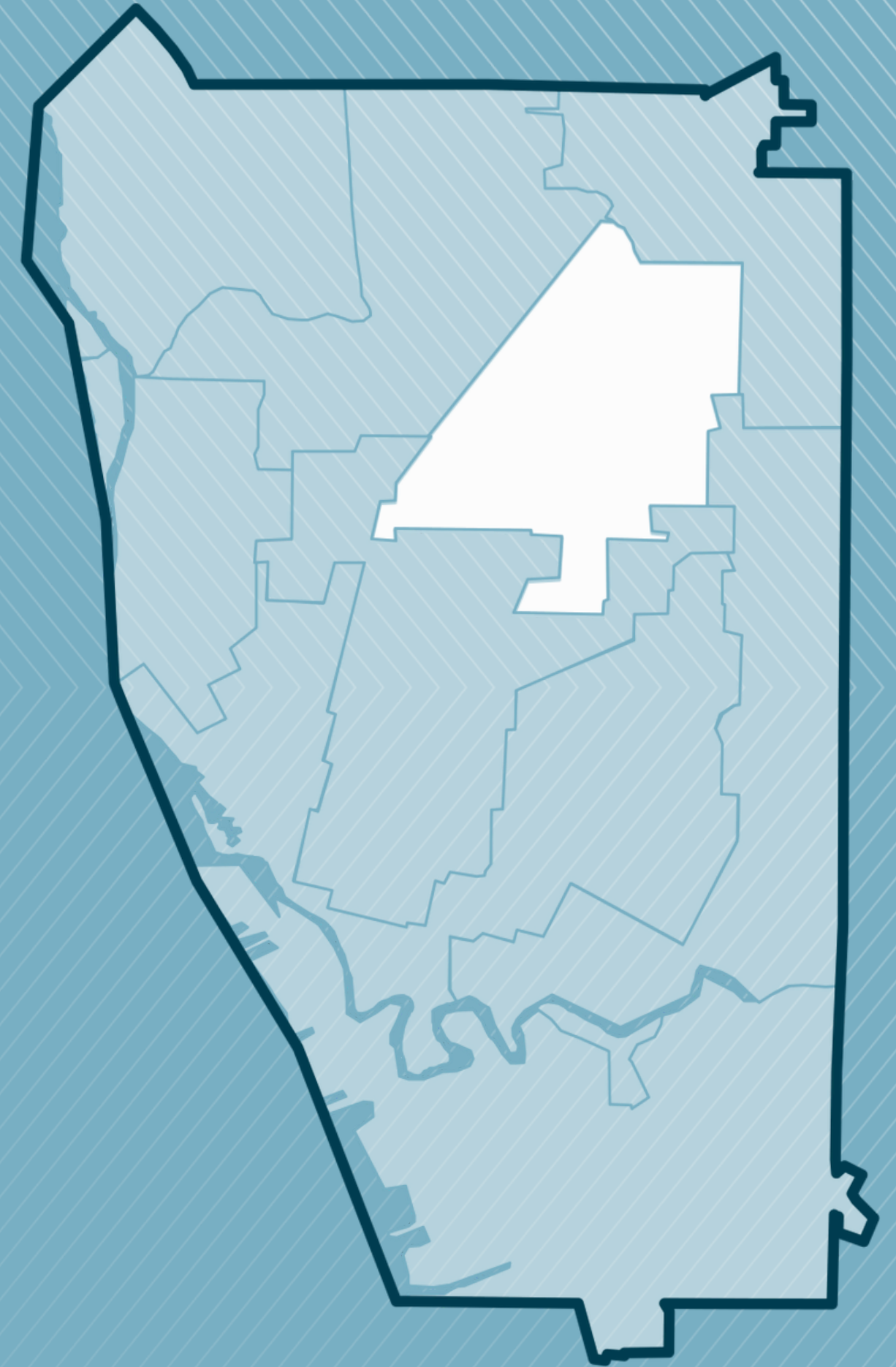


Required Construction Start Date
June 2027

Required Construction End Date
December 2029

Masten District

Specific Projects



Jefferson & E Delavan

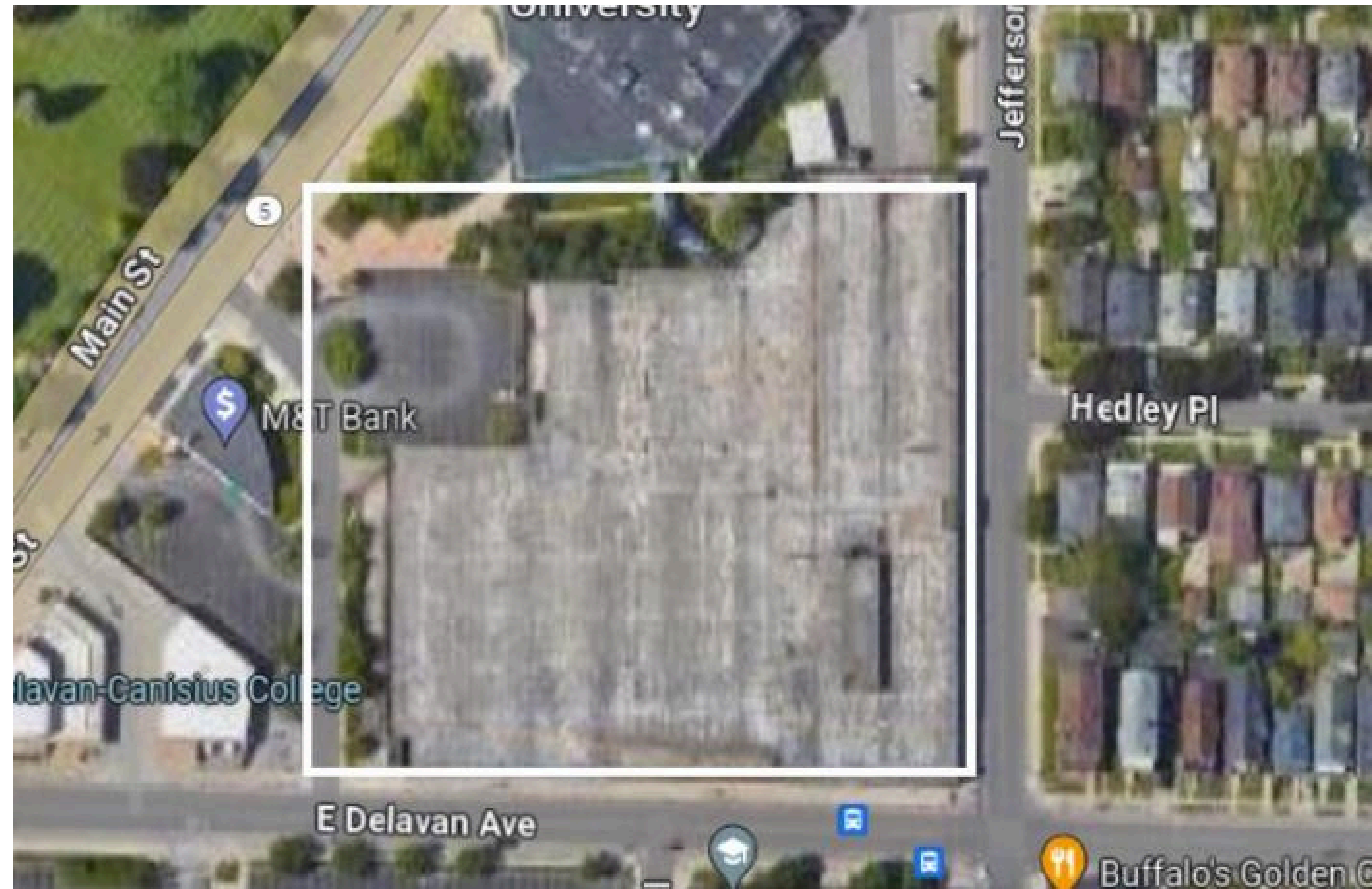
OFFLINE STORAGE (OLS)

Project Description:

- 1.5 MG Offline Storage Tank, flows from SPP 333 rerouted to tank
- Located at an existing parking garage (set for demolition) at Jefferson Avenue and East Delavan Avenue
- Three phased project

Estimated Cost: \$105,400,000

Waterbody Impacted: Scajaquada Creek



TIMELINE



Sidney & Lark

REAL TIME CONTROL (RTC) / INLINE STORAGE (ILS)

Project Description:

- Corner of Sidney Street and Lark Street
- Dewater overflows via gravity to the Scajaquada Tunnel Interceptor
- Sewer Patrol Point 336B will be modified by removing the orifice plate, or flow restriction device
- Reduces combined sewer overflows

Estimated Cost: \$17,300,000

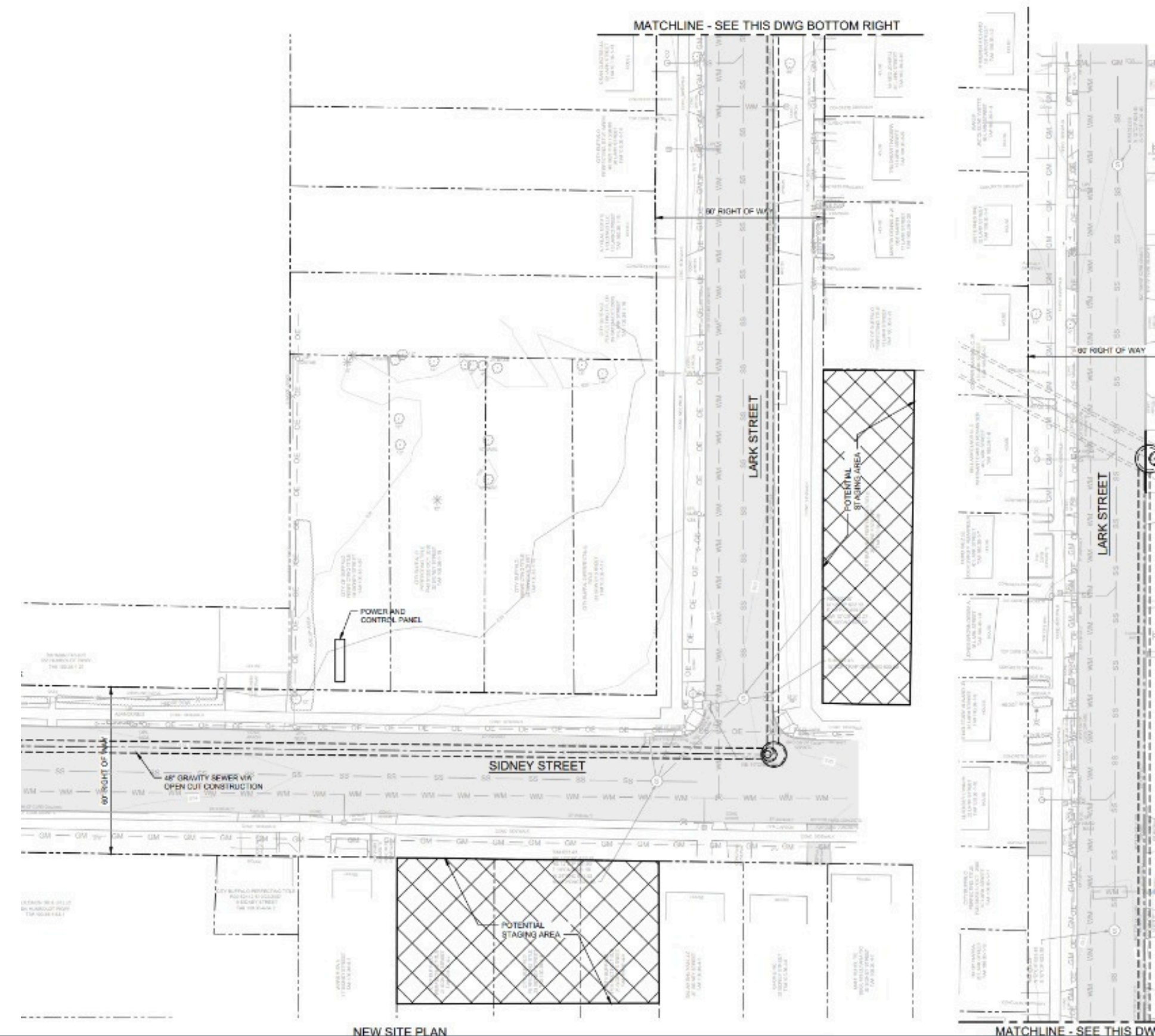
Waterbody Impacted: Scajaquada Creek

TIMELINE



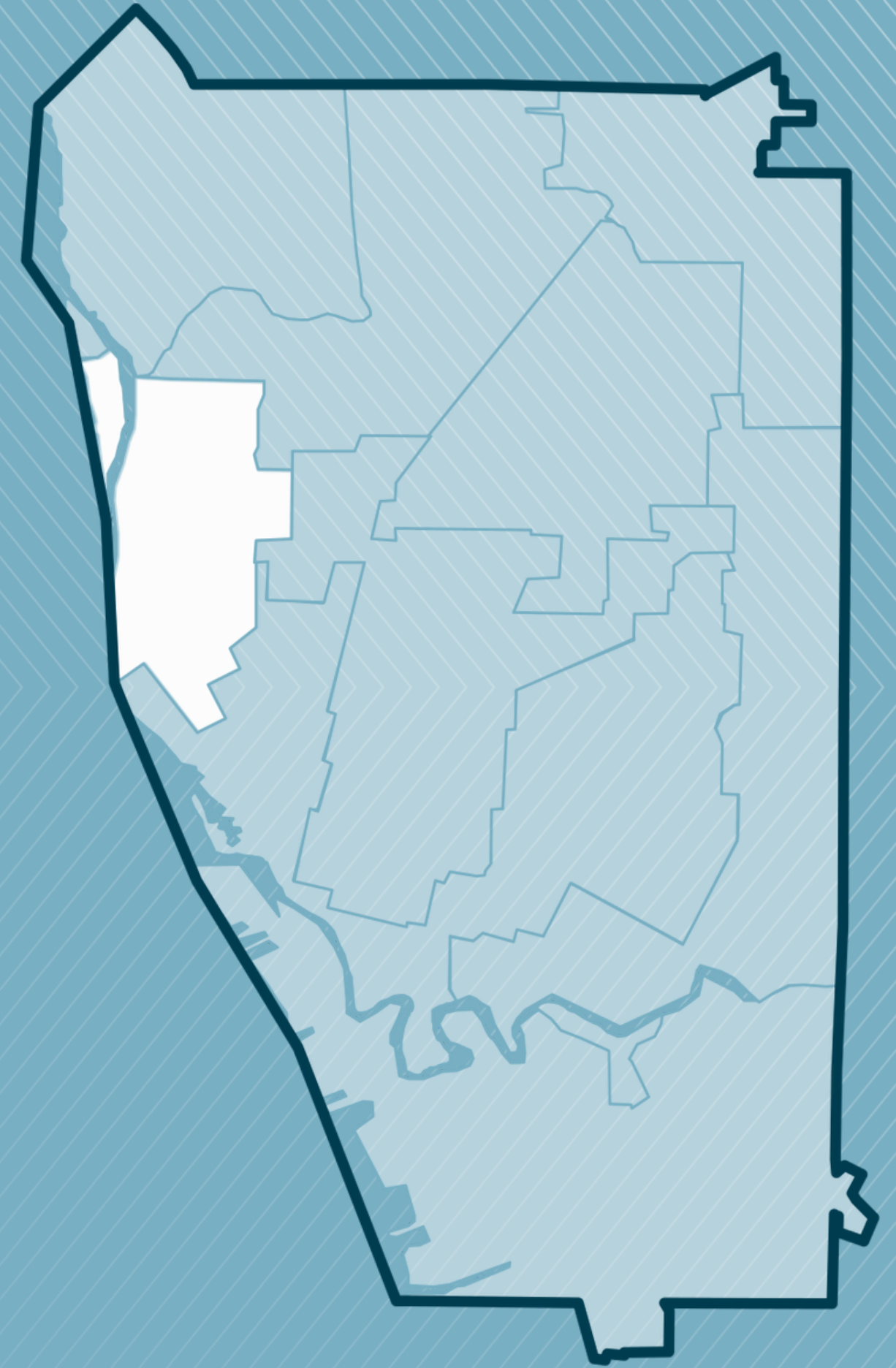
Required Construction Start Date: December 2027

Required Construction End Date: December 2032



Niagara District

Specific Projects



Cornelius Creek

CSO Backwater Gate Flooding Mitigation Project

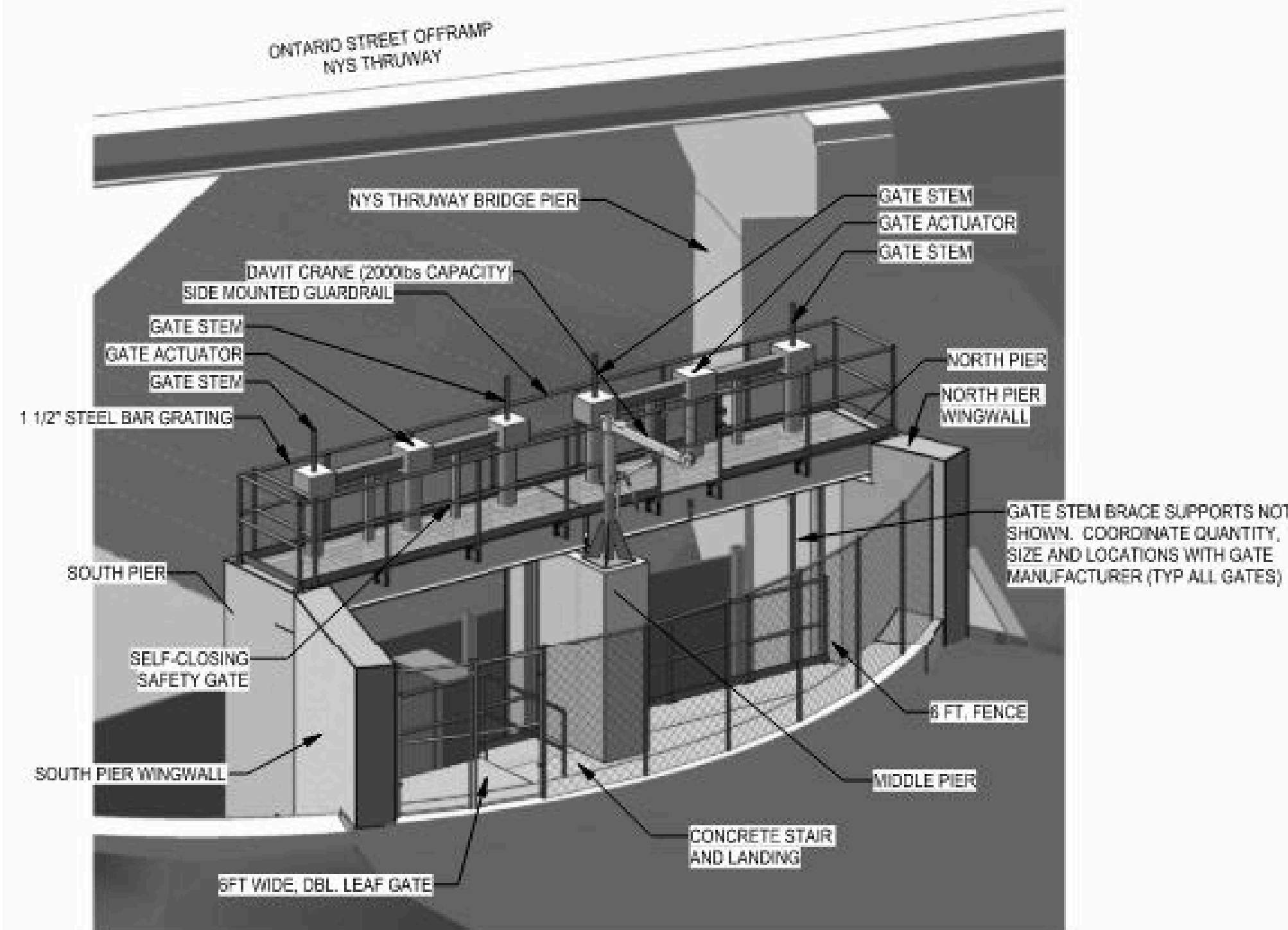
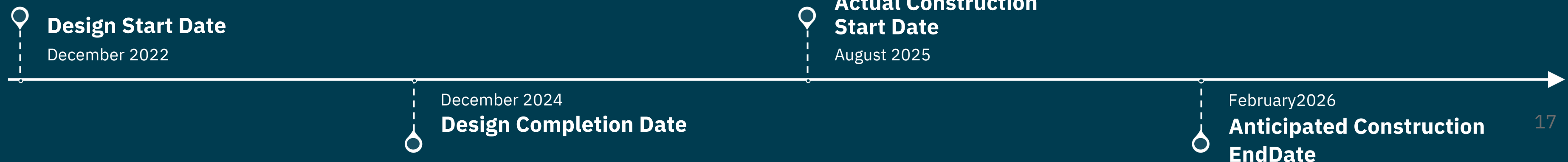
Project Description:

- Add two motorized gate valves at CSO 055
- Repair and reinforce concrete
- Install equipment so operators can control gates remotely

Estimated Cost: \$2,631,875 **Waterbody**

Impacted: Cornelius Creek/ Niagara River

TIMELINE



Breckenridge Street

COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOW (CSO) PROJECT

Estimated Cost: \$23,000,000

Waterbody Impacted: Black Rock Canal



New Combined (Storm and Sanitary) Sewer in the center of **West Ave.** between **Lafayette Ave.** and **Breckenridge St.**, and a New Water Main

Limits of New Road Pavement

Reconnect Building Sewers and Replace Lead Water Services to Existing Building (both sides of **West Ave.**; approximate houses shown)

Replace Combined Sewer on Each Side of **West Ave.** between **Lafayette Ave.** and **Breckenridge St.**

Install a Liner in the Existing Sewer in the Center of **Breckenridge St.** between **West Ave.** and **Herkimer St.**

Will Prevent Overflow of 8 Million Gallons of Combined Sewage to the Black Rock Canal Per Year

TIMELINE



Design Start Date
March 2022

February 2025
Design Completion Date

Required Construction Start Date
August 2025

January 2029
Required Construction End Date

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

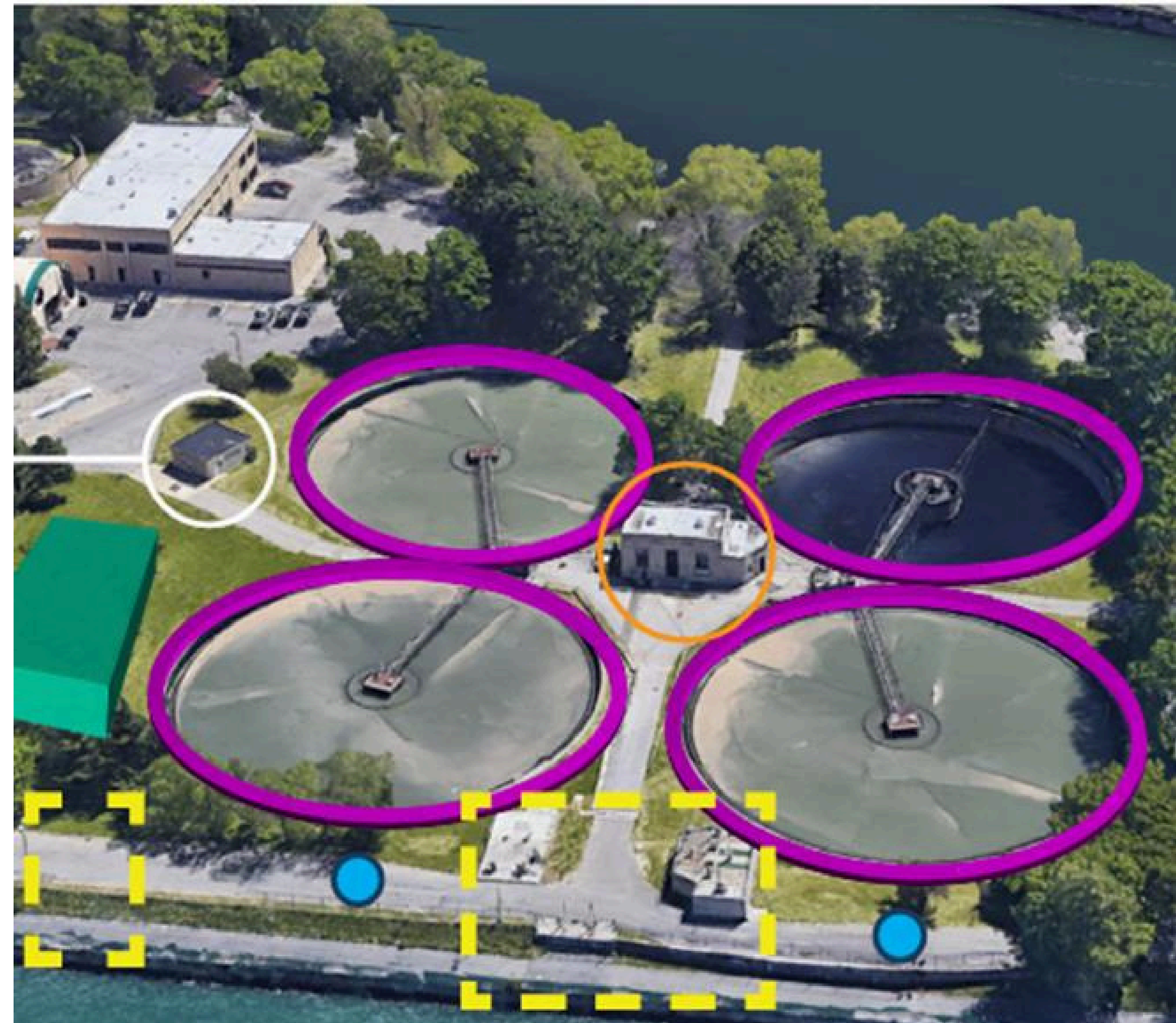
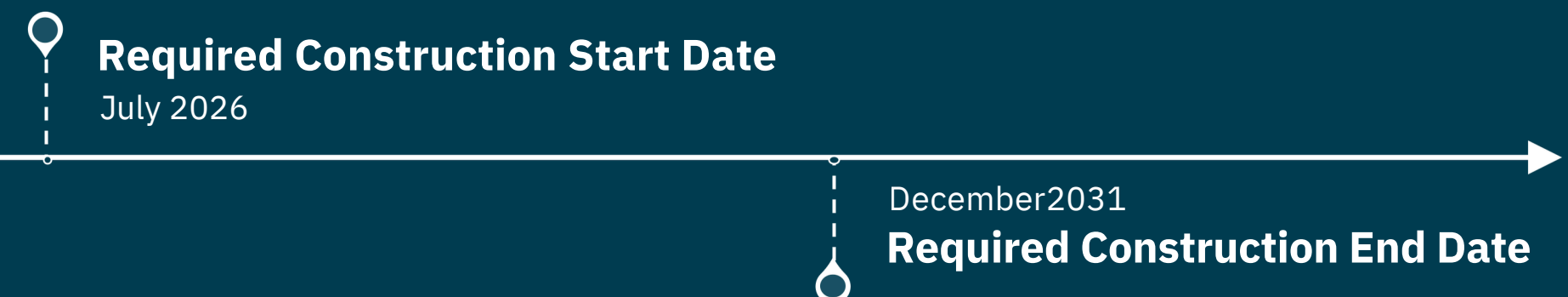
Project Description: Primary

Treatment System Upgrades:

- Improved **sludge pumping** and **sedimentation tanks**
- New **odor control** and **chlorine treatment systems**
- **Disinfection** with upgraded **dosing** and **pumping**

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**
- Improving flow into existing clarifiers
- Adding two new clarifiers
- Installing another chlorine tank

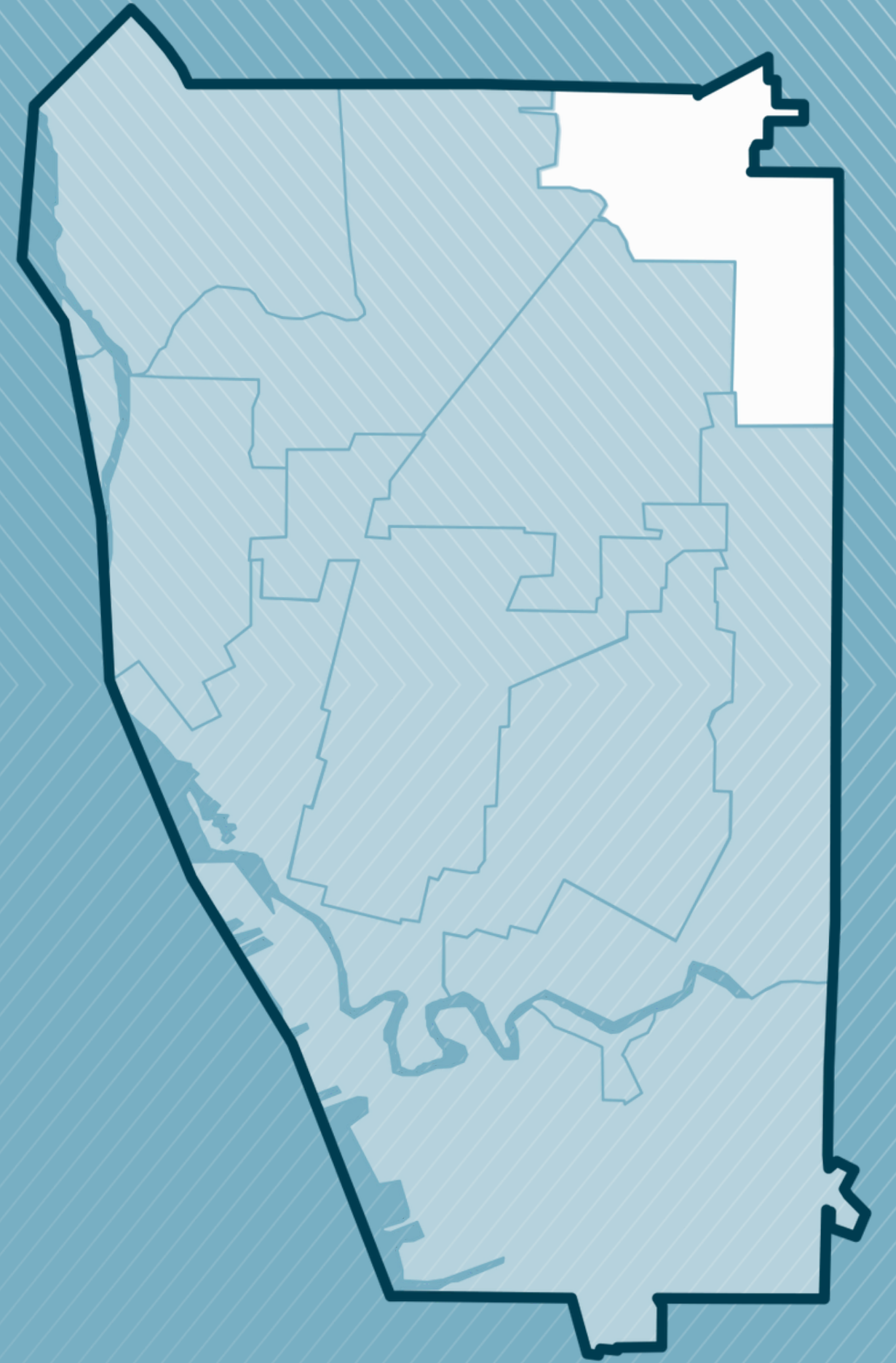
Estimated Cost: \$80,000,000

TIMELINE



University District

Specific Projects



Roosevelt Park(OLS)

Anticipated Construction Duration:

Goal: 3 Years, no more than 6 years

Year 1

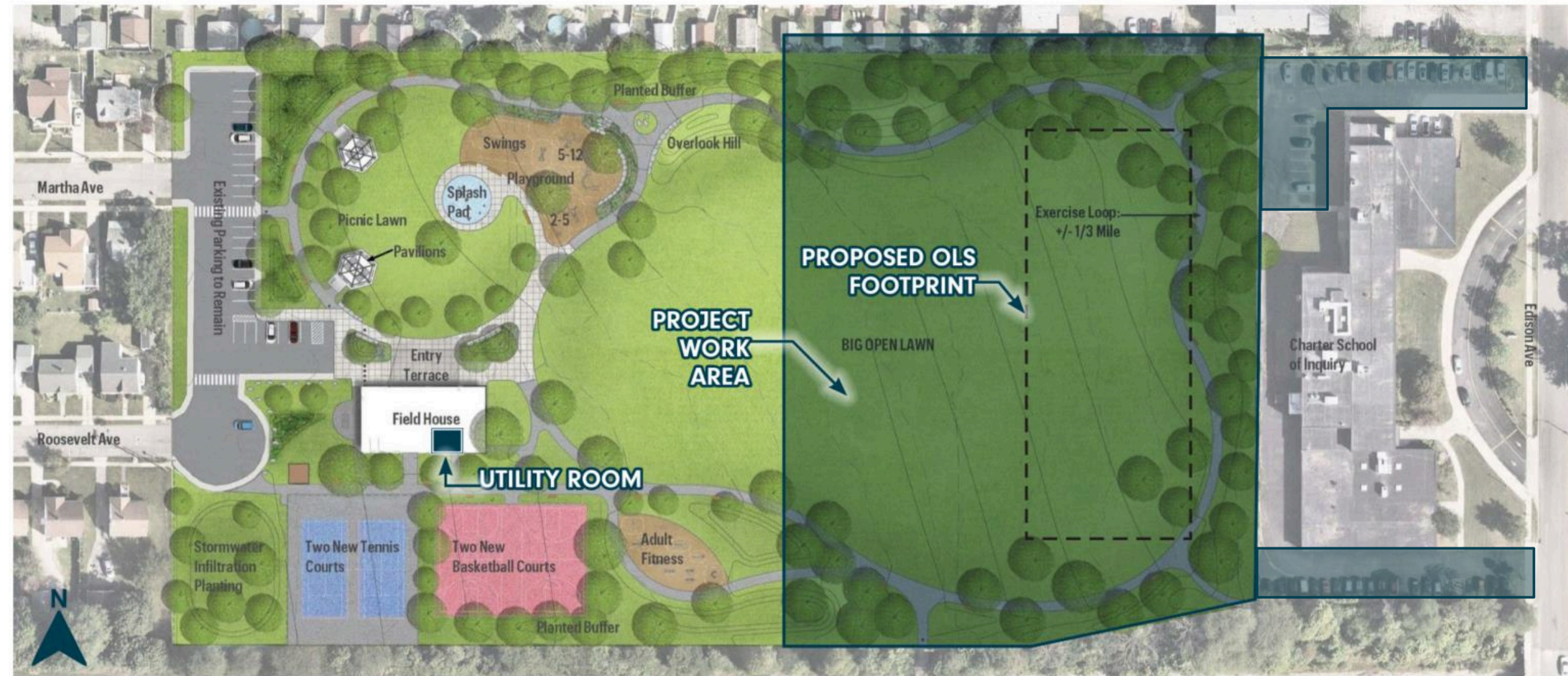
- Protective fencing and construction trailer
- Begin excavation for buried tank
- Start tank construction

Years 2

- Continued tank with concrete and steel

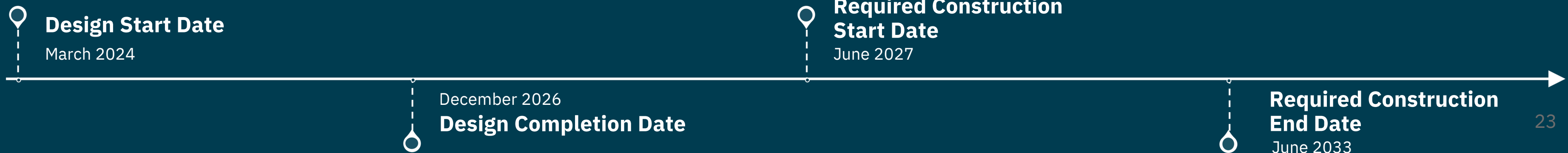
Years 3

- Finish tank construction
- Site restoration and park beautification



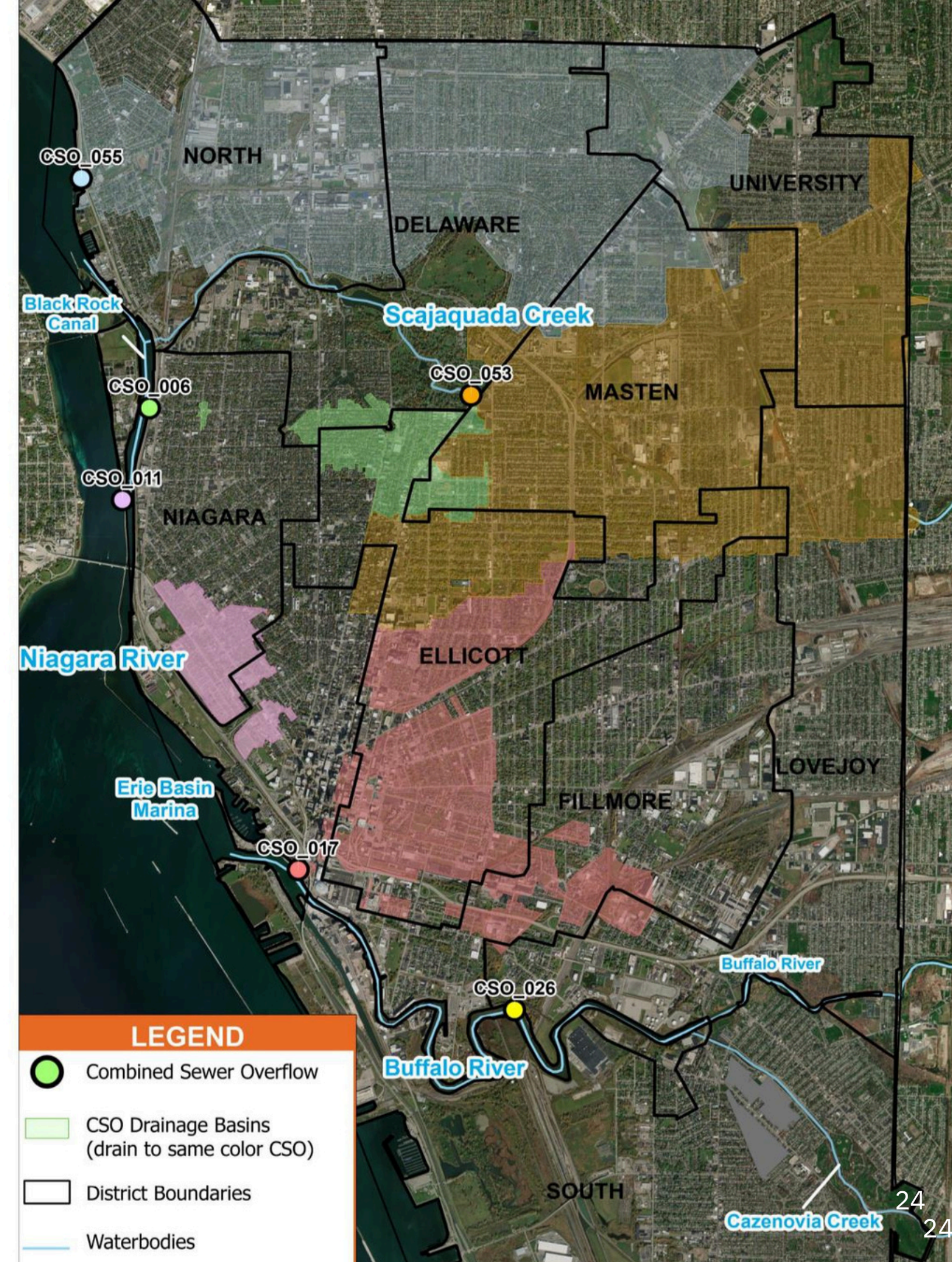
Project Area

TIMELINE



BSA Green Stormwater Infrastructure Program

CITY WIDE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE



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Community Partnership Program





Meaningful partnerships between **nonprofit community organizations or colleges/public schools** and **engineering firms/contractors**

- Based in the City of Buffalo
- Through contracted Buffalo Sewer infrastructure projects
- MWBE/DBE requirements are separate from the Community Partnership Program

- Commitments through volunteerism or financial contributions to defined community partners
- Commitments are part of the contract
- Focus areas of Partnership: **(1) Education, (2) Workforce Development, (3) Economic Development, (4) Public & Environmental Health**

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM **In Development**

The Who:

- Bidders for Professional Services and Construction Contracts
- Beneficiaries Will Include:
 - Anonprofit organization that has established and maintains valid nonprofit status under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3), as amended, along with all applicable rules and regulations.
 - Public schools and colleges in the City of Buffalo

The When:

- Large project bidders will be invited to include a **Community Partnership Proposal** in their bid.
- Applies to:
 - Construction Contracts over \$2.5 million
 - Professional Services over \$500,000
- Participation will be measurable and tracked throughout the life of the agreement.

Community Engagement

- Interactive Website
- Engagement Activities

September Engagement Activity

Total Views: **3,062**

Total Visits: **2,251**

Total Visitors: **1,474**

Total Contributions: **75**
(70 Survey Respondents; 4 Comments on Share
Your Insights; & 1 Social Map Contribution)

Views - The number of times a Visitor views any page on a Site.

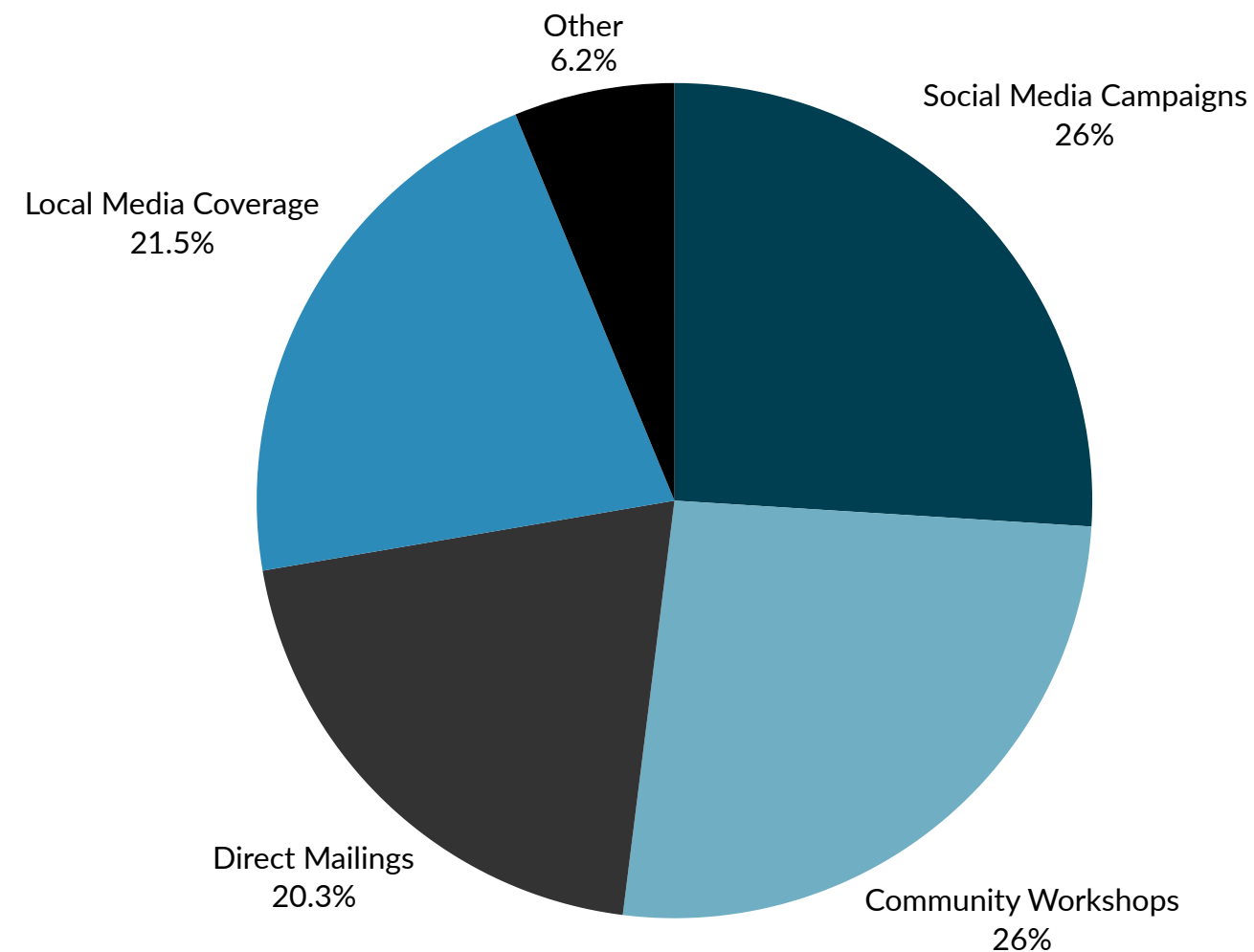
Visits - The number of end-user sessions associated with a single Visitor.

Visitors - The number of unique public or end-users to a Site. A Visitor is only counted once, even if they visit a Site several times in one day.

Contributions - The total number of responses or feedback collected through the participation tools.

Survey Results

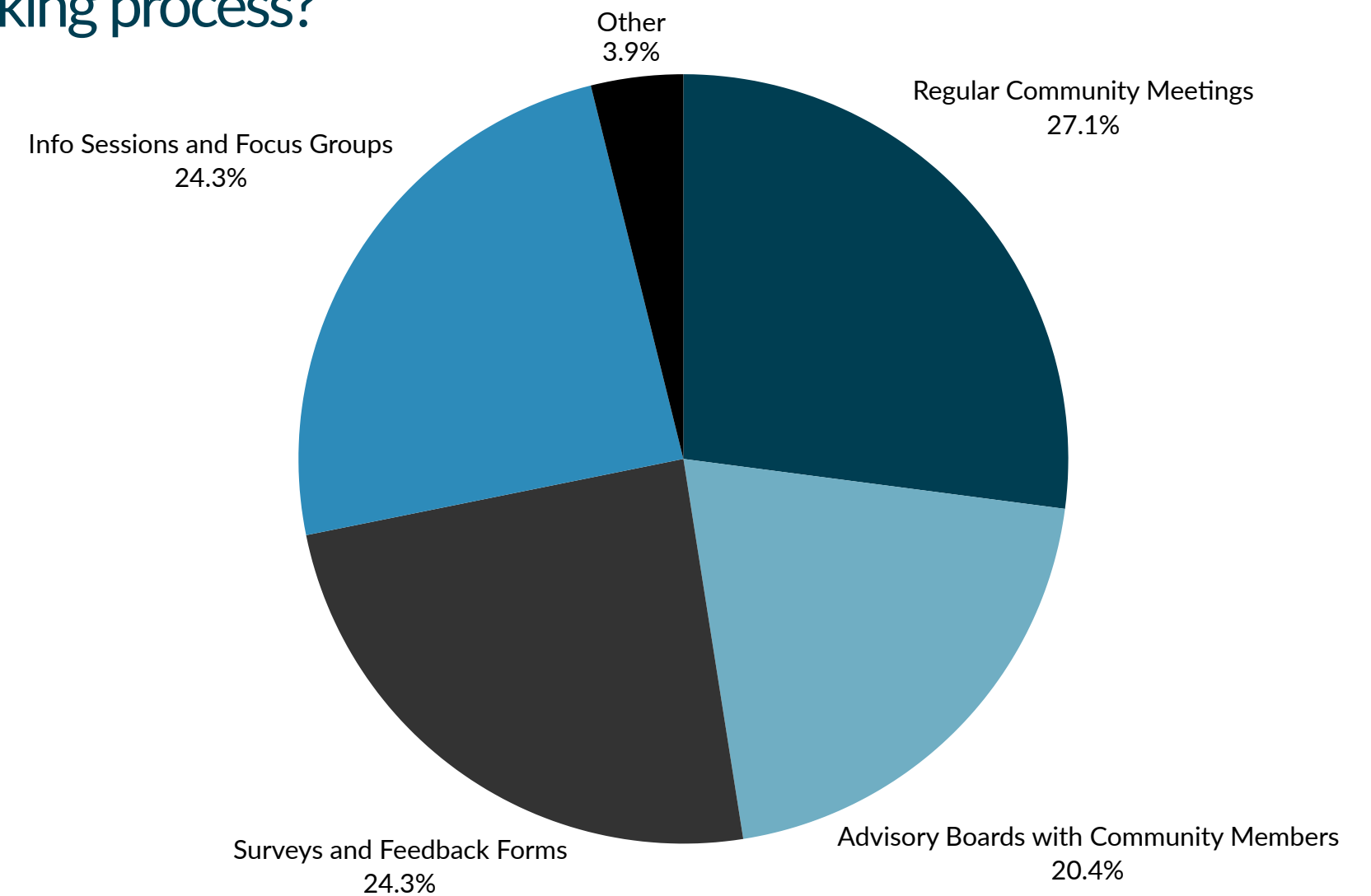
1. What are the best ways to reach and engage the Buffalo community in conversations about sewer infrastructure improvements?



Other:

- BMHA Housing Authority Meeting
- In person events where you talk to people
- Slow Roll
- Radio
- Billboards
- The Buffalo News (paper print editions - especially Sundays)
- Use not for profits to spread word
- Door to Door
- Local Block Club attendance and frequent site location billboard "coming to your area"!
- billboard advertising on bus sides, signage at intersections, community tent sittings in neighborhood (on site)

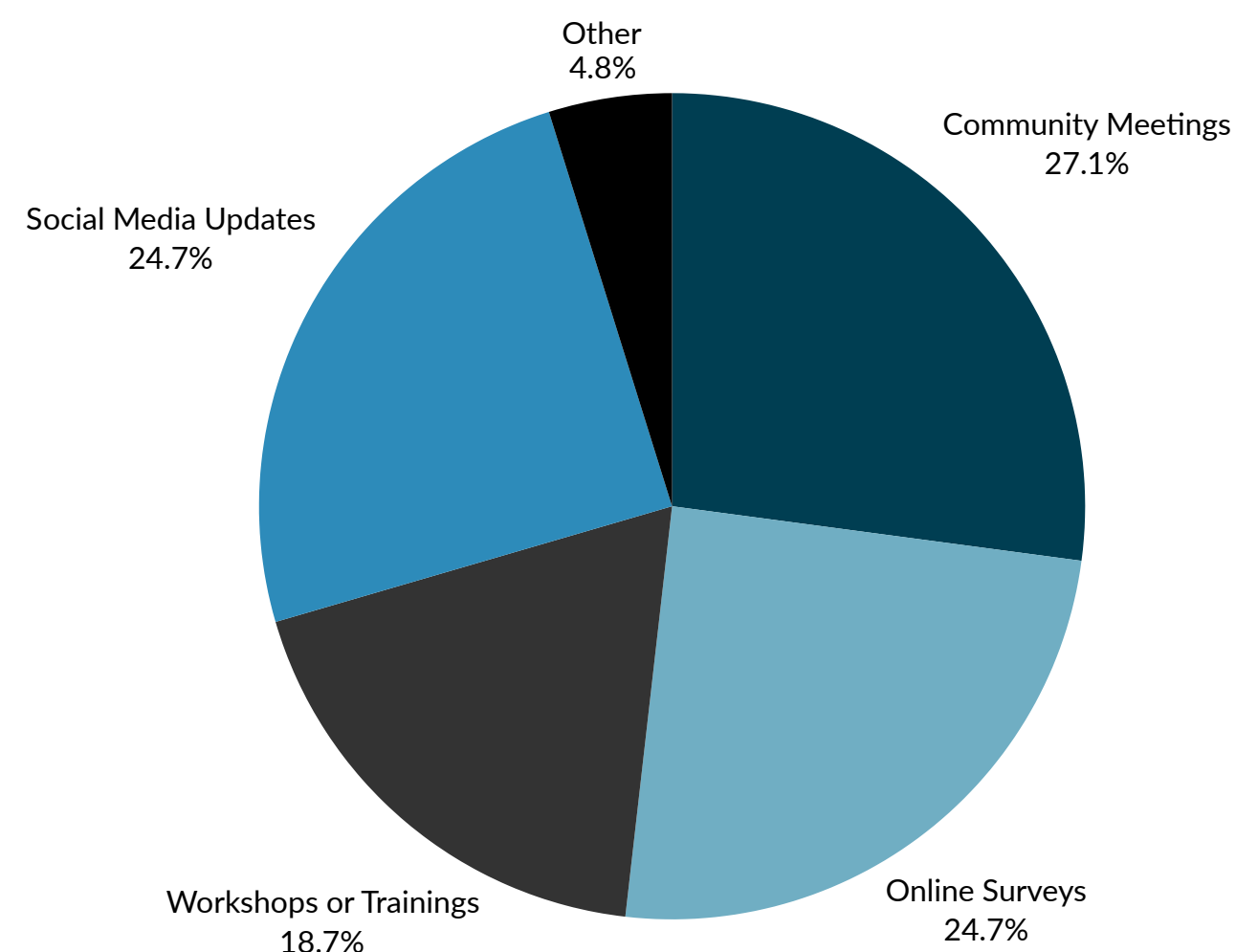
2. How can we ensure that community voices are genuinely represented and valued in the decision-making process?



Other:

- Door to door
- need all because the easiest participation is to say "NO" which comes from unexpected groups
- regular meetings, info sessions for micro learning/education exchange, feedback survey on the exchange
- Get REAL community members on the advisory boards
- Neighborhood outreach
- online information with ability to provide feedback, ask questions and receive answers
- Tabling at as many community events/festivals to reach folks where they are at

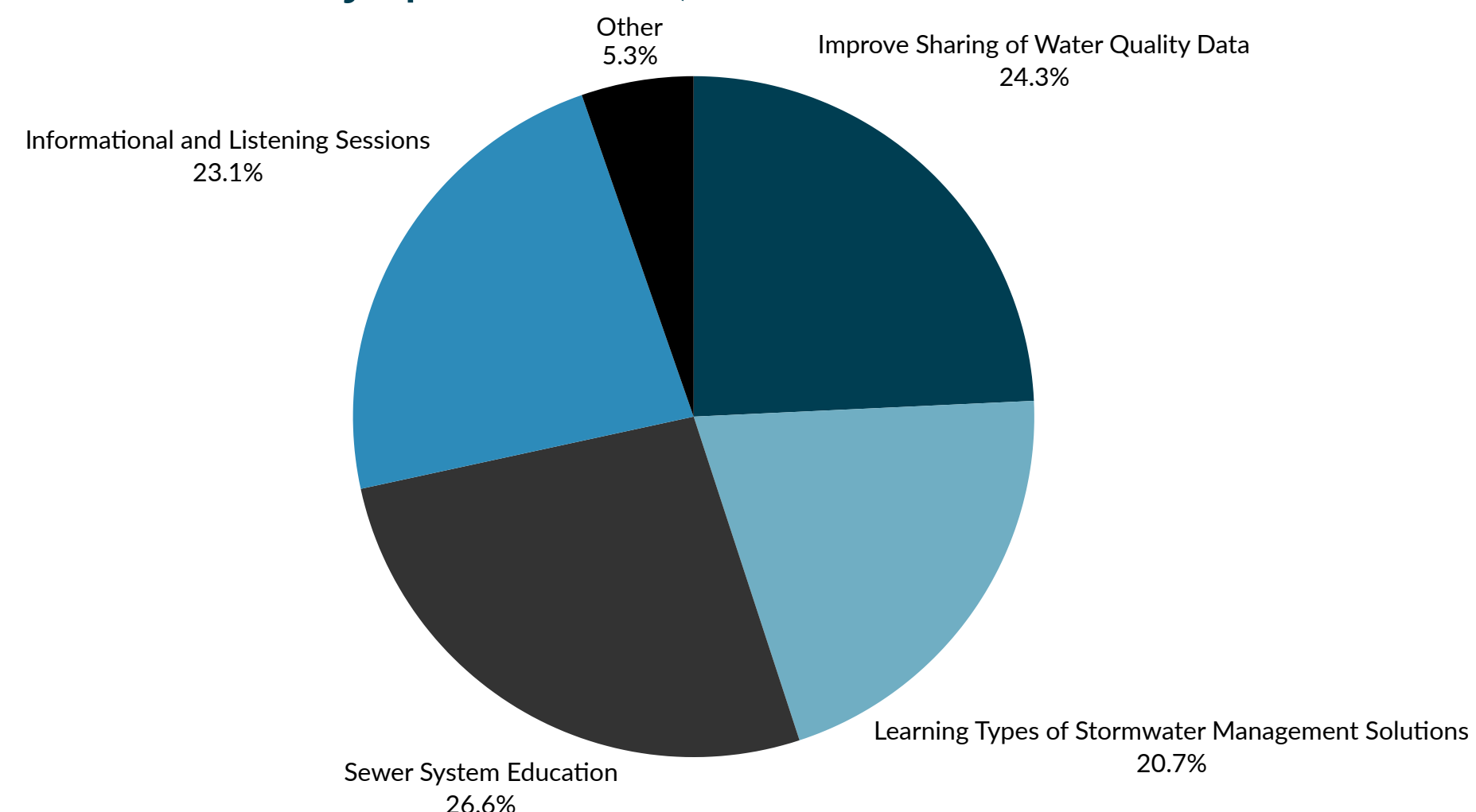
3. How would you prefer to be engaged in future discussions or decision making about sewer infrastructure improvements?



Other:

- Boat Rides
- Direct mail, with the option to follow-up.
- Direct mailings with survey or voting opportunities
- Email or Text
- The Buffalo News - print edition
- Challenger and Criterion local Newspapers
- direct email
- meet at the worship centers neighbor that site and environmental groups to leverage their contact to community counterparts

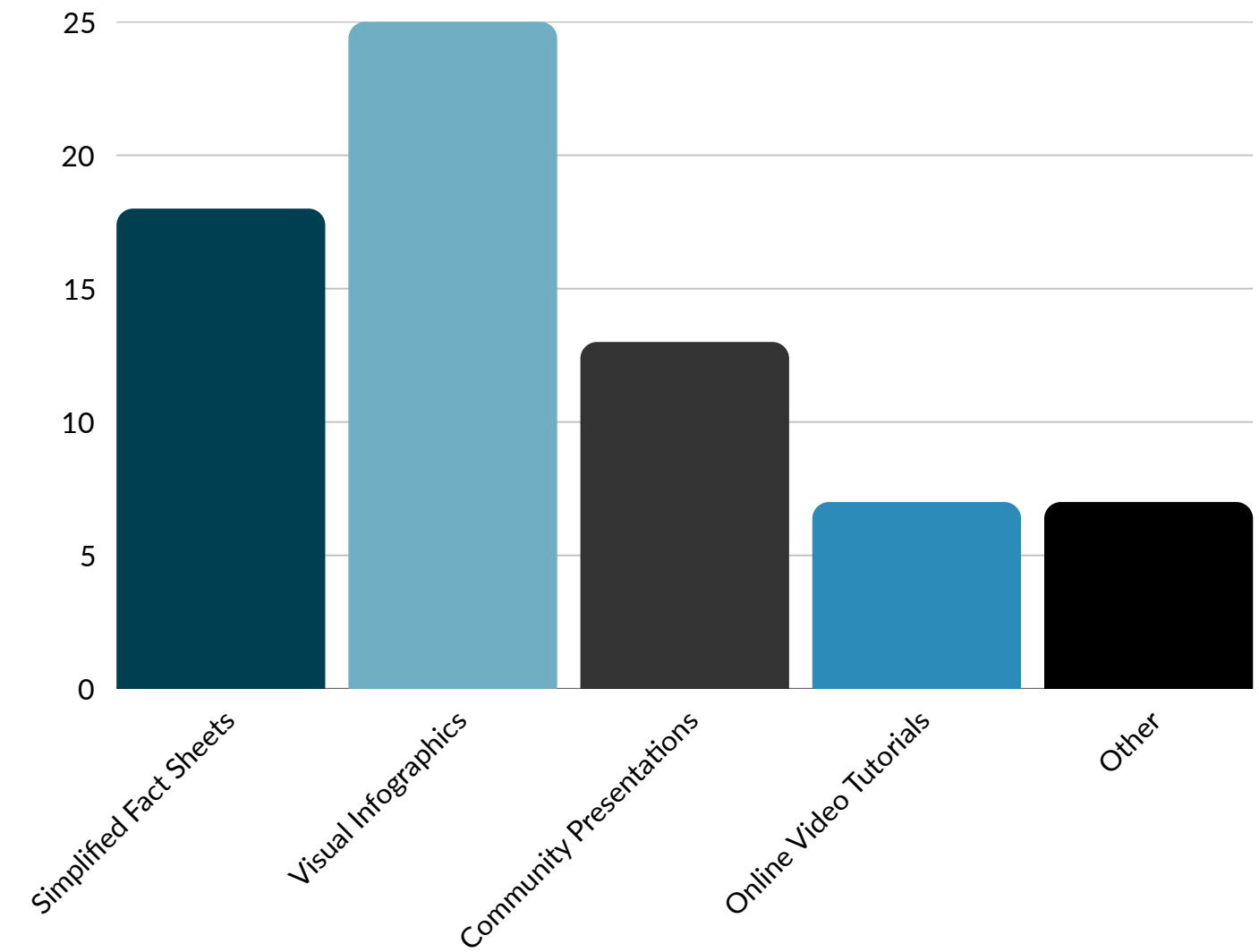
4. What additional resources or support would be most helpful to improve sewer infrastructure and waterways testing/improvements in your community (such as Niagara River and Scajaquada Creek)?



Other:

- Focus all funding on infrastructure improvements. The problems are well known. It's time to talk less and do more.
- Publish testing results data, possibly using this website
- The Buffalo News - print edition
- Videos, social media
- Cartoon Like Videos get the information out in a visual easy to understand what
- Independent Studies
- Teaming up with schools to teach kids about this. Host lunch and learns throughout the city with interactive learning opportunities.
- Civic education in all schools (public and private).
- town hall set up in summer, monthly on progress and distribute FAQs

5. How can we make technical information about the Queen City Clean Waters Initiative accessible and easy to understand for everyone?

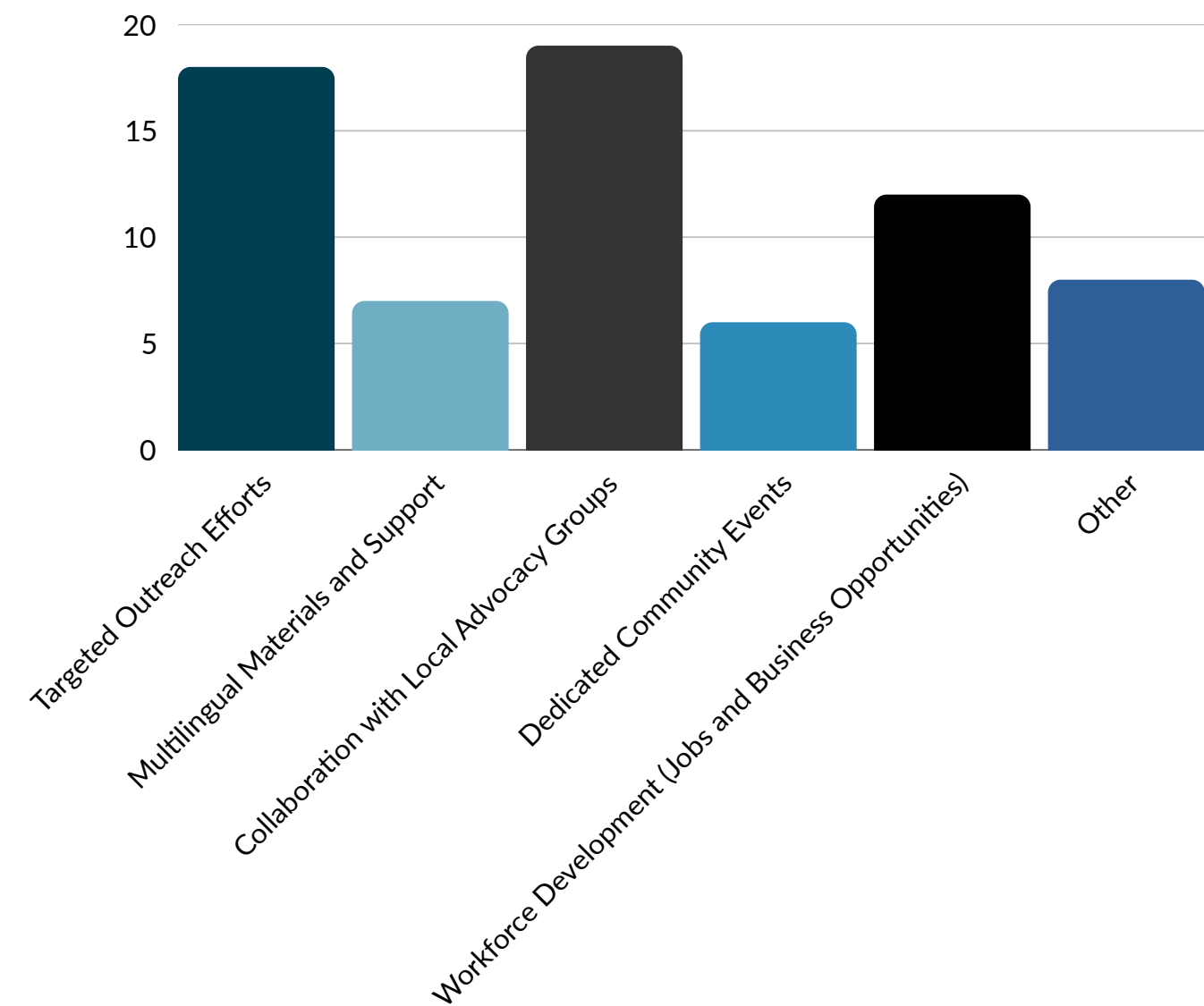


- Other:
- accuracy and clarity of information, unbiased, science-based.
 - all of the above and use community bulletin boards, FB
 - All of the above!
 - Cartoon like tutorials as mentioned in the previous answer.
 - youtube

6. What partnerships could help us better connect with the community? (Rank in Order 1 = Least, 5 = Best)

1. Buffalo Public Schools
2. Local Businesses
3. Community Leaders
4. Nonprofit Organizations
5. Workforce Development

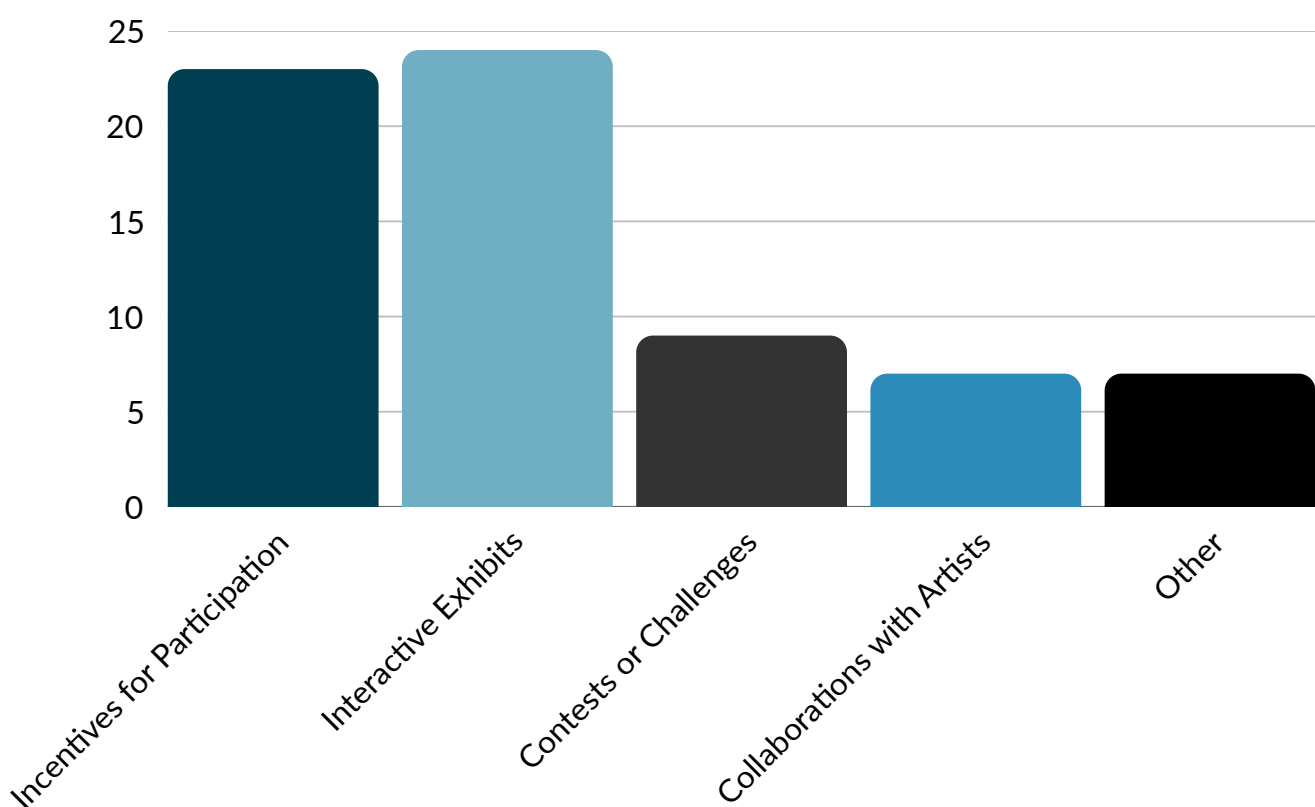
7. How can we engage underrepresented or historically marginalized communities in this process?



Other:

- All of the above !
- Churches and pastors
- Door to door
- Forums for residents' input and these suggestive opportunity kept in records
- multilingual and targeted outreach, collab at cultural specific events

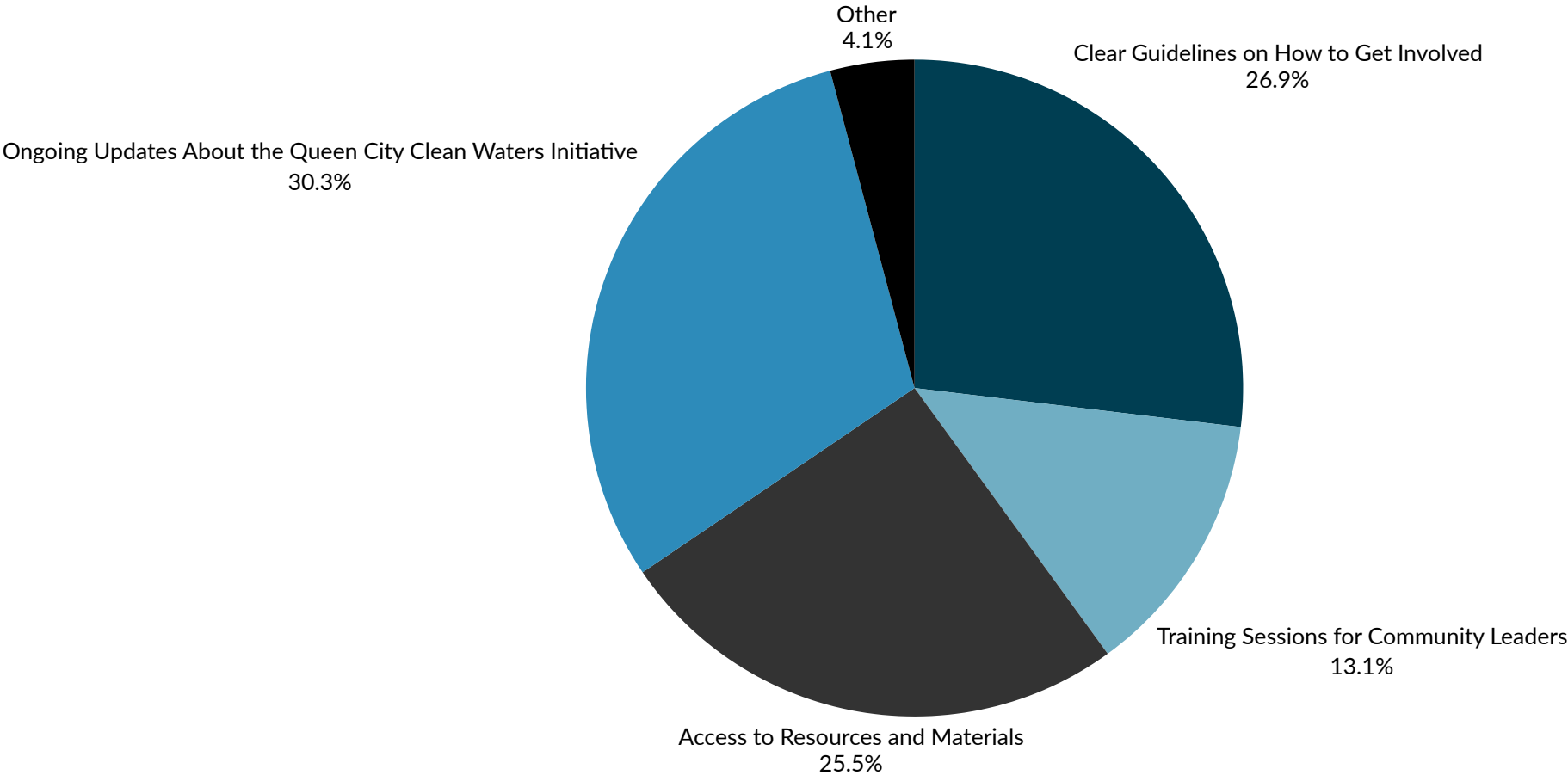
8. What is a creative idea for building public interest and participation in this Queen City Clean Waters Initiative?



Other:

- why is 'public interest' important? Participation important? All public needs is confidence that work is being done to make things better.
- People need to see that their time and energy isn't bein wasted - this means that results need to be both meaningful and communicated. These items may generate interest in the contest, but not the project.
- Be open and transparent with current CSO discharge practices. We have old infrastructure, the sewer water needs to be treated and not directly discharged. Tie the investment \$\$ to providing clean water.
- Artist collab and contests with kids BPS
- Anything that gives people the opportunity to explain how they would handle sewage and stormwater if left to their own devices.
- All of the above !

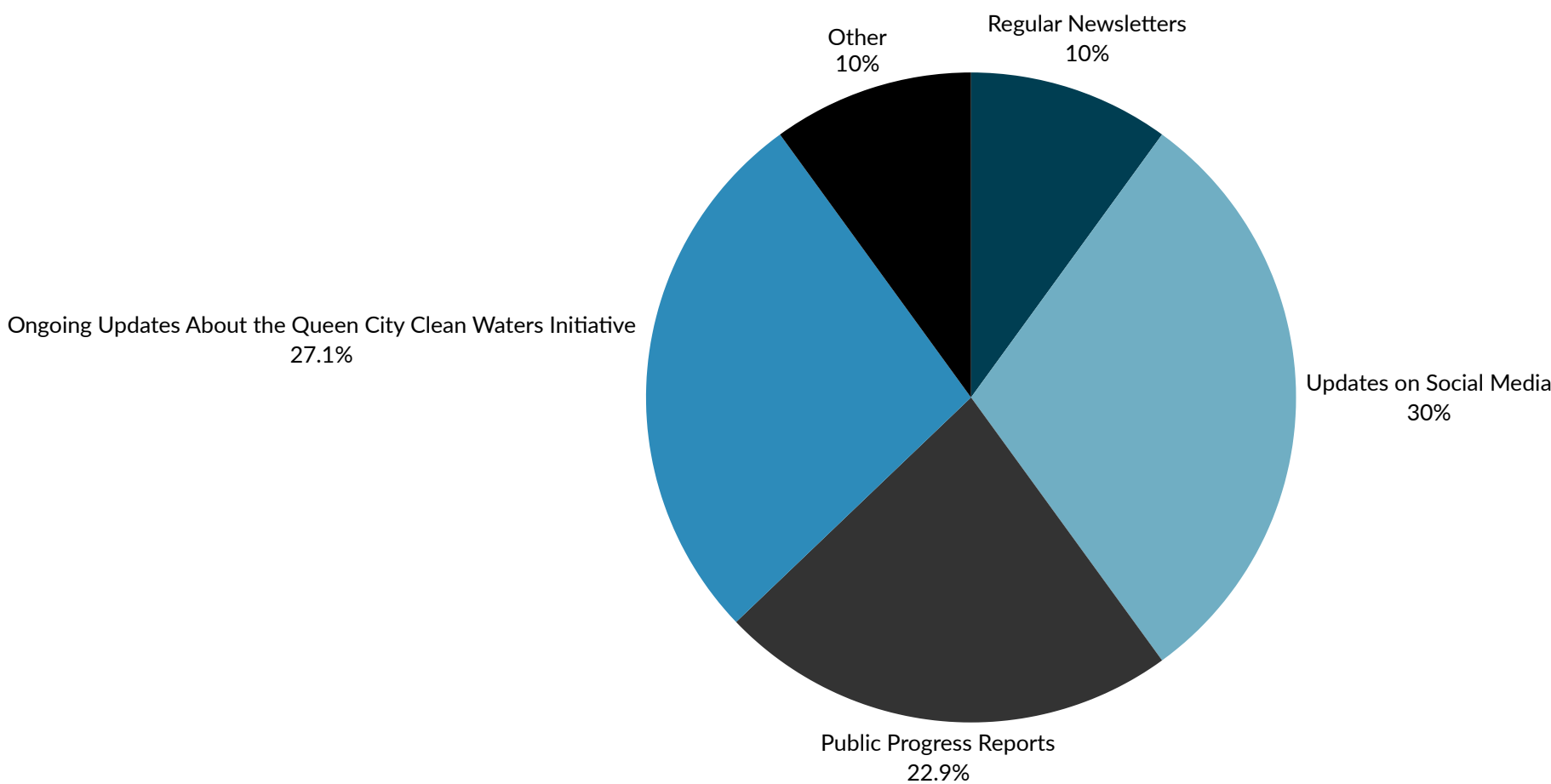
9. What information or support would you need to feel empowered to participate in or promote the Queen City Clean Waters initiative?



Other:

- Add a 'Project Type' overview maybe to the interactive map page?, shows what an RTC is, an SPP, InLine Storage etc
- Schools and public libraries are critical locations for whatever is done
- Detailed project proposals. For example, I found nothing on this website.
- Clear plan with high confidence of having meaningful positive impact and clear communication about progress - ability to see progress occurring
- Access to advisory committee by at least 1 residentially affected person willing to take part regardless of technical experience

10. How can we ensure ongoing communication and transparency with the community as the Queen City Clean Waters Initiative progresses?



Other:

- All of above and alternative outlets
- All of the above !
- Both ongoing updates in local media as well as social media
- Contact city council off
- published newsletter on social media, progress report in local media, mailer to direct neighbors at site

11. Is there anything else you would like us to know about water quality, health concerns, or community benefits that should be included in the Queen City Clean Waters initiative?

- What is the meaning of "green infrastructure". How would the public schools be involved. Teachers are already swamped with pressures to do things outside of the regular curriculum. I realize clean water is a science issue; topic is not in all grade level.
- Community Benefit commitment/Ensure local business employment inclusion.
- What can be done about the Scajaquada Creek? Can it be unburied?
- An interactive map that allows city residents to identify things like a smelly manhole and then get a response that's also on the map. The map could include the entire system with the ability to zoom in on a project and get an animation short.
- Educate the public so we all can take responsibility
- How does the QCCWI differ from the BSA? One and the same
- You need to be language inclusive. Many non-English speakers in the city.
- Stay ahead of federal chaos and non-fluoridation
- Curious about waterway access along the Niagara River
- Fluoride
- Swim in Lake Erie
- Figure out an incentive program similar to .5 for cans or the biannual Stars check.
- Even though there are concerns, the water is delicious in Buffalo/Erie Co. compared to many other places in the country. We need to encourage people to choose to drink this delicious water rather than waste money on single serve plastic water bottles.
- I appreciate the community outreach and public notification, but please don't go overkill. Ultimately, we want clean water with good, sustainable, resilient infrastructure. Paying a consultant to manage a social media account doesn't help the design.
- Progress toward solving our sewer overflow problem has been very disappointing. We've talked about this issue as a community for far too long with not nearly enough progress made toward solving it. This issue needs to be a top priority for WNY.
- I really appreciated the recorded presentation for the south district. I would also like to know what challenges are being faced so that I can reach out to my representatives.

Upcoming & Current Engagement Strategies

- Masten District Breakfast - Scheduled for November 8th
- Ellicott District Breakfast
- Meetings in Lovejoy Council District



Updates from SAC



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Questions?

