South District Community Meeting

Date:	Thursday April 17th, 2025
Time:	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Location:	Buffalo Irish Center, 245 Abbott Rd, Buffalo, NY 14220

BSA/ PROGRAM MANAGEMENT TEAM ATTENDEES

Rosaleen Nogle (BSA)	Scott Steinwald (BSA)	Kristen Suto (BSA)
Art Hall (Hallmark)	Cambridge Boyd (Hallmark)	Katie Segarra (Hallmark)
Nadia Mugisha (Arcadis)		

* The sign-in sheet with a complete list of community members who attended is attached.

AGENDA

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

ACTION ITEMS

1.	Respond to questions on FAQs Poster Board	Program Management Team (PMT)

MEETING SUMMARY NOTES

Queen City Clean Waters: South District Community Meeting Summary Notes

Meeting Summary – April 17, 2025 | 6:00 – 8:00 PM
Location: South District – Buffalo Irish Center, 245 Abbott Rd, Buffalo, NY 14220

Who Attended

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

About the Initiative

- **Launched in late 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
- Focuses 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 2024.

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

South District Projects:

- **Hopkins & Osage Offline Storage (OLS)**
    - **Goal:** To store flow to ensure no sewage overflow
    - **Location:** Park at Hopkins and Osage St Intersection
    - **Timeline:** 2034 – 2039
    - **Budget:** Estimated $17 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

- **April 24th 6:00 PM – 8: 00 PM** at the Gerard Place
- **April 28th 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM** at the Northland Workforce Training Center

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

Stay Connected

- Visit: https://buffalosewer.org/
- Visit: BuffaloQCCW.org
- Follow-up: Meeting notes, Q&A responses, and ongoing design updates will be published

Community Questions & Responses

*Note: The following questions were submitted during the meeting. Responses will be provided on the interactive website at

1. **Will any QCCW projects remove hard or gray infrastructure and replace it with green infrastructure? How is this decided? (Sticky note on FAQs poster)***

Date of Next Meeting:	April 24th, 2025
Time of Next Meeting:	6:00 – 8:00 PM
Location of next Meeting:	The Gerard Place, 2515 Bailey Ave, Buffalo, NY 14215

SOUTH DISTRICT

BUFFALO 90 YEARS 1935-2025 SEWER AUTHORITY

BUFFALO SEWER AUTHORITY

QUEEN CITY CLEAN WATERS

Kelly F Pump Station
Project is Separate from Queen City Clean Waters Initiative

Construction Timeline:
Spring 2026 - Fall 2028

South Buffalo Pump Station Upgrades
Project is Separate from Queen City Clean Waters Initiative

Construction Timeline:
Spring 2026 - Fall 2028

Offline Storage (OLS) - Durant Park (Hopkins & Osage)

Construction Timeline:
Upcoming (2034-2039)

Description:
- Below-ground wastewater storage tank in the park at Hopkins and Osage Streets.
- New sewers will be installed on: Osage Street, from Hopkins Street to the new tank in the park, and on Macamley Street, from the tank in the park to South Park Avenue.

Scan for more project information!

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SEWER AUTHORITY

Queen City Clean Waters

Public Participation Forum

April 17th, 2025 – Buffalo Irish Center

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 April 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:** when a combined sanitary and storm sewer overflows into a waterbody during high flow precipitation events.
- **Interceptor:** large diameter sewer pipe that collects wastewater from smaller neighborhood pipes.
- **ILS:** the storage of wastewater temporarily within the existing sewer pipes.
- **OLS:** A tank that holds extra water when the sewer is full, then drains it to be treated when there's space.
- Orifice plate: A flow restricting device.
- **Overflow Weir:** a barrier that lets excess water flow over the barrier to control water levels.
- **RTC:** Sewer chambers with automatic gates store and release water to prevent overflows when the treatment plant is ready.
- **SPP:** A chamber that directs water to the treatment plant in dry weather or overflow area during heavy rain.
- **Underflow Pipe:** is a pipe that allows water to flow underneath a barrier to manage water levels to prevent flooding.
- Weir: a structure similar to a dam. Used to control water flow.

CSO: Combined Sewer Overflow

GI: Green Infrastructure

ILS: In-line Storage

OLS: Off-line Storage Tank

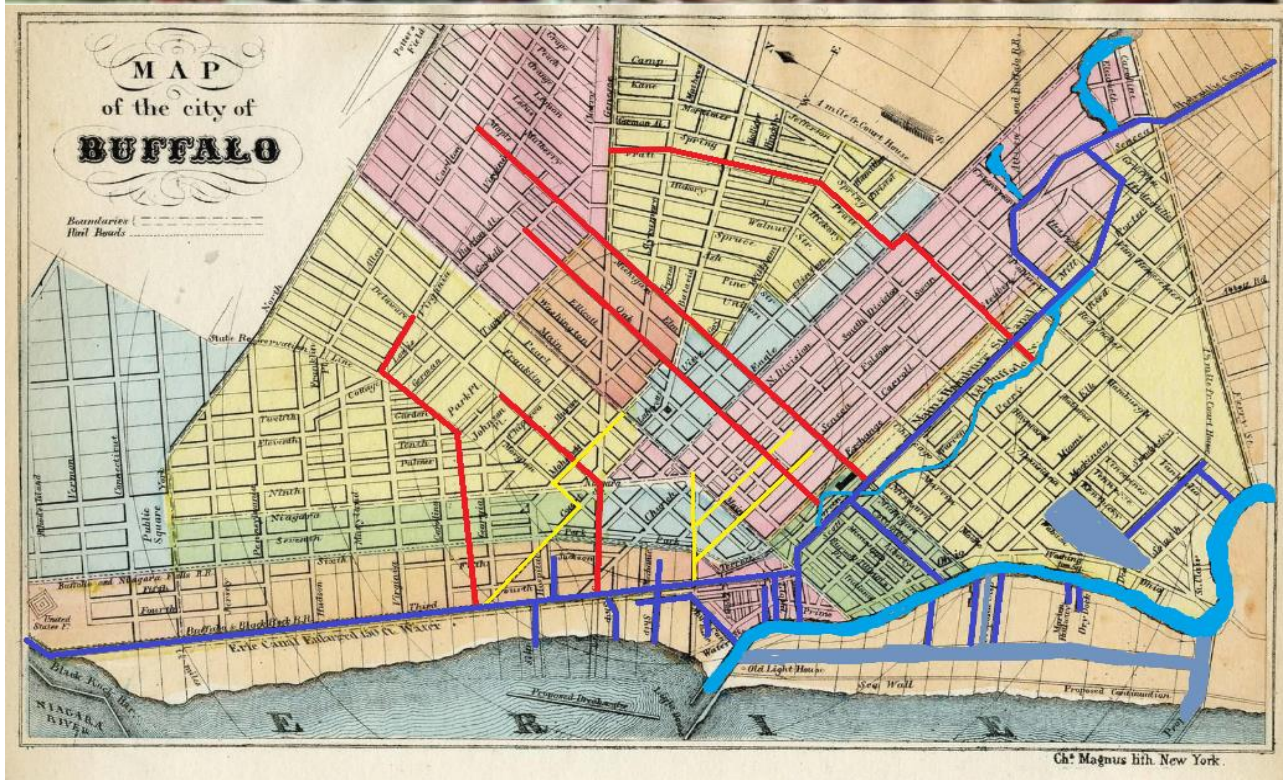
RTC: Real Time Control

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



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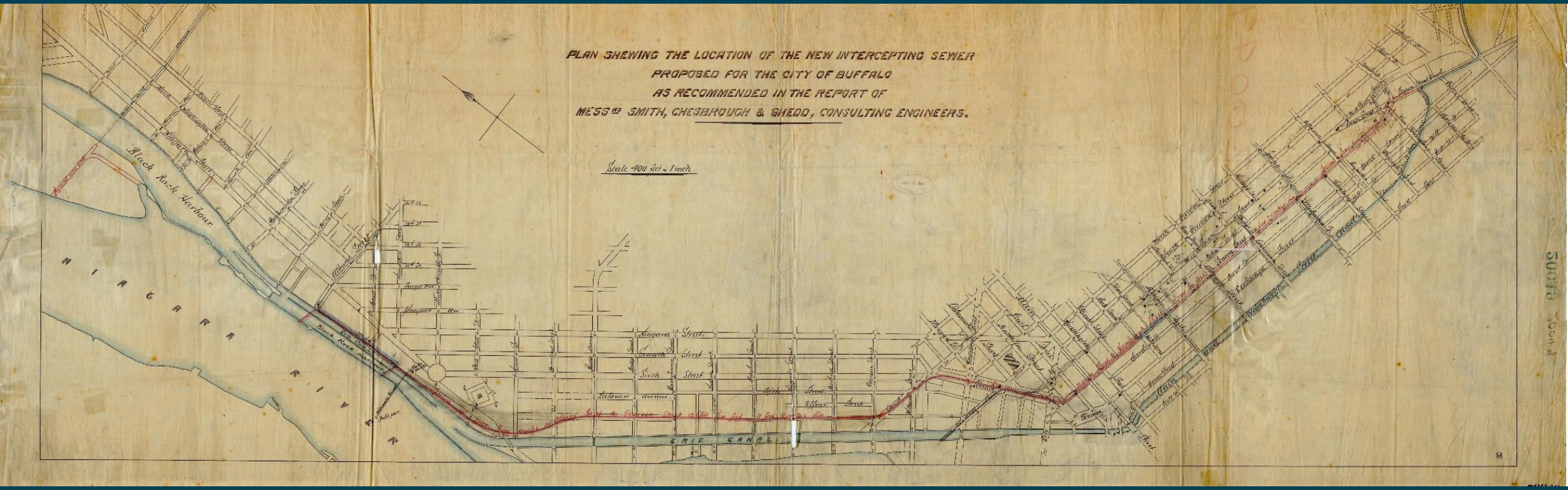
A Brief History of Buffalo's Sewers *(Cont.)*

- 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 Wilkenson Slip: putrid
  - 90 Degree turn at Albany Street
  - Bird Island Pier, now the tip of Freedom Park

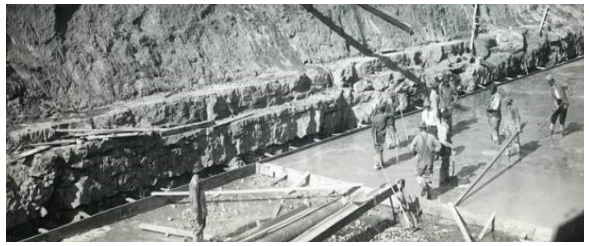
The Swan Trunk



1900-1929: Burying of Waters

Waterways → Sewers

- Main Hamburg Canal to Hamburg Drain 1901-1903
- Ohio Basin to Ohio Drain 1902-1904
- Cornelius Creek to Hertel Avenue Overflow Drain 1914
- Scajaquada Creek to Scajaquada Drain 1925



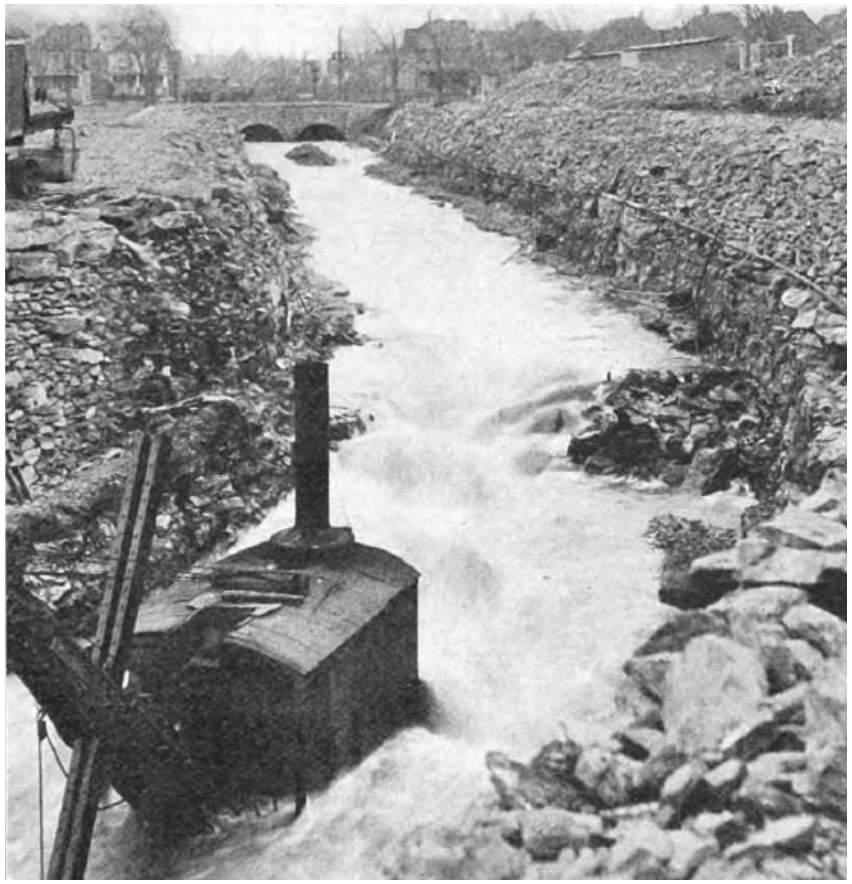
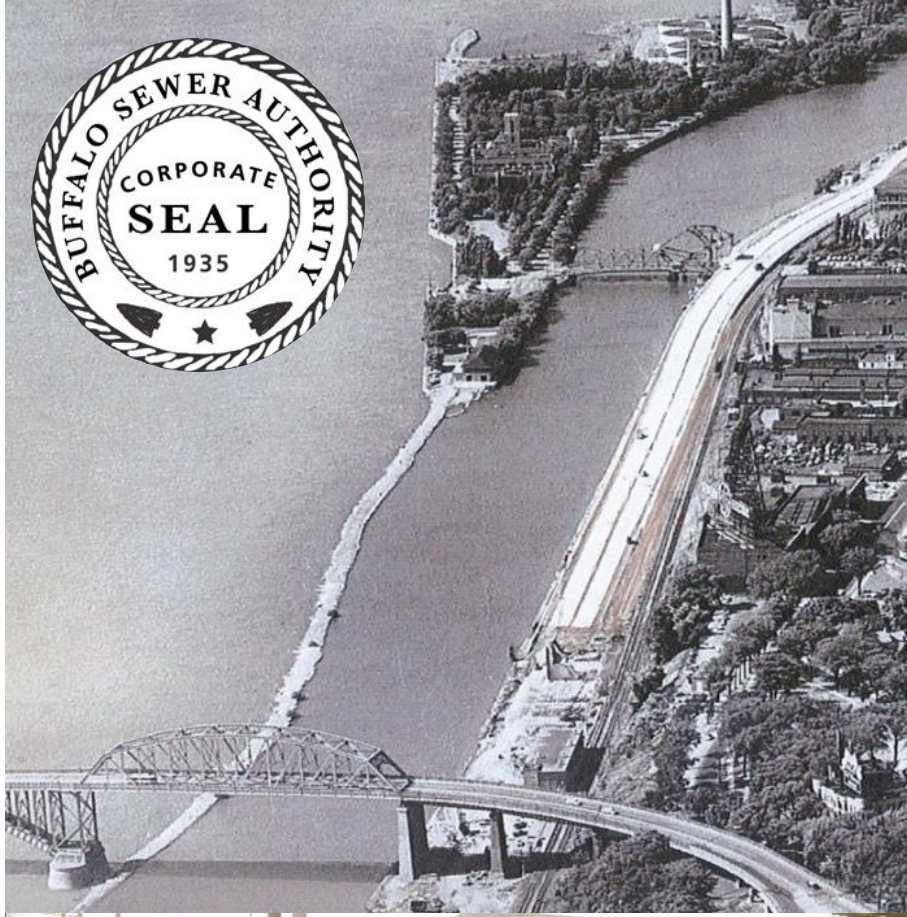


Photo Credit: wnyheritage.org/content/scajaquada_drian_project_-_1920s/index.html

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)



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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

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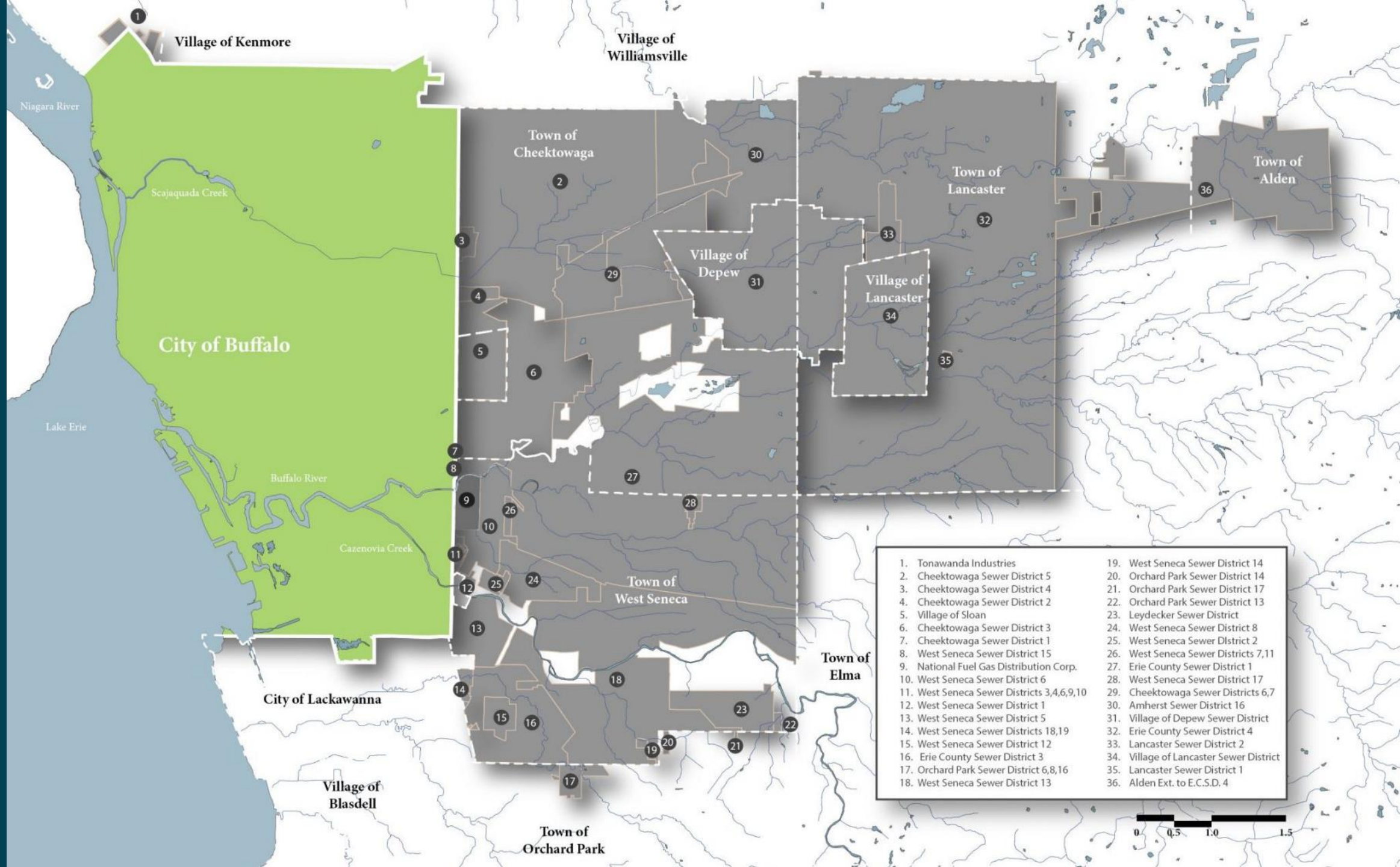
1941-1970: Storm Relief and Sprawl



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

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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

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Combined Sewer Overflows Compliance

Combined Sewer Overflows							
003	004	005	006	007	008	009	010
011	012	013	014	015	016	017	022
023	025	026	027	028	029	031	032
033	035	037	038	039	040	042	044
046	047	048	049	050	051	052	053
054	055	056	057	058	059	060	061
062	063	064	066				

Proportion in Each Compliance Category

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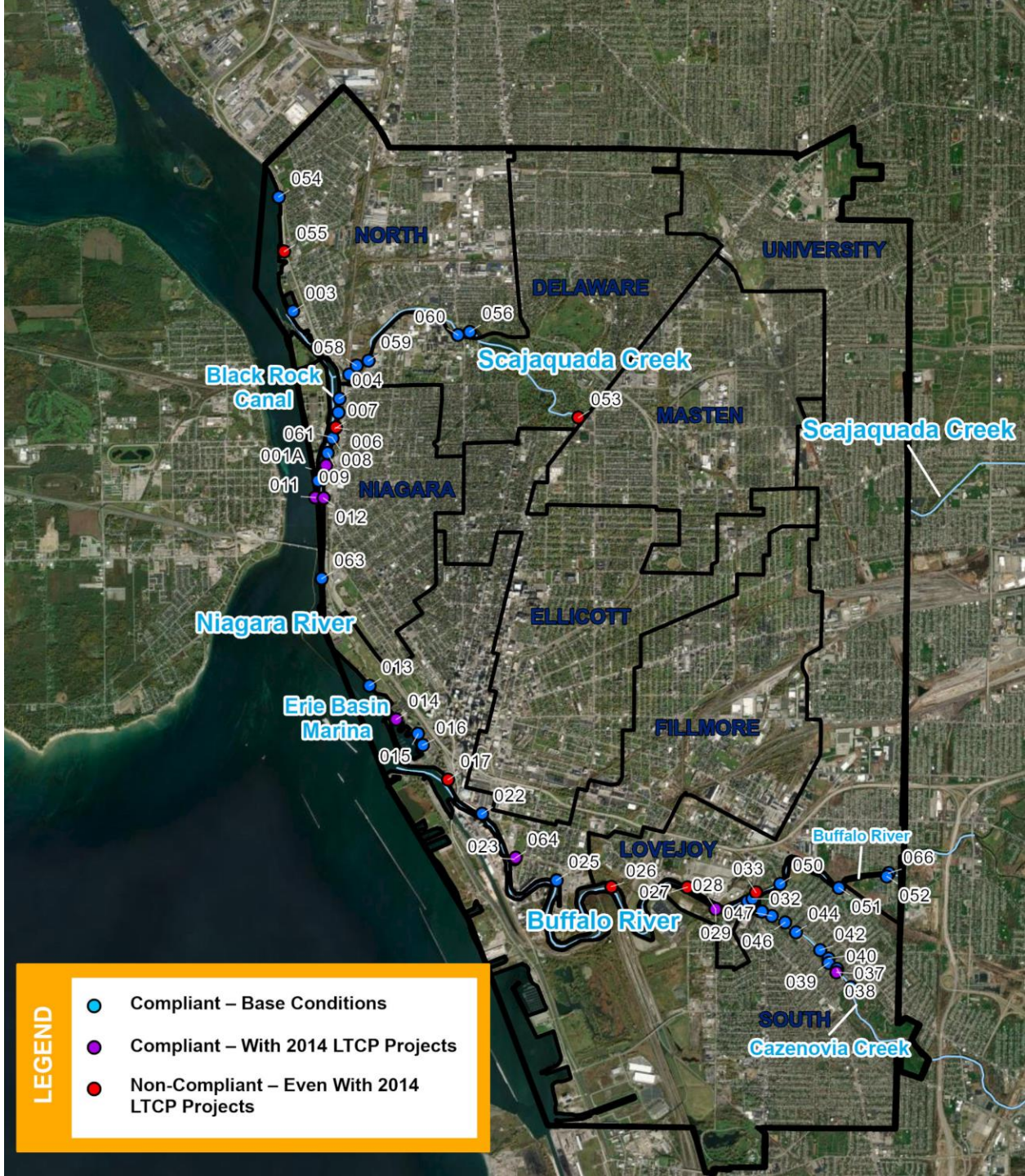
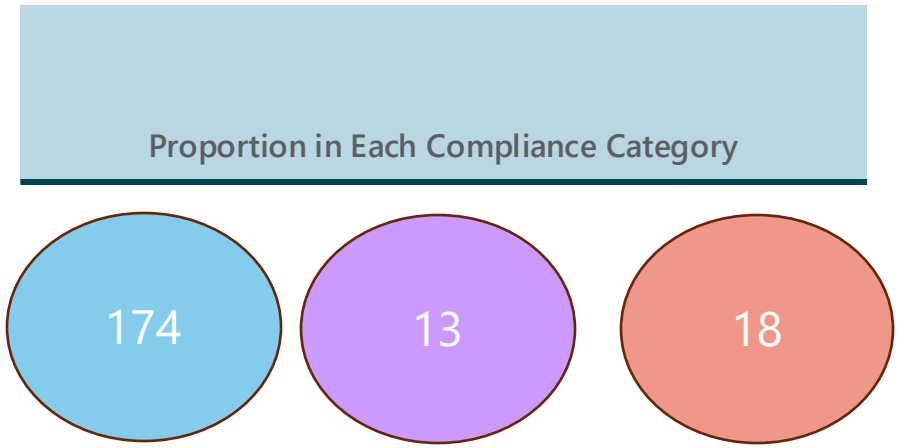
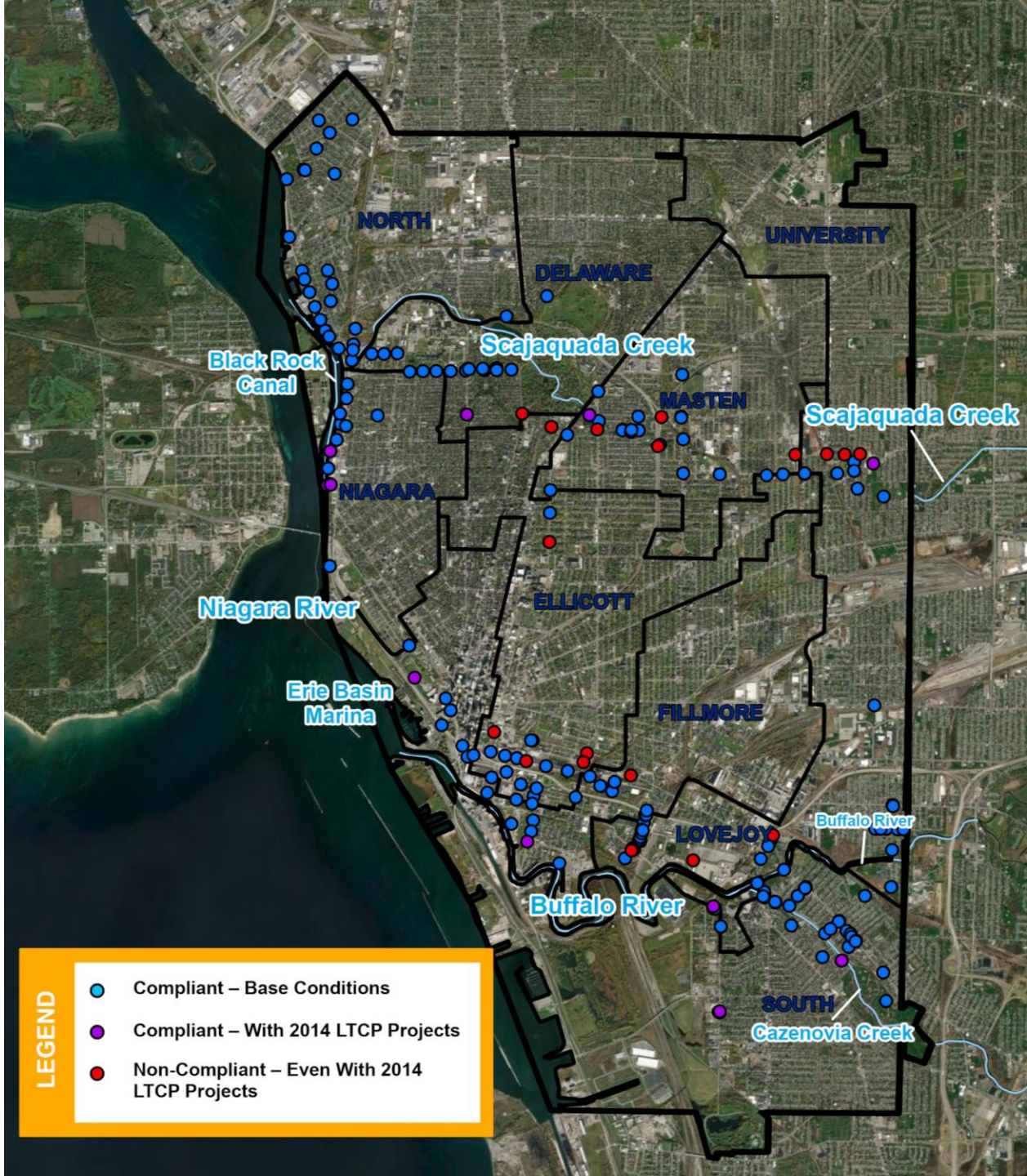


Sewer Patrol Points (SPP) Compliance





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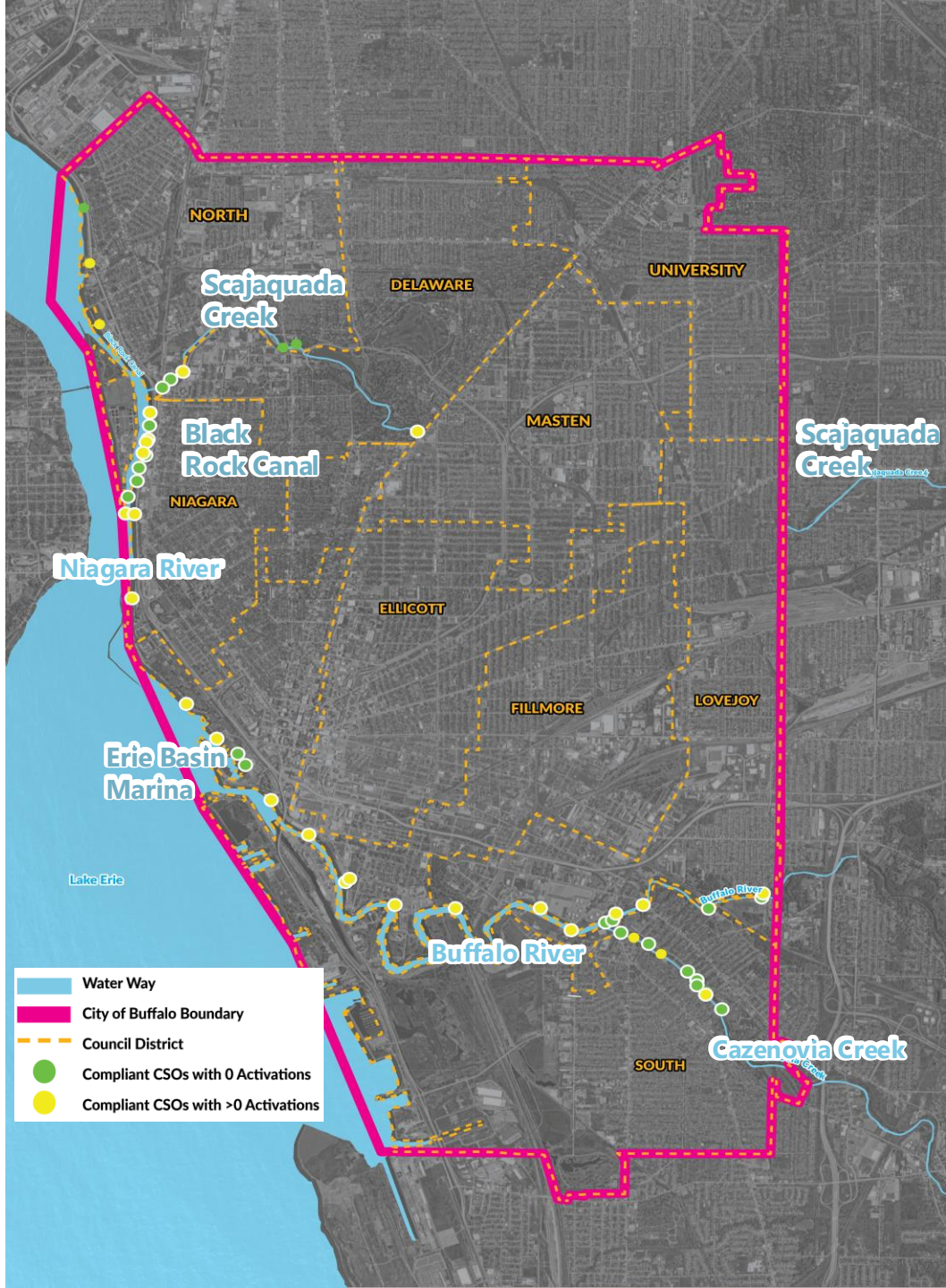
Development of Activation Targets

ACTIVATION = OVERFLOW OCCURRENCE

Waterbody	Activation Goals	Selected Alternatives Completion Activations
Black Rock Canal	0-4	4
Buffalo River	0-6	6
Cazenovia Creek - B	0-0	0
Cazenovia Creek - C	0-6	5
Erie Basin Marina	0-2	2
Niagara River	0-9	9
Scajaquada Creek	0-4	4
Overall	0-9	9



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Lessons Learned from the 2014 LTCP

WHY WAS THE OPTIMIZATION DONE?

Feasibility Constraints for Baseline Projects in the 2014 LTCP:

- Many proposed projects were unfeasible due to compliance issues and costs, highlighting a lack of thorough consideration regarding industrial heritage and the specifics of infrastructure design, such as the differences between open and underground tanks for vehicle support.

Constraints of Offline Storage (OLS) and Storage Tunnel Projects:

- Land Acquisition
- Environmental Justice
- Operational Cost
- Depth of Bedrock

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Optimization Approach

Globally Coordinated Control Strategy

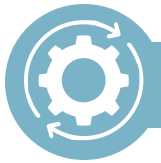
Real time control (RTC) sites collaborate to prevent overflows and reduce peak flows, regardless of local conditions.

System Evaluation Considerations and Constraints

- Property ownership
- Underground contamination concerns
- Gravity flow vs. pumping
- Prioritization of sewer patrol points (SPP) with low activation requirements and high overflow in baseline projects
- Potential coordination

Original Projects Considered

77 projects including In-line (ILS) and Off-line Storage (OLS), Green Infrastructure, Sewer Separation, and Sewer Patrol Point (SPP) Modification



Optimization Rounds

- Project alternatives per SPP
- Full system optimization
- Minimizing cost while achieving compliance

Tools Used

Cloud computing for alternatives analysis

Outcome

51 projects identified as Selected Alternatives

Queen City Clean Waters (QCCW) – Mission and Vision

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QUEEN CITY CLEAN WATERS

VISION

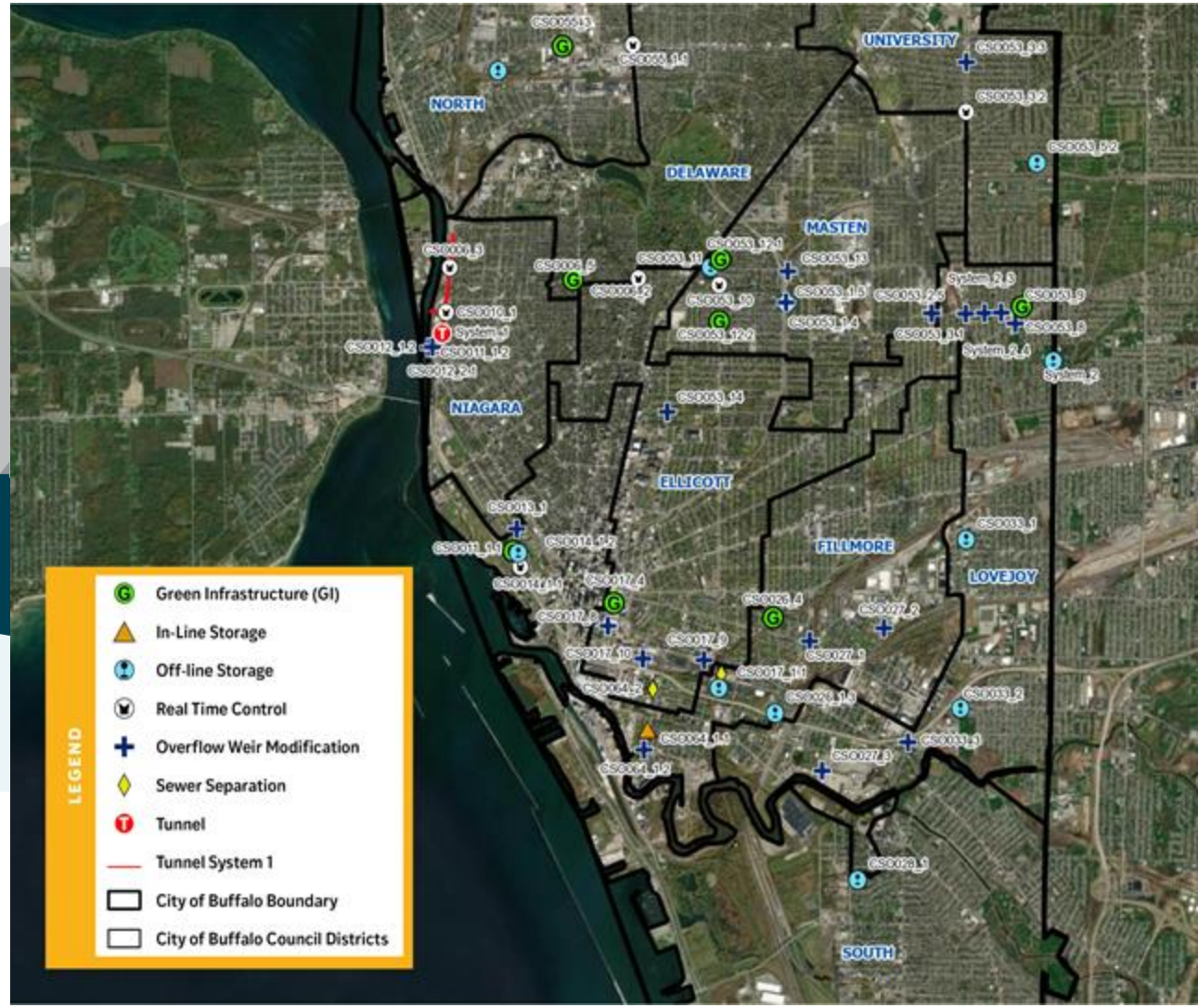
Clean waters and a resilient Buffalo.

MISSION

To safeguard public health and the environment while fostering strong community partnerships, creating meaningful workforce opportunities, and driving lasting economic impact for future generations in Buffalo.

Queen City Clean Waters

PROGRAM OVERVIEW



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Overall Plan

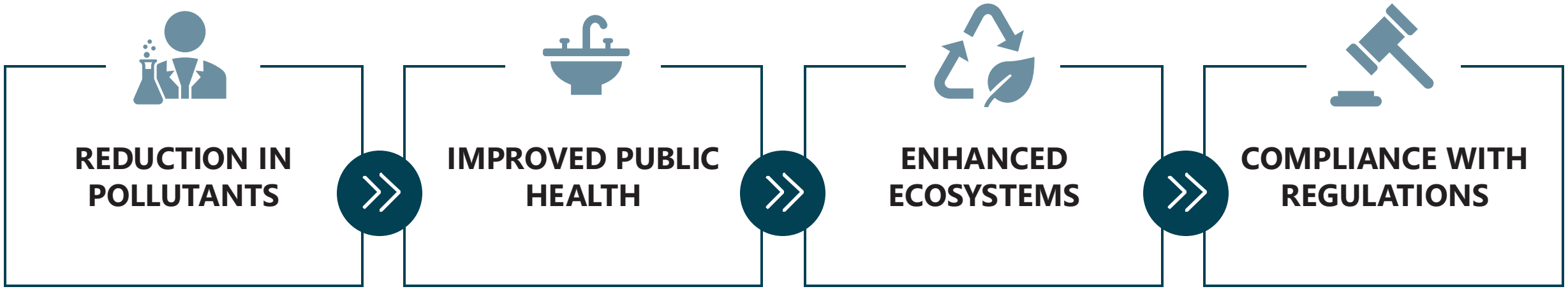
Construction Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- During construction, residents can expect to see equipment and traffic cones off to one side of the road.
- Temporary disruptions, such as noise and dust, will be minimized as much as possible.
- Sewage odors will NOT be present in homes but may be present outside.

Construction Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- New traffic patterns 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
  - Fencing and site visibility

Water Quality Benefits



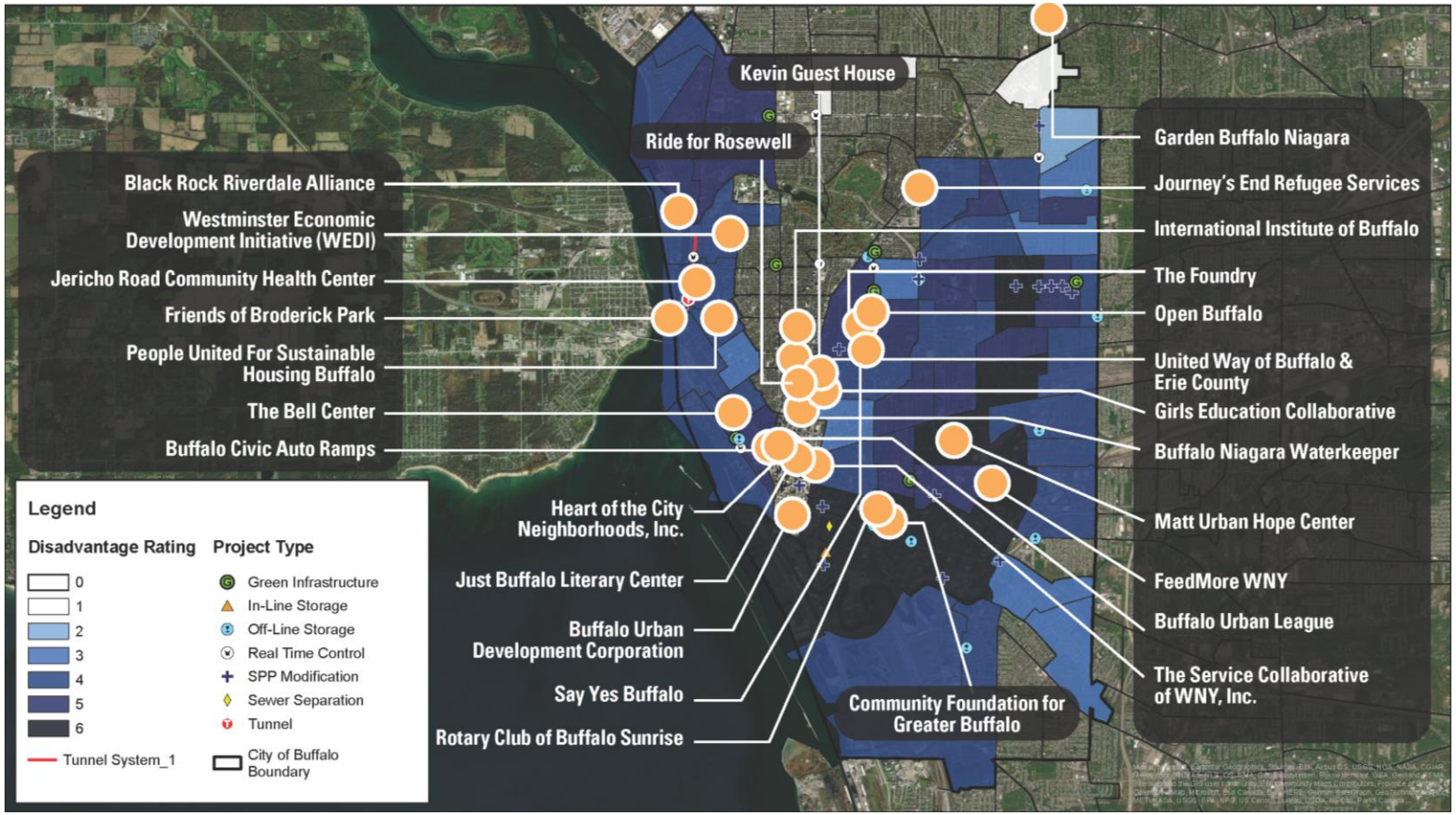
Community Engagement & Stakeholder Outreach

Program Management Impact:
Equity Indicators + Desired Outcomes

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Community Ownership	Capacity Building	Healthy Communities	Heritage Preservation	Sustainable Wealth Creation	New and Reformed Policy for Sustainable Development	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

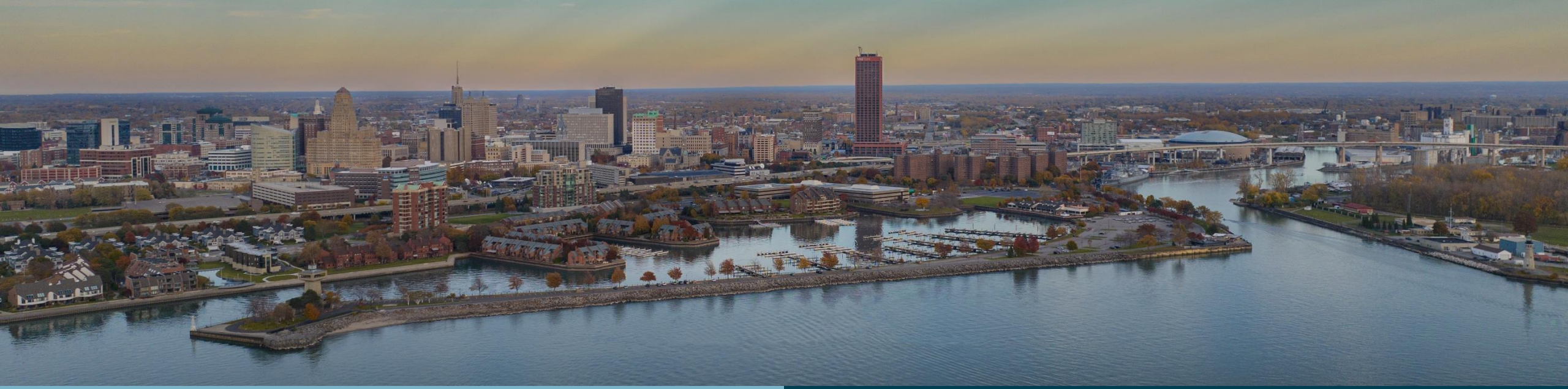
Accountability + Transparency: Indicators, representation, how are resources distributed and made available

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

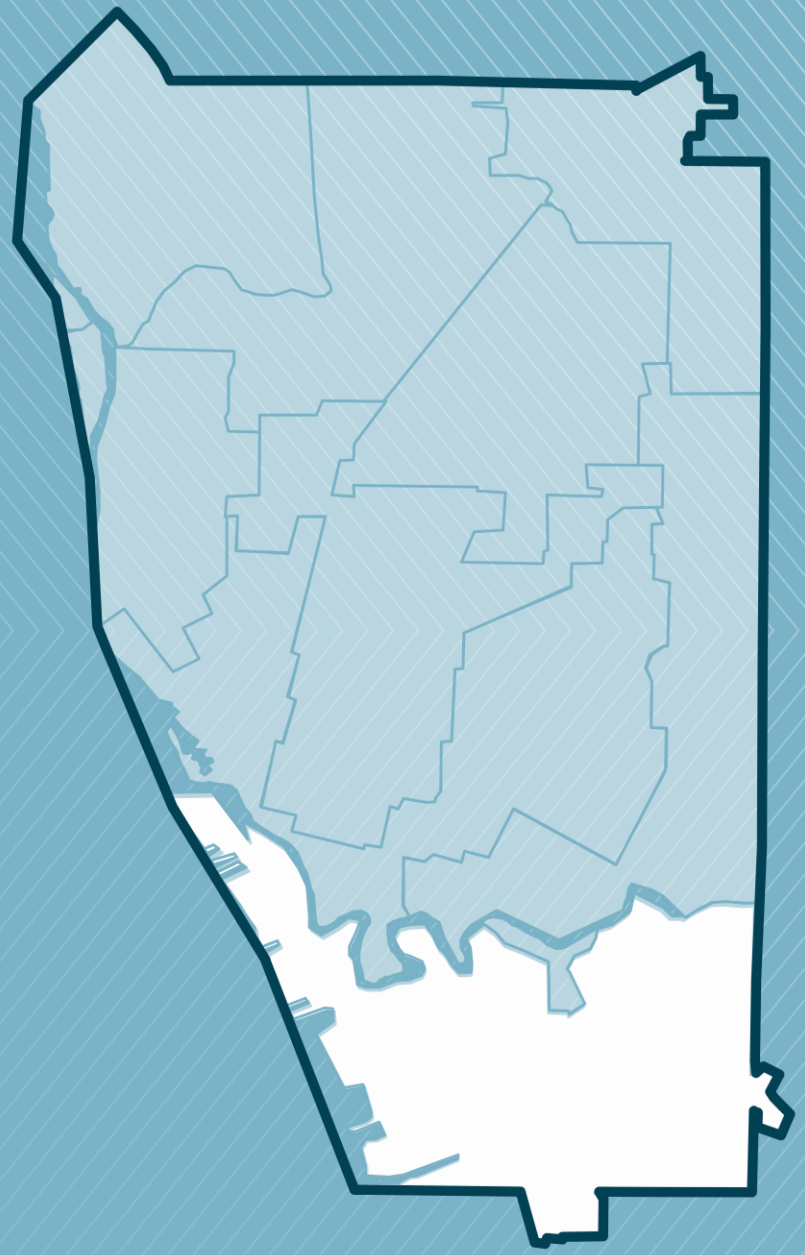
PURPOSE

- 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

South District

Specific Projects



Hopkins & Osage

OFFLINE STORAGE (OLS)

Project Description:

– Stores flow from the Hopkins Street sewer

– 0.95 MG tank located at the eastern end of Osage Street

– Storage operation:

–Dewaters when there is available capacity in the South Park Avenue sewer.

–Ensures no risk of overflow

Estimated Cost: $17,640,000

Waterbody Impacted: Buffalo River

TIMELINE ▼

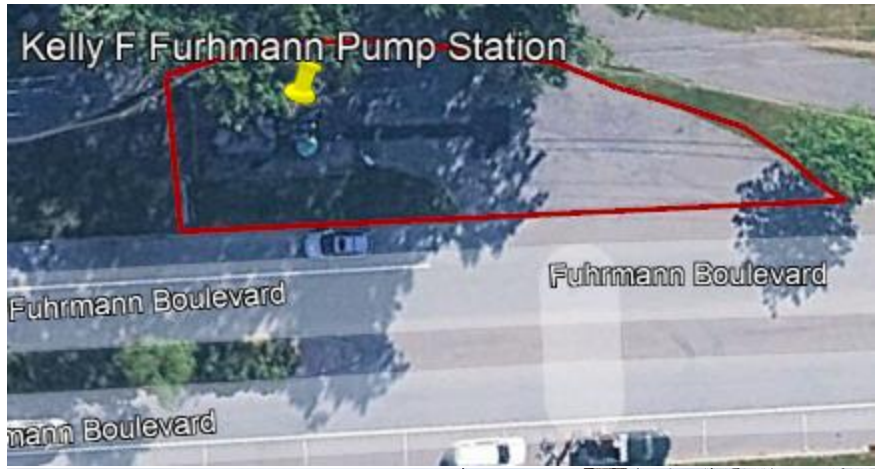
Design Start Date
March 2031

December 2033
Design Completion Date

Proposed Construction Start Date
June 2034

September 2039
Proposed Construction End Date

Kelly ‘F’ Pump Station



Project Description:

– Remove Existing Non-Operational Dry Well System

– Install New Dry Well Pump System Including: Pump System, Fats, Oil & Grease System, HVAC & Electrical Systems

–Improve Layout to reduce operations personnel's safety and maintenance concerns

Estimated Cost: $1,760,000

Waterbody Impacted: Lake Erie

TIMELINE ▼

Design Start Date
April 2024

February 2025
Design Completion Date

Proposed Construction Start Date
August 2025

Spring 2026
Proposed Construction End Date

South Buffalo Pump Station

Project Description:

- –Pump Upgrades: Improving three main pumps.
- –Water System: Enhancing the seal water system.
- –HVAC Replacement: New heating and cooling system.
- –Control System: Upgrading control systems and communication with the wastewater plant.
- –Building Improvements: General building upgrades and better equipment access.

Estimated Cost: $16,500,000

Waterbody Impacted: Buffalo River

TIMELINE ▼

- **Design Start Date** — July 2024
- February 2025 — **Design Completion Date**
- **Proposed Construction Start Date** — February 2026
- April 2028 — **Proposed Construction End Date**

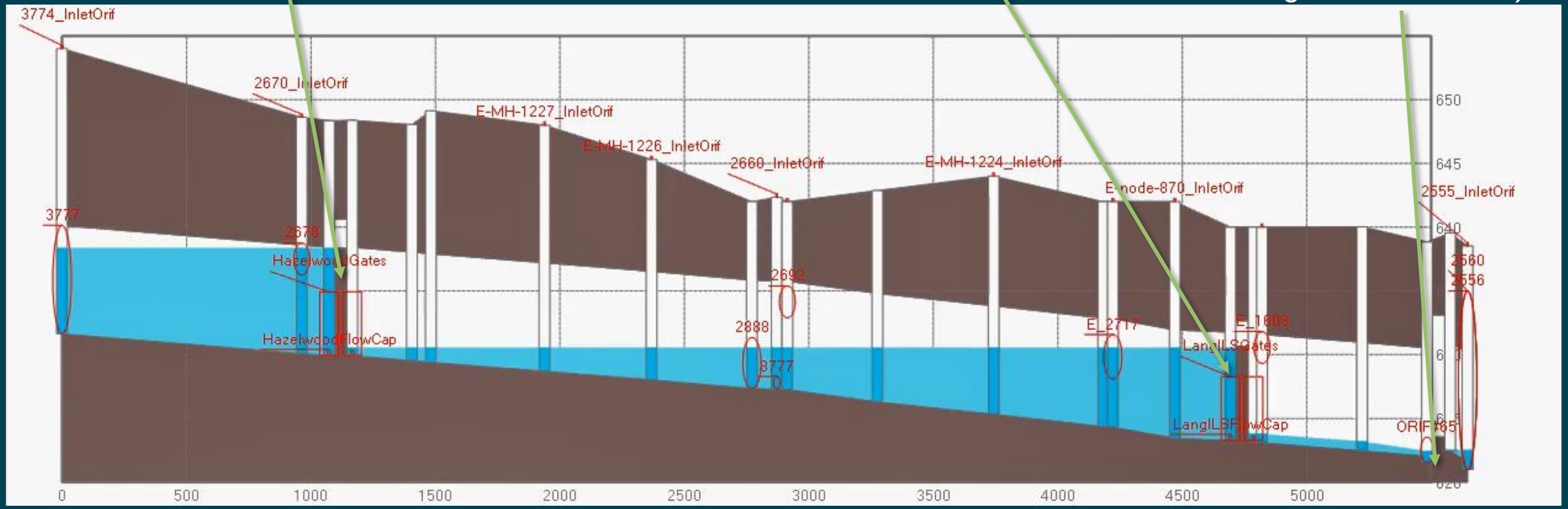
Hertel at Deer In-Line

Coordinated Remote Control for In-Line Storage

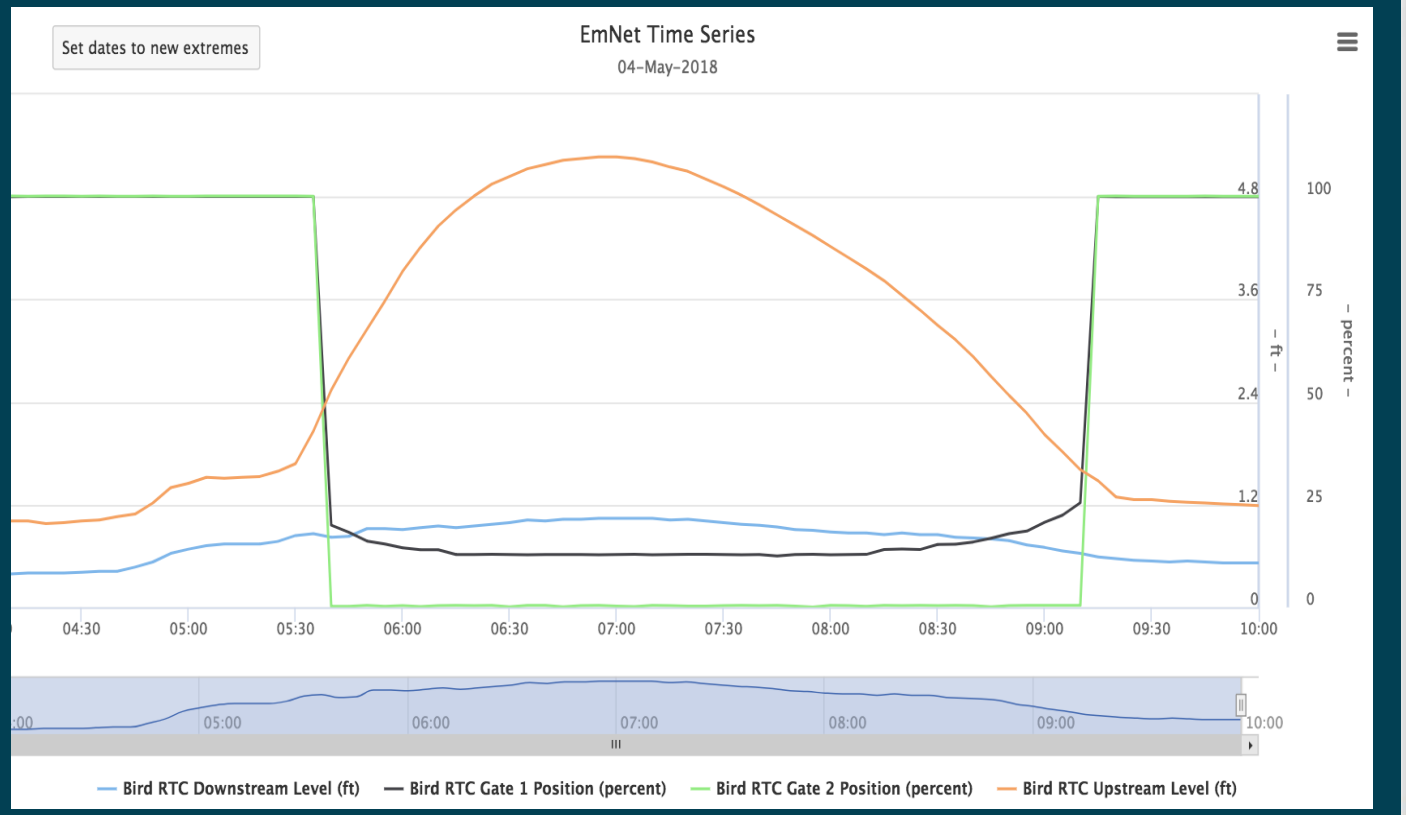
Hazelwood RTC, commissioned in 2019

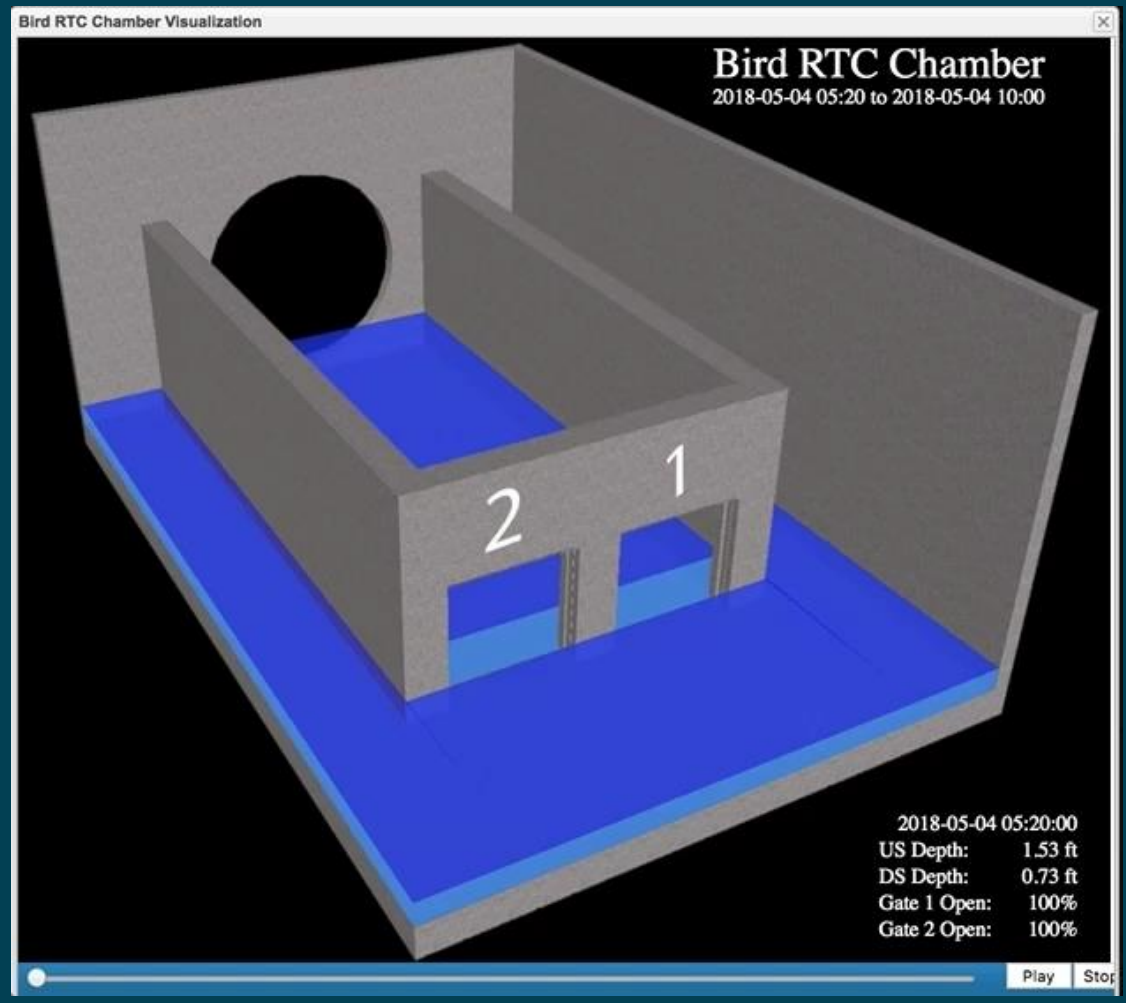
Lang Ave RTC, commissioned in 2017

SPP340 (CSO Regulator Chamber)



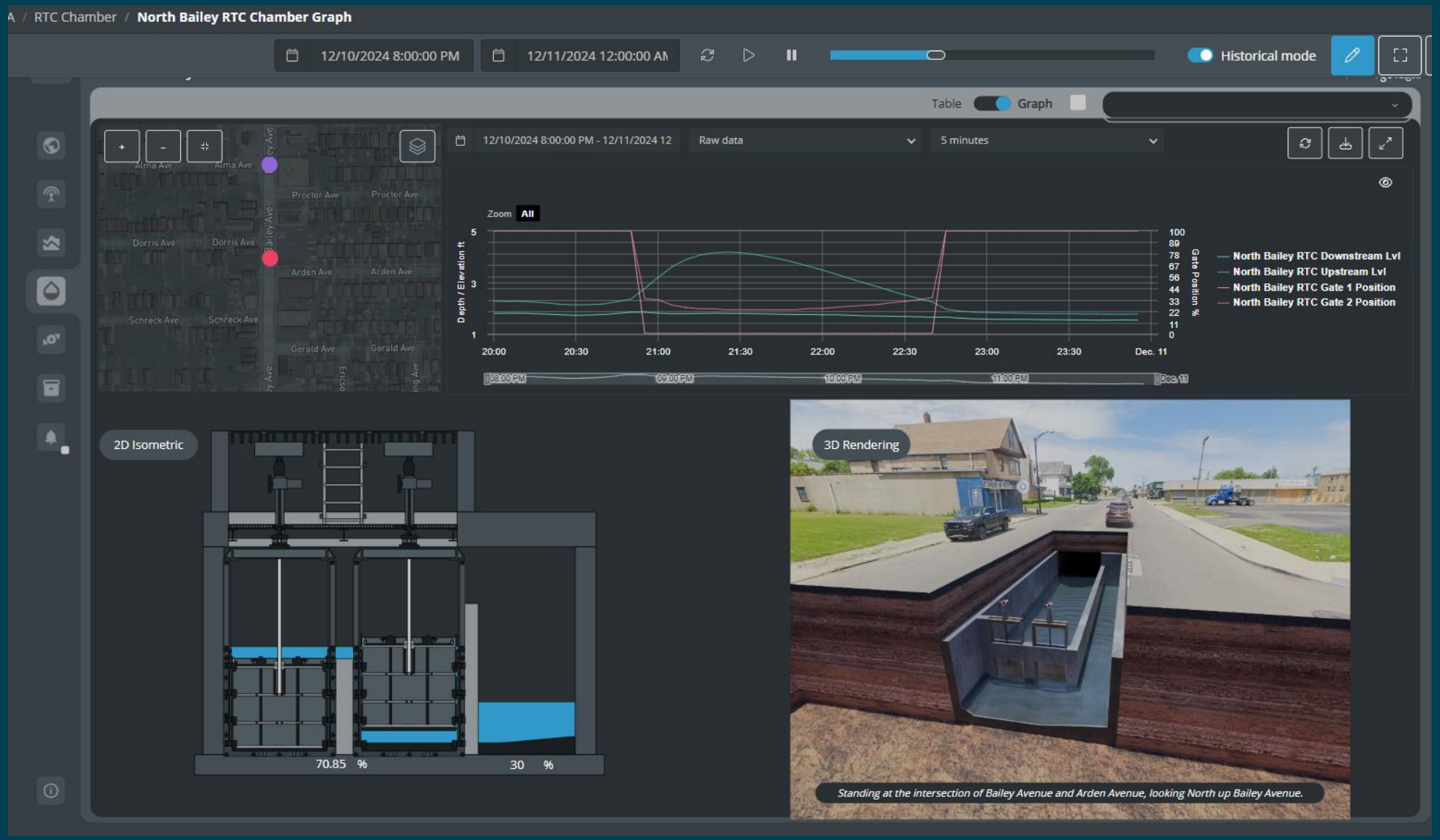
Bird Avenue RTC





During wet weather, downstream sensors indicate when it is time to begin storing
Nearly every gallon stored would have contributed to a CSO activation
The gates take turns with each event – one closes entirely while the other modulates.

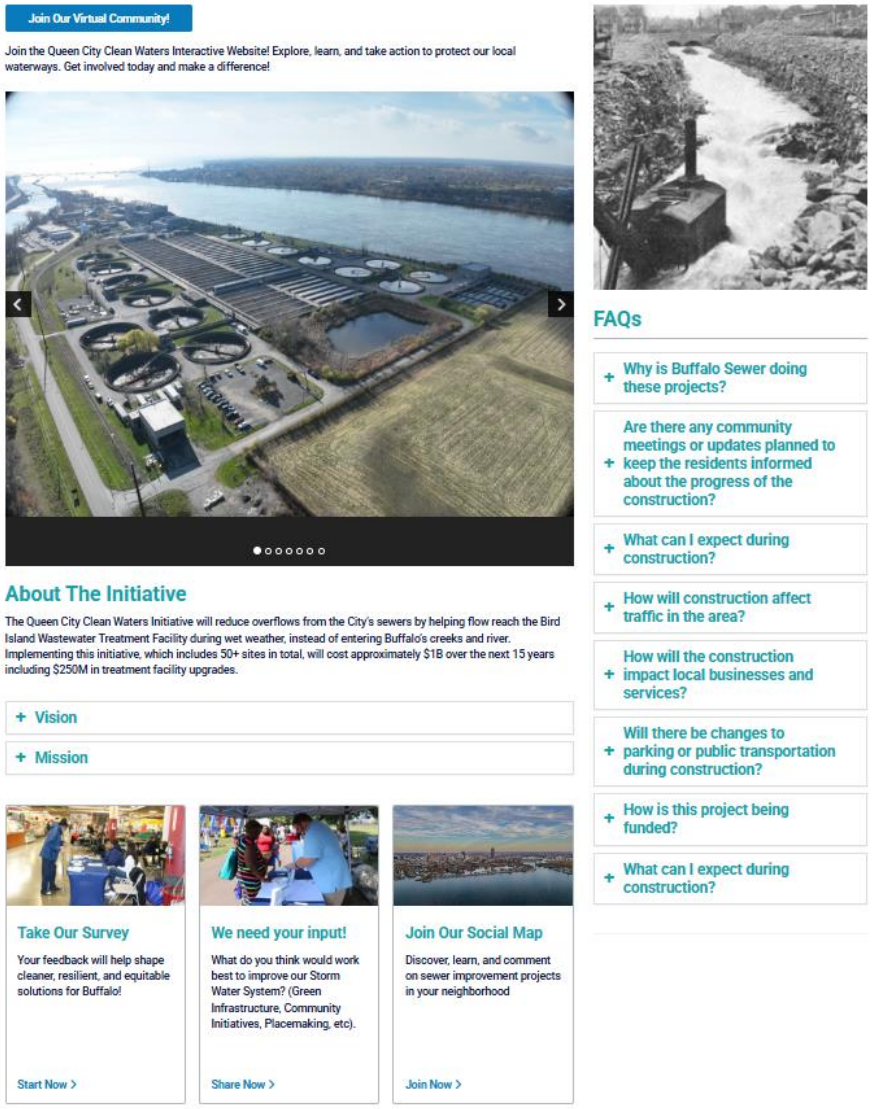
Local Control for In-Line Storage (North Bailey RTC)



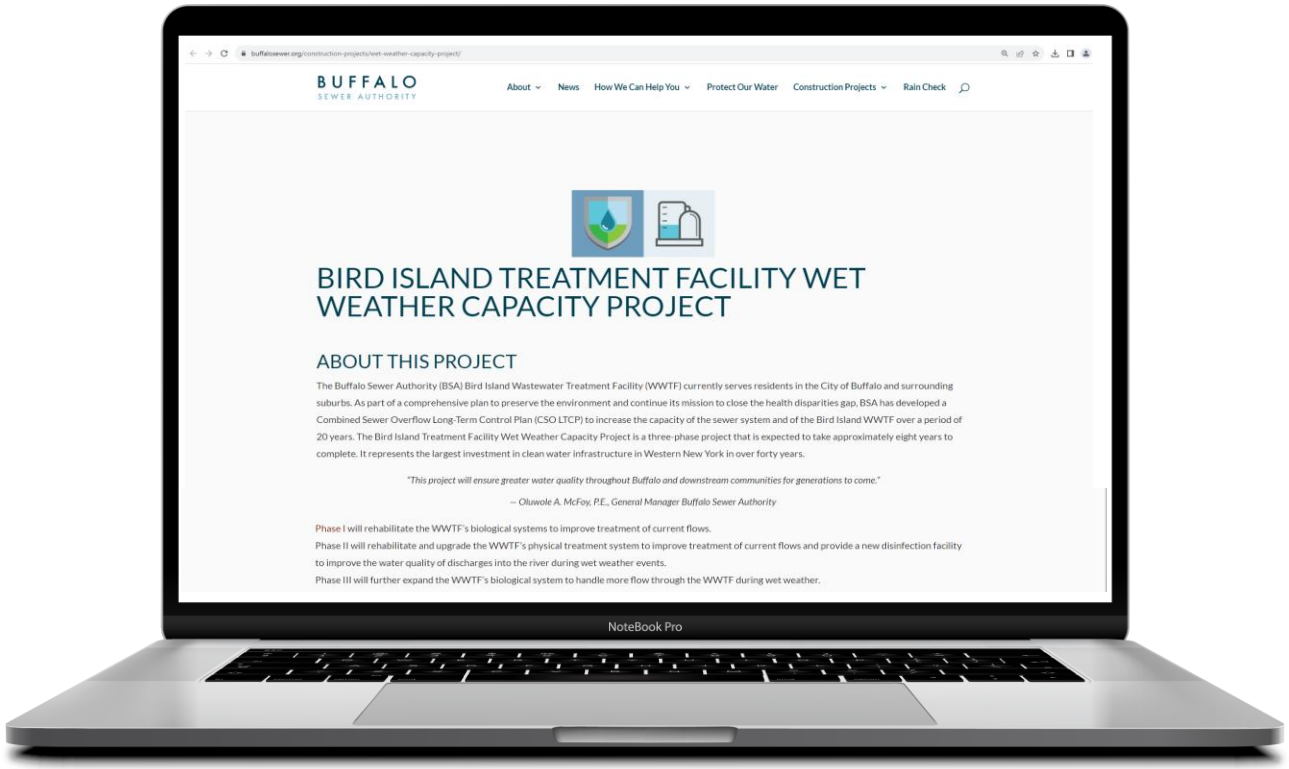
Opportunities to Stay Engaged

New! Queen City Clean Waters Interactive Website

BUFFALOQCCW.ORG



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

BUFFALO
SEWER AUTHORITY

Thank you!

GET IN TOUCH:

@BuffaloSewer

BuffaloSewer.org

@BuffaloSewer

BuffaloSewerAuthority