

# The WaterHub® – On-Site Reuse at UT Austin

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*NOWRA's Disclaimer: The materials being presented represent the speaker's own opinions and do NOT reflect the opinions of NOWRA.*

# On-Site Reclamation and Reuse

Decentralized Systems for Blackwater Capture, Treatment, and Beneficial Reuse



**Problem Solving Tool For:**



**Capacity Constraints**



**Resiliency Against Aging Infrastructure**

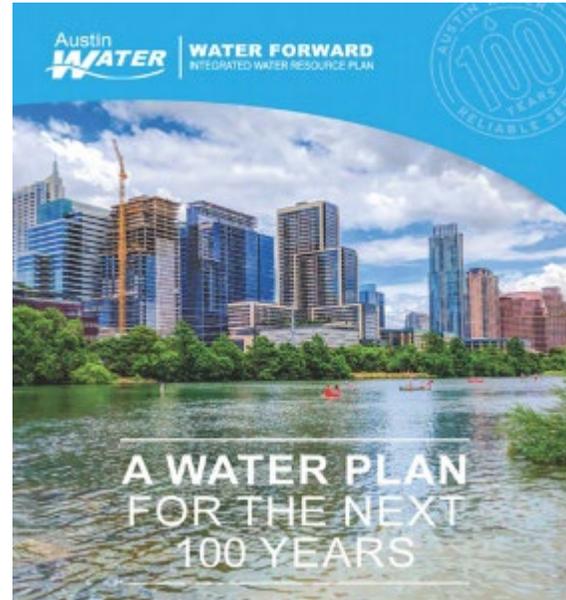
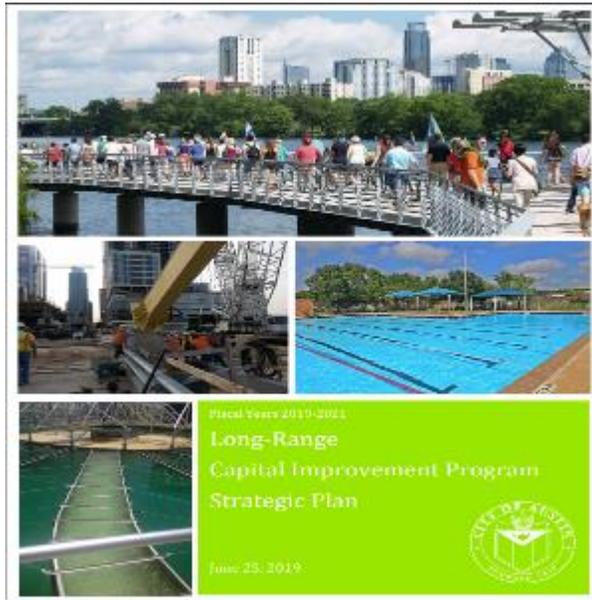


**Mitigate Rising Water & Sewer Rates**



**Conservation Goal & KPI Attainment**

# New Regional Vision for Decentralized Reuse





# Policy Change in Austin to Promote Reuse



# Austin Water Put Up Rather Than Shut Up



# The University of Texas at Austin Project



## CLIENT TYPE

Public University

## LOCATION

Austin, TX

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

District-Scale Wastewater Reclamation and Reuse

## HYDRAULIC CAPACITY

1,000,000 GPD

## FOOTPRINT

15,000 ft<sup>2</sup>

## COMMERCIAL OPERATION

Spring 2021

## END USES

Cooling Tower Make-Up  
Boiler Make-Up

## TECHNOLOGIES APPLIED

Hydroponics  
Membrane Bioreactor (MBR)  
Reverse Osmosis



# Preliminary Assessment Data Request

## • Water Use ( 3 years)

- Total campus inbound water by Month and Location
- Chiller Plant/Cooling Tower Make-Up by Month and Location
- Boiler Make-Up/ Power Block Usage by Month and Location
- Irrigation by Month and Locations
- Any Supplemental Sub-Metering Data

## • Economics (3 years)

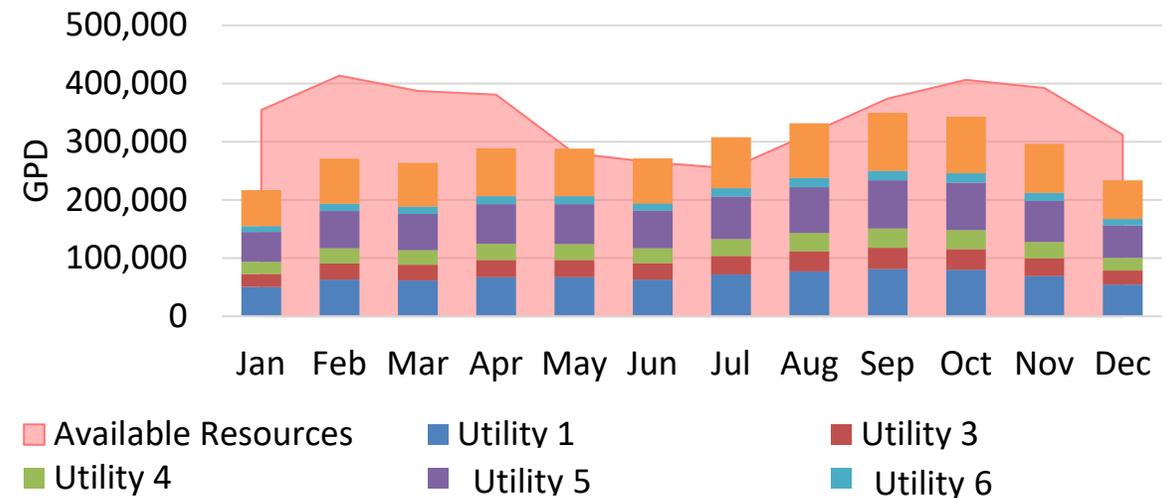
- Recent Water & Sewer Bills
- Internal OPEX Breakdown for Potable Water Production and Wastewater Pretreatment inclusive of:
  - Energy
  - Manpower
  - Chemical
  - Repair/Replacement

## • Wastewater and Quality Testing

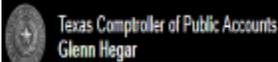
- Current Industrial Discharge Permit
- Historical Groundwater Influent Quality Testing
- Wastewater Influent and Effluent Quality Testing
  - Industrial and Sanitary



Estimated Utility Demands By Location



# Procurement Process at UT-Austin



## DBOO - District-Scale Water Reclamation and Reuse Facility

Status: Closed                      Solicitation ID: 18UTL006  
Response Due Date: 4/13/2018  
Response Due Time: 2:00 PM  
Agency Number: 721  
Days Solicited: 21+ Days for Solicitation Notice  
Solicitation Posting Date: 3/5/2018  
Last Modified: 4/13/2018 2:00 pm

**Solicitation Description:** The University is seeking qualified teams indicating their interest and qualifications for the design, build, own and operation of a district-scale water reclamation and reuse system. This document provides preliminary project details to solicit information related to proposed technology, system design and cost from qualified respondents. The full project details and specifications will be presented in a Request for Proposal (RFP), which will be issued to prequalified Respondents only. A pre-submittal conference will be held at the time and location described below. March 19, 2018 at 2:00 PM local time The University of Texas at Austin Utilities and Energy Management Department 215 East 24th St, PPE Rm. 3.304 Austin, Texas 78712

**Class/Item Code:** 90922-Building Construction, Non-Residential (Office Bldg., Etc.)

### Attachments

#	Name	Description
1	<a href="#">ESBD_File_125545_DB RFQ.pdf</a>	DBOO - RFQ
2	<a href="#">ESBD_File_125545_Addendum#1.pdf</a>	Addendum#1
3	<a href="#">ESBD_File_125545_Exhibit H-Bldg Construction Revised 09182017.docx</a>	HUBH
4	<a href="#">ESBD_File_125545_Exhibit h-Professional Services 08042017 #2.docx</a>	HUBh

## REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR DESIGN/BUILD/OWN/OPERATE

*The University of Texas at Austin*  
*District-Scale Water Reclamation and Reuse Facility*  
RFQ No.: **18UTL006**

**RFQ SUBMITTAL DUE DATE:** *Apr. 13, 2018*

**RFQ ISSUE DATE:** *March 5, 2018*



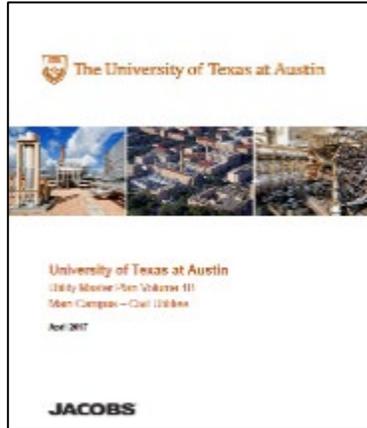
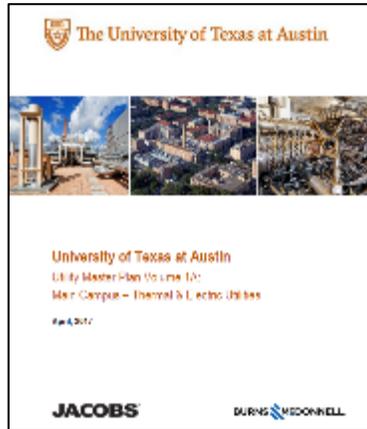
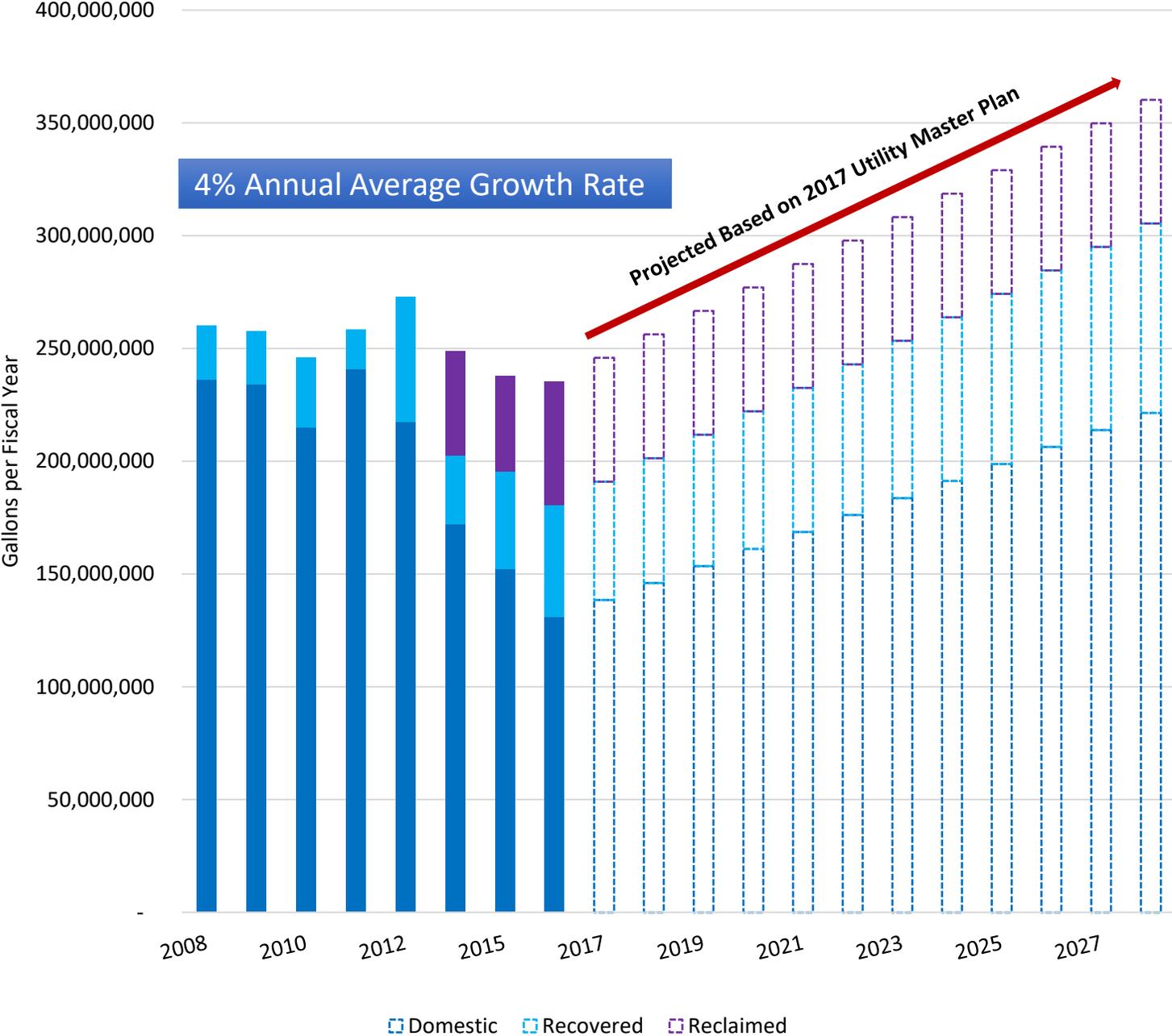
Prepared By:  
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# Detailed Feasibility Study

- Existing Conditions Assessment**
  - Water Balance & Demands
  - Site & Infrastructure Review
  - Utility Water Audit / Review
  - Future Demand / Load Forecasts
  - Water Supply Resiliency Review
- Supplemental Field Investigation**
  - Validate process / Cooling makeup
  - Wastewater Flow Monitoring
  - WW Characterization
- Establishing the Vision**
  - Opportunities & Constraints
  - Campus Sustainability / Resiliency Goals
  - Developing a Basis of Design for Systems
- Concept Design**
  - Site Plan
  - Conceptual Layout & Design
  - Water Supply Resiliency Assessment
  - Preliminary Constructability Review & Budget
  - Lifecycle Economics



# Projected Chilling Station Demands

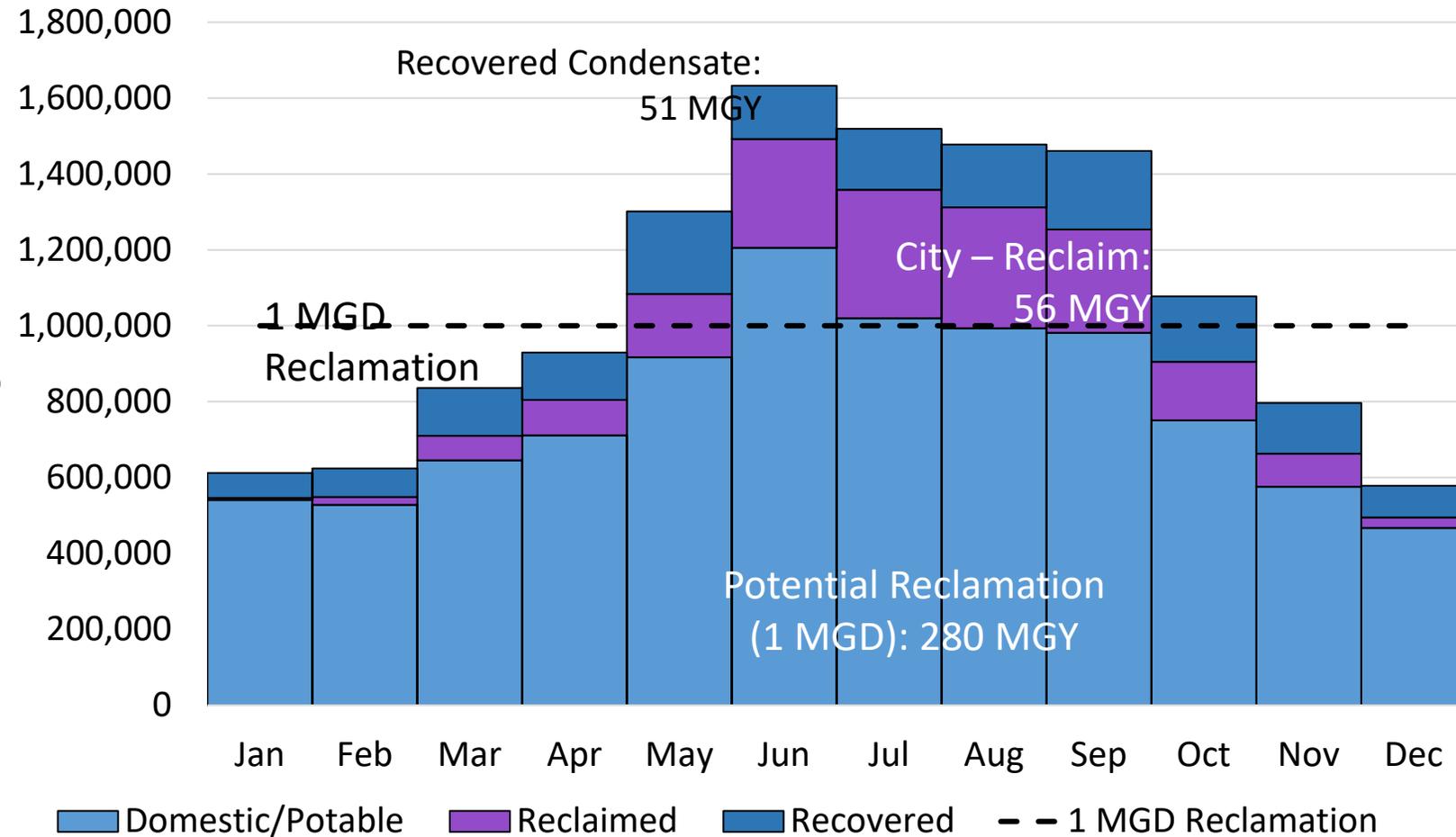


## Projected Chilling Station Demands

- **Based on 2017 Utility Plan**  
(does not include Weaver PP)
- **2016 Demand**
  - 31,328 Peak Tons
  - 235 MGY cooling m/u
    - Domestic: 131 MGY
    - Recovered: 49 MGY
    - Reclaimed: 55 MGY
- **2028 Cooling Projections**
  - 53% Increase
  - 47,675 peak tons
  - 360 MGY cooling m/u
    - Domestic: 221 MGY
    - Recovered: 84 MGY
    - Reclaimed: 55 MGY

# TARGET LOCATIONS: SEASONAL DEMAND

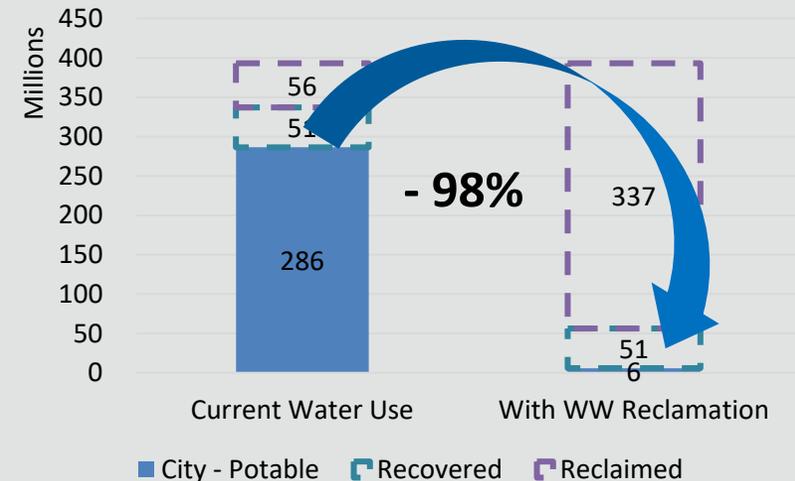
Water Use by Source at Weaver Power Plant, Chilling Station 5 & 6



## WASTEWATER REUSE

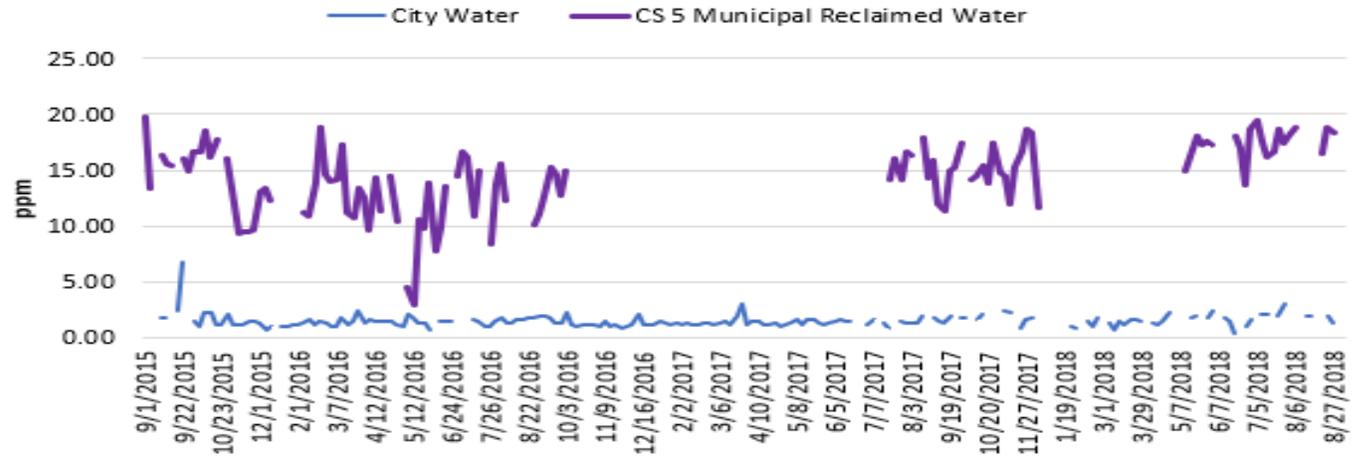
- Virtually eliminates potable water use at Power Plant, CS 5 & 6
- Designed to work with existing water supplies seasonally

Potential Water Use Impact at Targeted Locations (1 MGD Reclamation)

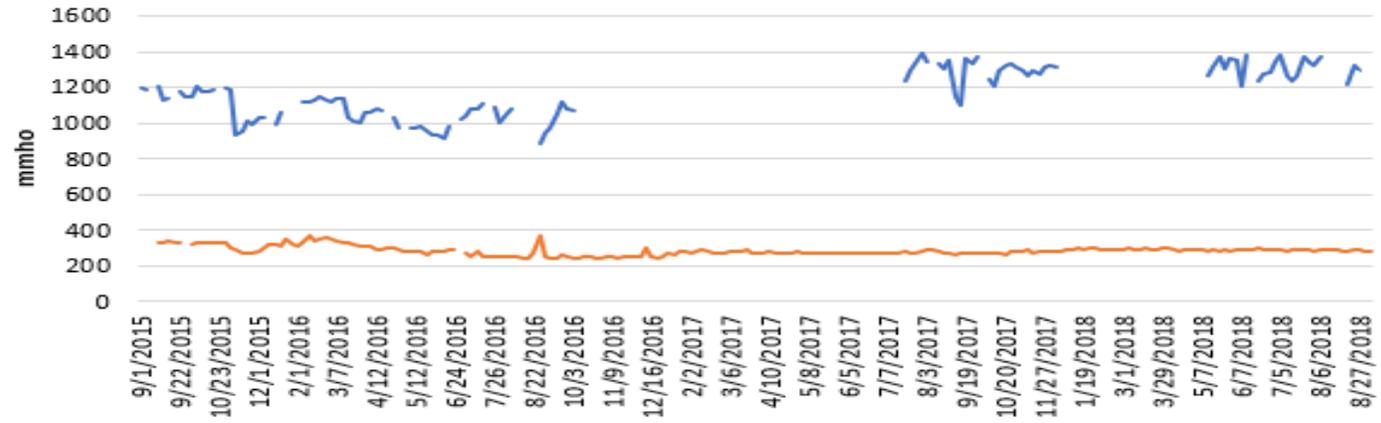


# CITY WATER VS CS5 RECLAIMED WATER

## PHOSPHATE - CITY WATER VS MUNICIPAL RECLAIMED WATER



## CONDUCTIVITY - CITY WATER VS MUNICIPAL RECLAIMED WATER



## UTILTY WATER QUALITY (FY16-FY18)

### Phosphorus Results:

City Water

*Average: 1.46*

*Min: 0.4*

*Max: 6.8*

CS 5 Reclaimed Water

*Average: 14.42*

*Min: 2.86*

*Max: 19.8*

### Conductivity Results:

City Water

*Average: 284.9*

*Min: 240.5*

*Max: 370*

CS 5 Reclaimed Water

*Average: 1,170.63*

*Min: 888*

*Max: 1,393*

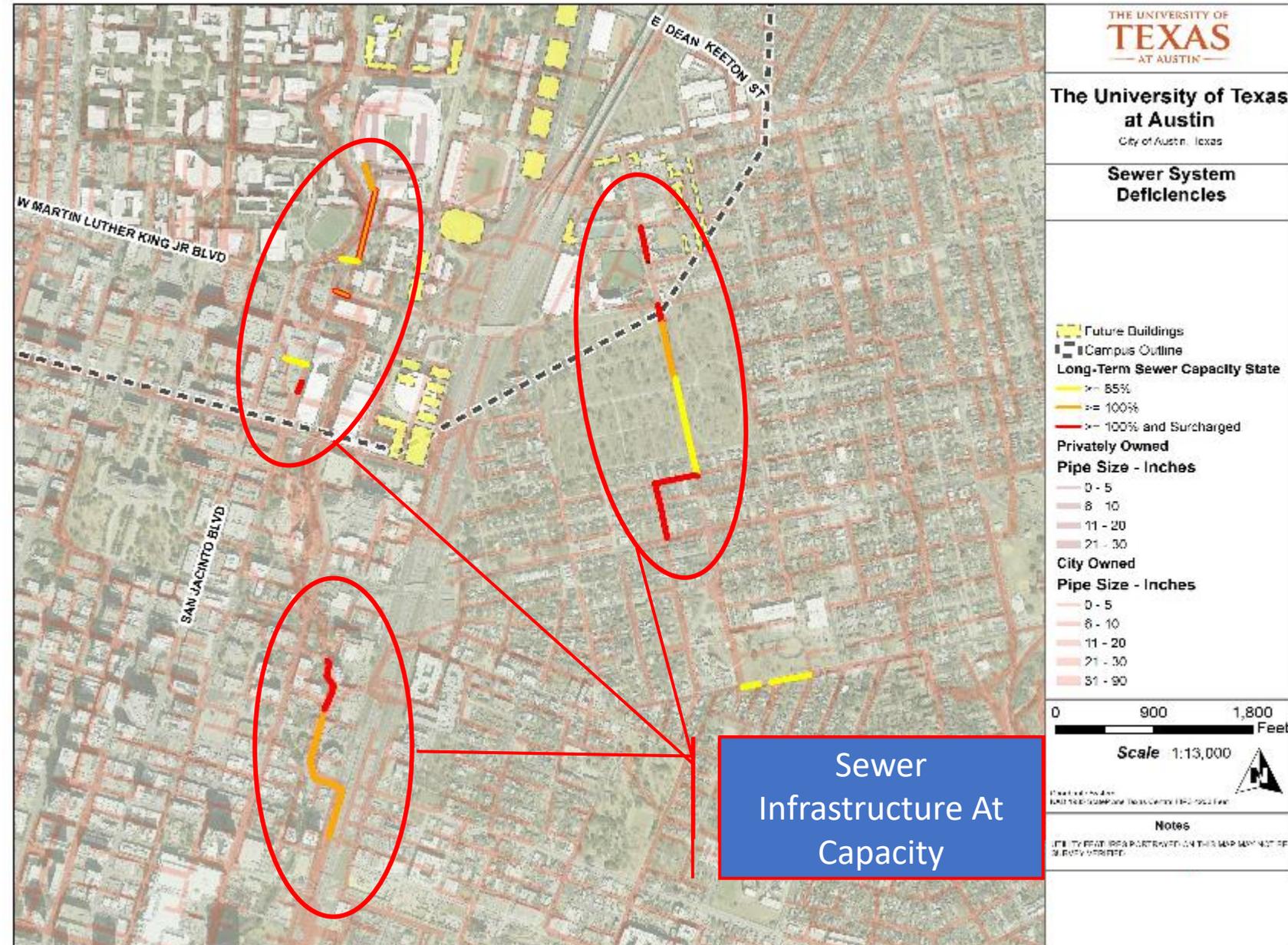
# DOWNSTREAM SEWER CAPACITY



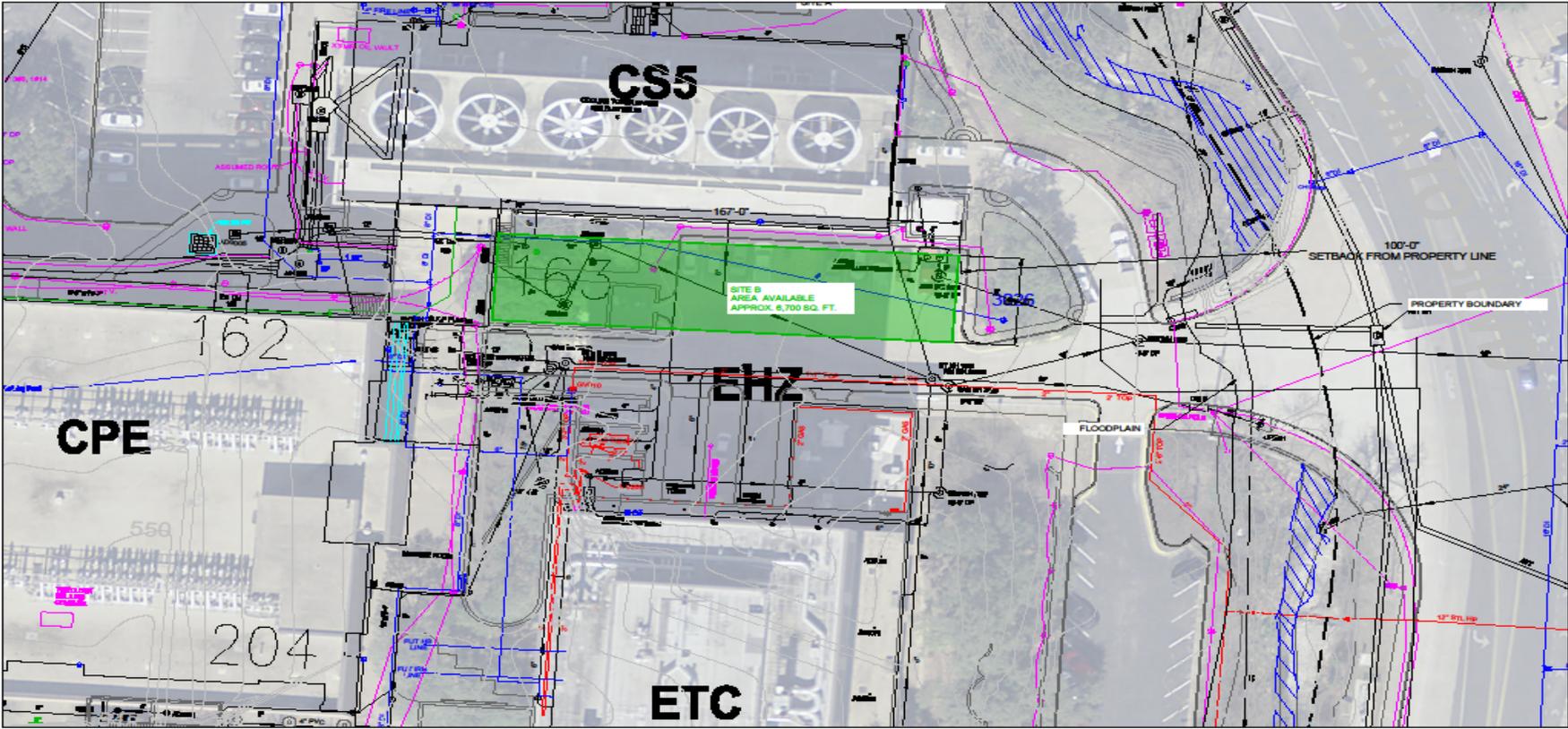
## DOWNSTREAM CAPACITY

Currently Under Sewer Constraints

- 6.5 Million GSF of Proposed Development
- Over \$3 Million of Recommended Sewer Improvements (Jacobs – 2017 Utility Master Plan)



# ADDITIONAL FIELD INVESTIGATION AND CAD REVIEW

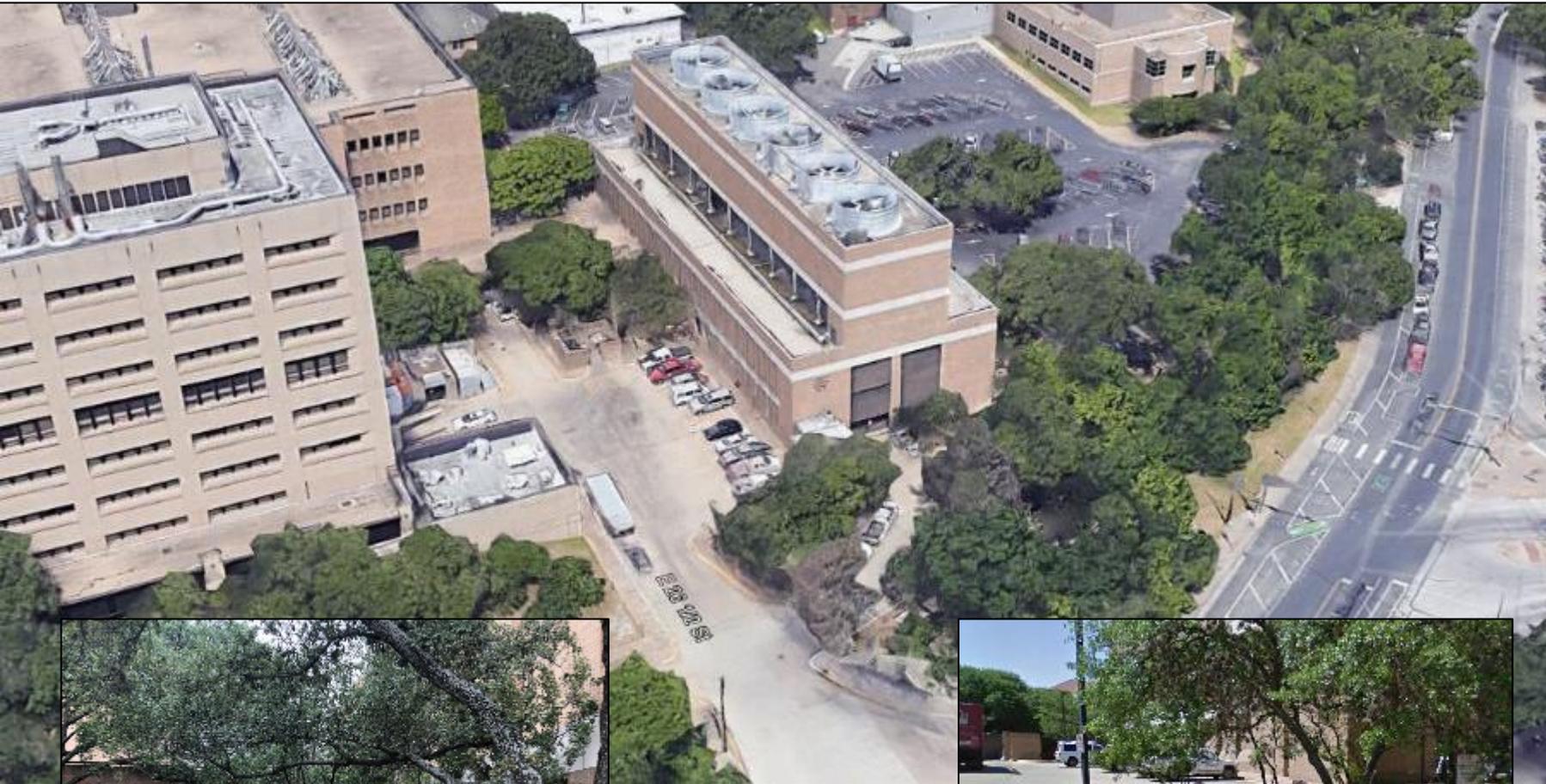


Project: District Scale Water Reclamation & Reuse Facility	
Client: University of Texas - Austin	Location: Austin, TX

Title/Description: Potential Site Area B - Existing Conditions 50' Setback Property Boundary	
Issued: 12/11/18	Revised: -



# PROPOSED SITE LOCATION: CS5 SOUTH



## APPROXIMATE SIZE:

- 7,500 ft<sup>2</sup>

## STRENGTHS:

- Less Emphasis on Design Aesthetics
- Less Invasive for CS5 Parking lot
- Like-Land Use
- Conducive with Future Buildings
- Proximity to End Use Location
- Flat, Cleared Area
- Outside of 50ft Setback & Floodplain

## WEAKNESSES:

- Limited Area South of CS5
- Maintain Vehicular Access
- Not an Integrated Site Design
- Relocation of Storm & Electrical
- Potential Large Tree Removal (North)

## OPPORTUNITIES:

- Connectivity to Pedestrian Bridge

# SITE B: CONCEPTUAL BUILDING MASS



# A LIVING, LEARNING LABORATORY



“THE WATERHUB PROVIDES THE EXPERIENCE OF COLLECTING REAL DATA, INTERPRETING RESULTS AND WRITING REPORTS. FOR SOME STUDENTS, IT MAY HAVE BEEN THE FIRST HANDS-ON LAB EXPERIENCE THAT THEY’VE HAD.”

- CHRISTINE MOE, DIRECTOR OF THE CENTER FOR GLOBAL SAFE WATER, EMORY UNIVERSITY



## EDUCATIONAL FEATURES:

- Info / Educational Plaques & Signage
- Classroom & Lab Space
- Easy Access Water Quality Ports
- Public Operations Monitors

## NOTEWORTHY RESULTS:

- Over 5,000 tours held since May '15
- Used in graduate thesis studies
- Centerpiece of Student Docent Program
- Integrated into core coursework

## RESEARCH & CURRICULUM:

- Used in the following fields:
  - Biology
  - Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH)
  - Journalism
  - Chemistry
  - Law
- New Courses Introduced:
  - Water and Sanitation in Developing Countries
  - Research Methods in WASH



# SUSTAINABILITY SHOWCASE OPPORTUNITY



# Water Processing Agreement:

Integrated development and service performance commitment

## Customer Benefits

- No upfront capital costs
- No operational oversight obligations
- Utility plant operational resiliency
  - (N+1 water supply)
- Facility sustainability and corporate ESG goals
- Savings over business-as-usual
  - 5%-10% typical savings will provide millions over contract term
- Hands-off operations

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## Host Client Responsibilities

- Minimum annual purchase of compliant reclaimed water
- Access to land for WaterHub footprint and pipeline easement
- 30-year water processing agreement

**ZERO**  
CAPITAL EXPENSE  
—AND—  
DEVELOPMENT RISK  
TO THE END USER

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## Third Party Developer Responsibilities

- Proper system engineering & design
- Construction and development costs
- Facility operational & maintenance cost
- Production of compliant reclaimed water
- Long-term upkeep of the system

# TYPICAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE

## Preliminary Assessment & Procurement

- Developer Award
- Data Review
- Site Location Analysis
- Development Agreement / Term Sheet

## Design & Development (9-12 Months)

### 30% Design (~6 Months)

- Field Investigations
- Final Permit Pathway
- Design Basis Development
- Preliminary Design Documents

Conditions Precedent

### 60% Design (~3 Months)

- Permit Submittals & Approvals

### 90% Design (~3 Months)

- Construction Documents
  - Technology Procurement
  - Mobilization
  - Distribution Network
  - Building Envelope
  - Fit Out
  - Biological Ramp-Up
  - Clean Water Testing

## Construction & Commissioning (9-12 Months)

**Full Project Schedule  
after WPA Contract  
(~24 Months)**

# Emory University Project



OUTDOOR WETLANDS



INTERIOR HYDROPONICS



LABORATORY SPACE

## CLIENT TYPE

Private University

## LOCATION

Atlanta, GA

## HYDRAULIC CAPACITY

440,000 GPD

## FOOTPRINT

Building: 3,500 ft<sup>2</sup>

Lower Site: 3,000 ft<sup>2</sup>

## COMMERCIAL OPERATION

May 2015

## END USES

Boiler Make-Up

Cooling Tower Make-Up

Toilet Flushing

## TECHNOLOGIES APPLIED

Hydroponic – MBBR

Reciprocating Wetlands

# Emory University Project

## CAPABILITIES:

- Up to 400K GPD and 146M GPY Capacity
- Displaces Up to 40% of Total Campus Demand
- Reduces Up to 70% of Campus Wastewater
- Displaces 90% of Utility Water Demand
- Living, Learning Laboratory



## PERFORMANCE TO DATE

- 95% of City Water Displaced at Cooling Towers
- Averaging 7 Million Gallons per Month Campus Wide
- 280 Million Gallons of Water Delivered since May 2015
- 99% Up-Time Reliability
- Over 5,000 tours conducted

# The Philip Morris Project



## CLIENT TYPE

Industrial Manufacturing

## LOCATION

Richmond, VA

## HYDRAULIC SIZING

650,000 GPD

## FOOTPRINT

Building: 8,200 ft<sup>2</sup>

Storage Tank: 1,200 ft<sup>2</sup>  
(24 ft. hgt. & 39 ft. dia.)

## COMMERCIAL OPERATION

August 2019

RECLAIMED STORAGE TANK



MEETING SPACE



HYDROPONIC PLANTINGS



## END USES

Cooling Tower Make-Up  
Open-Aired Chiller Make-Up

## TECHNOLOGIES APPLIED

- Hydroponic – MBR
- RO Polishing

# The Philip Morris Project



## CAPABILITIES:

- Up to 650K GPD and 237M GPY capacity
- 40% reduction of consumed water
- 55% reduction of wastewater discharge
- Exceed corporate KPI (25%) in water reduction
- Sustainability featured in campus tour



## PROJECT GOALS:

- Conserve community water resources
- Provide leadership in water sustainability
- Relieve strain on local municipal infrastructure
- Insulate operational viability & supply chain

## The Virginia Project



## Central Plant



## Virginia Project Goals

- Conserve community water resources
- Provide leadership in water sustainability
- 40% reduction in consumed water
- 55% wastewater discharge reduction
- Relieve strain on local municipal infrastructure
- Insulate operational viability & supply chain

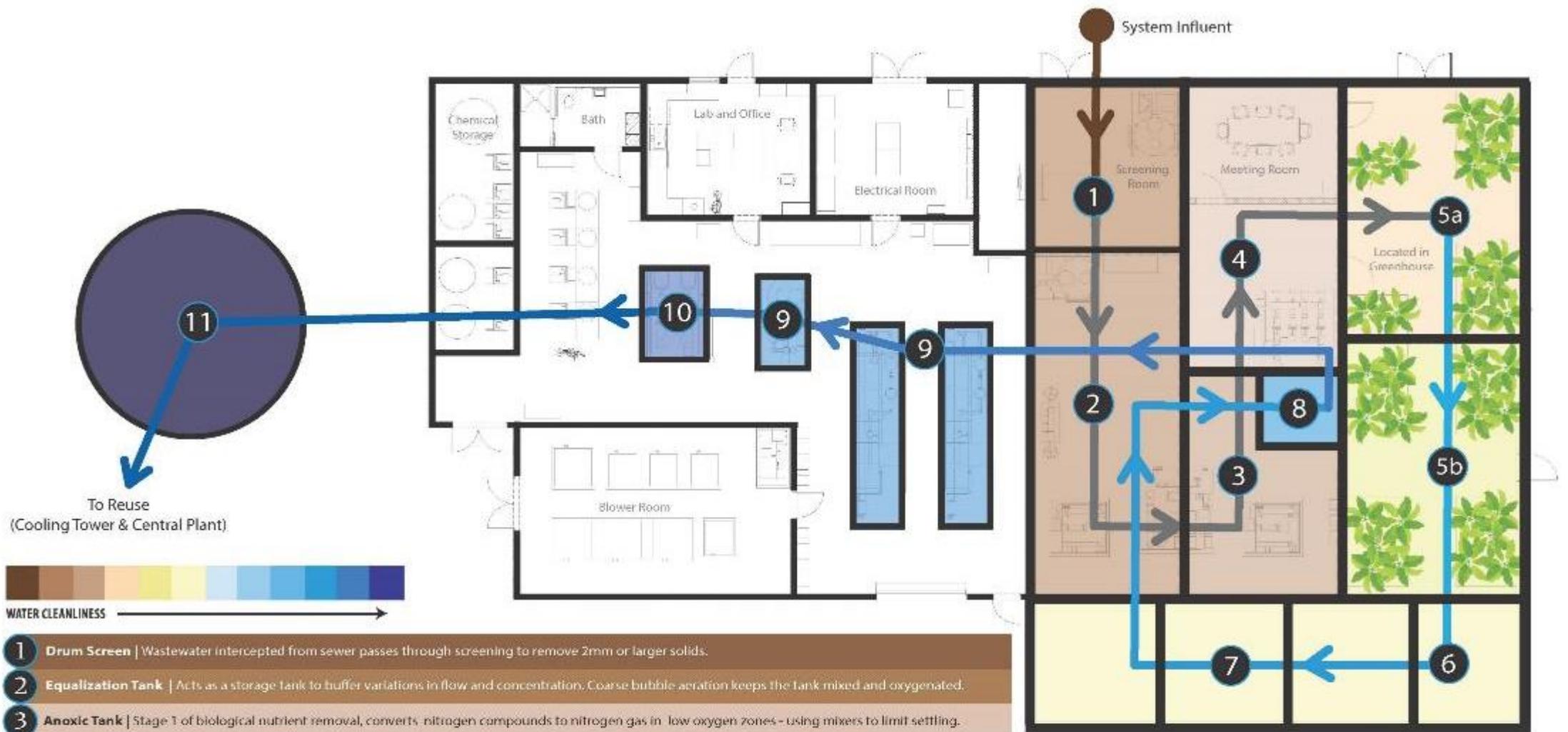
Extraction Pipe Route

Outfall #006

Wastewater



Outfall #001



- 1 Drum Screen** | Wastewater intercepted from sewer passes through screening to remove 2mm or larger solids.
- 2 Equalization Tank** | Acts as a storage tank to buffer variations in flow and concentration. Coarse bubble aeration keeps the tank mixed and oxygenated.
- 3 Anoxic Tank** | Stage 1 of biological nutrient removal, converts nitrogen compounds to nitrogen gas in low oxygen zones - using mixers to limit settling.
- 4 Aerobic Tank** | Blowers and fine bubble diffusers provide mixing and oxygenation that support bacterial respiration to consume organic materials.
- 5 Hydroponic Reactor** | Specific plant species, suspended over aerobic tanks, grow roots into the reactor to provide additional surface area for fixed-film microorganisms.
- 6 Post Anoxic Flex Reactor** | The final biological treatment step is a flexible tank operated in either aerobic or anaerobic conditions to remove residual organics or nitrogen.
- 7 Submerged Membranes** | Water passes through a 0.5 micron membrane to remove biosolids. The rejected biosolids recycle to anoxic tank for continued microbial growth.
- 8 Permeate Tank** | Effluent from submerged membranes is stored here after passing through an ultraviolet disinfection (UV) system that inactivate pathogens.
- 9 Reverse Osmosis (RO)** | An RO system treats a side-stream of flow to remove residual minerals and blended into the effluent stream to achieve target conductivity levels.
- 10 Reclaimed Water Distribution Pumps** | Pumps designed to supply reclaimed water flow and pressure to industrial users.
- 11 Reuse Tank** | Tank to provide clean water storage and chlorine pathogen disinfection.

# THE WATERHUB®

## HOW IT WORKS



# THE ROCKY MOUNT PROJECT



## CLIENT TYPE

Automotive Manufacturing

## LOCATION

Rocky Mount, NC

## HYDRAULIC CAPACITY

75,000 GPD

## FOOTPRINT

5,500 ft<sup>2</sup>

## COMMERCIAL OPERATION

Summer 2020

## END USES

Boiler Make-Up

Cooling Tower Make-Up

Toilet Flushing

## TECHNOLOGIES APPLIED

Hydroponic – MBR



# THE ROCKY MOUNT PROJECT



## CAPABILITIES:

- 100% factory up-time/plant production
- Up to 75K GPD and 27M GPY capacity
- 34% reduction of consumed water
- 90% reduction of wastewater discharge
- 15M gallons of reused water created annually



## PROJECT GOALS:

- Redundant (N + 1) water supply for utilities
- Drought protection
- Long-term economic savings
- Provide leadership in water sustainability
- Insulate operational viability & supply chain



# THE PIEDMONT ATLANTA HOSPITAL PROJECT



## CLIENT TYPE

Commercial Healthcare Campus

## LOCATION

Atlanta, GA

## HYDRAULIC CAPACITY

250,000 GPD

## FOOTPRINT

4,300 ft<sup>2</sup>

## COMMERCIAL OPERATION

Anticipated Fall 2022

## GOALS

- Resilient Utility Operations
- Water Conservation
- 75% Decrease in Discharge
- Enable Future Development

## TECHNOLOGIES APPLIED

Outdoor Hydroponics

Tertiary: Membrane Bioreactor (MBR)

Disinfection: Dual-Stage UV & Chlorine

# THE DUKE UNIVERSITY PROJECT



## CLIENT TYPE

Private University

## LOCATION

Durham, NC

## HYDRAULIC CAPACITY

600,000 GPD

## FOOTPRINT

9,400 ft<sup>2</sup>

## COMMERCIAL OPERATION

Anticipated Spring 2023

## GOALS / OUTCOMES

- Utility / Operational Resiliency
- Reuse 120 MGY
- 45% decrease in discharge

# THE DUKE UNIVERSITY PROJECT



# THE DUKE UNIVERSITY PROJECT



# Lessons Learned

- **Don't Underestimate Public Interest**
  - Tours, Program Space, Community Outreach
  - 5,000 Tours at Emory University
- **Facility Design Aesthetics**
  - Public access areas from Front to Back of House
  - Pedestrian circulation through system
  - Fully enclosed mechanical areas & better operator access
- **Data Collection & Field Investigations**
  - Never “too much” operational, sampling & flow data
  - Strong data collection investigations in preliminary engineering, save time down the road
  - Work closely with the city or servicing district to ensure a successful project than will get permitted properly



# Technical Lessons Learned

- **Pre-Fabrication**
  - Hydraulic “Sweet-spots” to more or less prefabrication
  - Skids, Tanks, Operator Rooms
- **Process Resiliency**
  - Equipment Redundancy (Primary screening, Influent Pumps, UV, etc.)
  - Dual Process Trains
  - You can’t optimize what isn’t measured
  - WQ Sensors starting in influent wet-well
- **Maintenance**
  - Removal & Maintenance of Influent Pumps from Wet Well
  - Ability to Pump Backwards from Screen or EQ to flush influent lines
  - Membrane / Filter Access, Location of Hoists
- **Turn-Down**
  - Contingency planning for turn-down scenarios



# Q&A





EXTENDING THE LIFECYCLE OF WATER

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