

Presentation to

MWRA Advisory Board of Directors

Draft Updated CSO Control Plan Alternatives Recommendation

October 30, 2025



Agenda

- Background
- Water Quality
- Levels of Control
- CSO Reduction and Elimination Tools
- Alternatives Development and Evaluation
- Recommended Alternatives
- Cost Sharing and Financial Considerations
- Next Steps



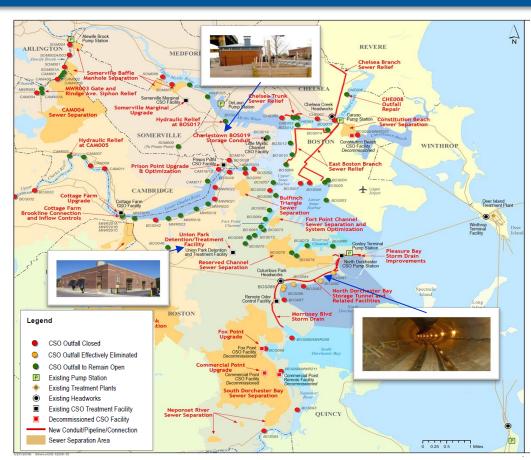
Background



Completed Long Term Control Plan

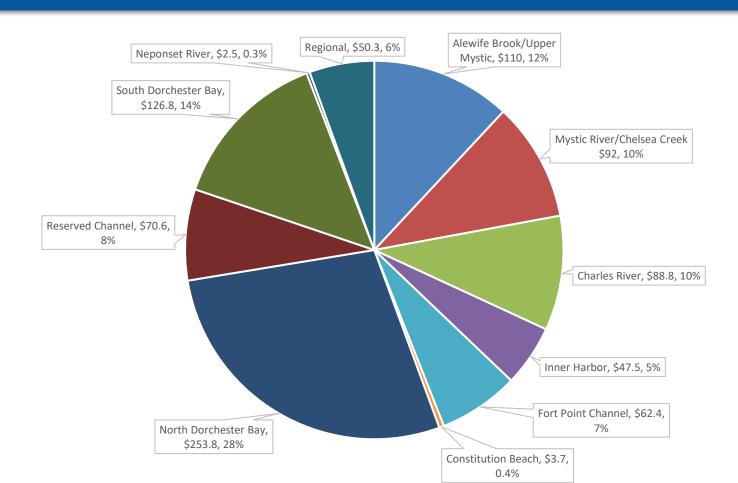
Types of CSO Control Projects

- Included a range of projects (35 total) targeted to site specific control including:
 - System optimization
 - Sewer separation
 - Interceptor relief
 - Detention treatment facilities
 - Storage facilities
 - Upgrades to existing CSO facilities
- Total cost \$911 million (\$1.52 billion in today's dollars)
- When combined with related local community projects, that investment is over \$1 billion.





MWRA CSO Investments By Receiving Water

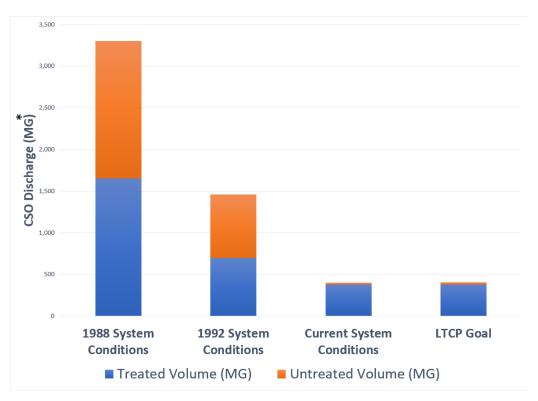




System Wide CSO Reduction Since the Start of the CSO Program in the 1980s

Prior Long Term Control Plan

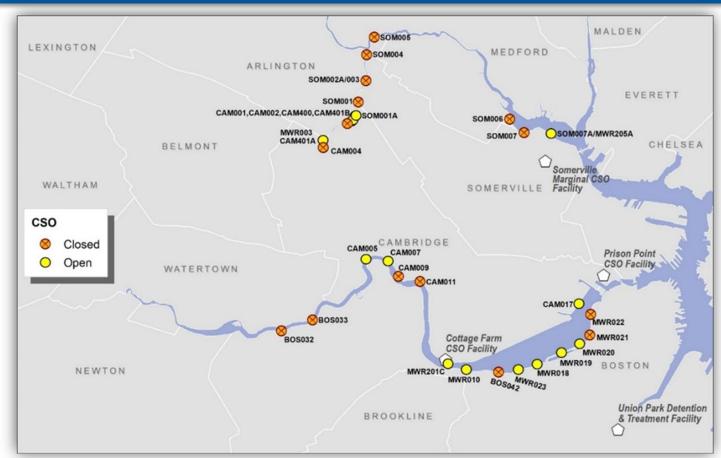
- System wide improvements resulted in an 88% reduction in CSO discharge since 1980s.
- 94% of remaining CSO is Treated using Prior Typical Year.



System Wide CSO Reduction Since the 1980s *Annual discharge volume based on the prior Typical Year



Variance Water CSOs



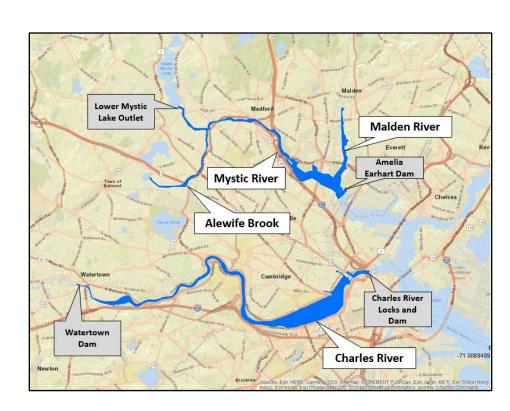


Water Quality



Water Quality – Model Results

- Separate models run for the Charles River and Mystic/Alewife for the full 2050 Typical Year
- Following results are preliminary
- Compliance with WQ benchmarks as recommended by DEP
 - Use of 410 #/100mL E. coli as the benchmark
- Models show impacts of non-CSO sources such as stormwater and conditions upstream of the model area
- Model results do not account for additional CSO control measures in the Updated CSO Control Plan





Water Quality Modeling Results – Charles River

| Percentage Time Entire Modeled River is in Compliance* | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| | | | | | | |
| Model Run | All Sources | Non-CSO Sources | CSO Only | Stormwater Only | | |
| 2050 Typical Year | 51% (186 days) | 51% (186 days) | 99.7% (364 days) | 64% (234 days) | | |

^{*}Based on guidance from DEP, model results were analyzed for a single sample maximum equivalent to the value of the Class B Statistical Threshold Value Criterion (STV) for bacteria. The Class B water quality criteria for bacteria at 314 CMR 4.05 (5)(f.1) do not identify a single sample max criterion but rather identify a geometric mean and a 90th percentile STV.



Water Quality Modeling Results – Alewife Brook / Mystic River

| Percentage Time Entire Modeled River is in Compliance* | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| | E. coli (410#/100mL) | | | | | |
| Model Run | All Sources | Non-CSO Sources | CSO Only | Stormwater Only | | |
| Alewife Brook | | | | | | |
| 2050 Typical Year | 41% (150 days) | 41 % (150 days) | 99% (361 days) | 43% (157 days) | | |
| Mystic River | | | | | | |
| 2050 Typical Year | 52% (190 days) | 52% (190 days) | 96% (350 days) | 54% (197 days) | | |

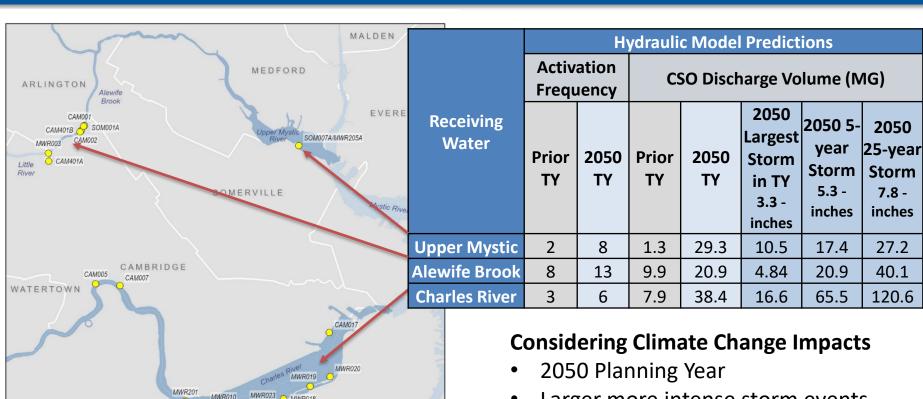
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Levels of Control



CSO Increases When Considering Climate Change



Variance Water CSO Outfall

Variance Waters

BOSTON

BROOKLINE

- Larger more intense storm events
- Larger CSO volumes expected



| | Hydraulic Model Predictions | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Receiving Water | Activation Frequency | CSO Discharge Volume (MG) | | | |
| | 2050 TY | 2050 TY | 2050 Largest Storm in TY | 2050 5- year Storm | 2050 25-year Storm |
| Upper Mystic | 8 | 29.3 | 10.5 | 17.4 | 27.2 |
| Alewife Brook | 13 | 20.9 | 4.84 | 20.9 | 40.1 |
| Charles River | 6 | 38.4 | 16.6 | 65.5 | 120.6 |



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Significantly reducing CSO discharges from those predicted to occur in a 2050 Typical Year ("Limited CSO in 2050 Typical Year")



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No CSO in a 2050 Typical Year ("2050 Typical Year")



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Significantly reducing CSO discharges from those predicted to occur in a 2050 Typical Year ("Limited CSO in 2050 Typical Year")

No CSO in a 2050 Typical Year ("2050 Typical Year") No CSO in a 2050 5-year, 24-hour design storm ("2050 5year")



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Significantly reducing CSO discharges from those predicted to occur in a 2050 Typical Year ("Limited CSO in 2050 Typical Year")

No CSO in a 2050 Typical Year ("2050 Typical Year") No CSO in a 2050 5-year, 24-hour design storm ("2050 5year") No CSO in a 2050 25-year, 24-hour design storm ("2050 25year")



CSO Reduction and Elimination Tools



General Components of an Alternative



Sewer Separation



Green Stormwater Infrastructure



Storage



Conveyance



Regional Tunnel



Alternatives



Alternatives Development Process

- Two considerations before concepts developed:
 - Nutrient and bacteria loading
 - Potential for flooding impacts
- Initial development and screening of the technologies for individual outfalls;
- Assessment of opportunities to address two or more outfalls with a single control tool;
- Assessment of the impact of control tools on certain outfalls;
- Optimization of combinations of control tools; and
- Assessment of elimination of CSO discharges.



• **39 total** alternatives evaluated across 4 levels of control

Combination of CSO Control Tools

- Alewife Brook: 12 alternatives (sewer separation, storage tanks and microtunnels, large tunnels)
- Upper Mystic River: 14 alternatives (sewer separation, storage tanks)
- Charles River: 13 alternatives (sewer separation, storage tanks and microtunnels, large tunnels)



Alternative Evaluation/Selection Considerations

- Level of CSO control
- Permitting uncertainty
- Site acquisition risks
- Capital Cost and Life Cycle Cost
- Timeline to implementation/CSO benefits
- Impact on priority, vulnerable, and environmental justice populations
- Benefits criteria
- Stakeholder input

| Benefits Criteria | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|----|--|--|--|
| Criteria Category | Evaluation Criterion | | | | |
| CSO Performance | Water quality impact; nutrient load reduction | | | | |
| C30 Periorillarice | Schedule: minimize duration to CSO reduction benefit | | | | |
| | Minimize construction impacts | | | | |
| | Impacts to public uses during construction | | | | |
| Construction | Neighborhood impacts during construction | | | | |
| Construction | Minimize construction complexity/risk | | | | |
| | Depth to excavation | | | | |
| | Construction complexity | | | | |
| Operations, Maintenance & | Operation and maintenance/safety considerations | | | | |
| · · | Resiliency and adaptability | | | | |
| Resiliency | Opportunity to upgrade existing infrastructure | | | | |
| | Flooding: reduce sewer/stormwater flood risk | | | | |
| Community & Ancillary | Community co-benefits and long-term site impacts | | | | |
| Benefits | Community co-benefits | | | | |
| Delicits | Permanent impacts to public uses | | | | |
| | Impacts to non-variance CSOs | | | | |
| | | 31 | | | |



Alternative Evaluation/Selection Considerations

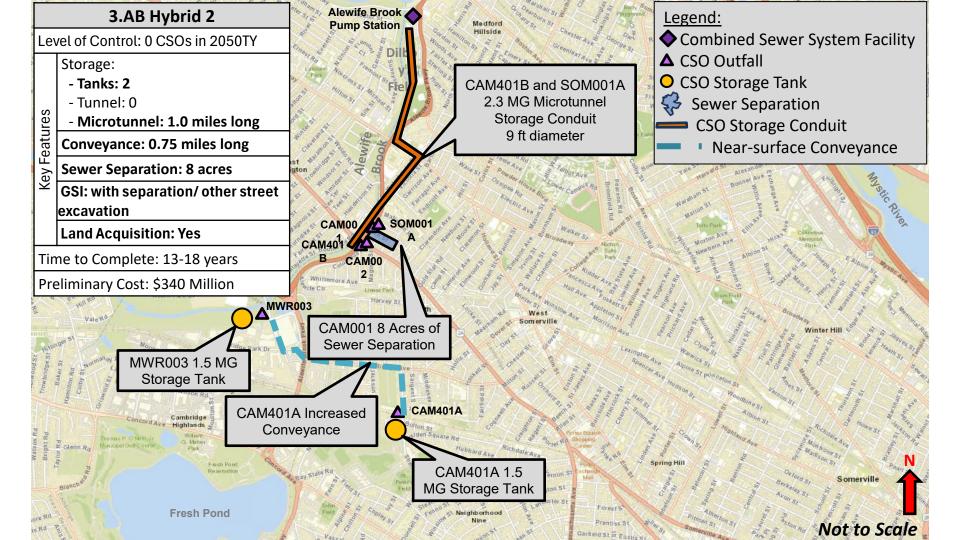
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Recommended Alternatives

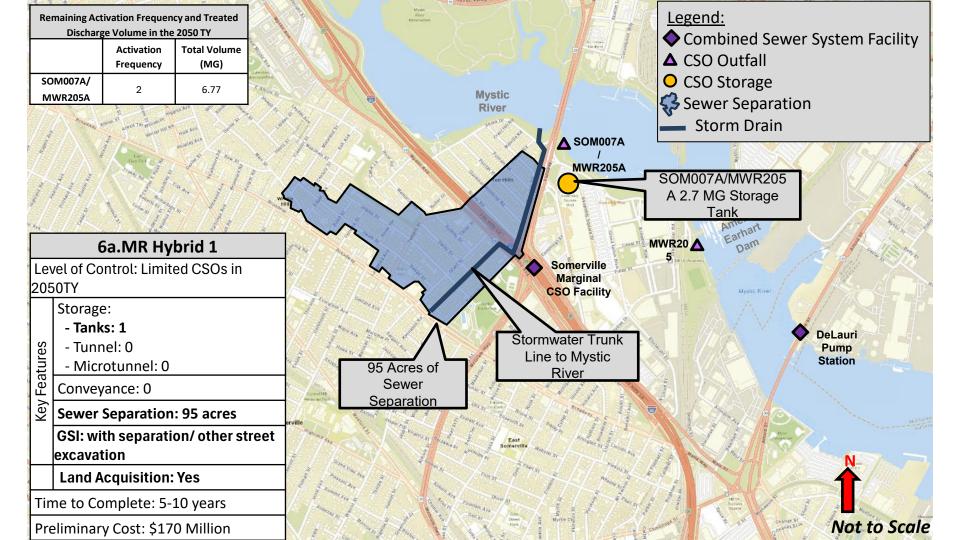


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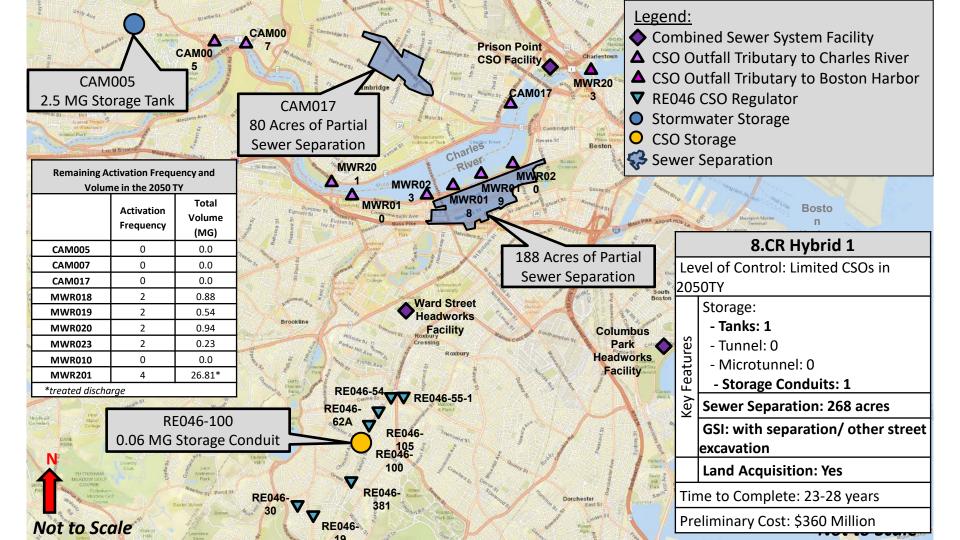


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Summary of Recommended Alternatives

| Receiving Waterbody | Alternative Name | Level of Control | Cost | Duration |
|------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|--------|-------------|
| Alewife Brook | 3.AB Hybrid 2 | 0 CSOs in 2050 TY | \$340M | 13-18 years |
| Upper Mystic | 6a.MR Hybrid 1 | Limited CSOs in 2050 TY | \$170M | 5-10 years |
| Charles River | 8.CR Hybrid 1 | Limited CSOs in 2050 TY | \$360M | 23-28 years |
| | | Total Cost | \$870M | |



Cost Sharing and Financial Considerations



Cost Sharing Methodologies

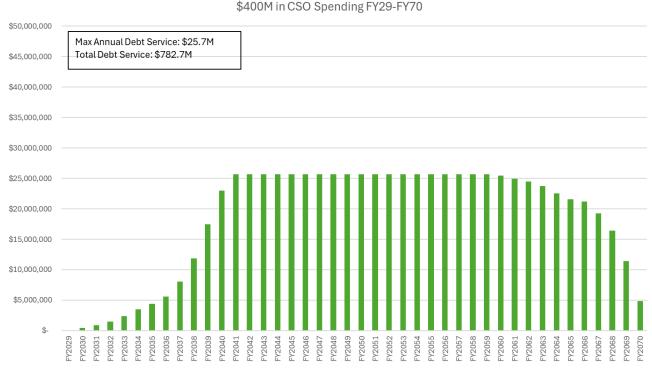
CSO Ownership:

- Owner of outfall would pay for the solution
- Regional projects, costs would be allocated between multiple owners by CSO volume
- Project Type and Location:
 - Separation or green infrastructure projects would be paid by the community being separated or where projects are located
 - Local storage projects within a community collection system would be paid for by the community whose flow is being captured.
 - Regional storage would be allocated by contributing flow.
- CSO Volume Reduction:
 - Costs would be apportioned for each receiving water based on the reduction in CSO volume by each outfall owner.



Projected \$400 Million in CSO Project Debt Service

- Projected Design and Construction Spending between 2028 and 2039.
- Total Debt Service Cost **\$782.7 million** in debt service costs.

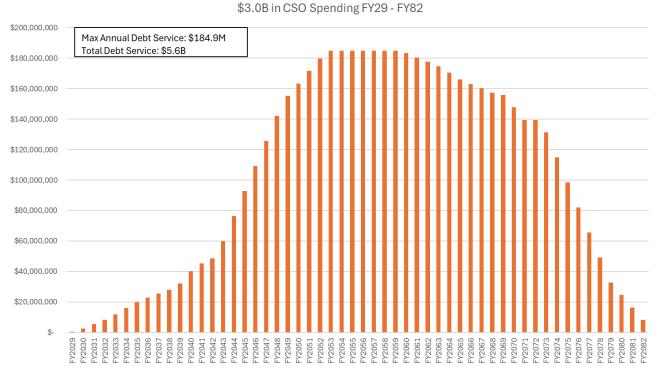


• All bonds issued as level debt service for 30 years at 5.0% interest. Preliminary projected project costs are in today's dollars.



Projected \$3.0 Billion in CSO Project Debt Service

- Design and construction spending between 2028 and 2053.
- Results in \$5.6 billion in debt service costs.

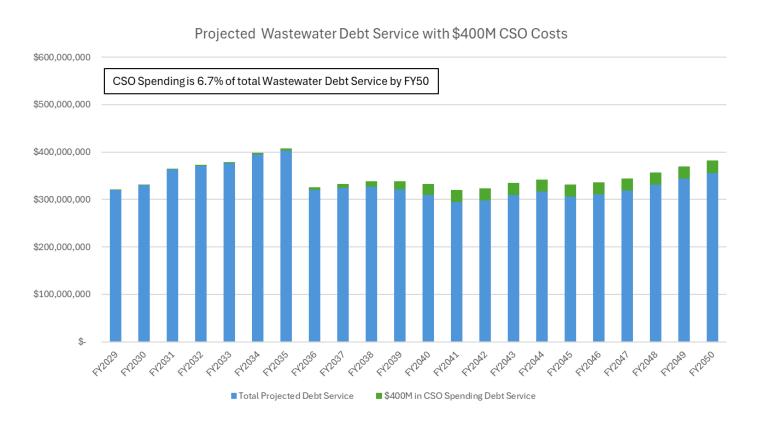


• All bonds issued as level debt service for 30 years at 5.0% interest. Preliminary projected project costs are in today's dollars.



Projected Wastewater Debt Service with \$400 million in CSO Costs

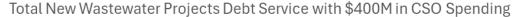
• \$400 million in CSO spending results in **\$335.8 million** in additional debt service costs between FY29 and FY50.

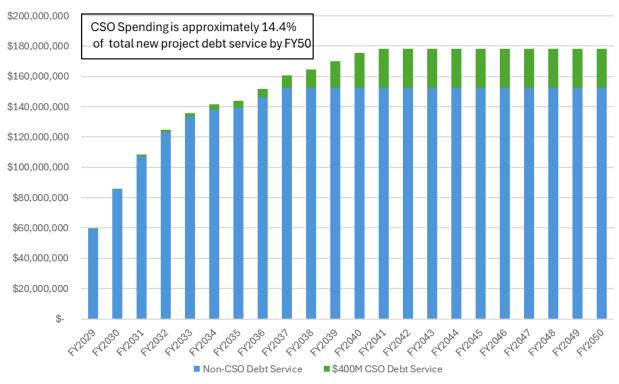




Projected Wastewater Debt Service with \$400 million in CSO Costs

• \$400 million in CSO spending would comprise **14.4%** of total wastewater debt service costs in FY50.

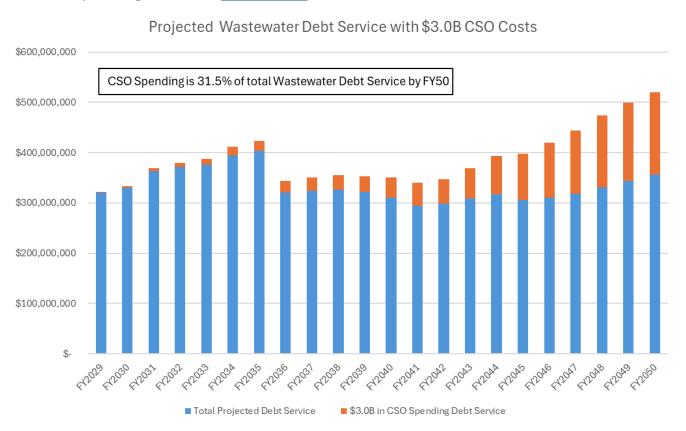






Projected Wastewater Debt Service with \$3.0 billion in CSO Costs

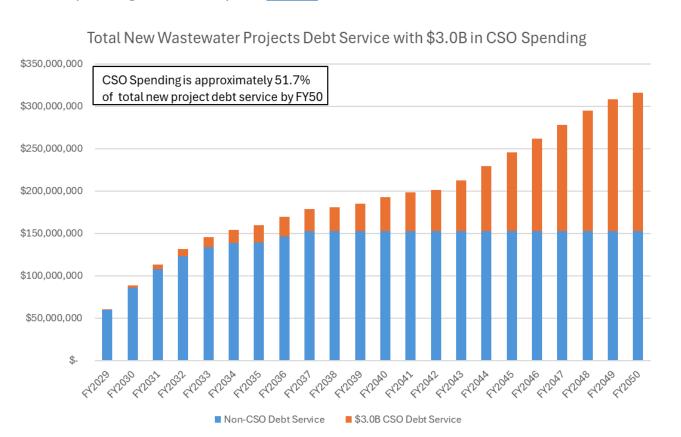
\$3.0 billion in CSO spending results in \$1.2 billion in additional debt service costs between FY29 and FY50.





Projected Wastewater Debt Service with \$3.0 billion in CSO Costs

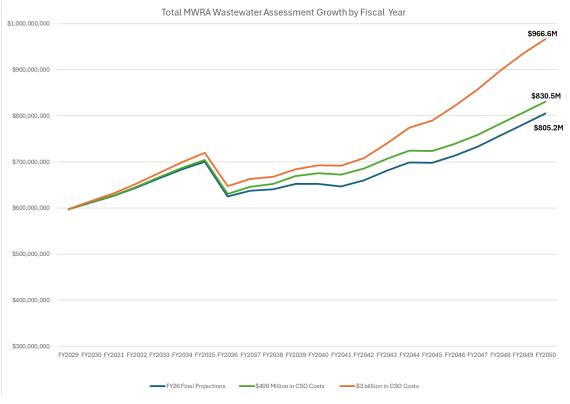
• \$3.0 billion in CSO spending would comprise **51.7%** of total wastewater debt service costs in FY50.





Projected Wastewater Assessment

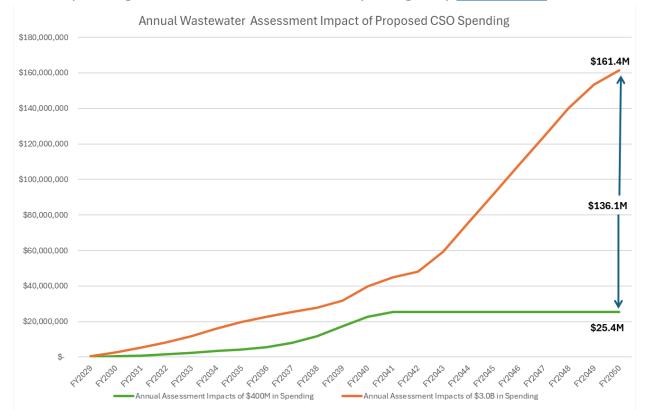
\$400 million in spending increases assessment by **\$25.4 million** and \$3.0 billion increases assessment by **\$161.4** million by FY50.





Projected Wastewater Assessment Impacts

- \$400 million in CSO spending increases the total community charges by **\$331.8 million** between FY29 and FY50.
- \$3.0 billion in CSO spending increases the total community charges by **\$1.2 billion** between FY29 and FY50.

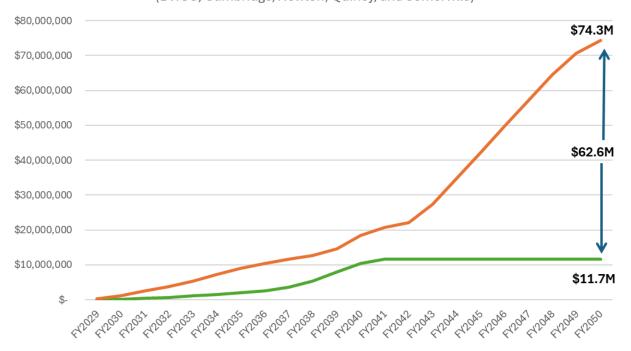




Projected Wastewater Assessment on Top 5 Users

- \$400 million in CSO spending increases the total assessed by **\$152.7 million** between FY29 and FY50.
- \$3.0 billion in CSO spending increases the total assessed by **\$560.7 million** between FY29 and FY50.

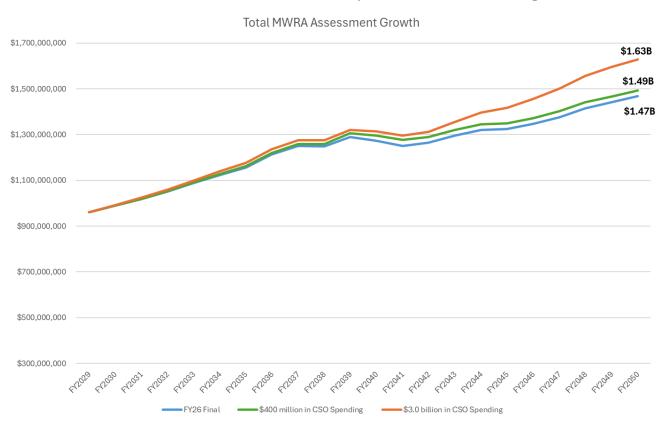
Annual Wastewater Assessment Impact of CSO Spending on Top 5 Communities
Over FY26 Projections
(BWSC, Cambridge, Newton, Quincy, and Somerville)





Projected Total Assessments

35 of the 43 wastewater communities receive all or a portion of their drinking water from MWRA.





Massachusetts Water Resources Authority

Next Steps



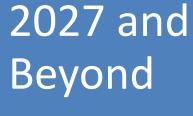
Next Steps

2025 Activities

- Scoring alternatives and recommending one per waterbody
- Affordability of recommended alternatives
- Water quality impacts of recommended alternatives
- Draft recommended plan due to EPA and DEP December 31, 2025



- Public mtg #6
 on draft
 recommended plan
- Public hearing and public comment period
- Additional outreach in affected communities
- Team reviews comments and modifies plan



- Final plan submitted January 2027
- EPA and DEP review the plan for further CSO control
- Design of projects
- Construction!





Massachusetts Water Resources Authority

Questions





Massachusetts Water Resources Authority

Alewife Brook Alternatives

| Consideration | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 0 CSOs in 2050 Typical Year | Limited CSOs in 2050 | 0 CSOs in 2050 5-year |

| Consideration | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 0 CSOs in 2050 Typical Year | Limited CSO |

Typical Year

Storm 9.AB Tunnel Storm 11.AB Tunnel

1.AB Integrated 3 tanks (3 MG) + 264 acres of sewer separation 7.AB Hybrid 1 3 tanks (2.5 MG) + 108 acres of sewer separation + 0.75-

1.5-mile-long deep tunnel (22 ft. diameter)

1.5-mile-long deep tunnel (32 ft. diameter)

0 CSOs in 2050 25-year

mile-long conveyance pipe

12.AB Tunnel + GSI

and treat 1 inch from 36 acres of

73

2.AB Hybrid 1

8.AB Hybrid 2 2 tanks (2.9 MG) + 108 acres of sewer separation + 0.75-

10.AB Tunnel + GSI 1.5-mile-long deep tunnel

1.5-mile-long deep tunnel (same tunnel as 11.AB) + GSI to capture

impervious area

3 tanks (2.5 MG) + 8 acres of sewer separation + 0.75-milelong conveyance pipe + 0.5

mile-long microtunnel

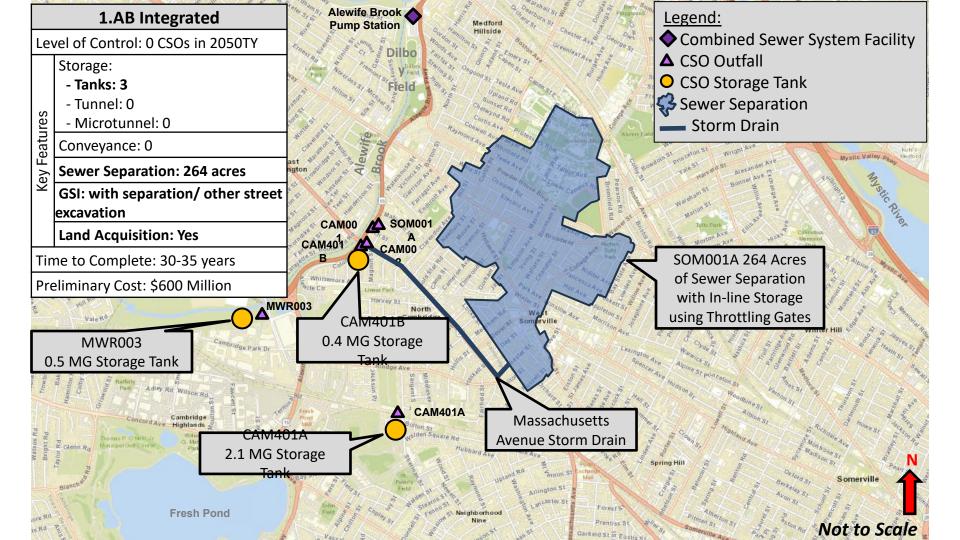
(same tunnel as 9.AB) + GSI to capture and treat 1 inch from 36 acres of impervious area

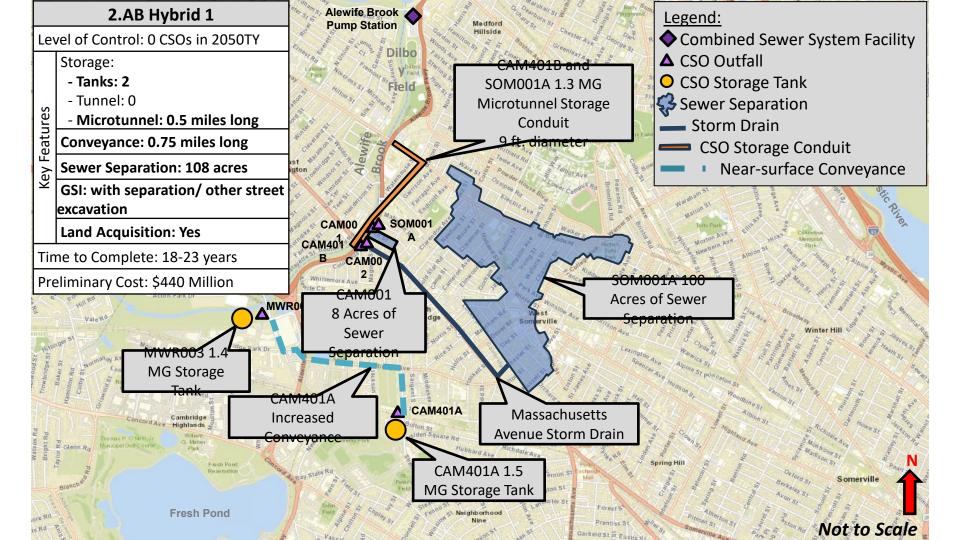
3.AB Hybrid 2 2 tanks (3 MG) + 8 acres of sewer separation + 0.75-

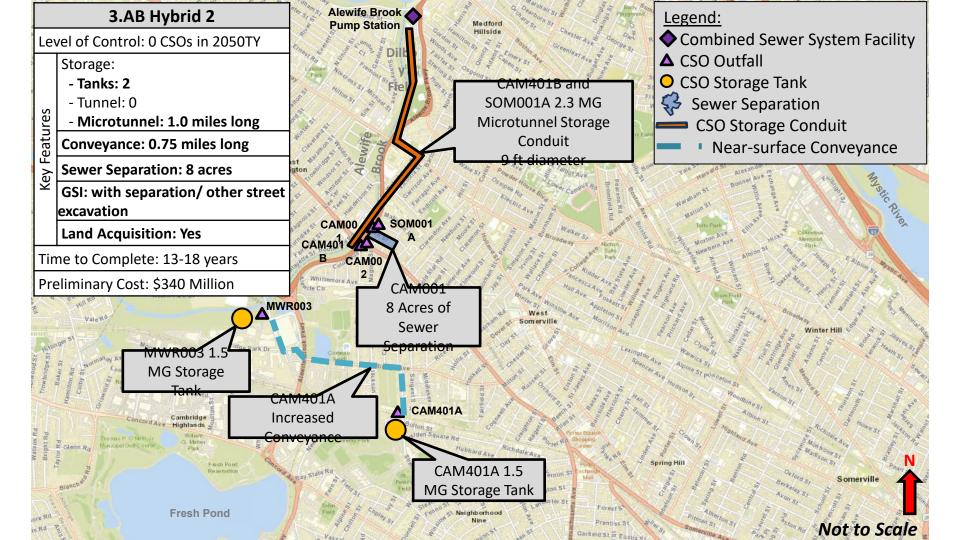
4.AB Tunnel 1.5-mile-long deep tunnel (11 ft. diameter) 5.AB Tunnel + GSI

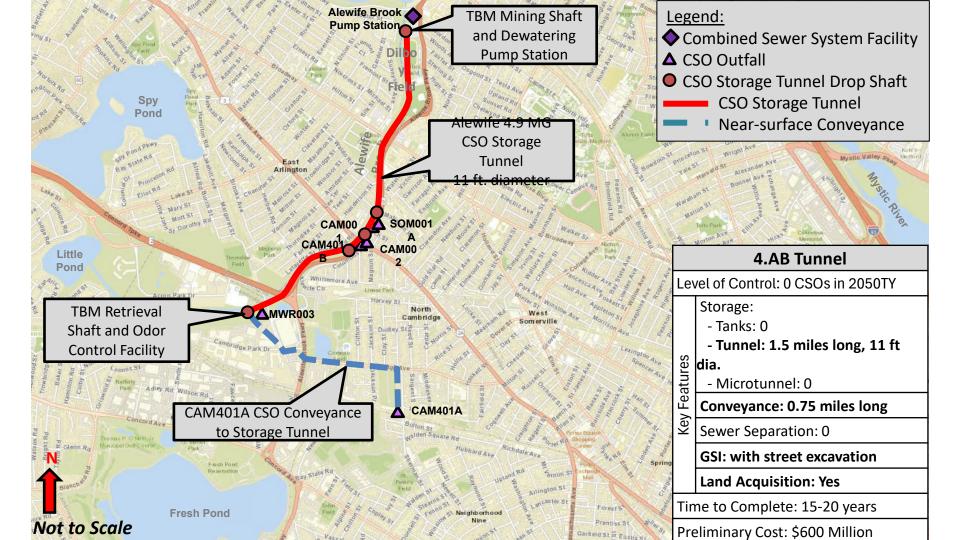
mile-long conveyance pipe + 0.5 mile-long microtunnel

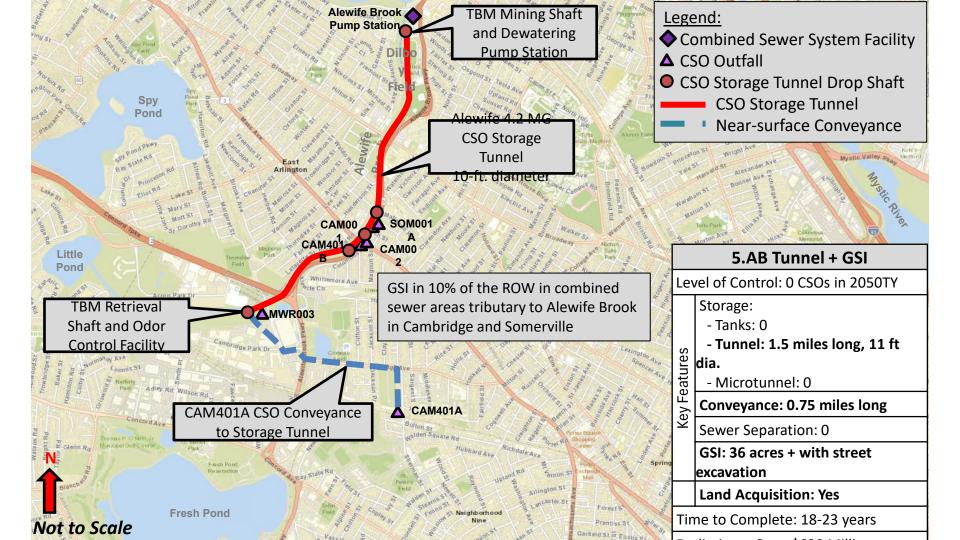
- 1.5-mile-long deep tunnel (same tunnel as 4.AB) + GSI to capture and treat 1 inch from 36 acres of impervious area 6.AB Full Sewer Separation
- mile-long conveyance pipe + 1 mile-long microtunnel

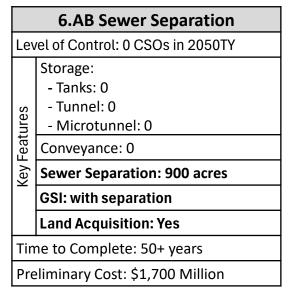


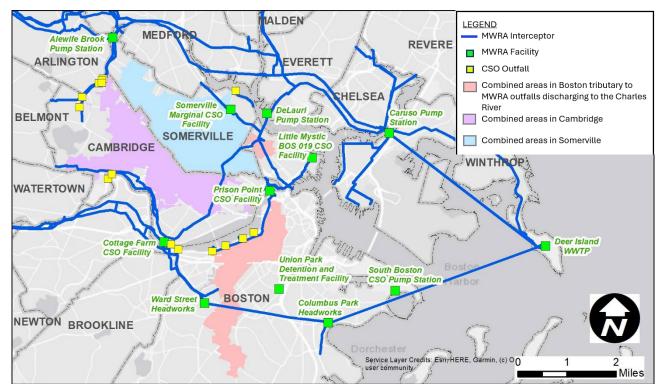


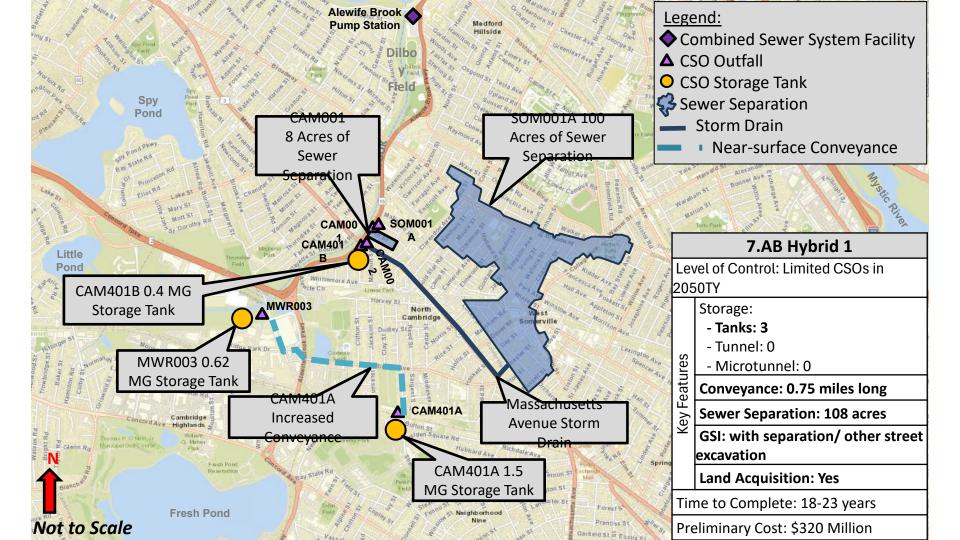


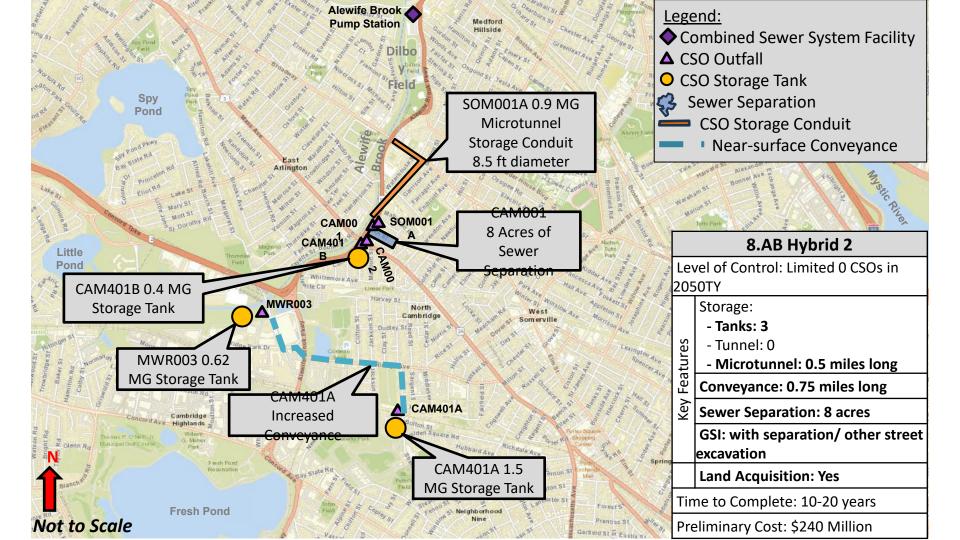


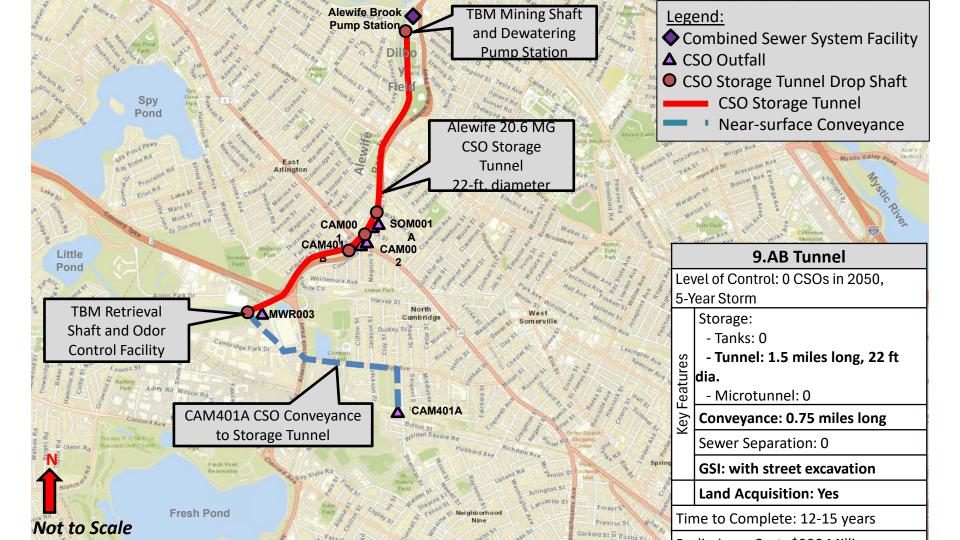


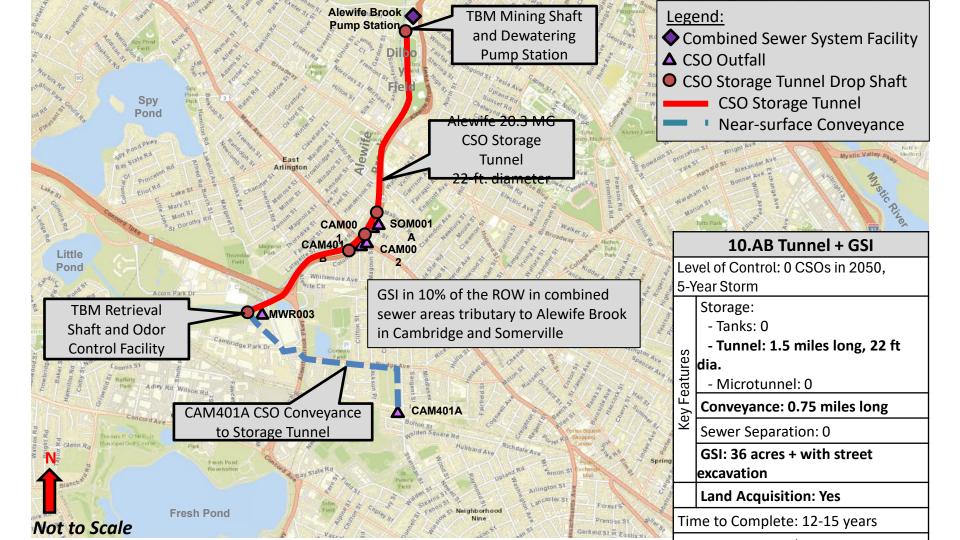


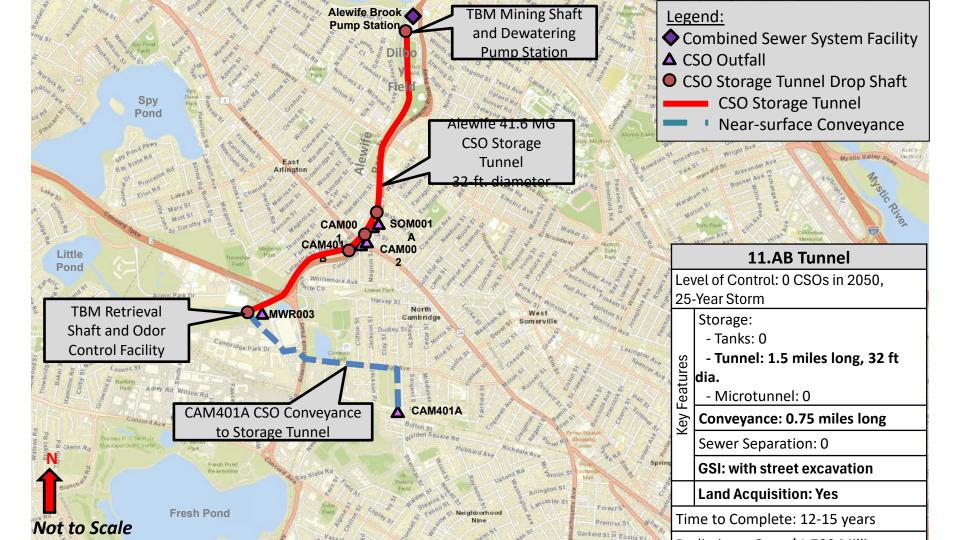


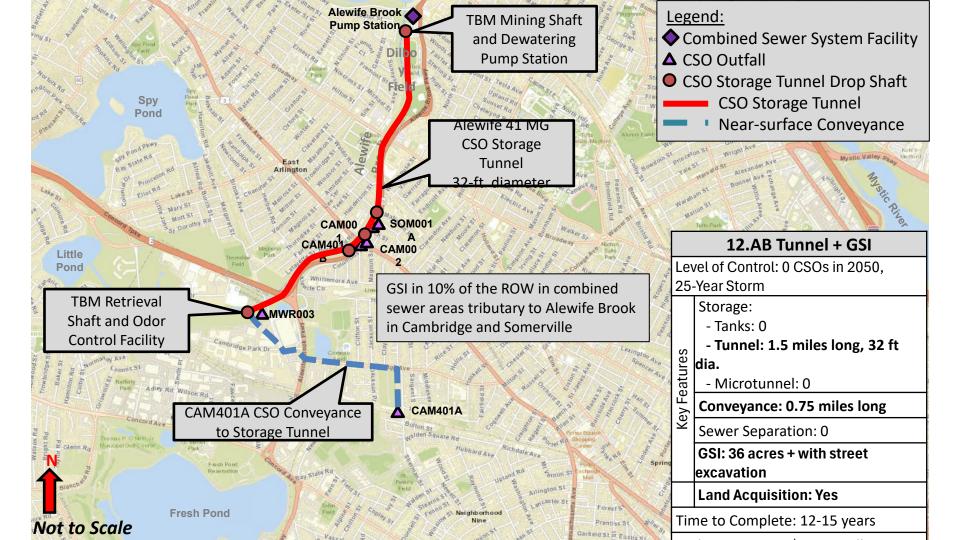








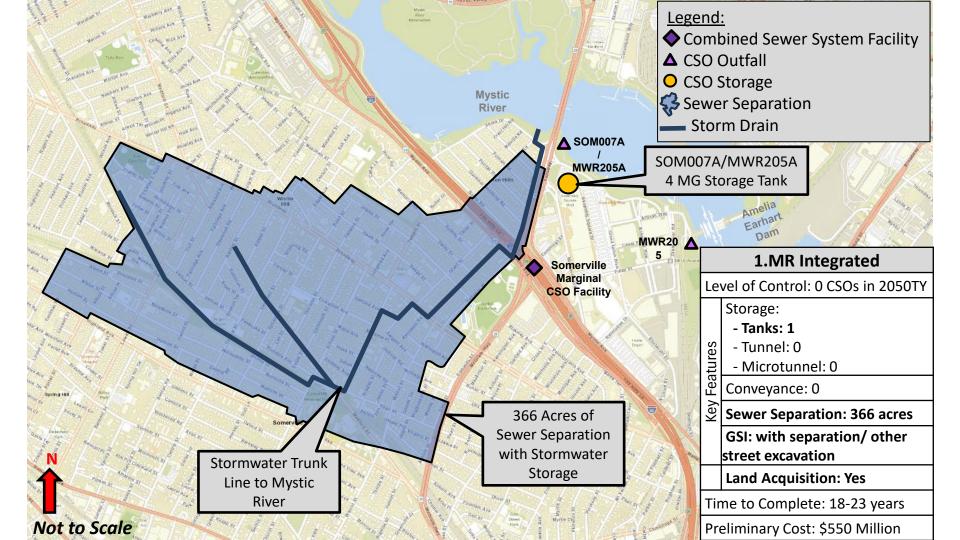


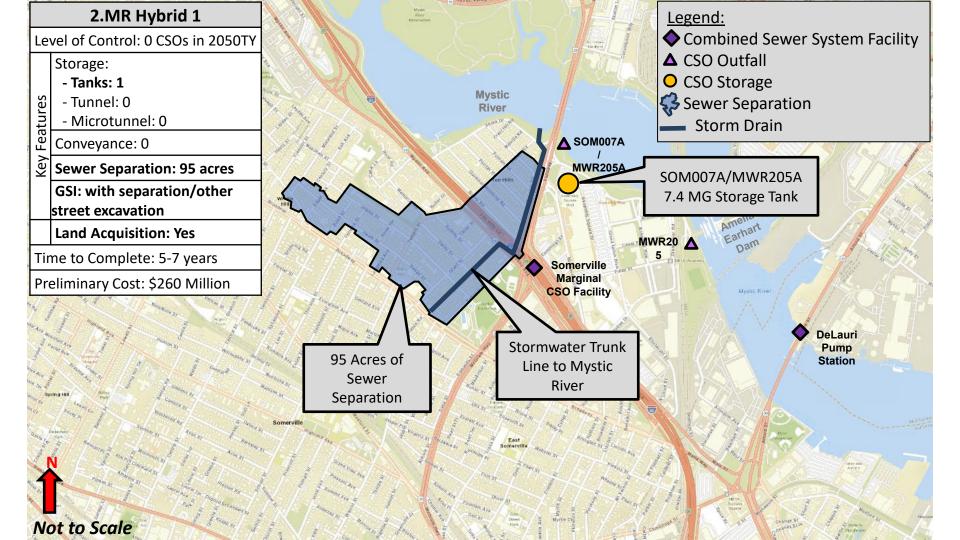


Mystic River Alternatives

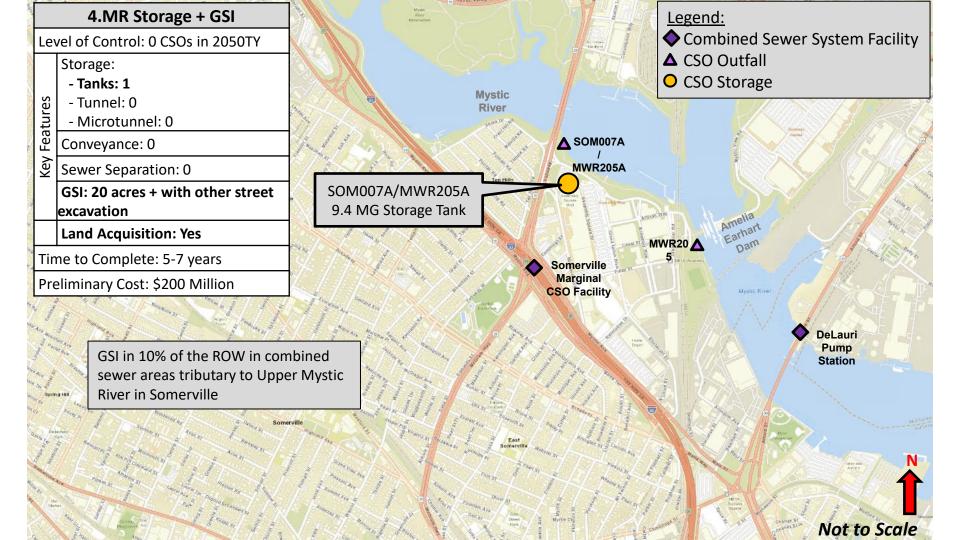
wystic River: Summary of Alternatives Under Consideration

| 0 CSOs in 2050 Typical Year | Limited CSOs in 2050 Typical Year | 0 CSOs in 2050 5-year Storm | 0 CSOs in 2050 25-year Storm |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Mid-Tide |
| 1.MR Integrated 1 tank (4 MG) + 366 acres of sewer separation | 6a.MR Hybrid 1 1 tank (2.7 MG) + 95 acres of sewer separation | 7.MR Storage 1 tank (10.5 MG) | 10.MR Storage 1 tank (16.7 MG) |
| 2.MR Hybrid 1 1 tank (7.4 MG) + 95 acres of sewer separation | 6b.MR Hybrid 2 1 tank (5 MG) | 8.MR Storage + GSI 1 tank (9.4 MG) + GSI to capture and treat 1 inch from 20 acres of impervious area | 11.MR Storage + GSI 1 tank (15 MG) + GSI to capture and treat 1 inch from 20 acres of impervious area |
| 3.MR Storage 1 tank (10.5 MG) | 6c.MR Hybrid 3 95 acres of sewer separation | 9.MR Hybrid 1 1 tank (7.4 MG) +95 acres of sewer separation | 12.MR Hybrid 1 1 tank (14.2 MG) + 95 acres of sewer separation |
| 4.MR Storage + GSI 1 tank (9.4 MG) + GSI to capture and treat 1 inch from 20 acres of impervious area | | | |
| 5.MR Sewer Separation 690 acres of sewer separation | | | 87 |











Key Features

5.MR Sewer Separation

Level of Control: 0 CSOs in 2050TY

Storage:

- Tanks: 0 - Tunnel: 0

- Microtunnel: 0

Conveyance: 0

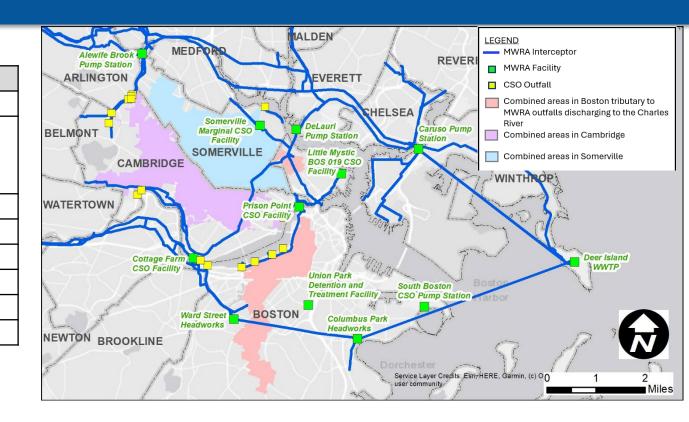
Sewer Separation: 690 acres

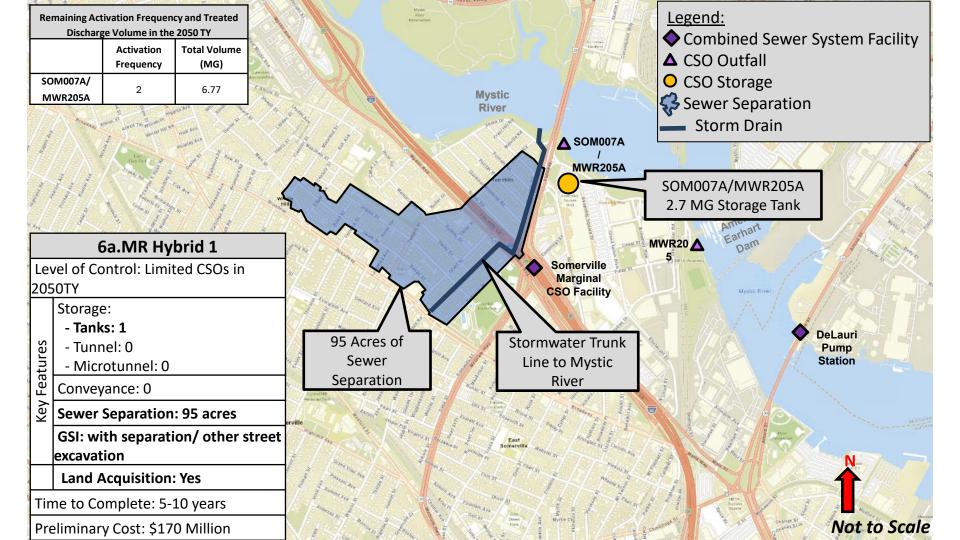
GSI: with separation

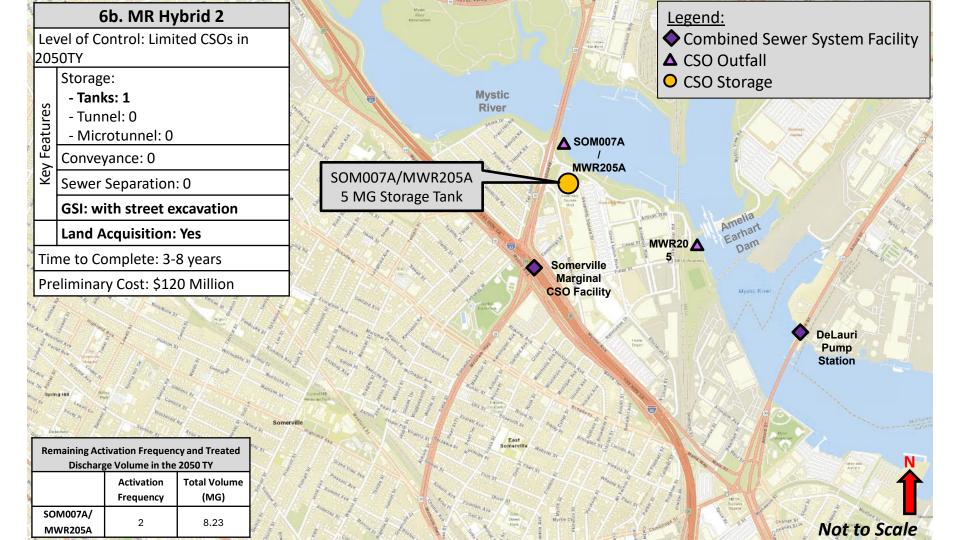
Land Acquisition: Yes

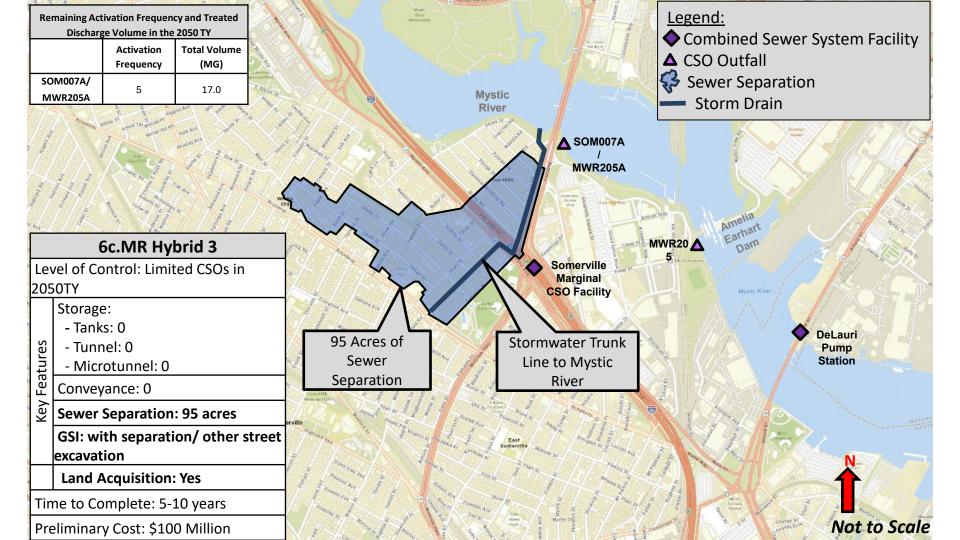
Time to Complete: 50+ years

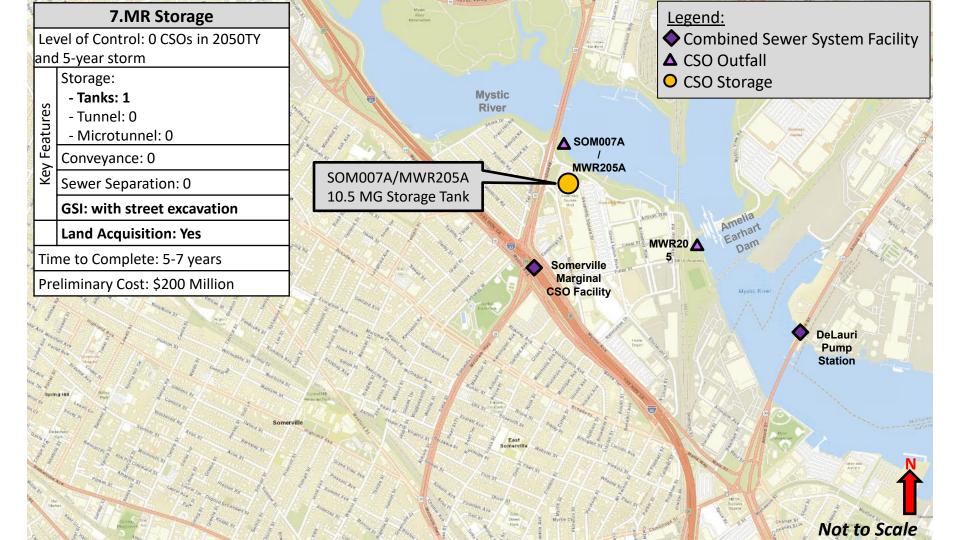
Preliminary Cost: \$640 Million

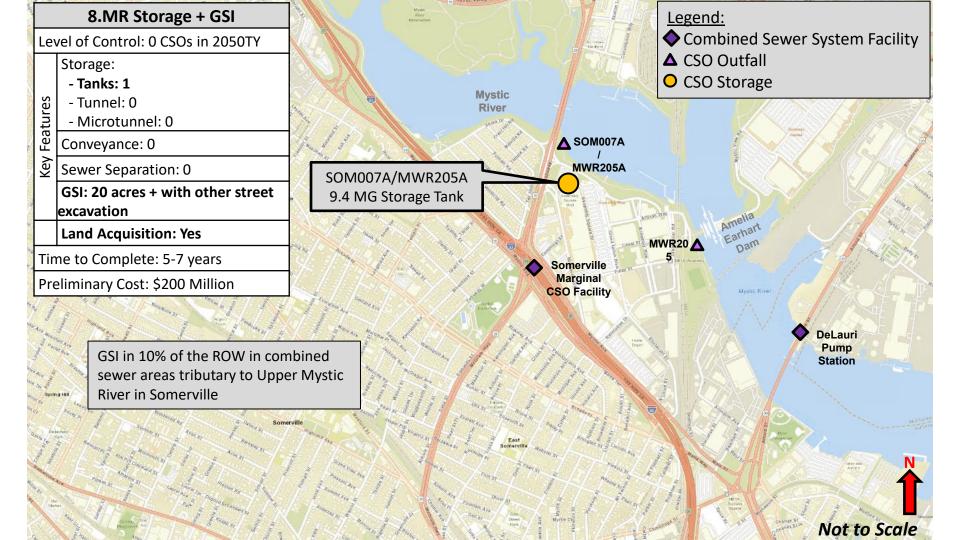


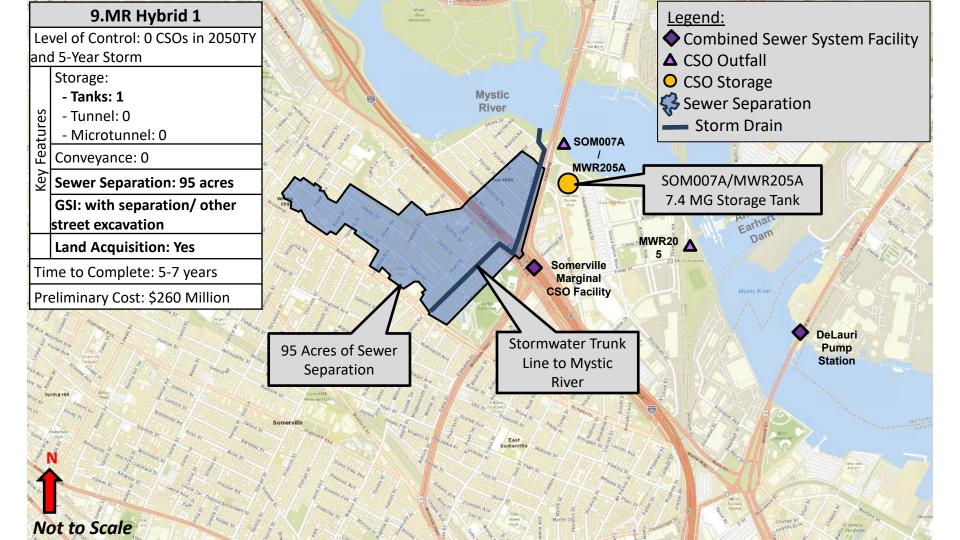


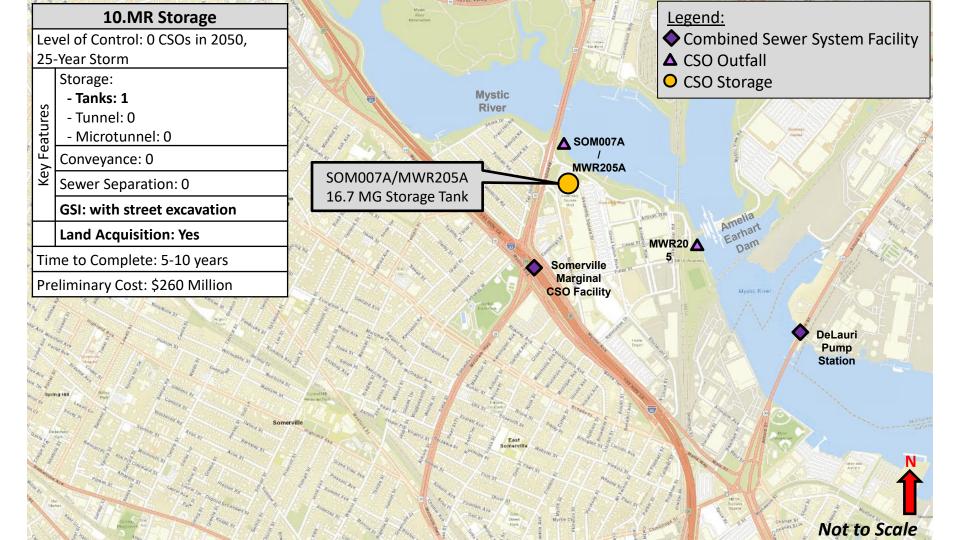


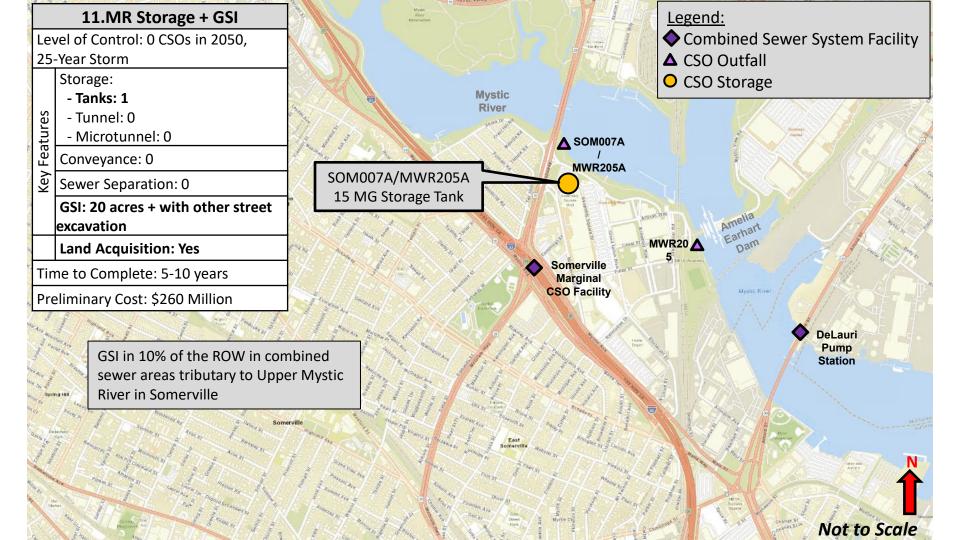


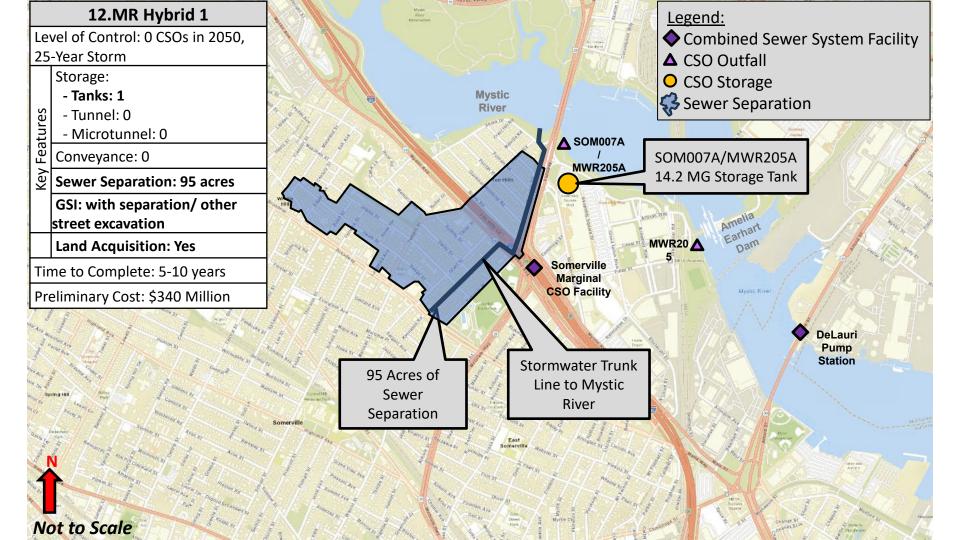












Charles River Alternatives

Pharles River: Summary of Alternatives Under Consideration

| 0 CSOs in 2050 Typical Year | Limited CSOs in 2050 Typical Year | 0 CSOs in 2050 5- year Storm | 0 CSOs in 2050 25-year Storm |
|--|---|---|--|
| 1.CR Integrated 2 tanks (3.1 MG) + 2-mile-long deep tunnel (17 ft diameter) + 2 storage conduits | 8.CR Hybrid 1 1 tank (2.5 MG) + 268 acres of sewer separation | 10.CR Tunnel 4.5-mile-long deep tunnel (24 ft | 12.CR Tunnel 4.5-mile-long deep tunnel (32 ft diameter)+ 1-mile-long |
| 2.CR Hybrid 1 | + 1 storage conduit | diameter) +1-mile- long Microtunnel | Microtunnel + 1 storage conduit |

nel deep tunnel (32 ft -mile-long 1 storage conduit

| 1.CR Integrated 2 tanks (3.1 MG) + 2-mile-long deep tunnel (17 ft diameter) + 2 storage conduits | 8.CR Hybrid 1 1 tank (2.5 MG) + 268 acres of sewer separation | 10.CR Tunnel 4.5-mile-long deep tunnel (24 ft | 4.5 dia |
|--|---|---|-----------------|
| 2.CR Hybrid 1 1 tank (2.5 MG) + 80 acres of sewer separation +2-mile-long deep tunnel (17 ft diameter) | + 1 storage conduit | diameter) +1-mile- long Microtunnel | Mi |
| 3.CR Hybrid 2 2 tanks (12.7 MG) + 284 acres of sewer separation +0.75 mile-long Microtunnel + + 2 storage conduits | | | |
| 4.CR Hybrid 3 2 tanks (12.6 MG) + 446 acres of sewer separation + 2 storage conduits | 9.CR Hybrid 2 1 tank (2.5 MG) + 80 acres of sewer separation | 11.CR Tunnel + GSI GSI to capture and | 13 GS fro |

3.CR Tunnel + GSI SI to capture and treat 1 inch rom 90 acres of impervious area +4.5-mile-long deep tunnel (same tunnel as 12. CR)+ 1-mile-long Microtunnel + 1 storage conduit 103

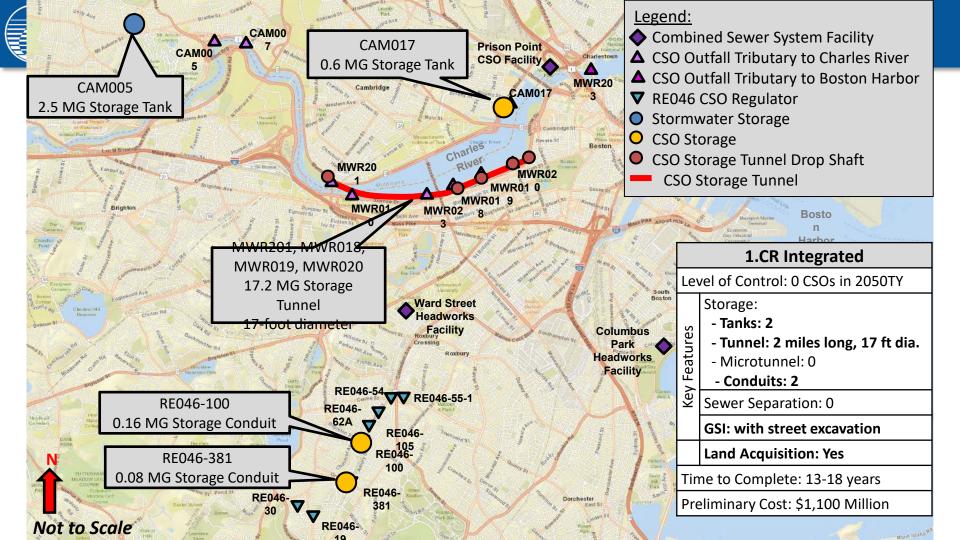
CC 5.CR Tunnel 4.5-mile-deep tunnel (12 ft diameter) + 2 storage conduits 6. CR Tunnel + GSI GSI to capture and treat 1 inch from 90 acres of impervious area + 4.5-mile-long deep tunnel (same tunnel as 5.CR) + 2 storage

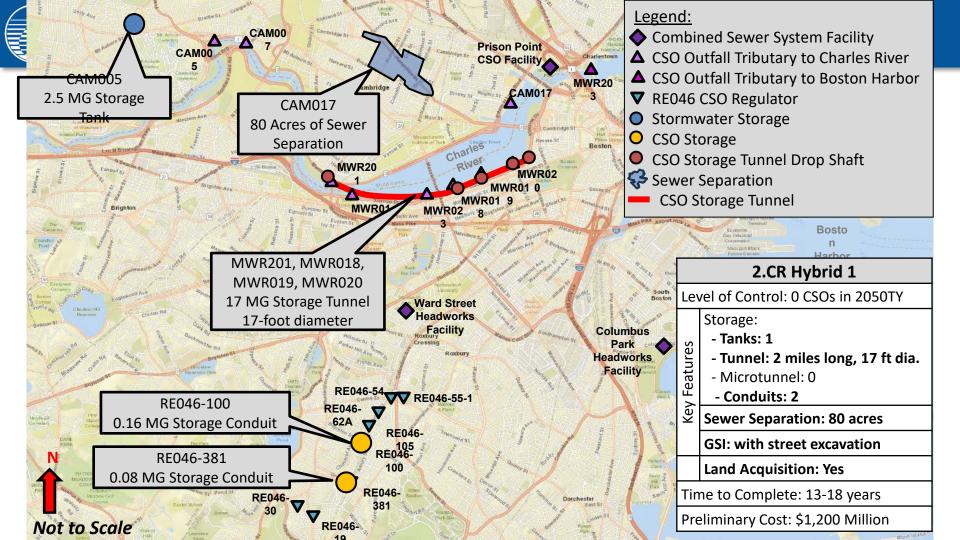
conduits

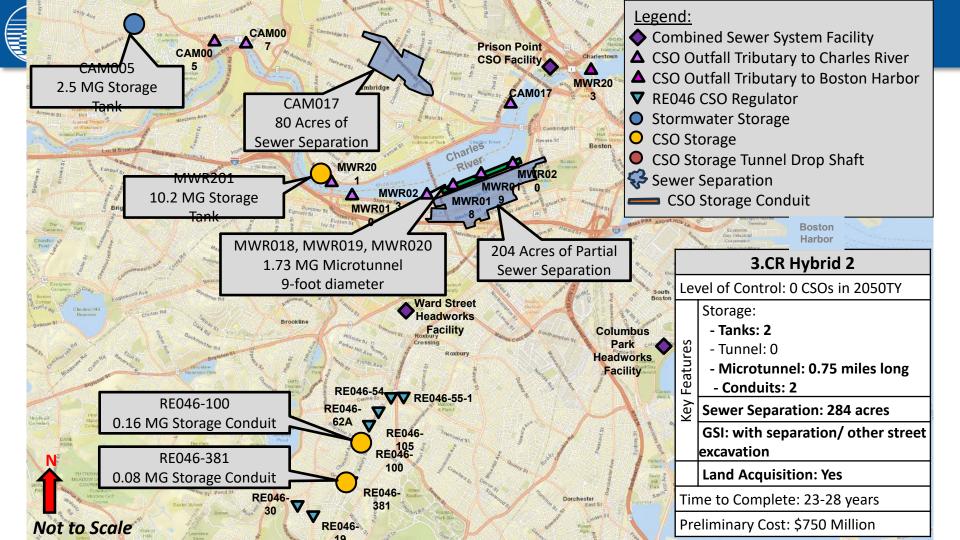
+ 0.75 mile-long Microtunnel + storage conduit

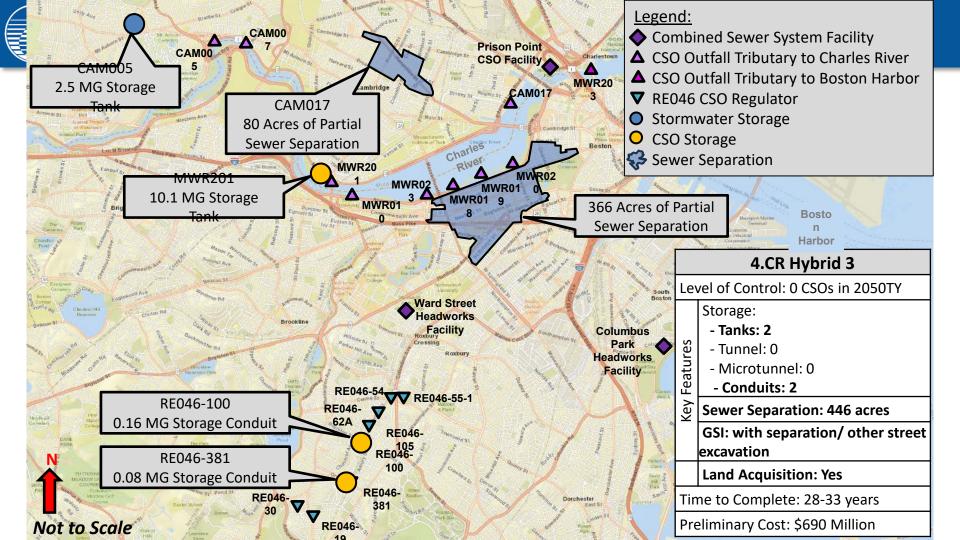
CR)

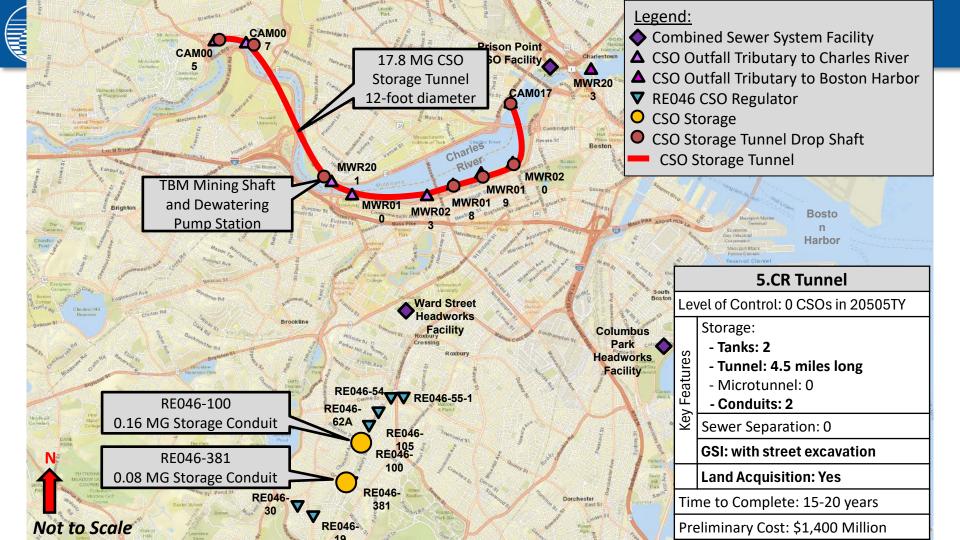
treat 1 inch from 90 acres of impervious area + 4.5-mile-long deep tunnel + 1-milelong Microtunnel (same tunnel as 10.

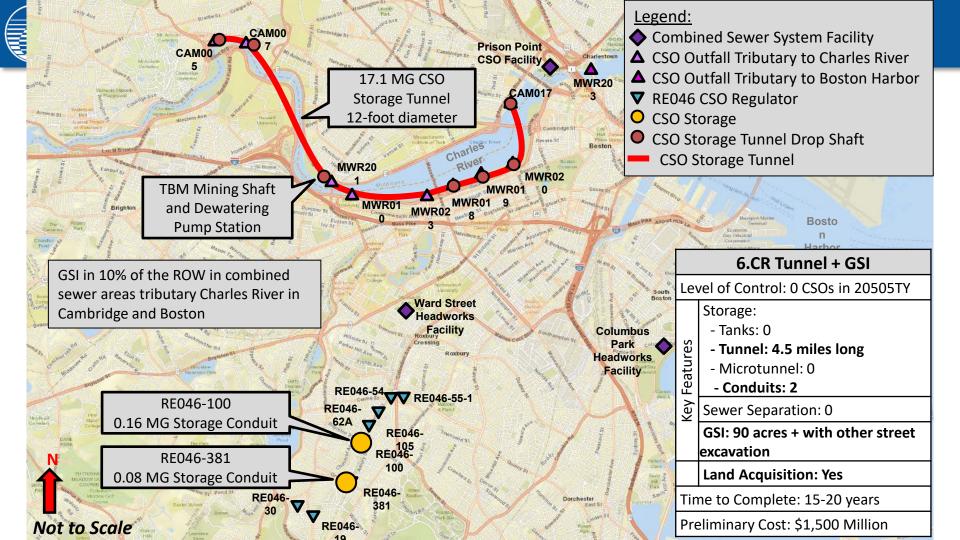












| 7.CR Sewer Separation | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| Level of Control: 0 CSOs in 2050TY | | |
| Key Features | Storage: - Tanks: 0 - Tunnel: 0 - Microtunnel: 0 Conveyance: 0 | |
| (ey F | Sewer Separation: 4,400 acres | |
| GSI: with separation | | |
| | Land Acquisition: Yes | |
| Tin | Time to Complete: 50+ years | |

Preliminary Cost: \$4,500 Million

