



Ad Hoc Stormwater Utility and Flood Mitigation Advisory Group

October 7, 2021 Meeting

Electronic Meeting Notice

AGENDA ITEM #1

Electronic Meeting Notice

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic emergency, this meeting is being held electronically pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2- 3708.2(A)(3), the Continuity of Government ordinance adopted by the City Council on June 20, 2020 or Section 4-0.01(g) in HB29 and HB30, enacted by the 2020 Virginia General Assembly (Virginia Acts of Assembly Ch. 1283 and 1289), to undertake essential business. All of the members of the Advisory Group and staff are participating from remote locations through Zoom.

Note: this meeting is being recorded.

Minutes of the August 12, 2021 Meeting

AGENDA ITEM #2

Secretary Role: Nominations or Volunteers

AGENDA ITEM #3

Advisory Group Meeting Schedule and Communications

AGENDA ITEM #4

Ten-Year Stormwater Utility Plan

FY2022-2031 Operating and Capital Improvement Program

AGENDA ITEM #5

Stormwater Utility Fee Background

Dedicated funding source for stormwater management activities, first billed in 2018

1/2 billed in *May*, 1/2 in *October* as part of real estate tax bill

Based on amount of property's impervious area

Approximately 60,000 billing units

Stormwater Utility Timeline

2009

- Staff recommended SWU to address flooding with Council voting to dedicate 1/2 cent real estate tax

2013

- State and federal Chesapeake Bay cleanup mandates requiring costly stormwater infrastructure improvements
- Increasing costs exceed revenues from 1/2 cent real estate tax, demanding contributions from the City's General Fund

2017

- SWU Fee approved as dedicated funding to more equitably distribute costs of Bay cleanup mandates

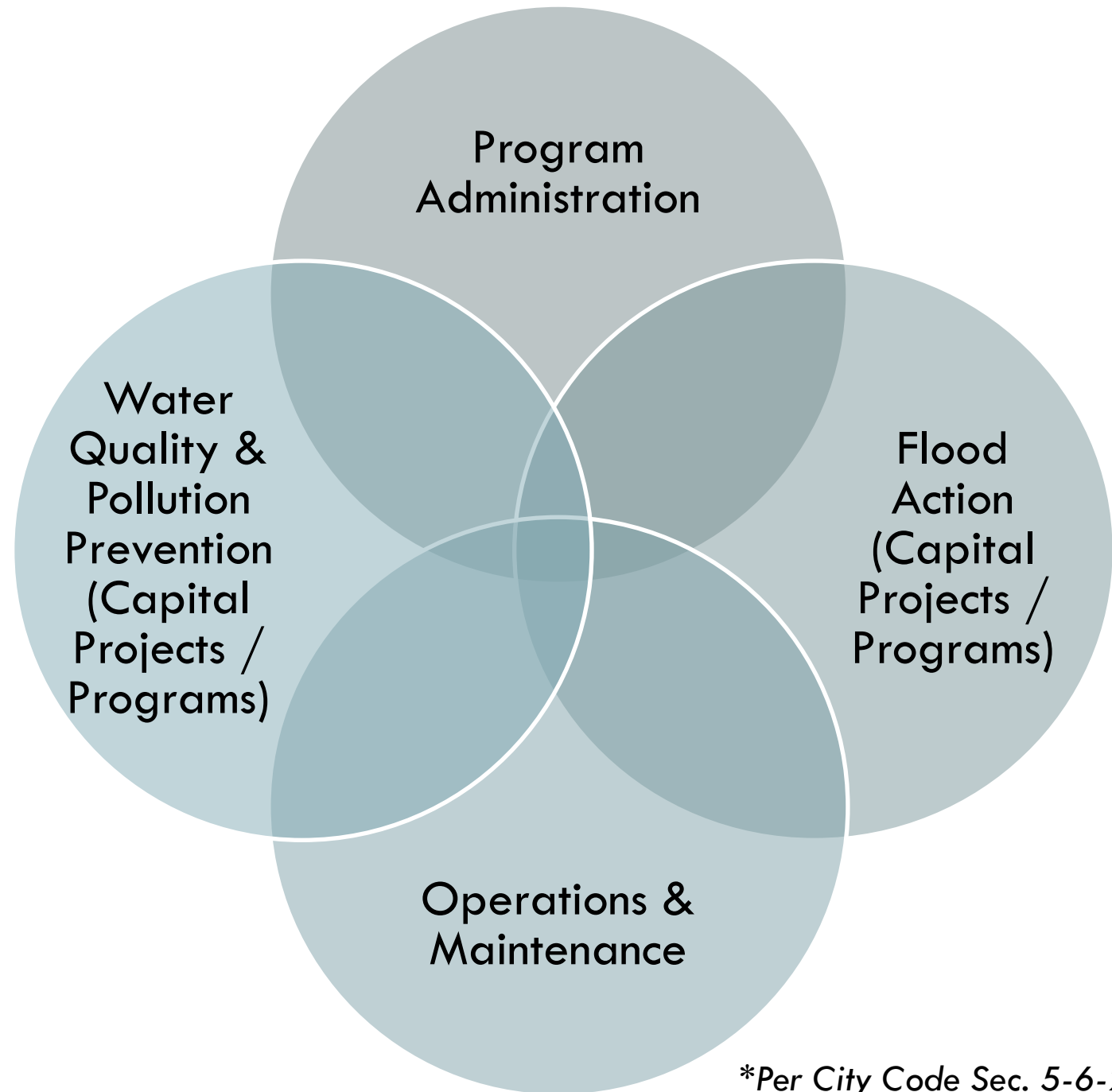
2018

- First SWU fees billed to property owners in May

2021

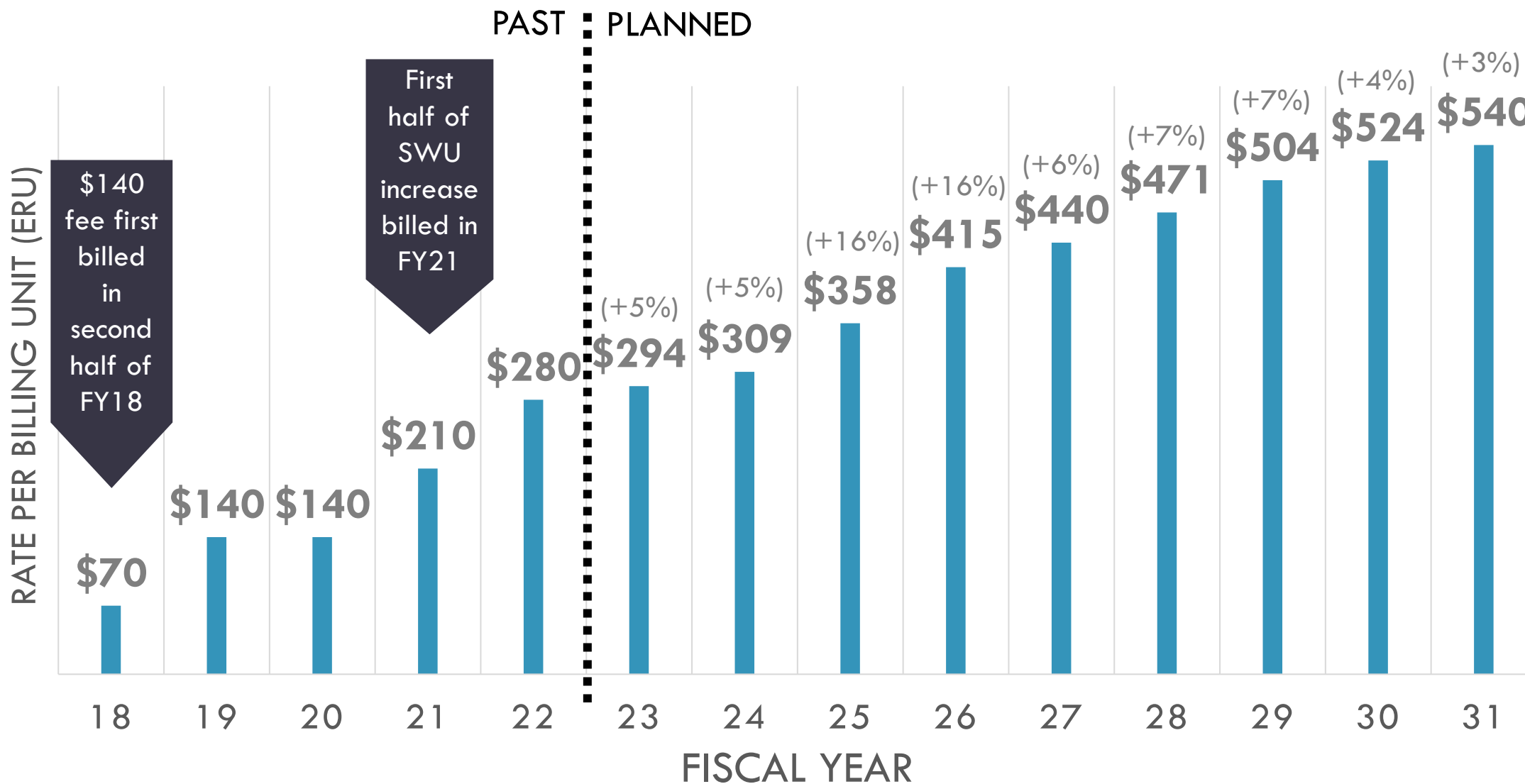
- First SWU rate increase approved since fee adoption

Stormwater Program Areas Funded by the Stormwater Utility*

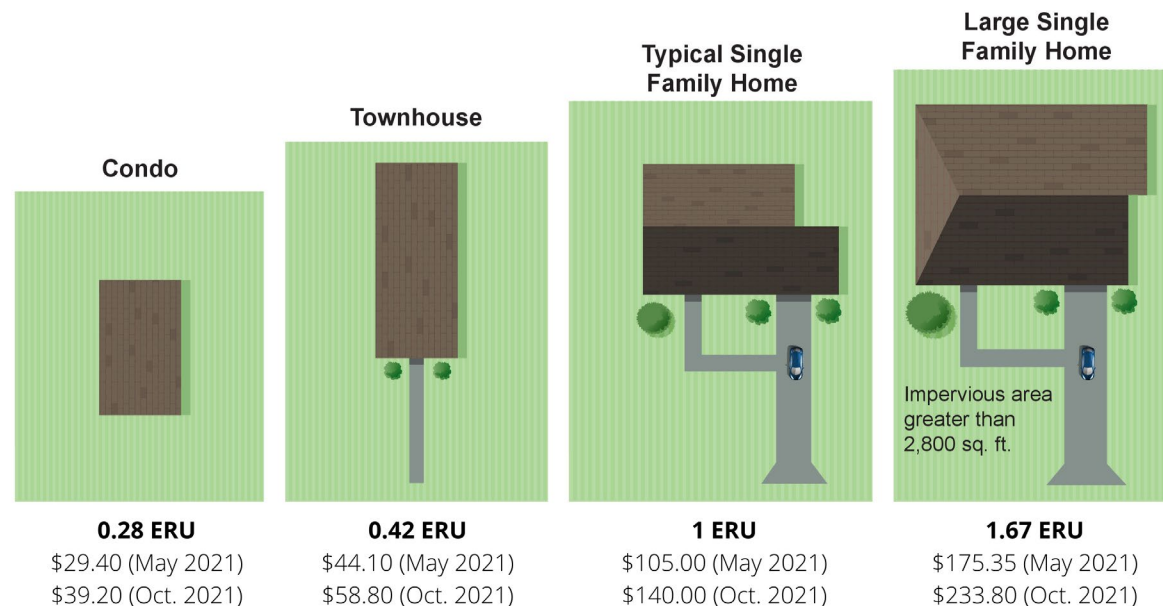


*Per City Code Sec. 5-6-236

SWU Budget Over Time



Impacts of SWU Fee Rate Increase in FY2022



| | Residential Properties | Oct 2020 Fee | Fee Increase (Oct 2021) | Proposed FY23 (5% Inc.) |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Residential | Typical Single-Family | \$140 | \$280 | \$294 |
| | Large Single-Family | \$234 | \$468 | \$491 |
| | Townhome | \$59 | \$118 | \$123 |
| | Condominium | \$39 | \$78 | \$82 |
| Non-Residential* | Apartment Building | \$7,000 to \$65,000 | \$14,000 to \$131,000 | \$14,700 to \$137,550 |
| | Retail Building | \$3,000 to \$6,000 | \$6,000 to \$12,000 | \$6,300 to \$12,600 |
| | Church | \$1,300 to \$15,000 | \$2,600 to \$30,000 | \$2,730 to \$31,500 |
| | Non-Profit Organization | \$300 to \$12,000 | \$600 to \$24,000 | \$630 to \$25,200 |

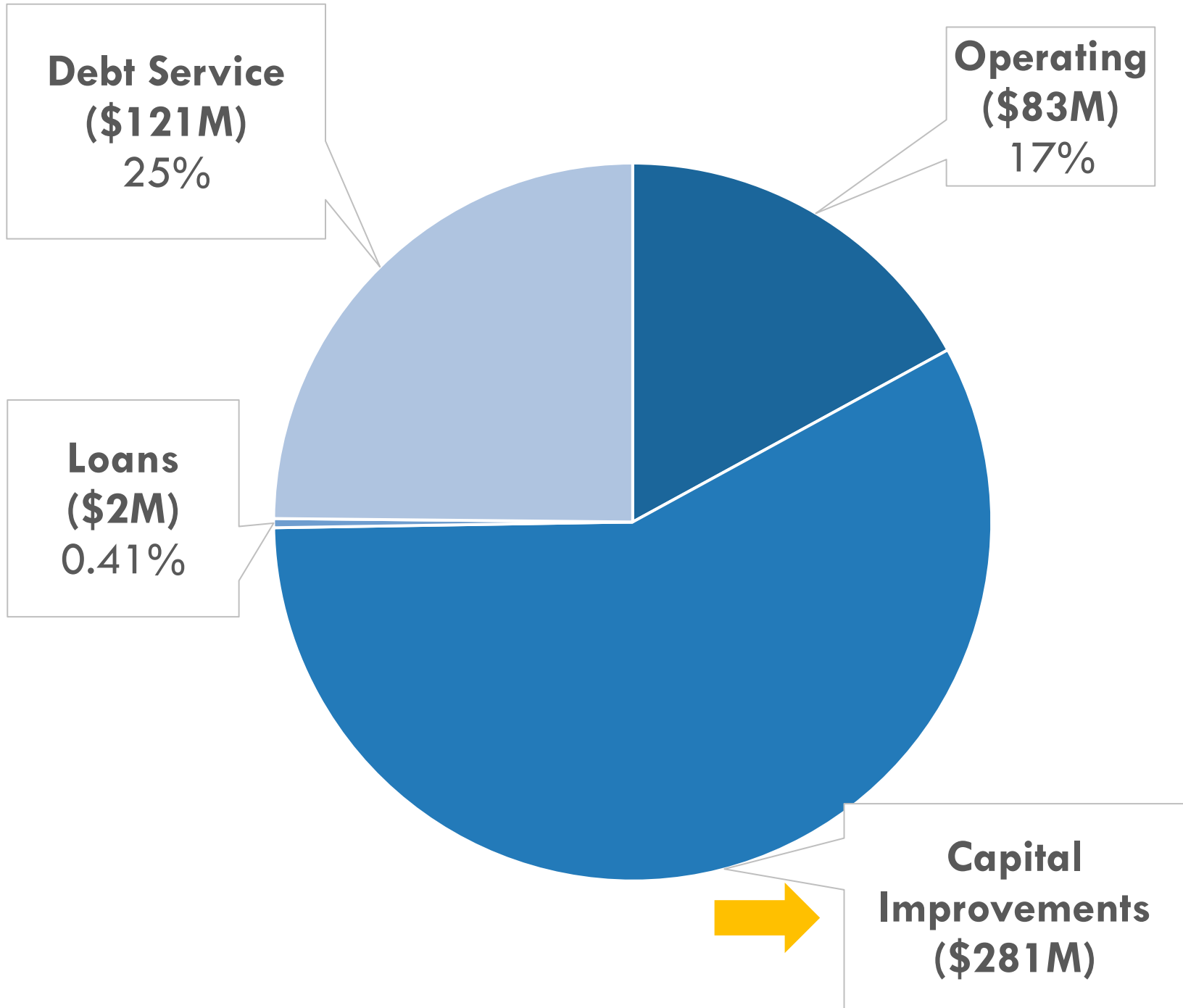
*Fee is "variable" and calculated by impervious area

Stormwater Program Breakdown FY22-31

Total SWU 10-Year: \$487 million

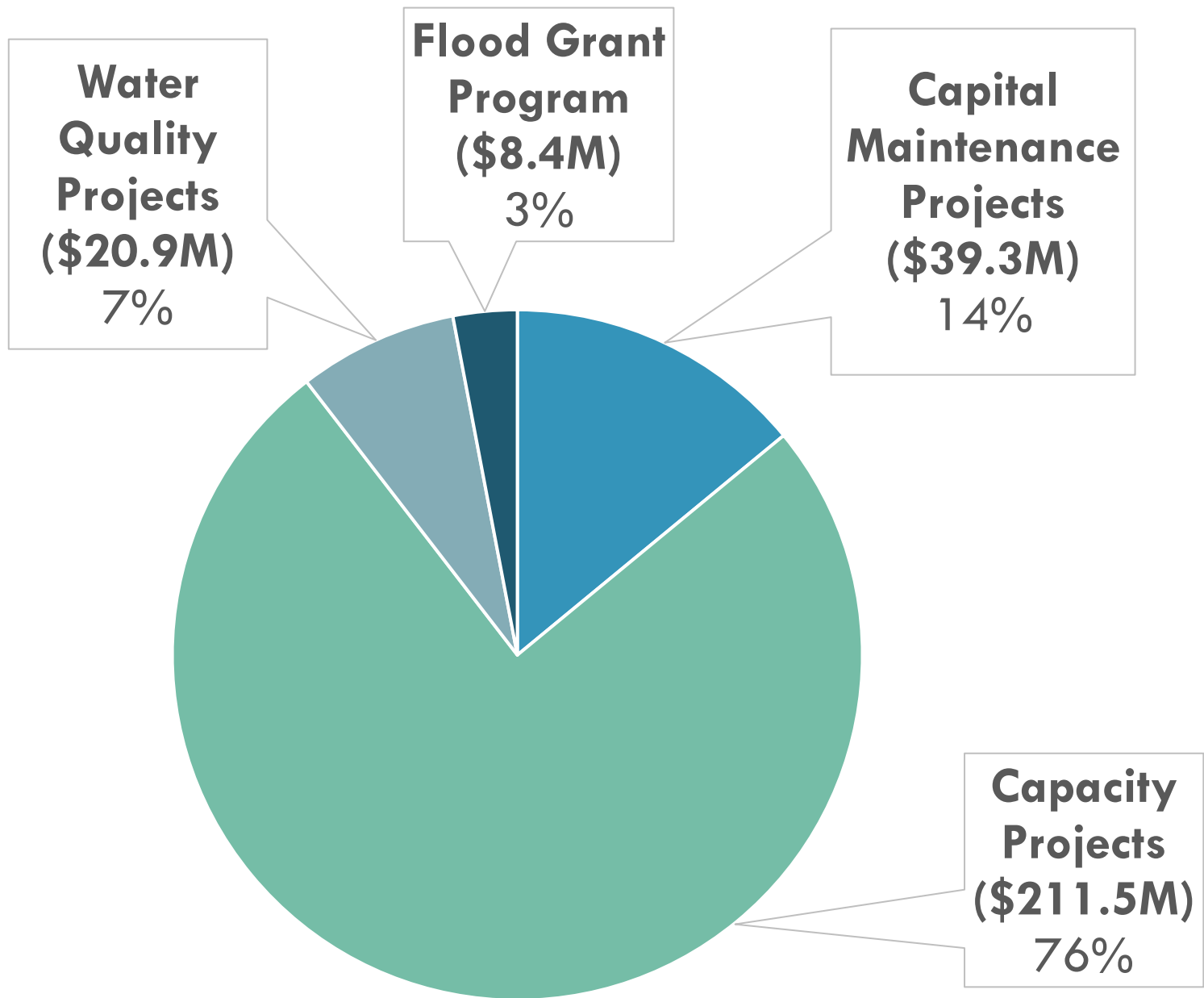
Operating costs include personnel, BMP operation, outfall maintenance, operating impacts from capital improvements, and indirect costs.

Capital projects include capital maintenance activities, large capacity improvements, spot improvements, MS4 permit and compliance, water quality improvements, the floodproofing grant program, and capital project management support.



Capital Improvements Funding Breakdown FY 22-31

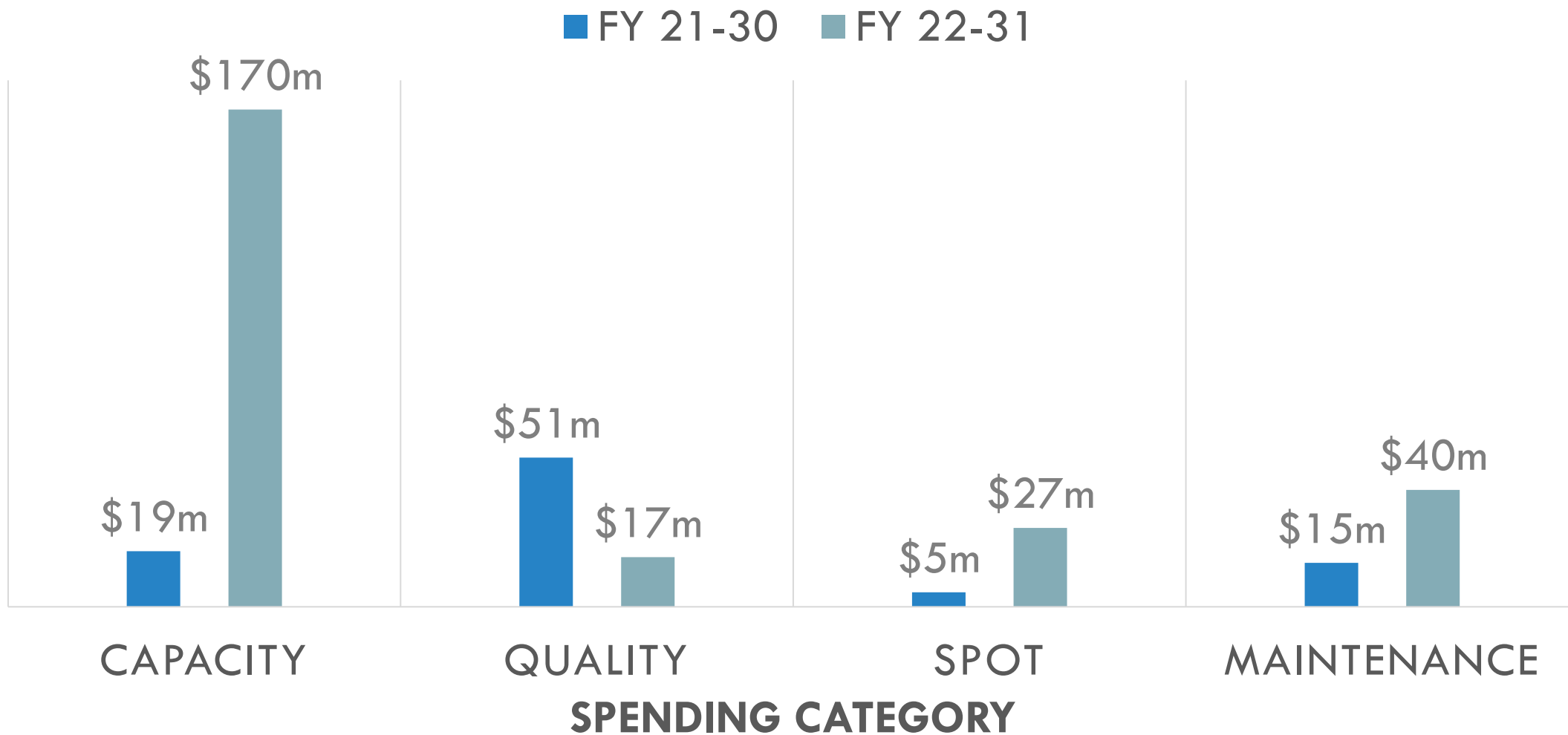
Total 10-Year CIP:
\$281 million





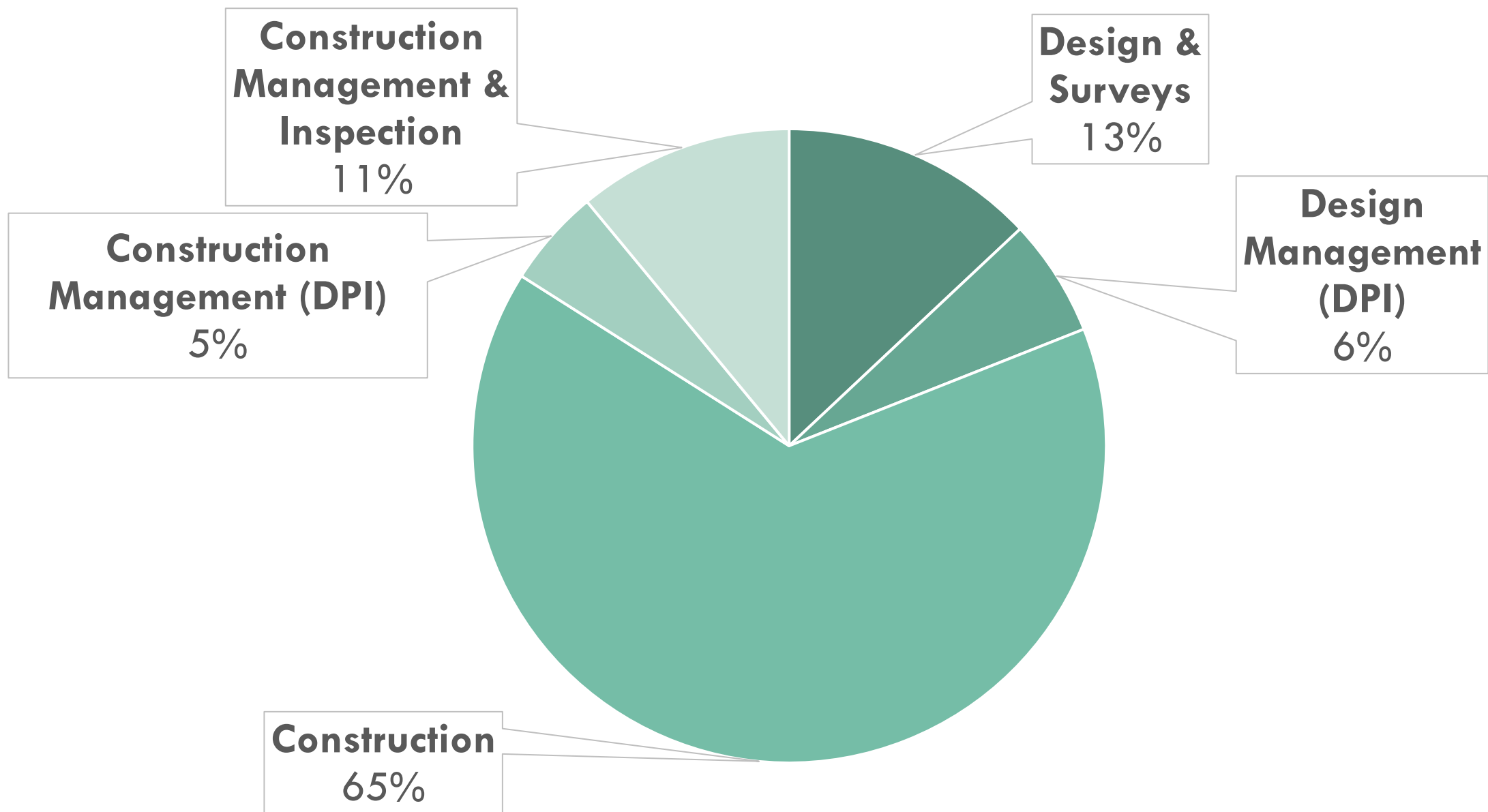
FY 22-31 Reprioritized Stormwater Management Plan

Change in Spending from FY 21-30 Plan, Plus Added Resources



Note: Current Fee generates \$17M/year.

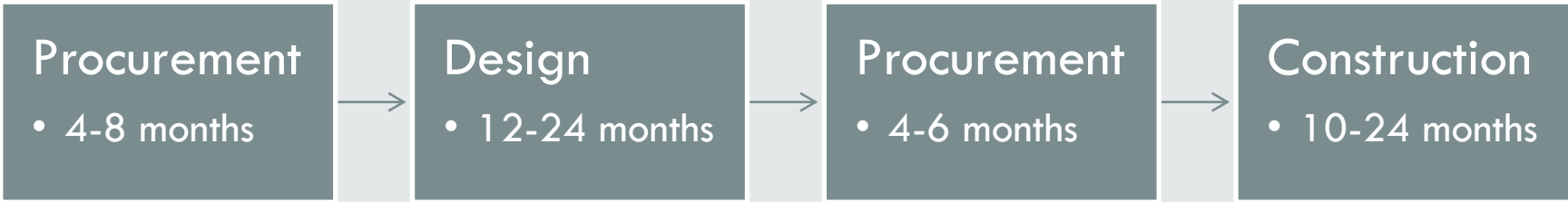
Capital Project Component Costs



Anticipated Project Timelines*



Large Capacity Project: 3-5 years



Spot Improvement Project: 8-20 months

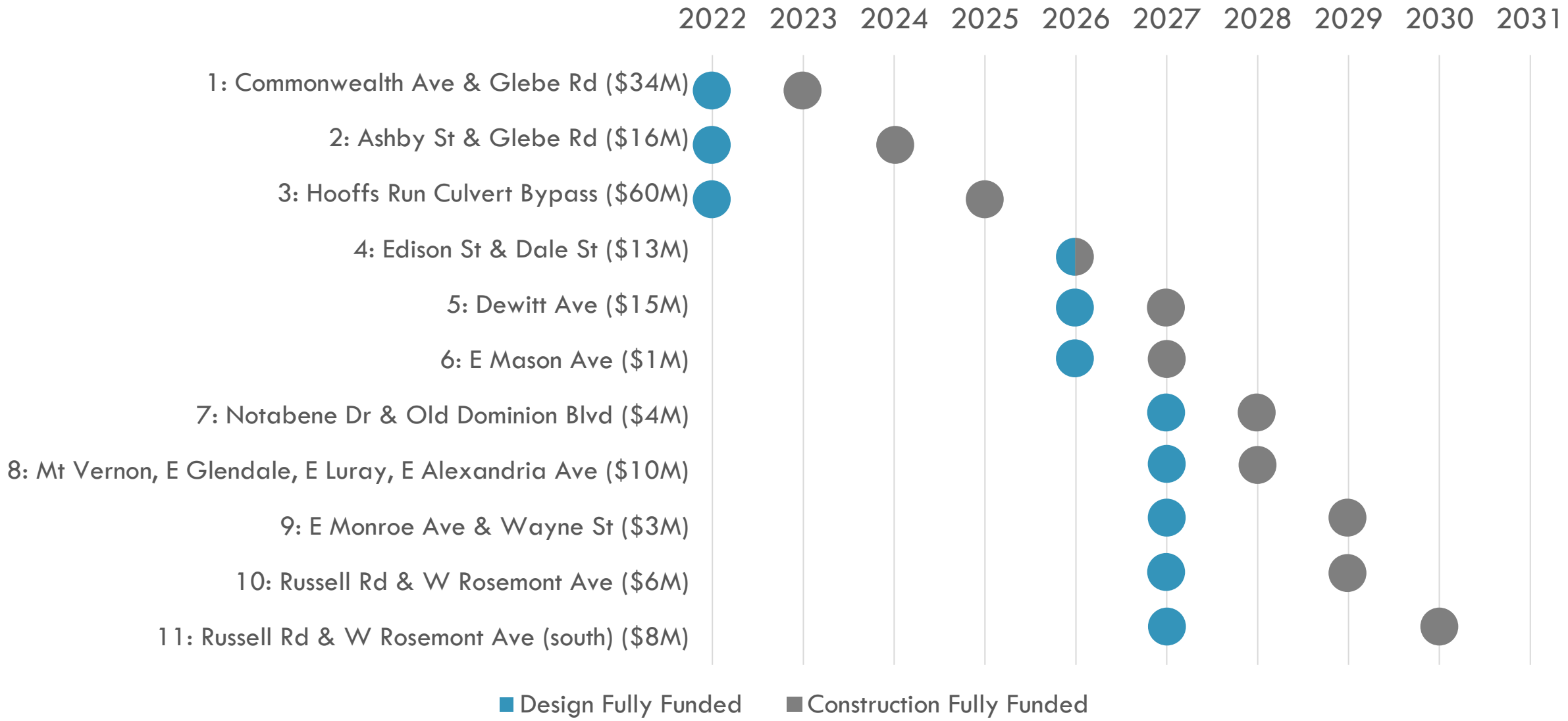


*Based on typical CIP project; once funding is available



Funding Timeline for FY 2022 – FY 2031 Capacity Projects

(For Planning & Budgeting Purposes, by Fiscal Year)



■ Design Fully Funded ■ Construction Fully Funded

Capacity Project Timelines*

| Capacity Projects | FY22 | | | | FY23 | | | | FY24 | | | | FY25 | | | | FY26 | | | | FY27 | | | |
|-------------------------------|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|
| | Q 1 | Q 2 | Q 3 | Q 4 | Q 1 | Q 2 | Q 3 | Q 4 | Q 1 | Q 2 | Q 3 | Q 4 | Q 1 | Q 2 | Q 3 | Q 4 | Q 1 | Q 2 | Q 3 | Q 4 | Q 1 | Q 2 | Q 3 | Q 4 |
| Commonwealth Ave & E Glebe Rd | \$ | | | | \$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ashby St & E Glebe Rd | \$ | | | | | | | | \$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hooff's Run Culvert Bypass | \$ | | | | | | | | | | | | \$ | | | | | | | | | | | |

Design Procurement
 Design
 Construction Procurement
 Construction

\$ - Design Funding Available

\$\$ - Construction Funding Available

*These are preliminary schedules and subject to change.

Next Steps

Consider existing budget

Submit *Memo to City Manager on FY 2023-32 Budget Priorities* in preparation for FY23 budget development

Grant Program and Permitting

AGENDA ITEM #6

Action Item: Memo to City Manager on FY2023 Budget Priorities

AGENDA ITEM #7

Potential Budget Priorities

Recommend the City Manager implement the 5% Stormwater Utility fee increase and the level of funding for FY 2023 outlined in the Stormwater Management Utility Ten-Year Plan for FY 2022 – FY 2031, adopted by City Council on May 5, 2021, in order to:

- ✓ Continue to prioritize stormwater capacity and flood mitigation projects, including ensuring the sponsoring and managing departments are fully staffed and funded to manage and implement a growing number of projects.
- ✓ Continue to implement and evaluate the level of funding for the Flood Mitigation Grant pilot program to ensure continued solvency.
- ✓ Direct staff to continue to evaluate, and apply for, relevant state and federal grant funding for flood mitigation and resiliency projects.
- ✓ Continue to support annual increases in stormwater utility rates.
- ✓ Continue to evaluate ongoing maintenance requirements to ensure sufficient funding and resources are allocated to meet the demand of ongoing operations and maintenance. Focus on continuity and maintenance of system function and service.

Staff Updates

AGENDA ITEM #8

Large Capacity Projects

- Design for top 3 projects funded in FY 222: \$19.9 million
- Construction estimated for FY23, FY24, and FY25, respectively: \$87.6 million
- New webpage to track project updates:
www.alexandriava.gov/124317

Design #1: E Glebe Rd and Commonwealth Ave, and #2: Ashby St and E Glebe Rd

- Combined projects to coordinate and reduce delivery times
- Design procurement work initiated
- Anticipated contract award: Spring 2022
- Anticipated design completion: Fall 2023

Design #3: Hooff's Run Culvert Bypass

- Design procurement work initiated
- Anticipated contract award: Spring 2022
- Anticipated design completion: Fall 2023

Neighborhood Spot Improvements

- Support the increased functionality of the storm sewer system
- Avg. of 8-11 projects funded annually
- Additional spot projects being identified
- Learn more about these projects at alexandriava.gov/122680

Mt Vernon Ave Cul-de-sac Inlets and Drainage

- Status: 60% design; construction anticipated to be complete Spring 2023

Hume Ave Bypass:

- Status: Design will begin Fall 2021; construction is anticipated to be complete early 2023

Hume Ave Inlets and Check Valve

- Status: Design to begin Fall 2021; construction anticipated to be complete Summer 2022

E Mason Ave Inlets

- Status: Identified; design procurement underway

E Mason/E Alexandria Flap Gates and Check Valves

- Status: Purchase Order issued to vendor; materials on backorder

S Jordan St

- Status: Project phases being identified

Communications

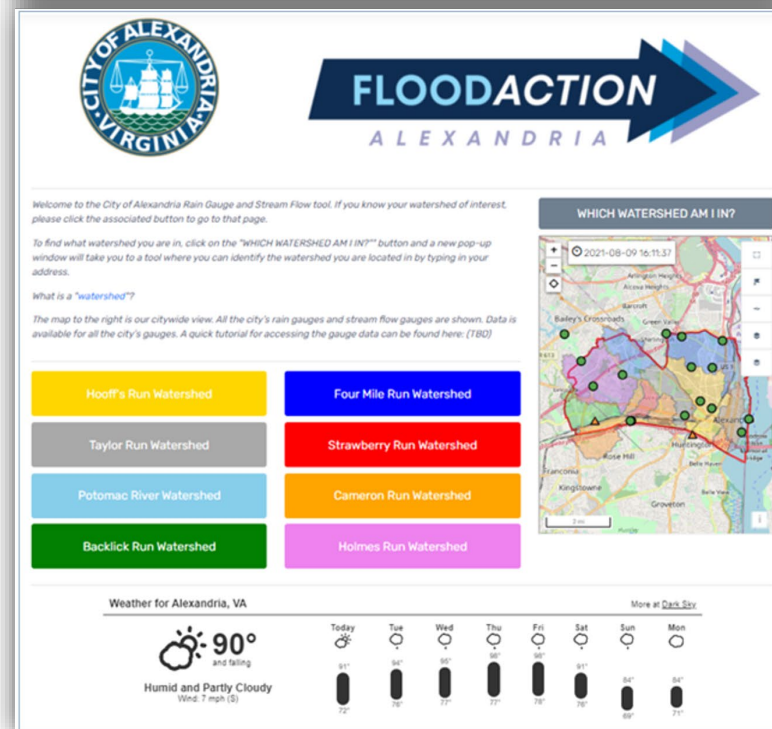
- Flood Action Alexandria eNewsletter #3 released October 1
- Next eNewsletter planned for November
- Social media outreach on various programs ongoing
- Three new webpages created to provide more information on:
 - Storm Sewer Capacity Projects
 - Storm Events*
 - Stormwater Funding*



KEY UPDATES

New Public Rain Gauge Portal Launches

The City launched a new, [public-facing portal](#) that provides real-time data of the City's newly expanded network by adding six new rain gauges and two new streamflow gauges. The data is presented in dashboards specific to the eight major watersheds located within the City, as shown in the picture below:



*Will be published on Flood Action Alexandria landing page this month.

Flood Mitigation Pilot Grant Program

- Launched August 30
- >100 grant applications as of 10/1
- Step-by-step user guides posted on the program webpage
- Comprehensive program manual is under development and will be posted online soon
- More information available at alexandriava.gov/121974



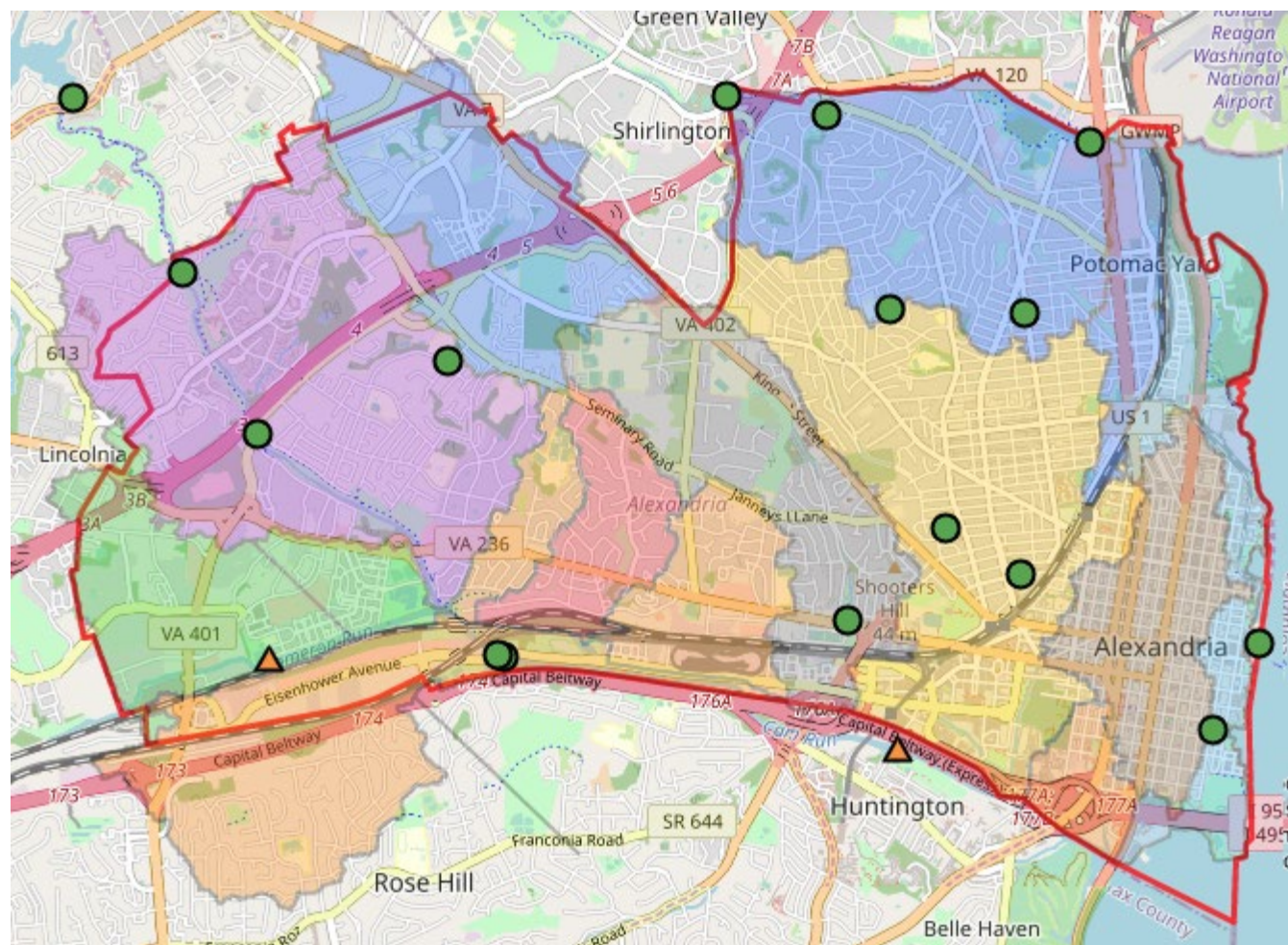
Data Collection & Early Warning

Continued testing of new flood watch portal

Data from recent storms was captured and is available for viewing

Webpage opened for public access on October 1

Staff continue to gather comments and suggestions for improving the public portal



Maintenance

Work completed in August:

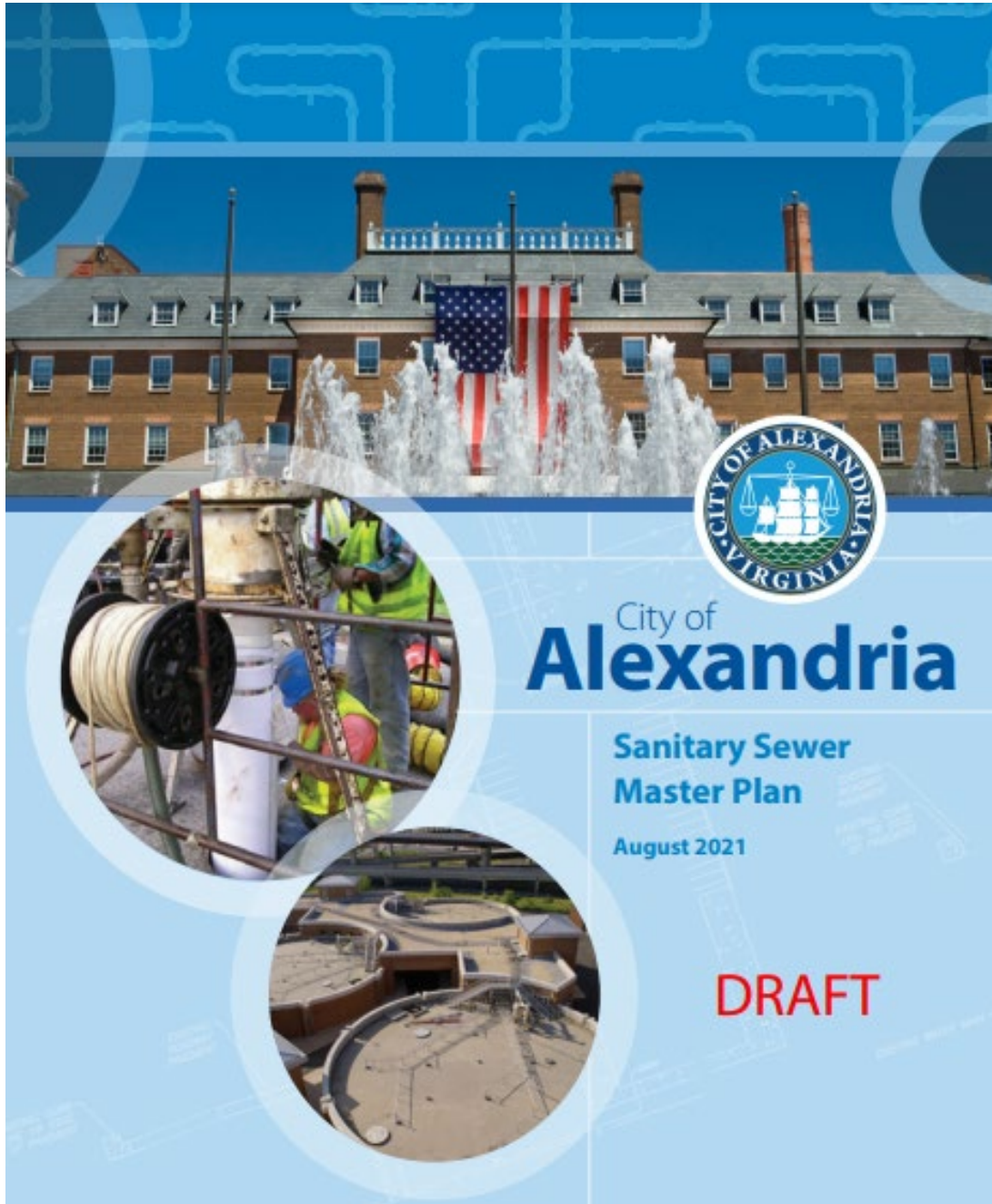
343 inlets inspected

318 inlets cleaned

2,335' of storm pipe
inspected and cleaned

15 days of flooding response





Sanitary Sewer

➤ Sanitary Sewer Asset Renewal Program

- 96,000 feet of City pipe and laterals inspected (82% complete)
- 523 manholes inspected (87% complete)
- Phase 1 inspections expected to be complete late 2021/early 2022

➤ Sanitary Sewer Master Plan

- Public meeting held September 30
- Presentation and consideration of approval at Planning Commission and City Council planned for November 2021
- Alexandriava.gov/sewers

➤ Other Initiatives

- Manhole Insert Replacement Project
- Sanitary Sewer Upsizing
- Combined Sewer Separation
- Combined Sewer Area Flooding Mitigation

Grants and Alternative Funding

In-Hand Funding

- **American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 & FY2022 Community Project Funding Program (Federal)**
 - Projects, timelines, and funding information available at www.alexandriava.gov/124325

Anticipated Funding

- **Virginia Dept. of Conservation & Recreation (DCR) Community Flood Preparedness Fund**
 - Quarterly solicitations
 - DCR approval of a “Resilience Plan” and/or plans: City’s approved September 2021 for 3 years
 - September 3 inaugural round: \$18M available
 - City awarded \$115,200: “Resilient Stormwater Capacity and Green Streets Project”
 - Near Commonwealth/E. Glebe/Ashby
 - \$17M solicitation second round closes November 5
 - Anticipated Jan/Feb following
- **FEMA’s Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Fund**
 - Focus on hazard mitigation projects, including flooding
 - Applications vetted through Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management (VDEM) who works directly with FEMA; applications due to VDEM November 10

FEMA Flood Map Update

- FEMA has published new flood risk maps for Alexandria. The City hosted virtual community meetings earlier this summer.
- Residents are encouraged to review the updated maps, as they reflect your flood risk and can impact flood insurance requirements and rates.
- **Appeals MUST be received by 5:00 p.m., October 20, 2021.** For more information about the appeal process, visit alexandriava.gov/FloodMap.
 - Submit questions or appeals to stormwater@alexandriava.gov.



Member Updates & Discussion

AGENDA ITEM #9

Public Comment Period

AGENDA ITEM #10

Adjourn

AGENDA ITEM #11