

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Clean streams.
Strong neighborhoods.

# **Agenda**

- Review of Collection System Model
- Use of the Modeling Results
- Changes in Map
- Common Improvements Needed for Both Plans
- Blueprint Plan
- Gray Plan (2015 WWMP)
- Prioritization Update
- Green Infrastructure Design Update





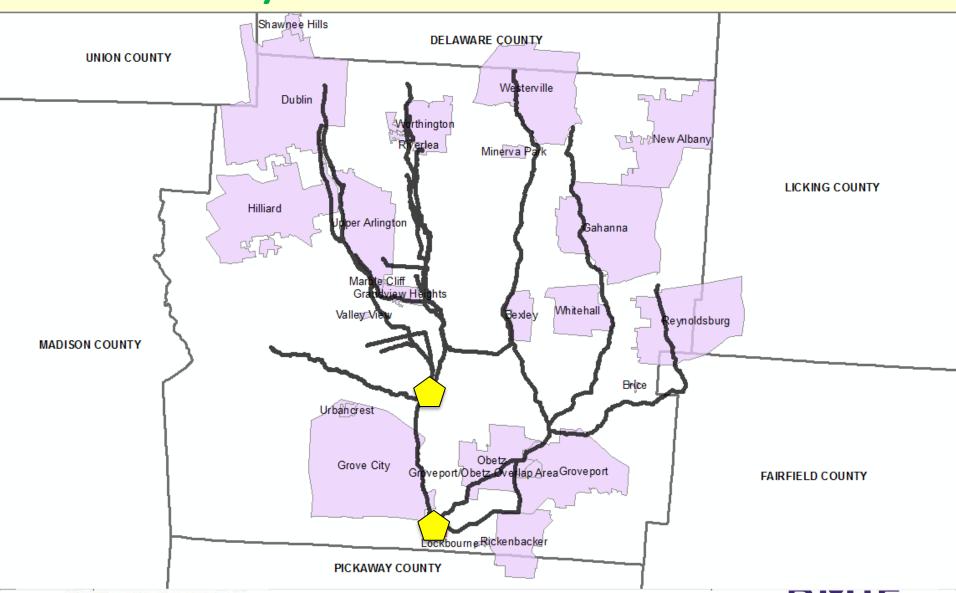
# **Benefits of Collection System Modeling**

- Identify deficiencies in the sewers
  - Overflows
  - Basement backups
  - Bypasses at the wastewater treatment plants
- Predict how future development will affect existing sewers
- Test proposed remedies without having to build them
- Can simulate more alternatives and is more accurate than hand calculations
- Accepted by EPA as way to measure future collection system performance





# Columbus' System

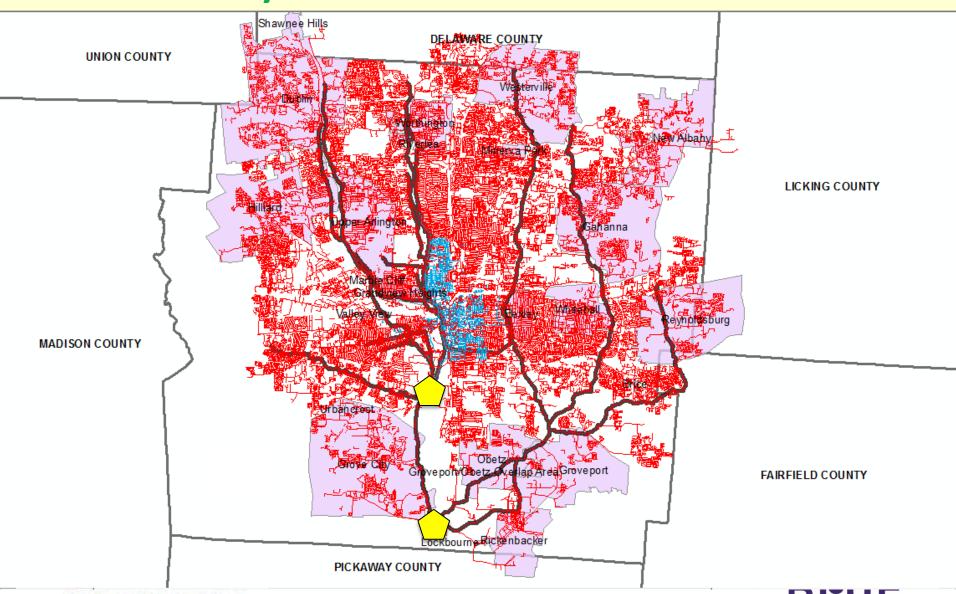


MICHAEL B. COLEMAN, MAYOR

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# Columbus' System



MICHAEL B. COLEMAN, MAYOR

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#### **How Model Was Used**

- Changed the map
  - Refined which areas have SSOs and significant basement back-ups
- Used to generate two plans: Blueprint and gray
- Both plans meet requirements of consent orders
  - Address SSOs and basement back-ups in City
    - Generally, expect none in 10 year period
  - Control CSOs
    - Different levels for different CSOs
    - Levels developed in original plan and approved by Ohio EPA





# **WIB Investigations**

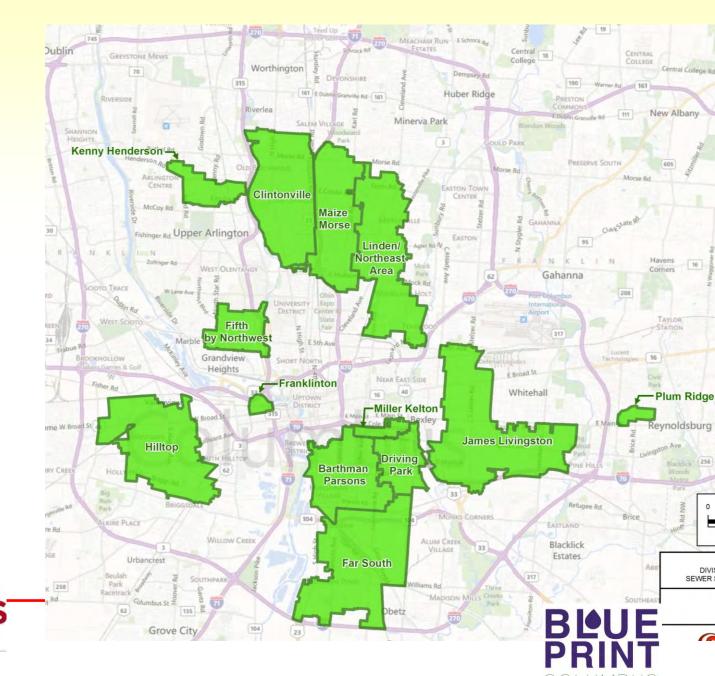
- Model assumes basements everywhere, 7 feet deep
- When potential WIBs are identified
  - Desktop search
  - Field surveys
- Verify presence and depth of basement





# Original Blueprint Areas

• 29,739 acres





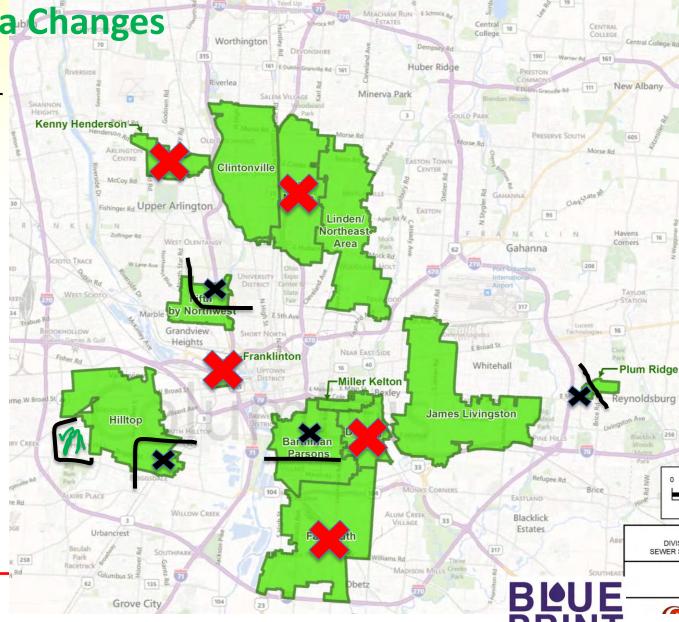
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**Blueprint Area Changes** CENTRAL College Worthington Huber Ridge **Areas Eliminated:** Minerva Park Kenny Henderson PRESERVE SOUTH Maize Morse Clintonville Far South Fishinger Rd Upper Arlington **Kenny Henderson** Northeast Area Corners Franklinton Fifth 317 by Northwest **Driving Park** Grandview Heights E Broad St. NEAR EAST SIDE Franklinton Whitehall Plum Ridge -Miller Kelton Reynoldsburg James Livingston Hilltop Barthman **Parsons** Refugee Rd. WILLOW CREEK ALUM CREEK Blacklick Estates Urbancrest THE CITY OF MADISON MILLS Creek 135 8 62 MICHAEL B. COLEMAN, MAYOR

Blueprint Area Changes

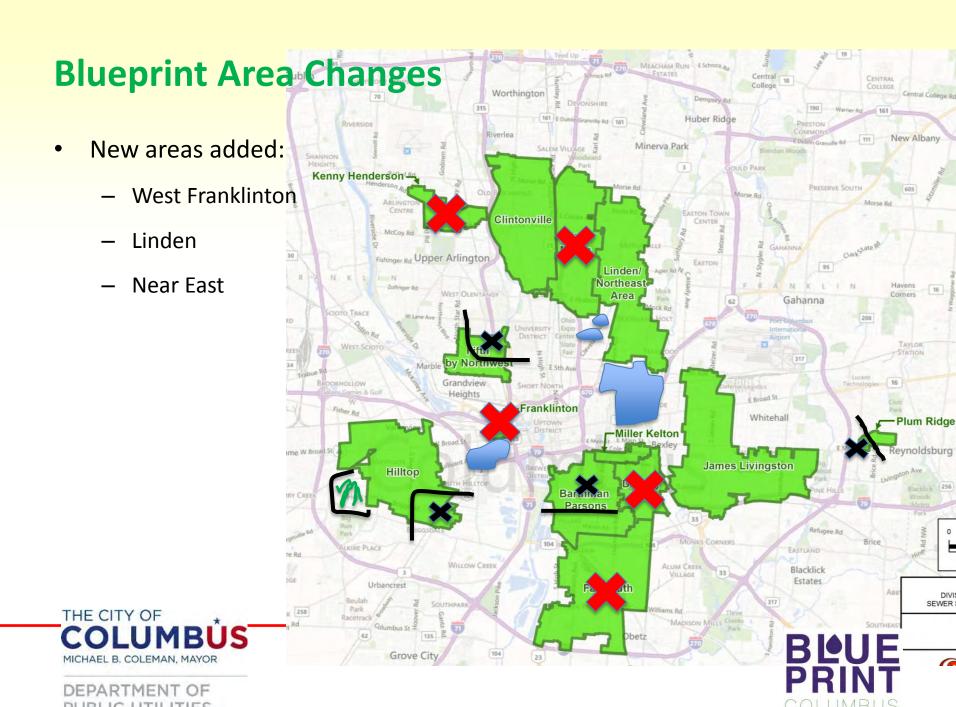
Areas Reduced or Modified in Size:

- Fifth by Northwest
- Plum Ridge
- Hilltop
- BarthmanParsons/NearSouth

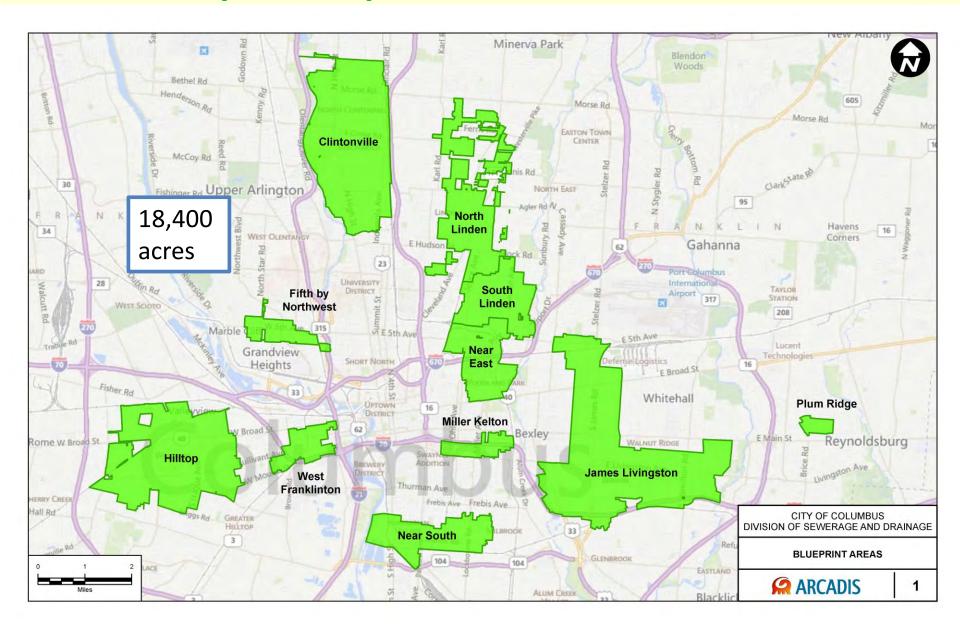




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# **Final Blueprint Map**



#### **Improvements Needed in Both Plans**

- It was determined that the Blueprint Plan would need to have some gray infrastructure included
  - Tunnel on the west side known as Lower Olentangy Tunnel
- The tunnel needed in the Blueprint Plan for two reasons
  - Completion of the CSO program
  - Certain areas not solved with Blueprint alone
- The gray plan will include this tunnel, plus more tunnels

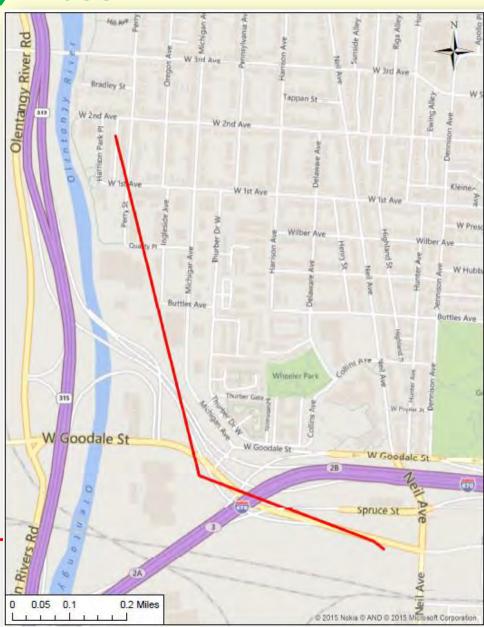




## **Lower Olentangy Tunnel, Phase 1**

- From Arena District to Second Ave
- Will provide relief to the Fifth by Northwest area SSOs
- Will provide required relief for Olentangy CSOs
- Will need to be installed and operational by July 1, 2025

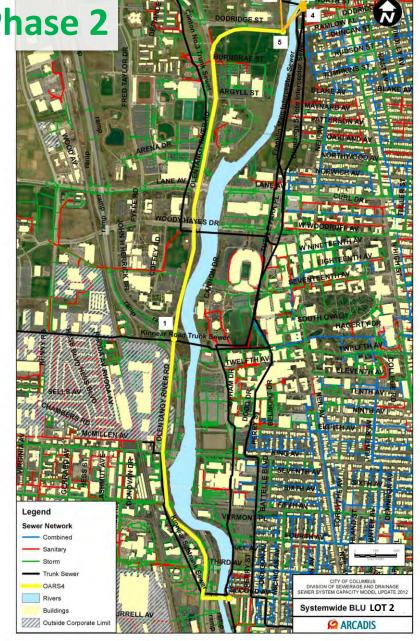




**Lower Olentangy Tunnel, Phase 2** 

- From Second Ave to Dodridge Street
- Will provide relief to SSOs in:
  - Clintonville
  - Kenny Henderson





## **The Blueprint Plan**

- Applied modeling assumptions on all of the map areas
- Checked to make sure SSOs and WIBs are eliminated
  - (this is when the need for LOT was identified)
- Checked to make sure not making things worse outside Columbus
- Determined that Blueprint could be successful without any participation from suburban areas
- Some areas solved with just Blueprint, some required additional solutions
- Includes green infrastructure (not depicted on maps yet)



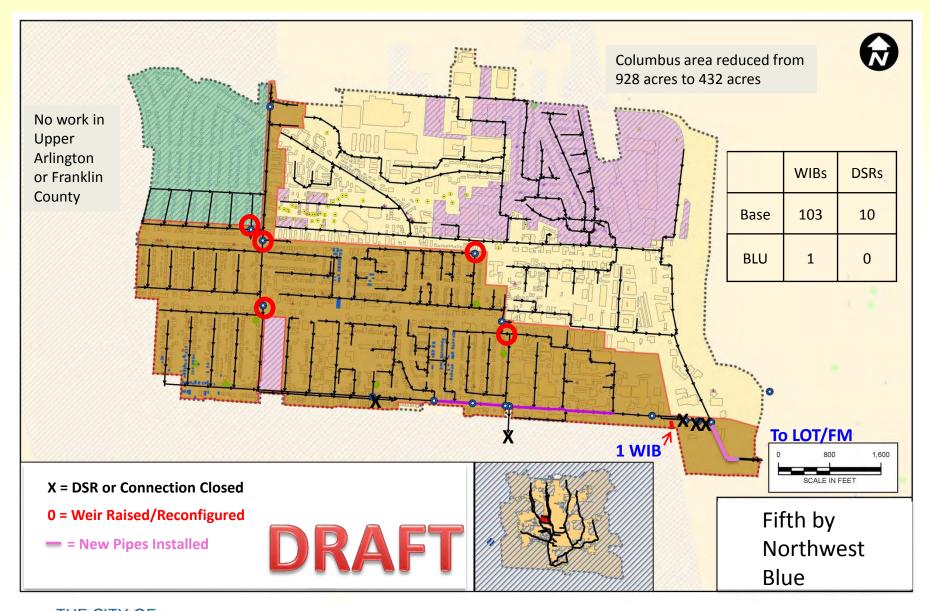


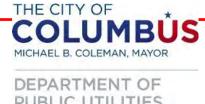
# **Blueprint Modeling Assumptions**

I/I Source	Mitigation Technology	Participation
Roof drainage from a splash block	Route roof water to street via 'storm lateral'	50%
Lateral	Lining lateral pipes	90%
Mainline sewers	Lining mainline sewers and manholes	100%
Buffer area around buildings	Sump pumps	25%

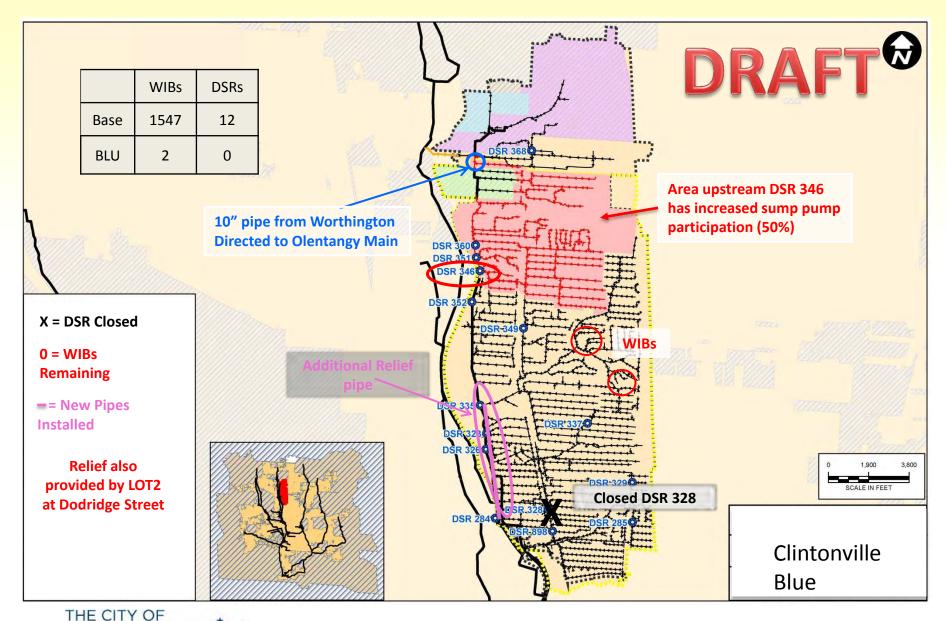






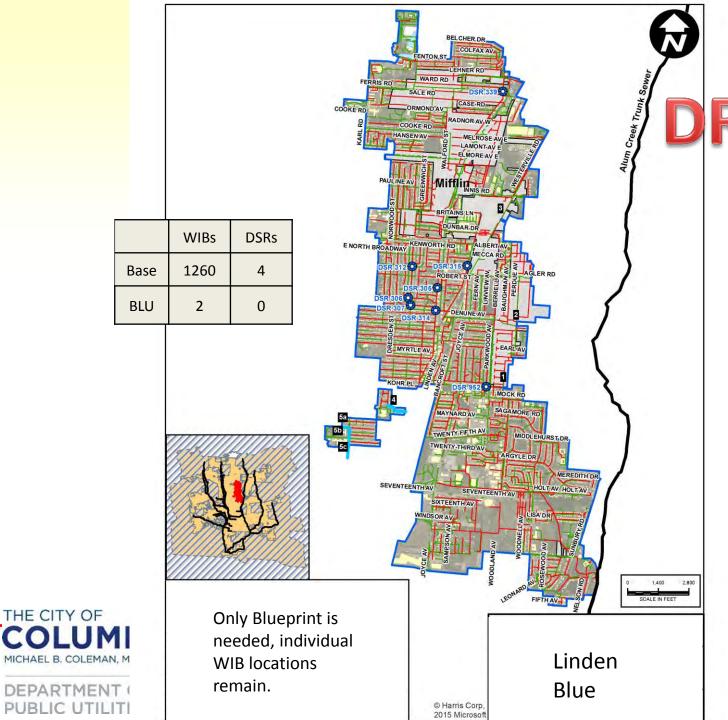






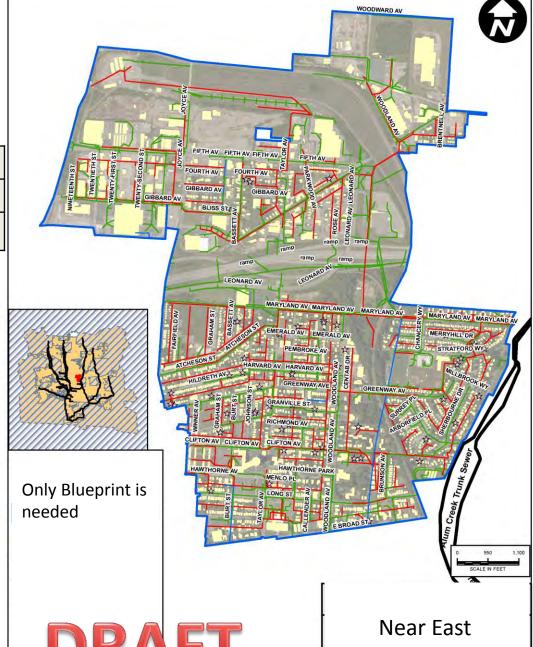






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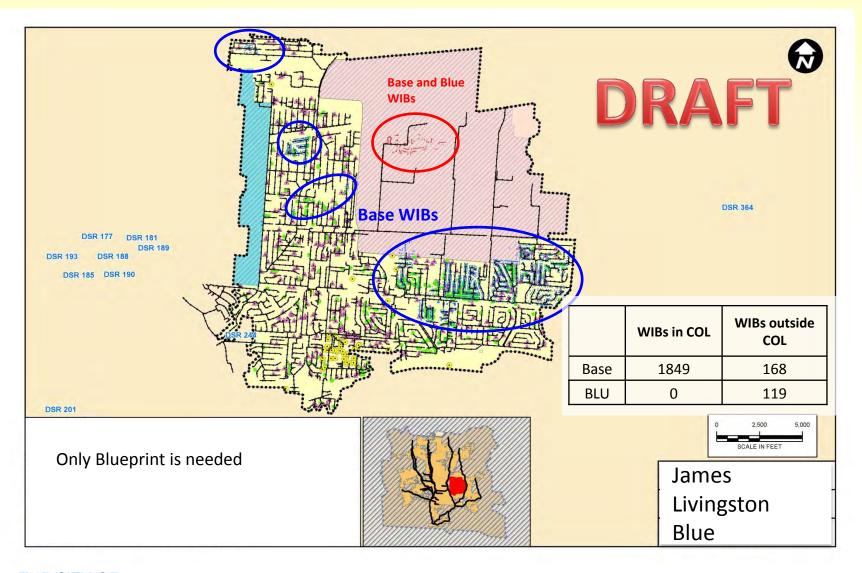
	WIBs	DSRs
Base	473	0
BLU	3	0

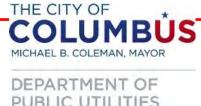


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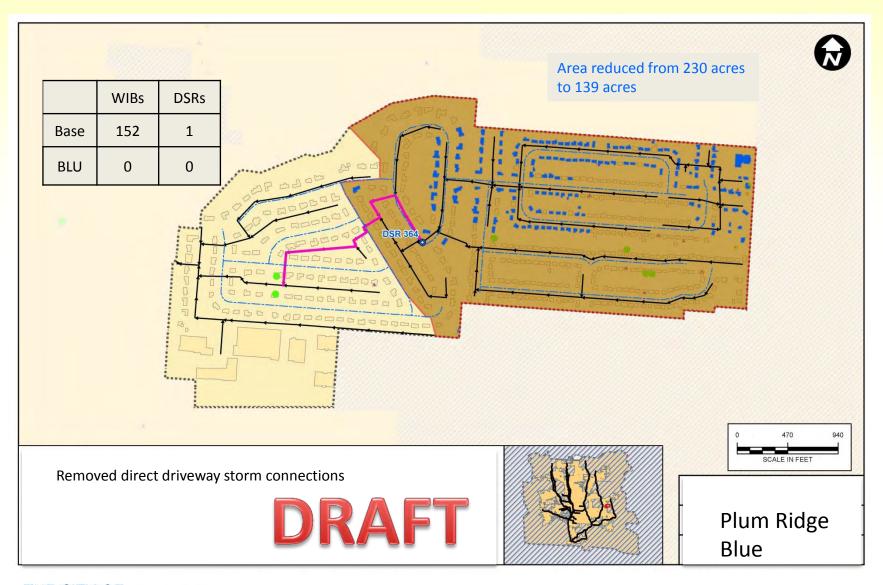
Blue

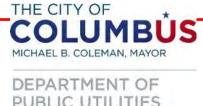




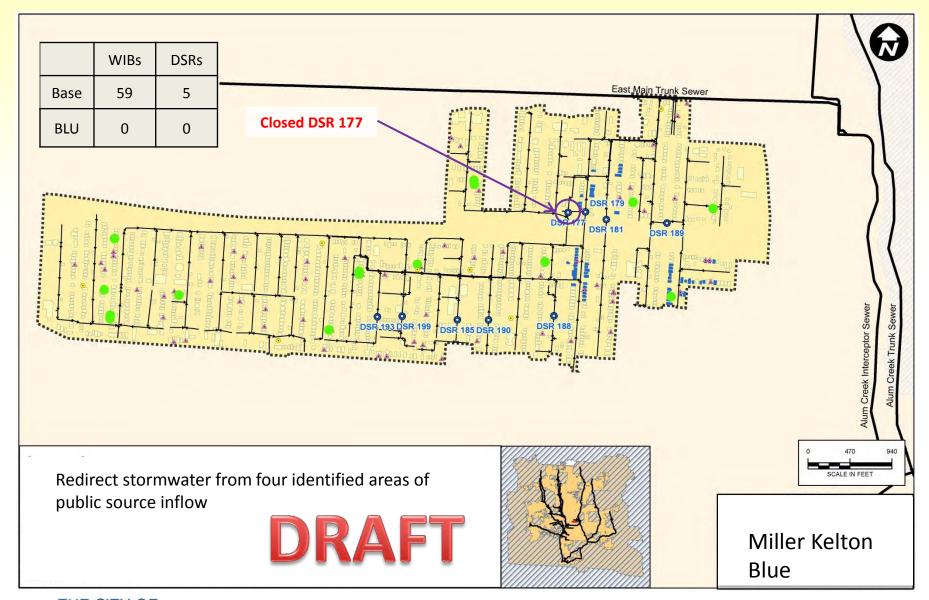


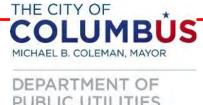




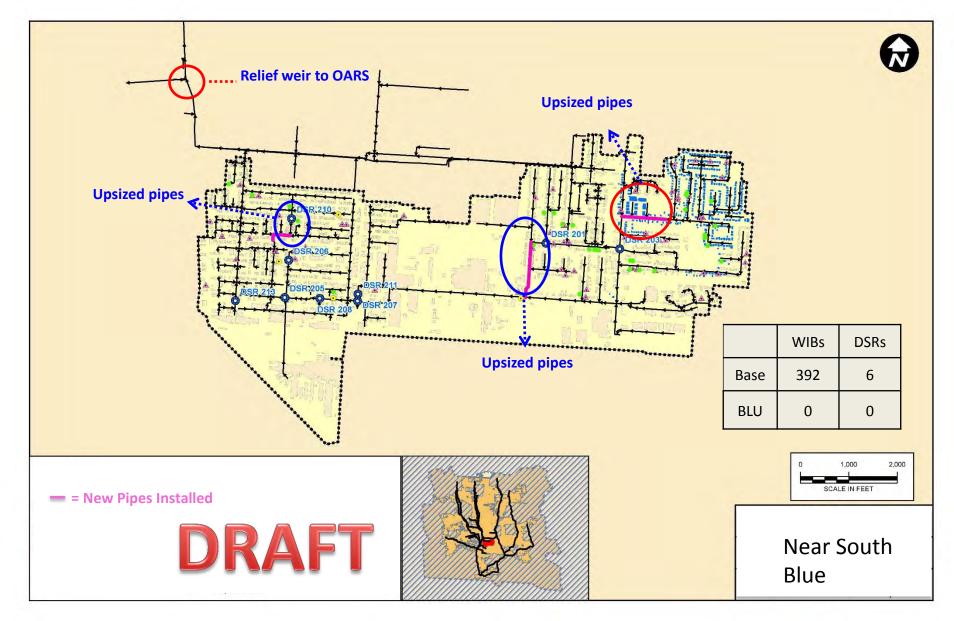






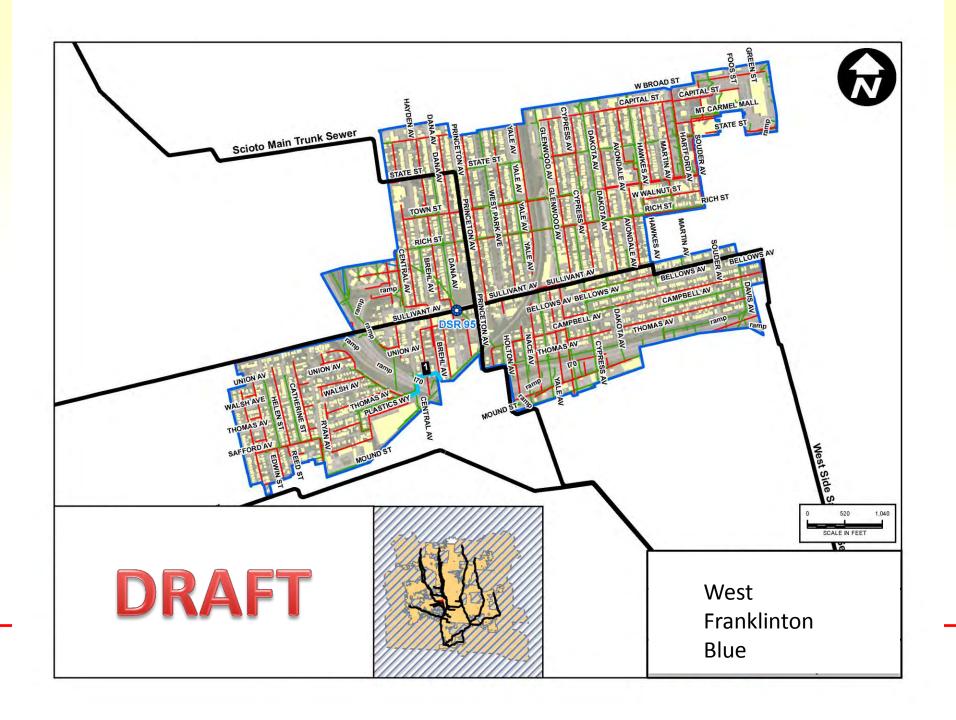


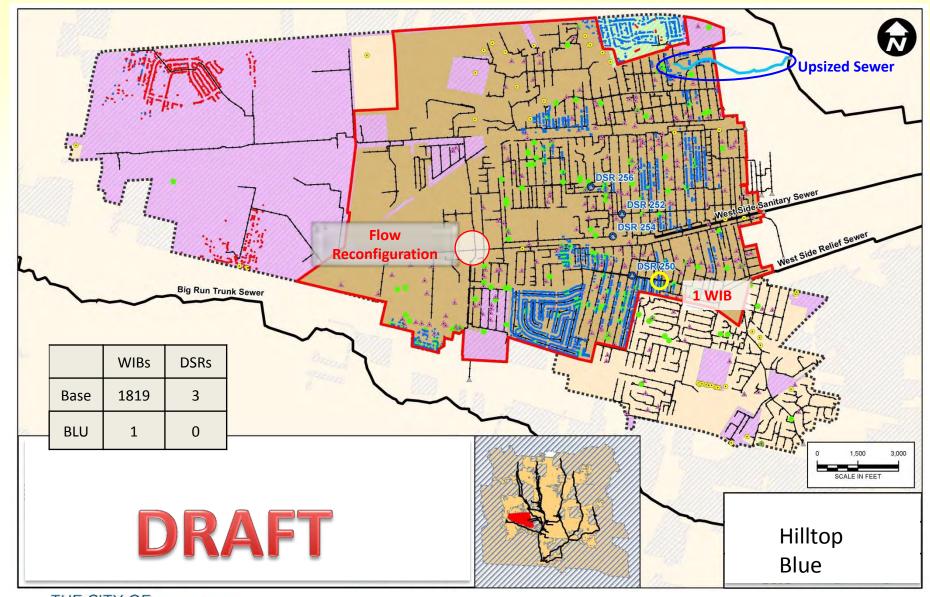














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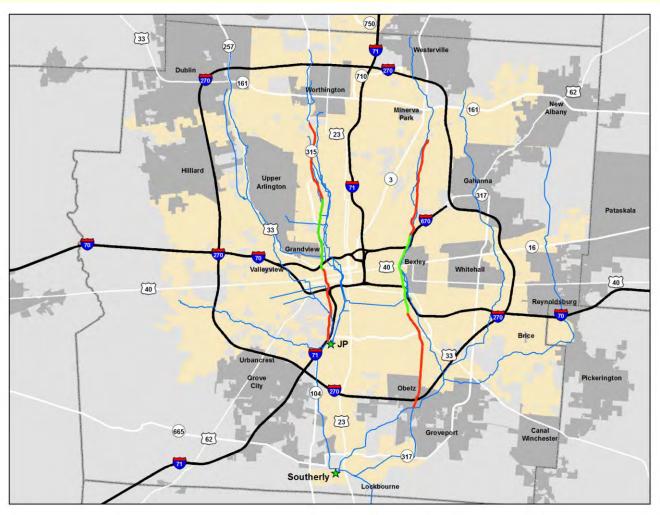
# Gray Plan / 2015 WWMP

- Used new model to re-examine 2005 WWMP
- Tunnels and additional pipes are still the backbone of the gray plan
- Tunnels cut in half
  - 28 miles in 2005 WWMP
  - 14 miles in 2015 WWMP
- Lower Olentangy Tunnel and shortened ART





# **Original WWMP**







**Lower Olentangy Tunnel, Phase 3** 

- This phase is <u>not</u> in the Blueprint Plan
  - From the cemetery north of Dodridge Street to just south of Bethel Road
- Provides relief to the Olentangy
   Main and DSRs in Clintonville





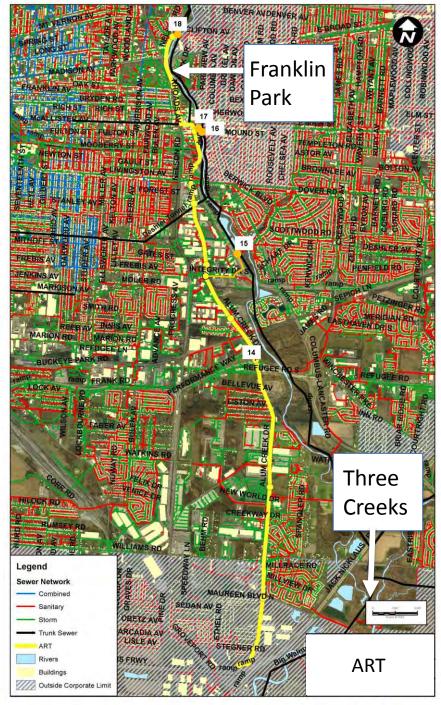


#### **Alum Creek Relief Tunnel**

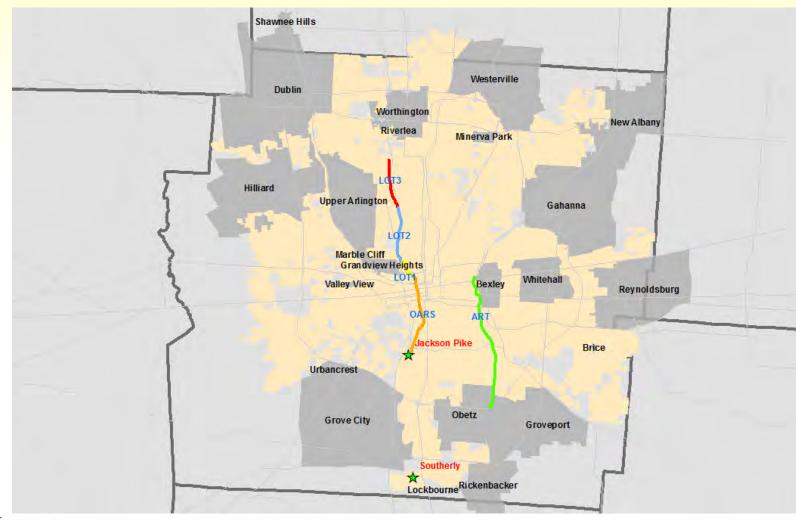
- This tunnel is <u>not</u> in the Blueprint Plan
- Travels from the BWARI to just north of Franklin Park Conservatory
- Provides relief for the Alum Creek
   Trunk and Alum Creek Interceptor
   Sewer
- Provides storage to reduce bypasses at Southerly WWTP
- Would likely be built in two phases





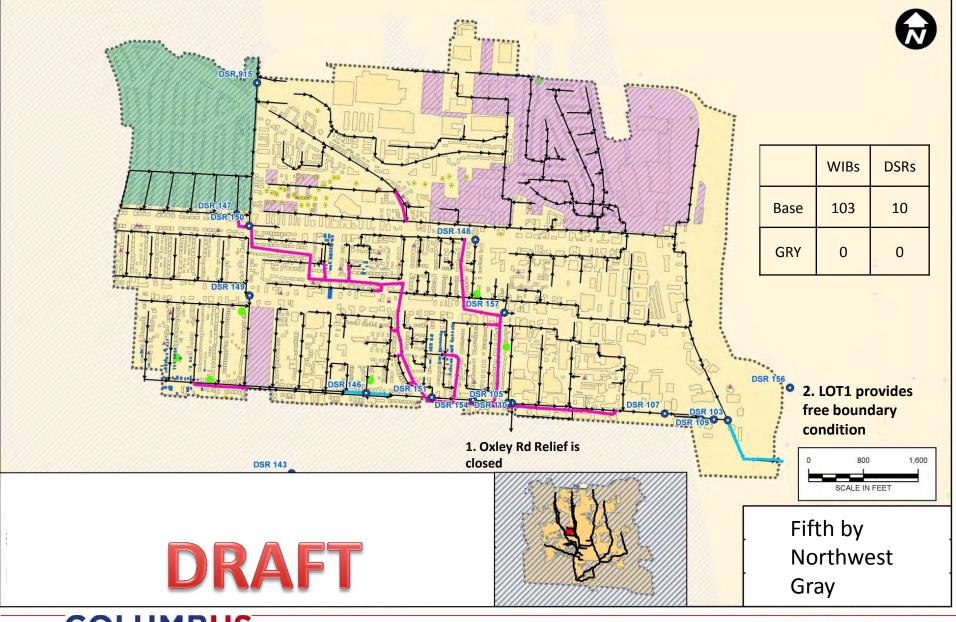


#### **2015 WWMP**



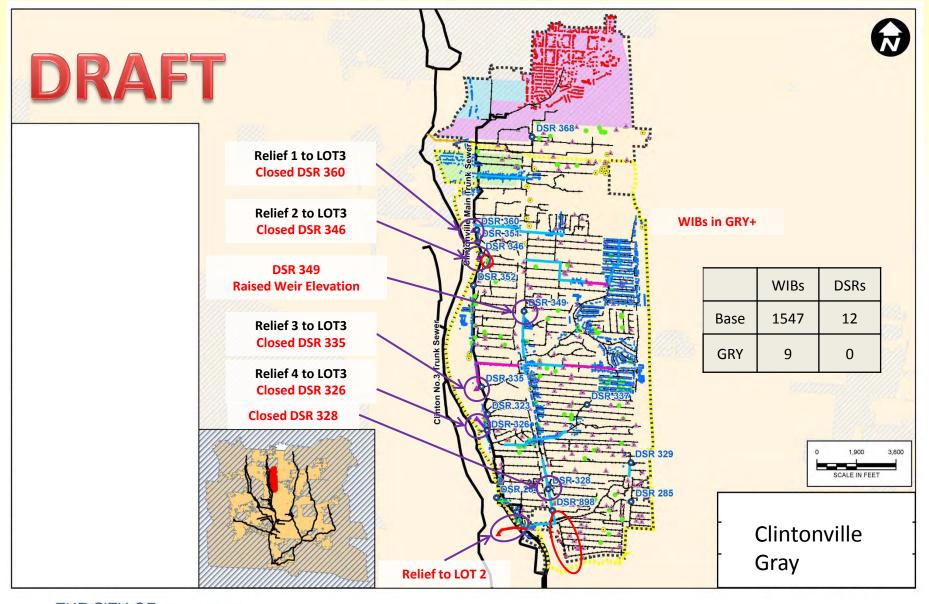


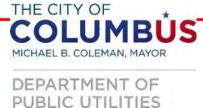




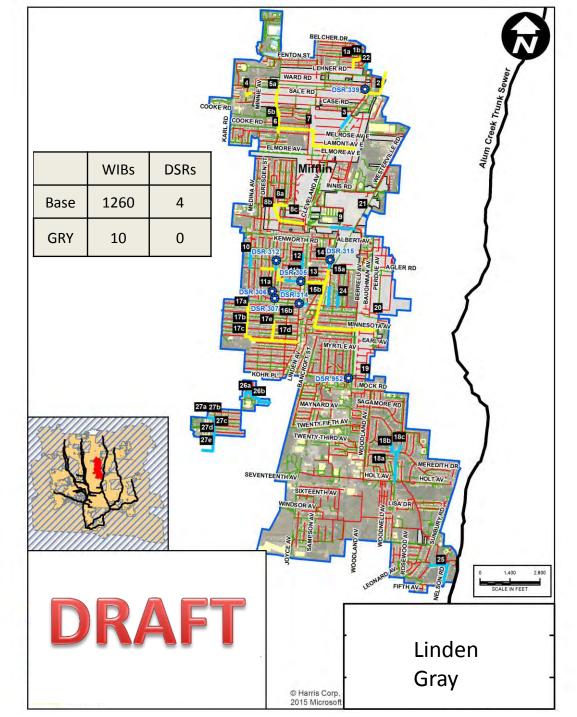


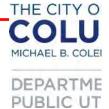




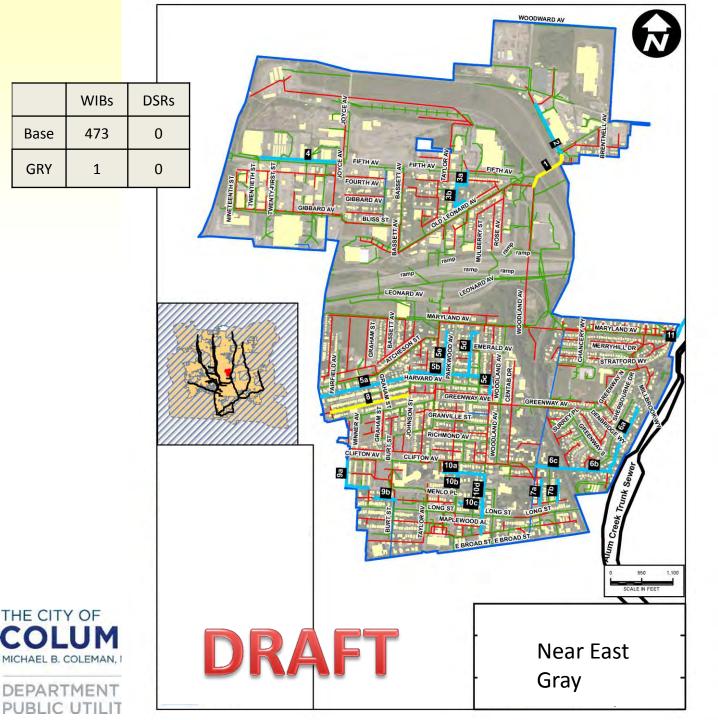












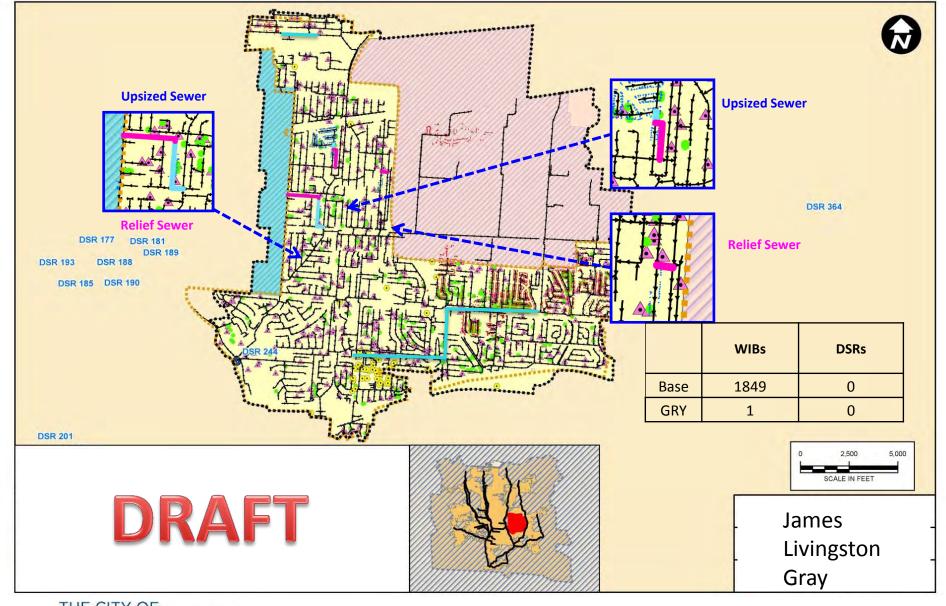
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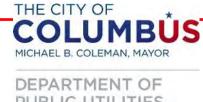
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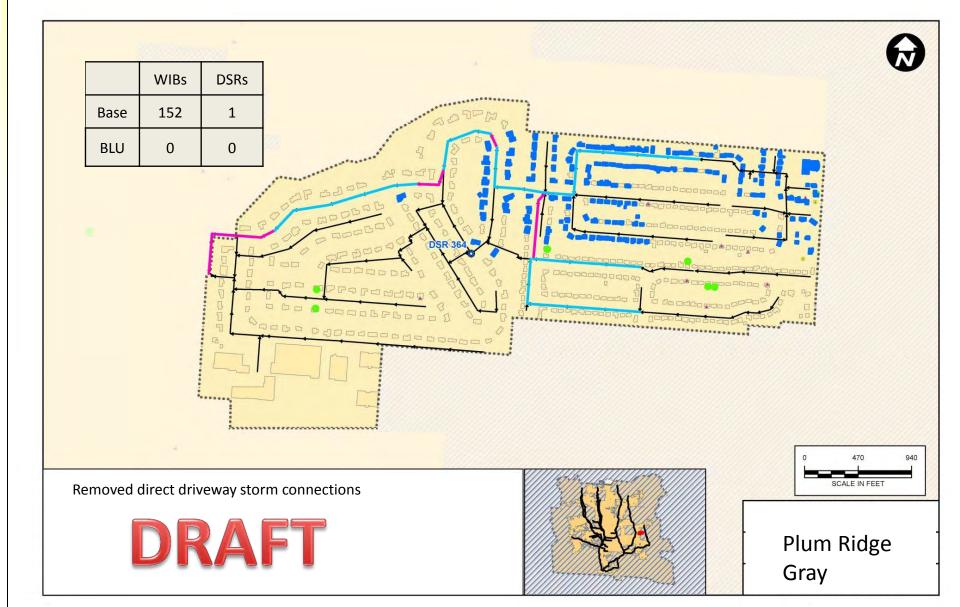
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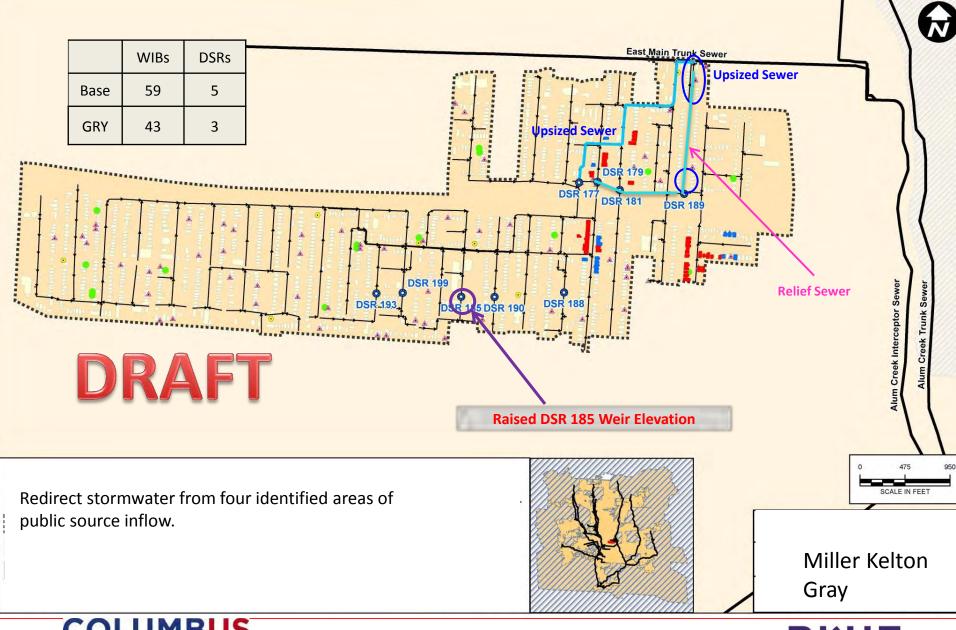






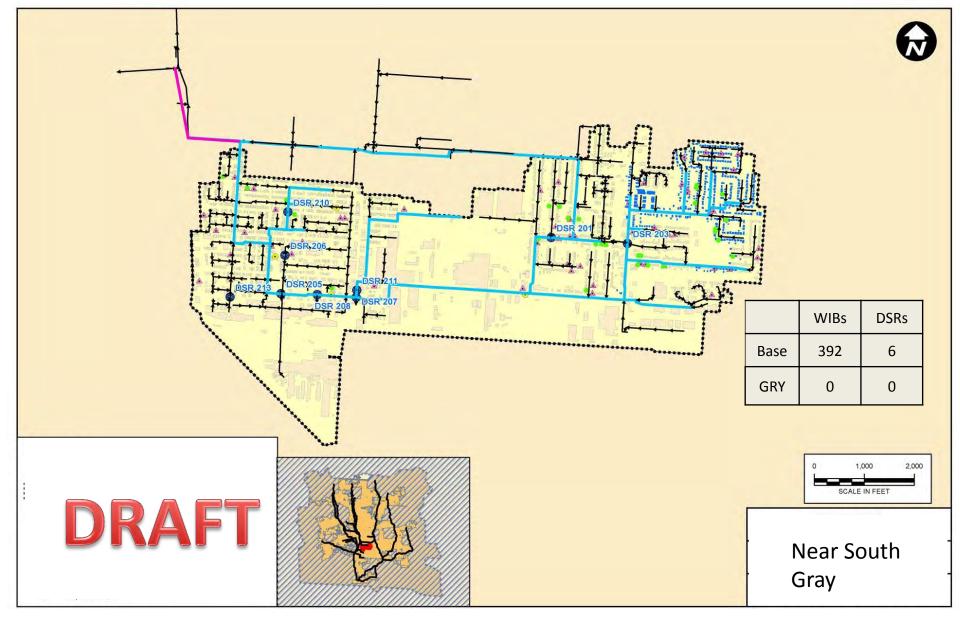






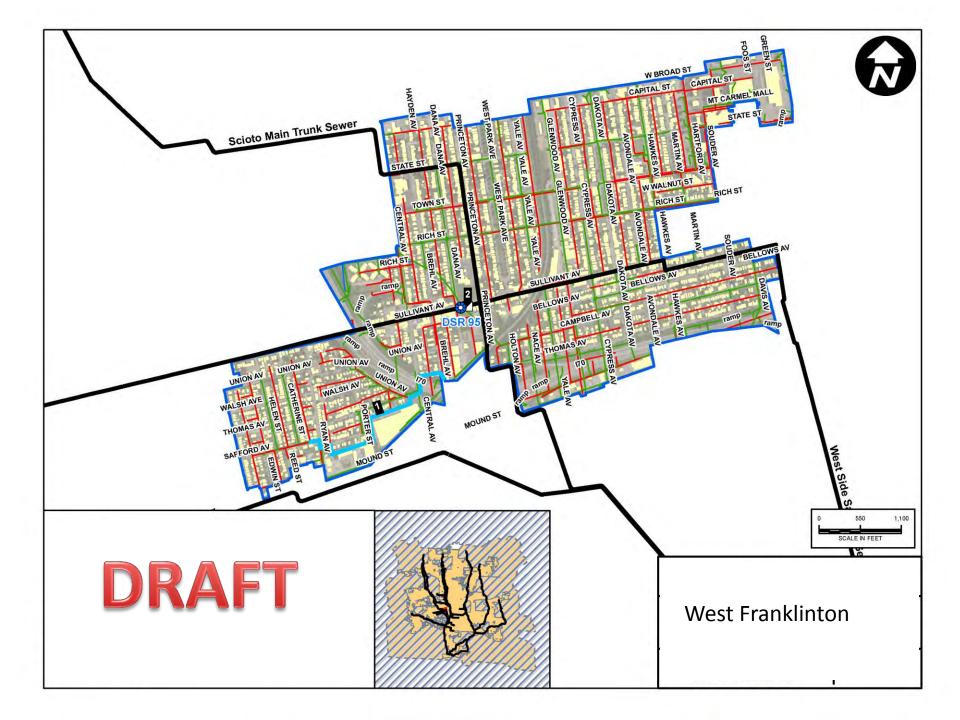


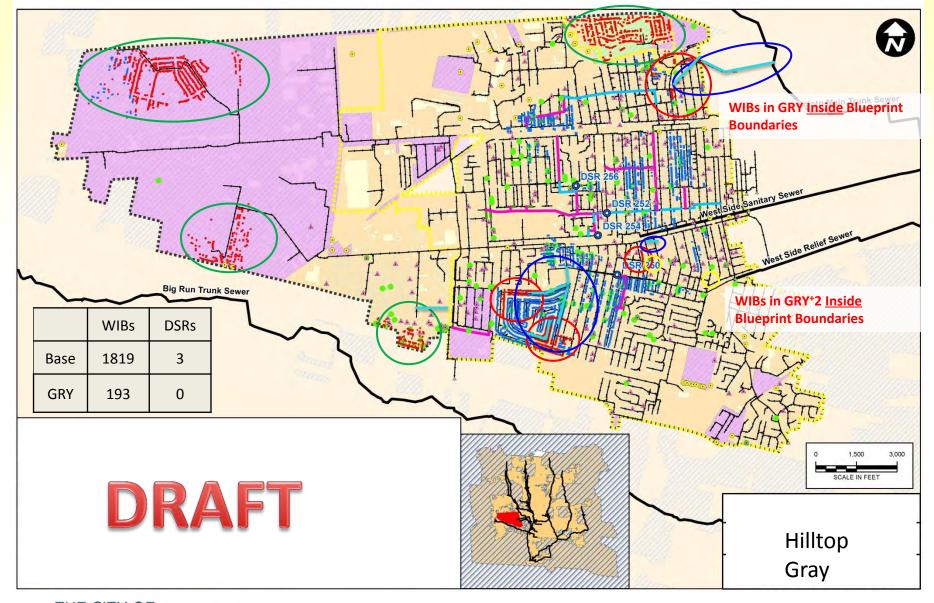










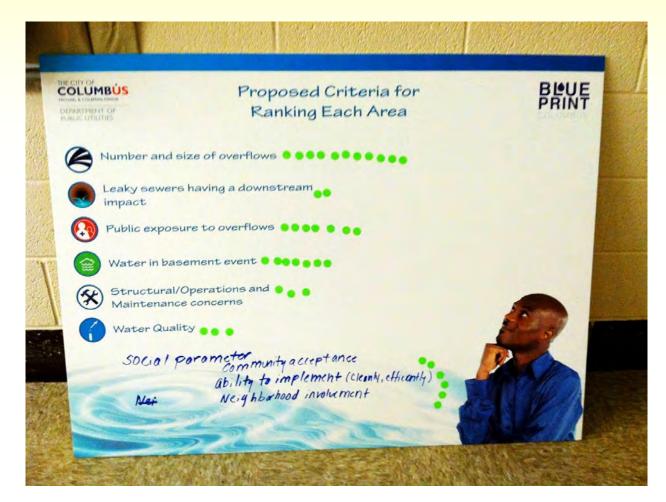


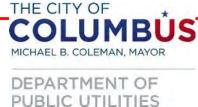


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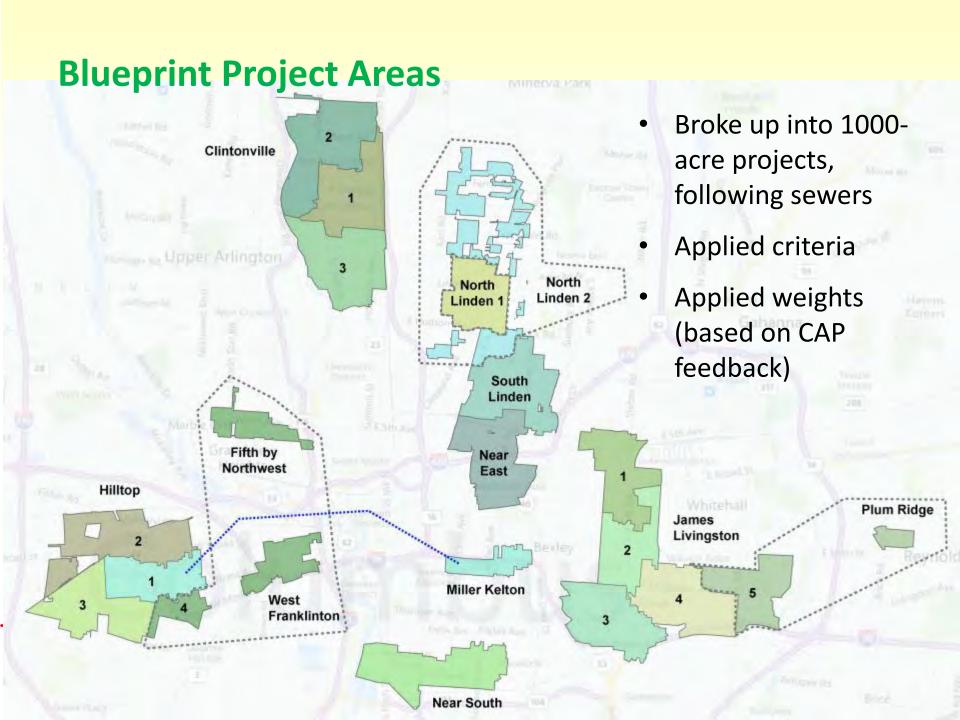


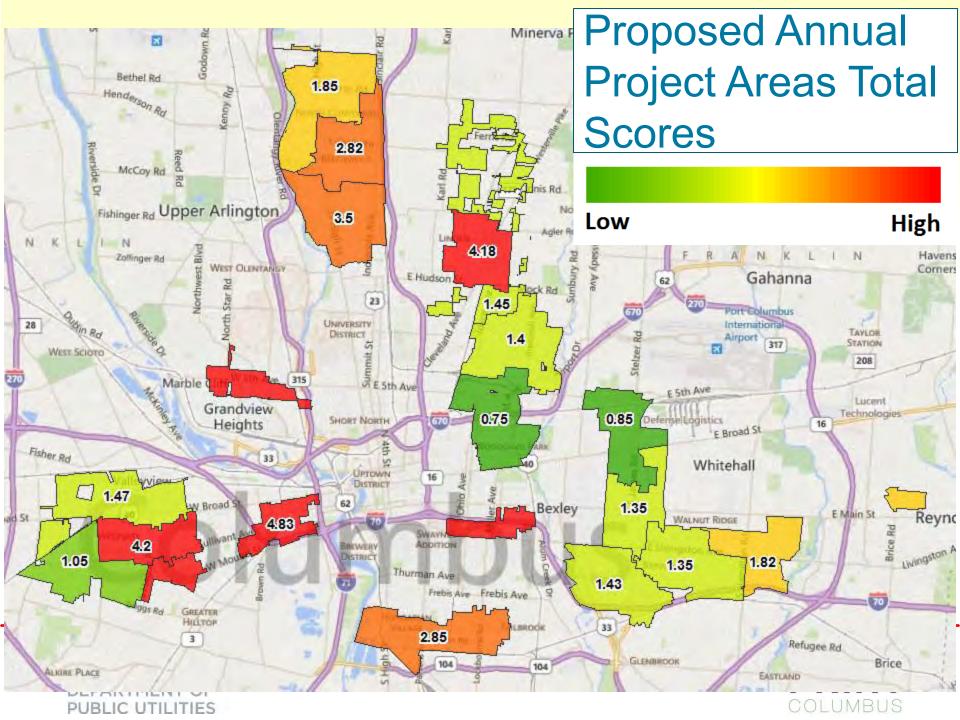
# **Prioritization Update**

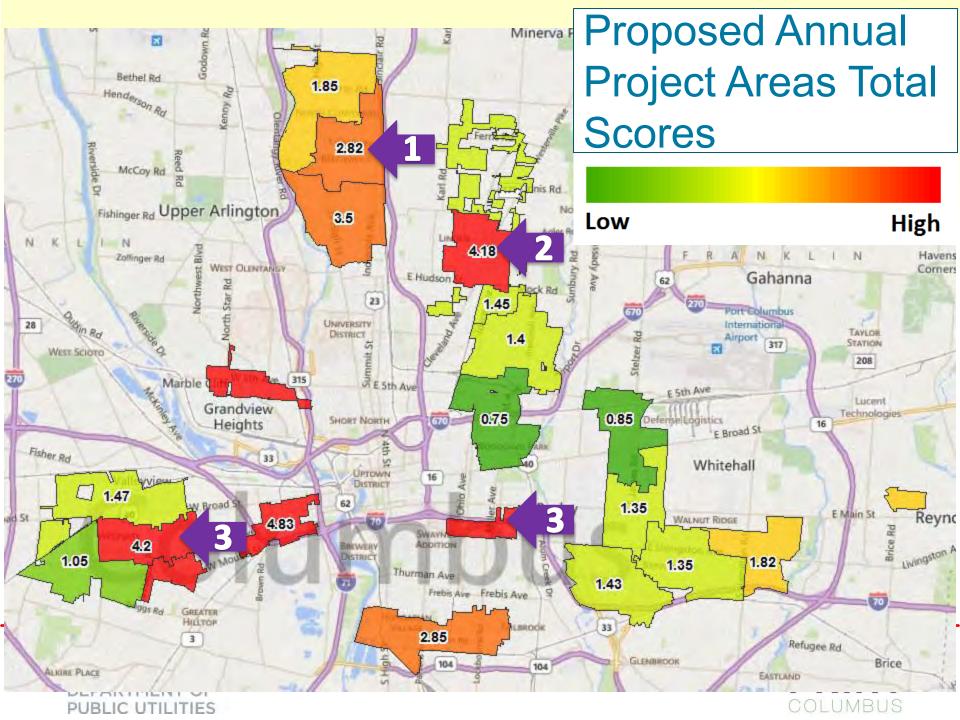






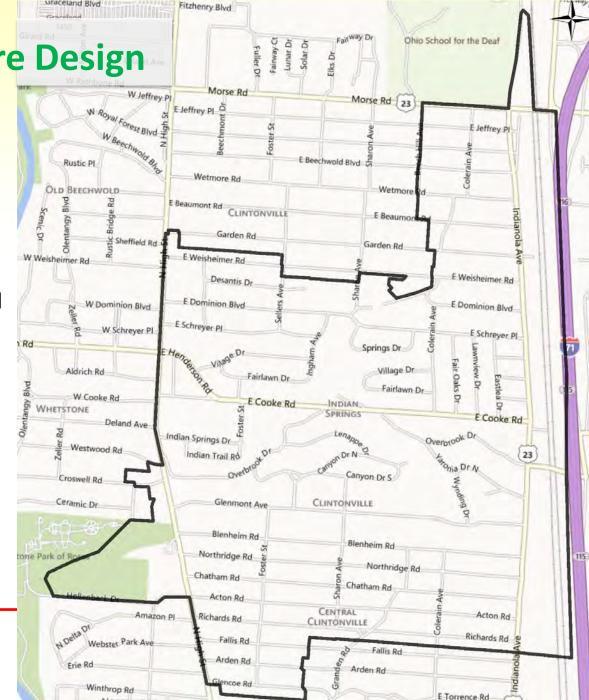






**Green Infrastructure Design** 

- Clintonville Pilot Area
- Do No Harm
  - Street flooding will not get worse
  - Green infrastructure will be sized to receive redirected flow
- 20% reduction in Total Suspended Solids





# **Next Steps**

- Finalizing costs for both plans
- Once costs are known, will perform affordability analysis
  - Include measures of success we discussed with you
- Affordability analysis will drive development of schedules
  - Schedule needs to be no longer than 30 years, hopefully shorter
- Write everything down
- Submit to Ohio EPA on Sept. 15 (105 days)





# Discussion









**PUBLIC UTILITIES** 





Clean streams. Strong neighborhoods.

# **Community Outreach: Education & Engagement Process**

**July 2013 – May 2015** 

High-Level City-Wide Education and Engagement Forums

Community Education and Baseline Research

Data
Analysis/Process
Evaluation

Measuring Community Perceptions and Attitudes

Phase Data
Analysis/Process
Evaluation



# **Our Engagement Activities**

# Community Outreach (Educating)

- Presentations at community events and forums
- Road shows the mobile "booth to go"
- Direct mail and handouts
- Door-to-door canvassing
- Focus groups
- Website and video

# Assessing Perceptions & Attitudes (Market Research)

- Surveys:
  - Phone polling
  - Mail back
  - Face-to face
  - Interactive audience response & moderator
  - Focus Groups

...and many other tools and tactics

# **Accomplishments: Community awareness & education**

Collateral and Residential Canvassing: 44,966			
Baseline Educational Materials (passive canvassing in the 4 target areas) 28,269	Reinforcing Educational Materials (active canvassing to a subset in the 4 target areas 9,965		General ongoing literature distribution (includes Clintonville):
"Roadshows" and Events: 85			
Four Target Blueprint Areas, (Libraries, Community		City-wide Events, (Fairs & Neighborhood	
Centers, Civic Groups, etc.)		Festivals, Community events, etc.)	
40		45	
Business & Civic Outreach			
Active canvassing to local businesses		Civic Associations, Area Commissions	
in the 4 target areas: <b>291</b>		and Faith-based: <b>18</b>	
Clintonville Engagement			
Door-to-door canvassing with reinforcement		Invites to 3 educational open houses and 6	
educational materials: 3,000 homes		neighborhood meetings	



# Overall Accomplishments

# Determining perceptions & attitudes of Blueprint approach:

- Door-to-door polling in four focus areas
- Community and civic event polling: 19
- Mail back survey flier: up to 5,000 disseminated



# **Overall Accomplishments**

## Another way of thinking about it:

- Walked 2,665 miles that's like taking a stroll from Columbus to Los Angeles and then heading to Tucson for dinner....
- Nearly **300 hours talking with residents** at events or earning the equivalent of a PhD in class hours + dissertation writing....
- Visited over 28,000 residences...

An exceptional investment in community engagement....



# Findings at a Glance

## From the polling conducted:

- Response to Blueprint Columbus was overwhelmingly positive or neutral, and this finding remained constant across the four target areas, as well as the city at large. Over 70% of all survey participants support the Blueprint Columbus approach; less than three percent were not in support.
- Anecdotally, we found residents to be quite interested in the proposed Blueprint solutions, thoughtful about them and simply surprised and delighted they were informed and asked for their input.



# Reactions to the Blueprint solutions

- Green infrastructure ranked #1, with over 60% of survey respondents selecting green infrastructure as something they particularly liked about the Blueprint approach.
- Lateral lining was the most popular feature among homeowners (62%). This level of property enhancement was a strong personal motivator for many individuals.
- Downspout redirection was a favorable aspect with over half of respondents. This was especially true in relation to how it can tie into rain gardens and keep water away from a home's foundation.
- Sump Pumps was one of the favorite aspects to 39% of homeowners. During presentations in the community this feature of the program elicited the strongest, most positive reaction.



# Blueprint moving forward...

- Area specific outreach in Clintonville
  - 3 Open Houses at Whetstone Shelter House:
    - June 15, June 22, June 29, from 6-8 PM
  - Clintonville Neighborhood meetings:
    - Mid to late July at two local churches

• 4 Pillar Collateral: The big reveal!!



## **Green Infrastructure: Using Nature to Manage Stormwater**





#### Site Visit:

The City's design team first visits potential sites on City owned property to determine the best locations for green infrastructura. Locations may include parks or right-of-ways, such as ourb lawns, on residential streets. The team will especially want to know where existing underground storm sewers are, since the green infrastructure will connect to those sewers.



#### Survey:

After a general loostion is selected, the team surveys the site to check for potential obstacles, such as underground utilities, and may need to take soil samples. Once satisfied with the loostion, the design team prepares detailed construction plans.



#### Construction:

The rain garden site is excavated and the subsurface is prepared by adding layers of stone and soil designed to filter stormwater, Plants and mulch make up the top layer of rain gardens. For porous pavement, the subsurface is prepared in much the same way, except the top layer is porous concrete, Both allow water to soak into the layers beneath it.



#### Operation and Maintenance:

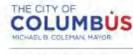
The City of Columbus is responsible for maintaining its green infrastructure. This includes periodic inspection, removing litter and weeds on a regular basis and pruning, trimming or replacing plants as needed.

## Why Green Infrastructure?

It rains in Columbus about 140 days per year. Managing all that rain water is the function of our storm sewers. Our storm sewer system includes a series of ourb inlets and underground pipes, known as gray infrastructure, that drains untreated rain water and any tresh or pollutants it picks up along its path directly into our streams and rivers.

Rein gardens and porous pavement, known as green infrastructure, are rapidly becoming an important part of the storm sewer system in Columbus. Rain water is routed through the green infrastructure, filtering through layers of stone, soil and plants before draining into the pipes that empty into our rivers. This natural filtering process slows the release of stormwater and keeps pollutants and trash out of the system, which protects our rivers and streams.





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## **Green Infrastructure FAQ**

## FAQ

## Why is the City building green infrastructure in my neighborhood?

In Columbus, there are sanitary sewers and storm sewers. Sanitary sewers take waste water from your house to a waste water treatment facility. Storm sewers take rain water from streets and driveways to a nearby river or streets. When rain gets into sanitary sewers through cracks and joints in the pipes, untreated sewage diluted by the rain water can overflow into our rivers or back up into basements.

Blueprint Columbus will stop the rain water from getting into sanitary sewers and will direct it to the green infrastructure, which will cepture stormwater that might otherwise flood roadways. Blueprint Columbus will be implemented in neighborhoods where a large amount of rain water gets into sanitary sewers.

#### What is a right-of-way?

The right of way is the area in your yard along a street that is owned by the City of Columbus. If there is a sidewalk along the street, the right of way usually includes the sidewalk and may extend several more feet into the yard.

#### What is porous pavement?

Porous pavement can be concrete or blacktop designed so that rain water seeps into it instead of just running across the surface. Pollutants carried by the rain water are filtered out by layers of gravel beneath the surface and the stormwater slowly releases into the drain that connects to the storm sewer.

## Where will the green infrastructure be located?

City contractors will install green infrastructure on City property in neighborhoods, including in the right of way. Rain gardens are constructed below street level, allowing rain water to easily flow in and filter slowly to the sewers underneath.

#### What if I don't want green infrastructure in the right-of-way in front of my house?

There will be public meetings in your area so you can learn the exact location of the proposed green infrastructure and provide feedback to City staff. The design team will take all concerns into consideration. However, in some instances other locations may not be possible.

#### Will the rain gardens attract mosquitoes?

No, rain gardens are designed to drain in 48 hours or less. Mosquitoes require a minimum of 72 hours in standing water for larvae to develop.

#### Will the green infrastructure prevent parking on the street or walking on the sidewalk?

Green infrastructure will not interfere with sidewalks. Design guidelines include a 2 % foot buffer area between the curb and the edge of a rain garden. Parking spaces may be replaced by a bump out to assist in traffic calming if it is determined that this benefits the neighborhood.

#### Who removes litter and maintains the plants in the rain garden?

The City of Columbus is responsible for maintaining all parts of our storm sewer system including the new rain gardens and porous pavement. Litter and weeds will be removed on a regular basis and plants will be pruned, trimmed or replaced as needed.

#### Will the green infrastructure fix street flooding?

Green infrastructure is designed to manage stormwater and may improve local drainage issues. However, the green infrastructure is not designed to solve all street flooding issues.

#### HOW CAN I LEARN MORE? COLUMBUS.GOV/BLUEPRINT





Contains at least \$36 past consumer paper products

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