



Green Infrastructure Working Group: Stormwater Options for Redevelopment & Infill

May 15, 2015

Flooding at S. Lamar Blvd & Bluebonnet Ln

Agenda

Arrivals & Introductions	2:00
Staff presentation	2:15
Introduction to problem	
Current code	
National models	
Case studies	
Small group discussion	3:15
Large group summary & recap	4:15

Note: There will be short breaks both before and after the small group discussion

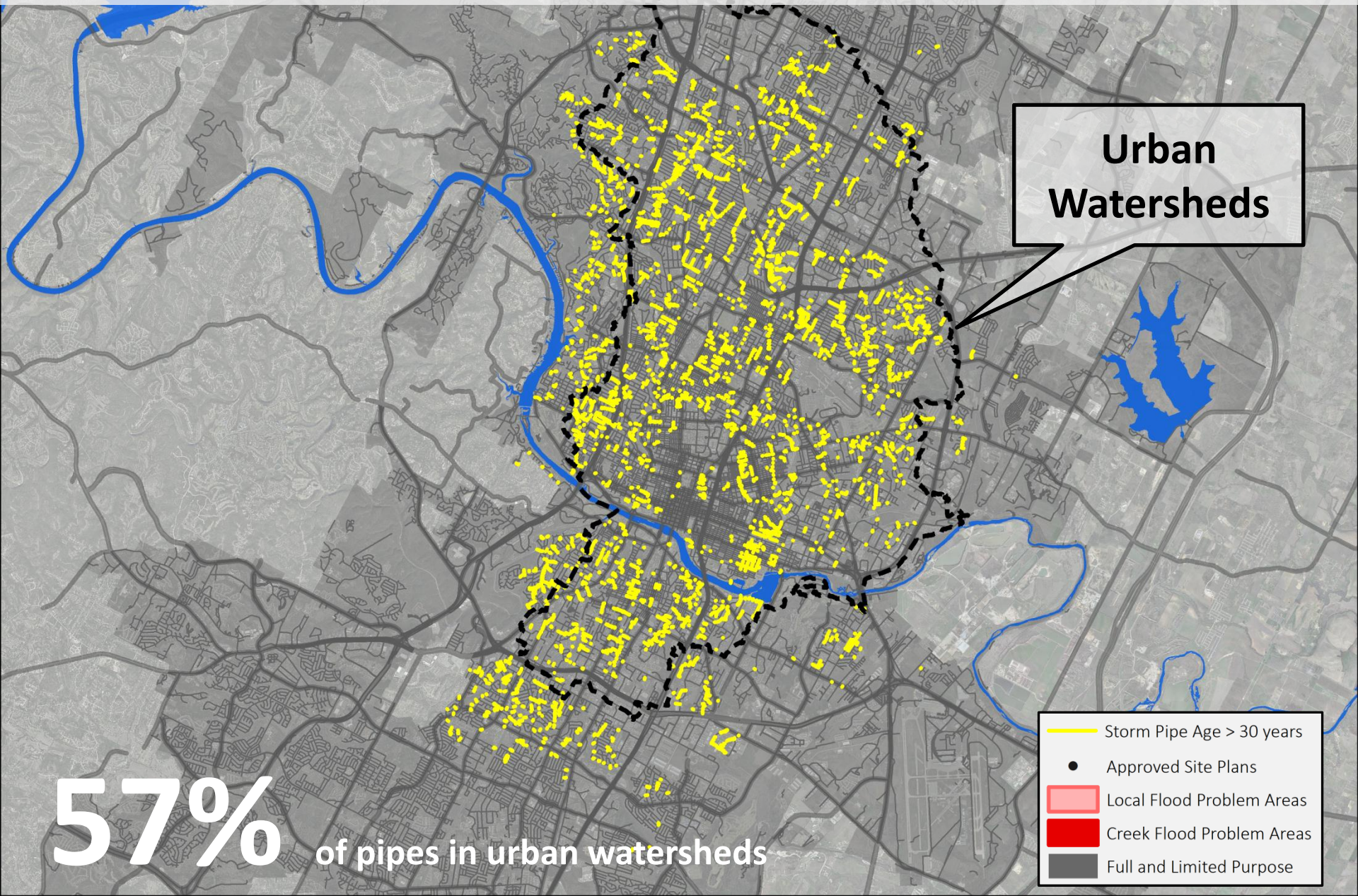
The Problem

- Many localized and creek flooding problems in Austin's central core
 - Very high price tag to fix: \$100s of millions
 - Don't want sprawl either
 - Compact and connected
 - 750,000 new residents expected by 2040
 - Affordability concerns
- What are our options?

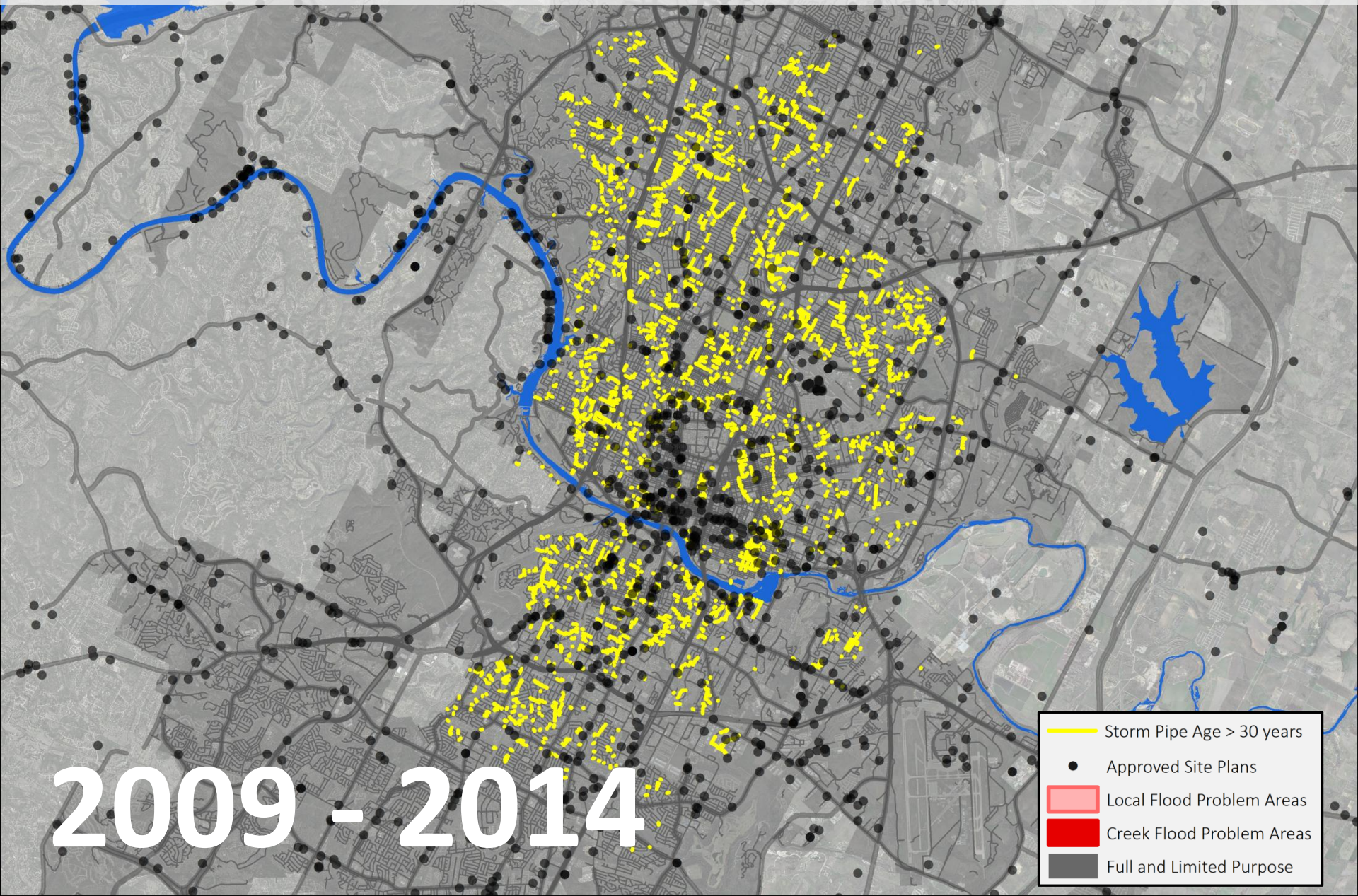
Challenges to infill in the urban core



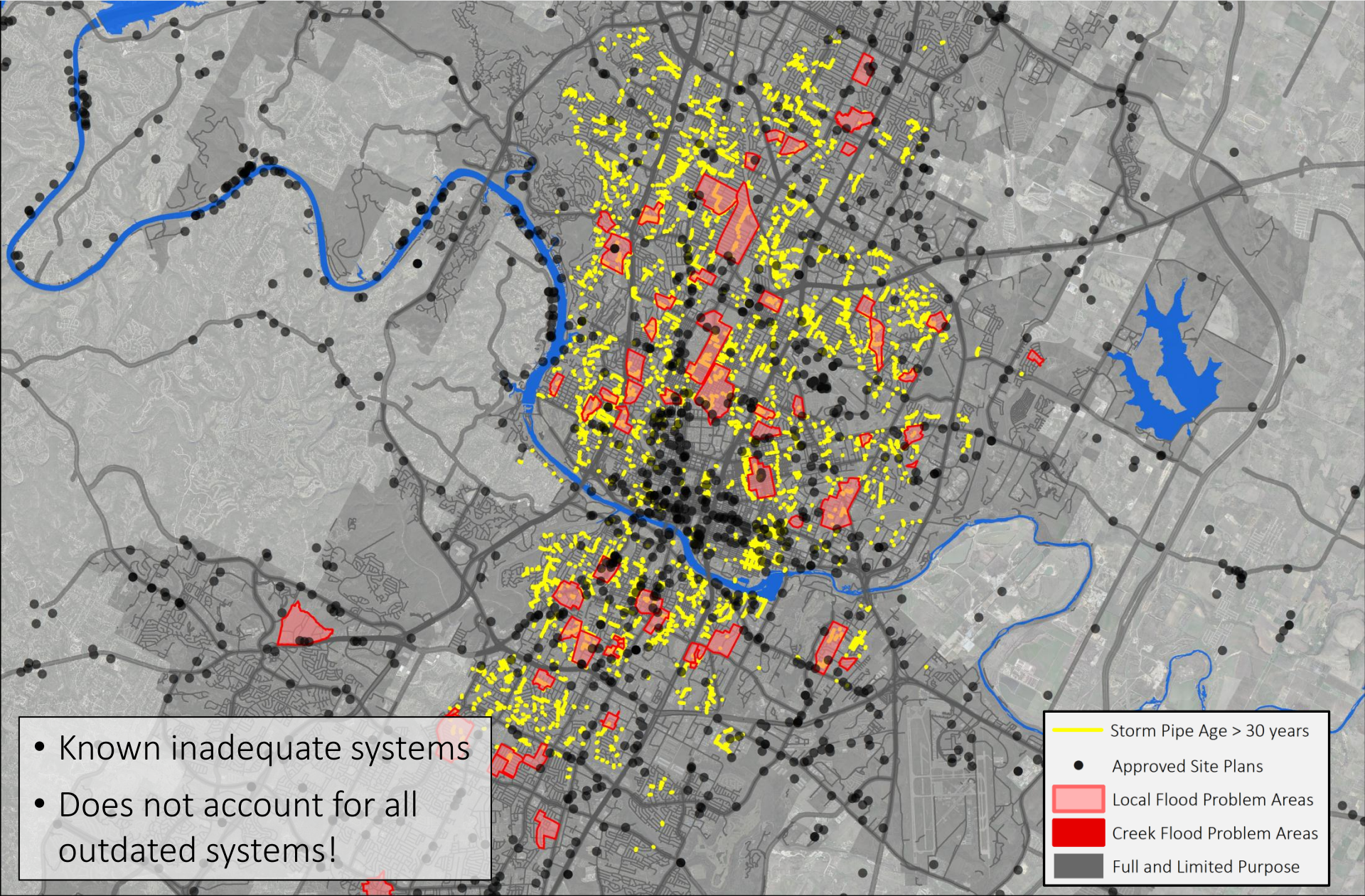
Storm Pipes > 30 Years Old



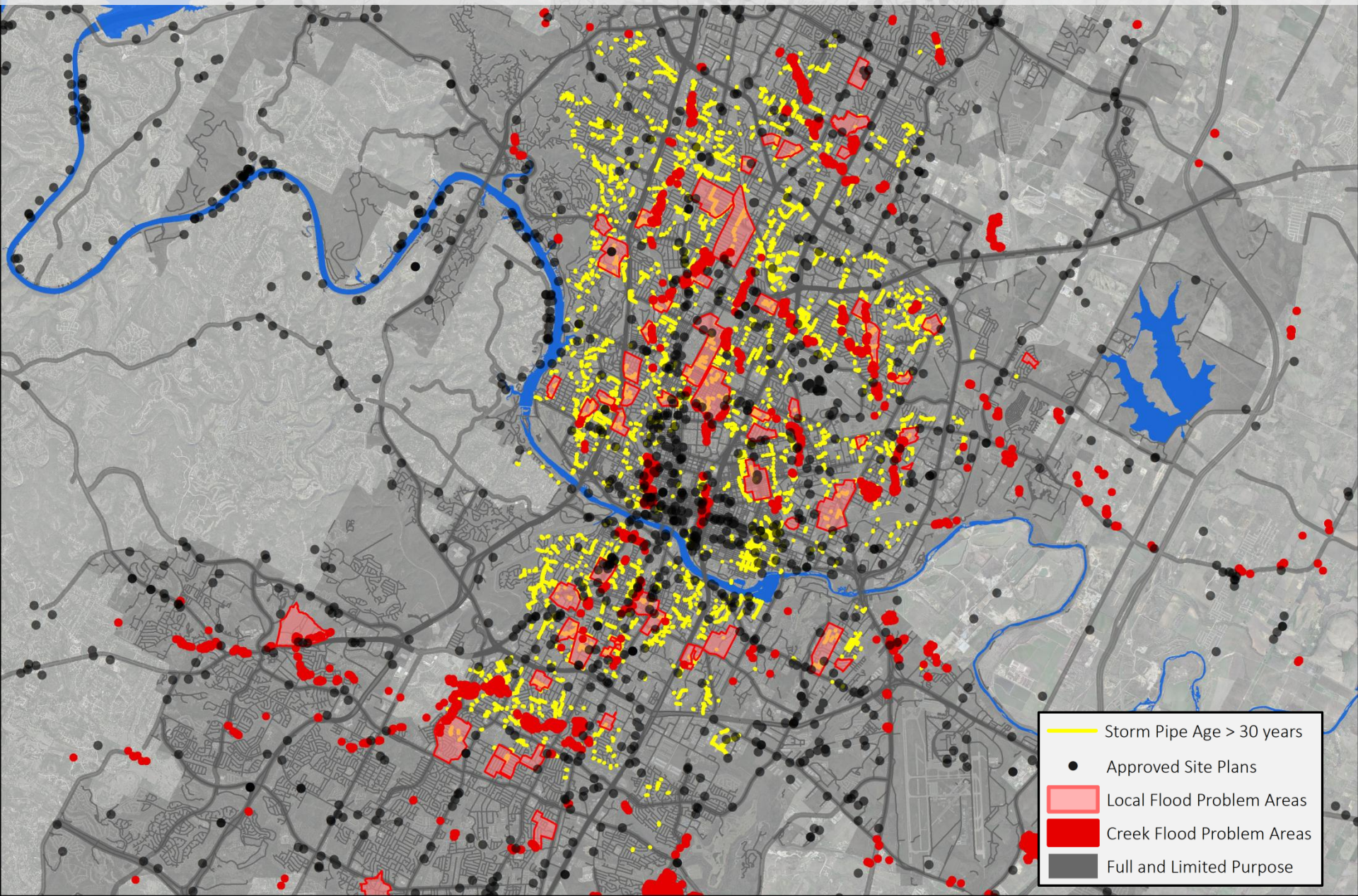
Approved Site Plans



Identified Local Flood Problem Areas



Identified Creek Flood Structure Problem Areas



Council Resolution: South Lamar

(Resolution no. 20140501-042)

- City Manager directed to develop a Mitigation Plan to address flooding in S. Lamar Neighborhood
- Will explore opportunities within CodeNEXT to:
 - protect a neighborhood's character, infrastructure, and safety
 - develop mitigation requirements to better manage density and its associated impacts



S. Lamar Blvd & Bluebonnet Ln



Del Curto Rd & Village Oak Ct

Current Flood Mitigation Code

Flood detention not required for redevelopment if impervious cover is not increased and drainage patterns are not changed.

§ 25-7-61(5a) - Criteria for Approval of Development Applications:

“A development application may not be approved unless [it] will not result in additional adverse flooding impact on another property”

Current Water Quality Code

- Similar pattern of water quality controls: lacking in urban core
- Water quality controls required for all redevelopment ($> 8,000 \text{ ft}^2$ impervious cover)
- Payment-in-lieu option (at City's discretion) for small sites in Urban watersheds
- Potential future subject of discussion

Potential Solutions: National Models

- Maryland (State Code)
- Virginia (State Code)
- Others? Staff will continue to research

National Models: Applicability

- When to apply? National criteria vary

Examples:

- Development exceeding a certain square footage on a lot that contains existing buildings
 - e.g. $> 5,000 \text{ ft}^2$ (Maryland)
- If downstream localized flooding exists (Virginia & Maryland)

Note: Austin requires structural water quality controls on projects $> 8,000 \text{ ft}^2$

Maryland Requirements

- Must mitigate 2-yr and 10-yr storm where:
 - Flooding problems exist
 - Downstream conveyance is inadequate
- Exemptions for detached single-family residential
- Waivers possible for infill projects in a Priority Funding Area that satisfy certain requirements

Virginia Requirements

- If erosion or localized flooding exists, site is required to mitigate a share of runoff impacts
- Reduce peak flow rate from 1.5-yr, 2-yr, and 10-yr storms to less-than-or-equal-to peak flow rate from pre-developed conditions (assumes “good forested condition”)
- 1% “rule of thumb” to determine extent of downstream impacts for study
 - Example presented later

Austin Case Studies

- Maria's Taco Express + Walgreens
- District at SoCo
- South Congress & Oltorf
- East Riverside Street Cottages

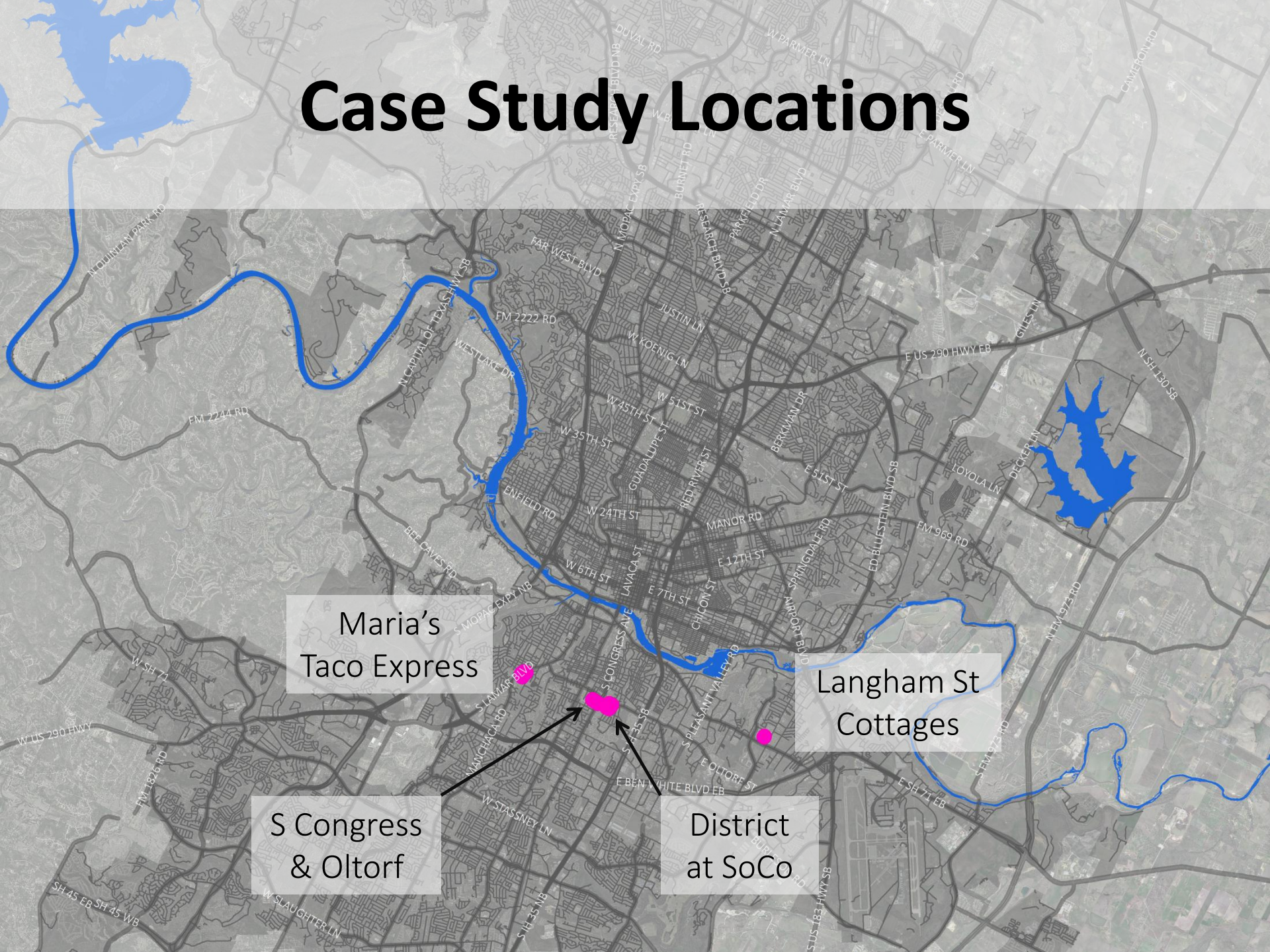
Case Study Locations

Maria's
Taco Express

Langham St
Cottages

S Congress
& Oltorf

District
at SoCo



Maria's Taco Express & Walgreens





2003: Original Site

Local Flood complaint points



100

Yards



Water Quality
Pond

2007: Redeveloped Site

Water quality controls (required by Code)

40

Yards

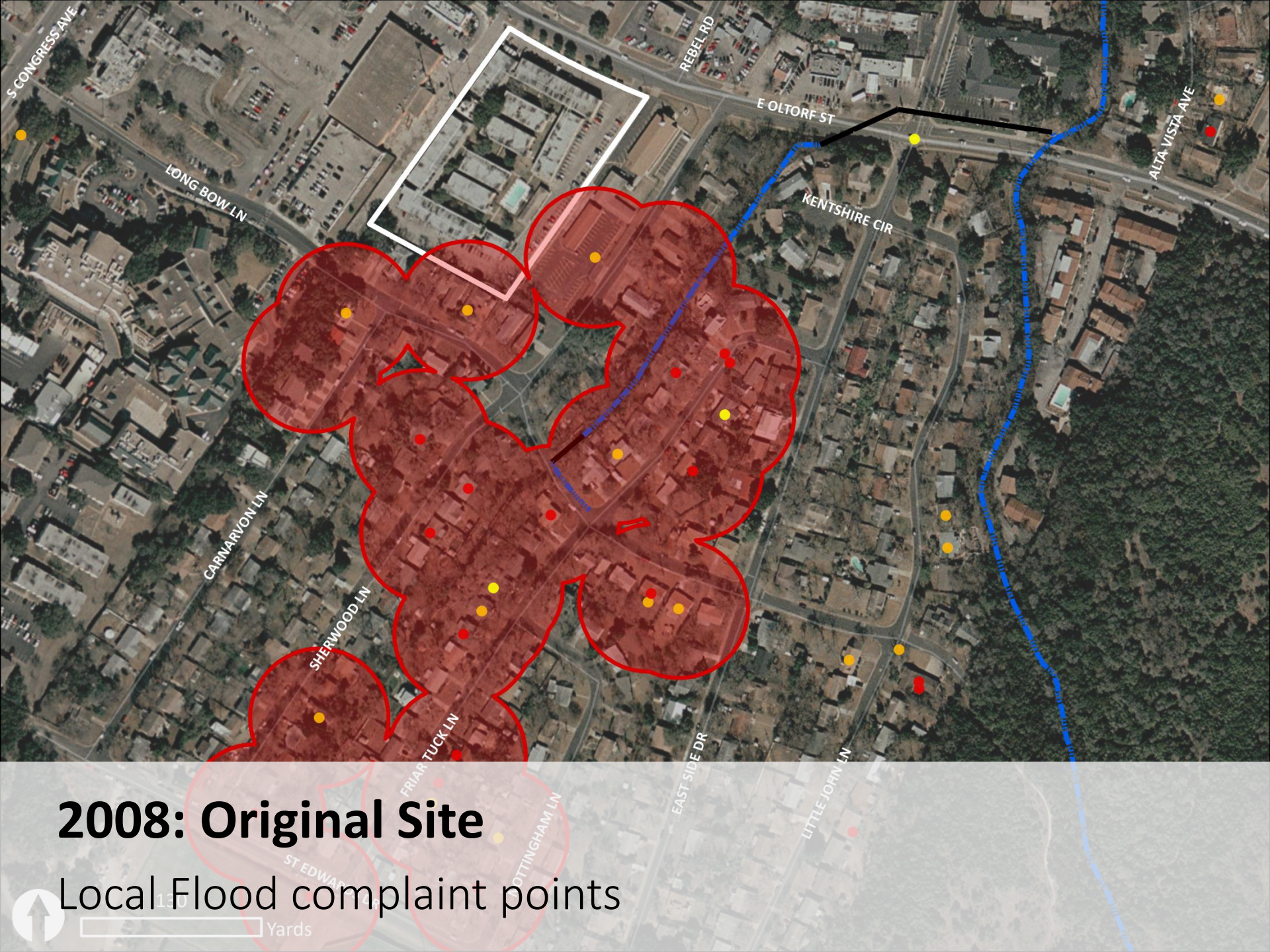


2007: Redeveloped Site

- PUD rezoning spurred negotiation with neighborhood, who requested detention of 100-yr → 10-yr storm
- Added flood detention vault under parking lot



District at SoCo



2008: Original Site

Local Flood complaint points

150 Yards

2009: Construction

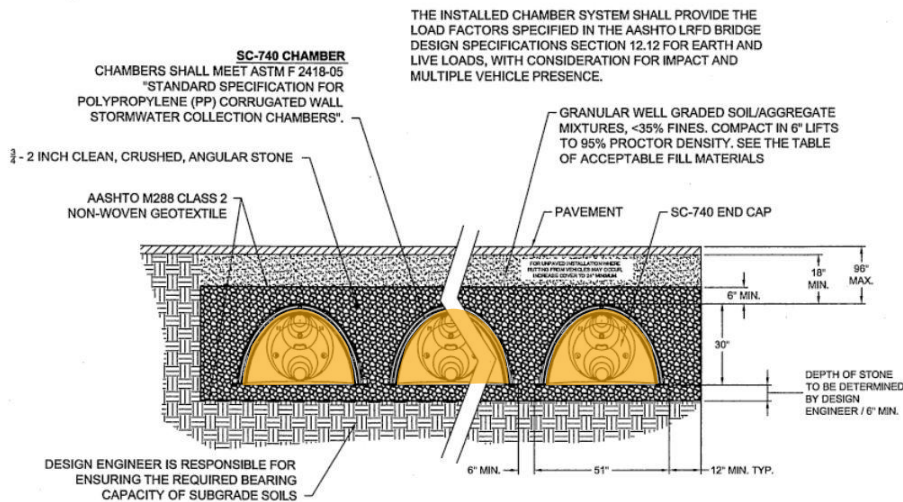
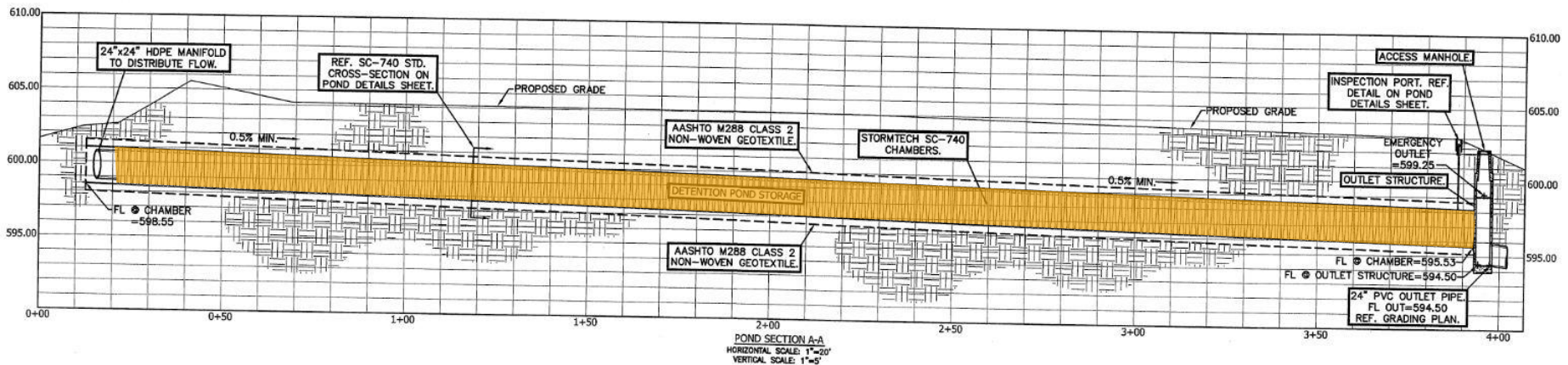
Originally designed to drain straight into Oltorf St



2012: Redeveloped Site

Flood detention (added after discussion with neighbors)





THIS CROSS SECTION DETAILS THE REQUIREMENTS NECESSARY TO SATISFY THE LOAD FACTORS SPECIFIED IN THE AASHTO LRFD BRIDGE DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS SECTION 12.12 FOR EARTH AND LIVE LOADS USING STORMTECH CHAMBERS

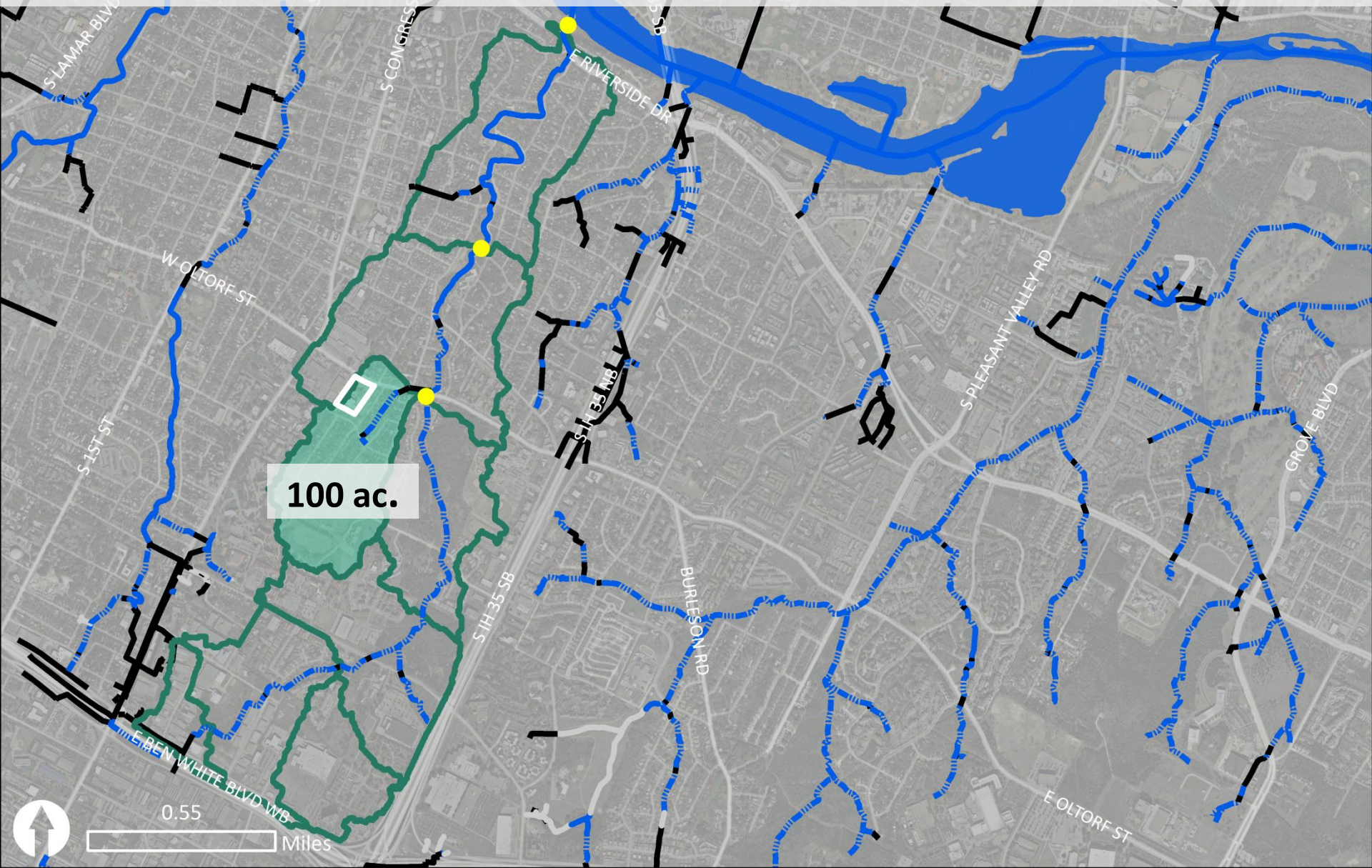


Virginia Evaluation Protocol

- “1% rule of thumb” mechanism for implementing VA’s detention requirement
- Must conduct analysis for adverse flood impacts for a drainage area $\geq 100\times$ the site’s area
- HEC-HMS basins and nodes form basis of analysis
- Gives logical ending point for analysis

Virginia Evaluation Protocol

3.96 acre site x 100 = 396 acres (min. area evaluated)



Virginia Evaluation Protocol

3.96 acre site x 100 = 396 acres (min. area evaluated)

100 + 405 = 505 Acres > 396 Acres
Ready for analysis

100 ac.

405 ac.

*Must ensure
conveyance
to this node*

0.55

Miles

South Congress & Oltorf





Existing Restaurant

1.5 Acres - Not yet redeveloped

Yards



**Stormdrain
Improvement**

**Open
Channel**

**November 2014: City of Austin WPD storm
drain upgrades add downstream capacity**

Property now eligible for RSMP Participation

A street-level photograph of a residential neighborhood. The street is paved and has "Brassie St" painted on it in white. On the left, there's a sidewalk, a grassy area, and a black metal fence. In the background, there are several small, white, single-story houses with brown roofs, surrounded by green trees. A tall wooden utility pole with many power lines stands on the left side of the street. The sky is a clear, bright blue. The overall scene is a sunny day in a suburban area.

East Riverside Cottages (Langham & Brassie)



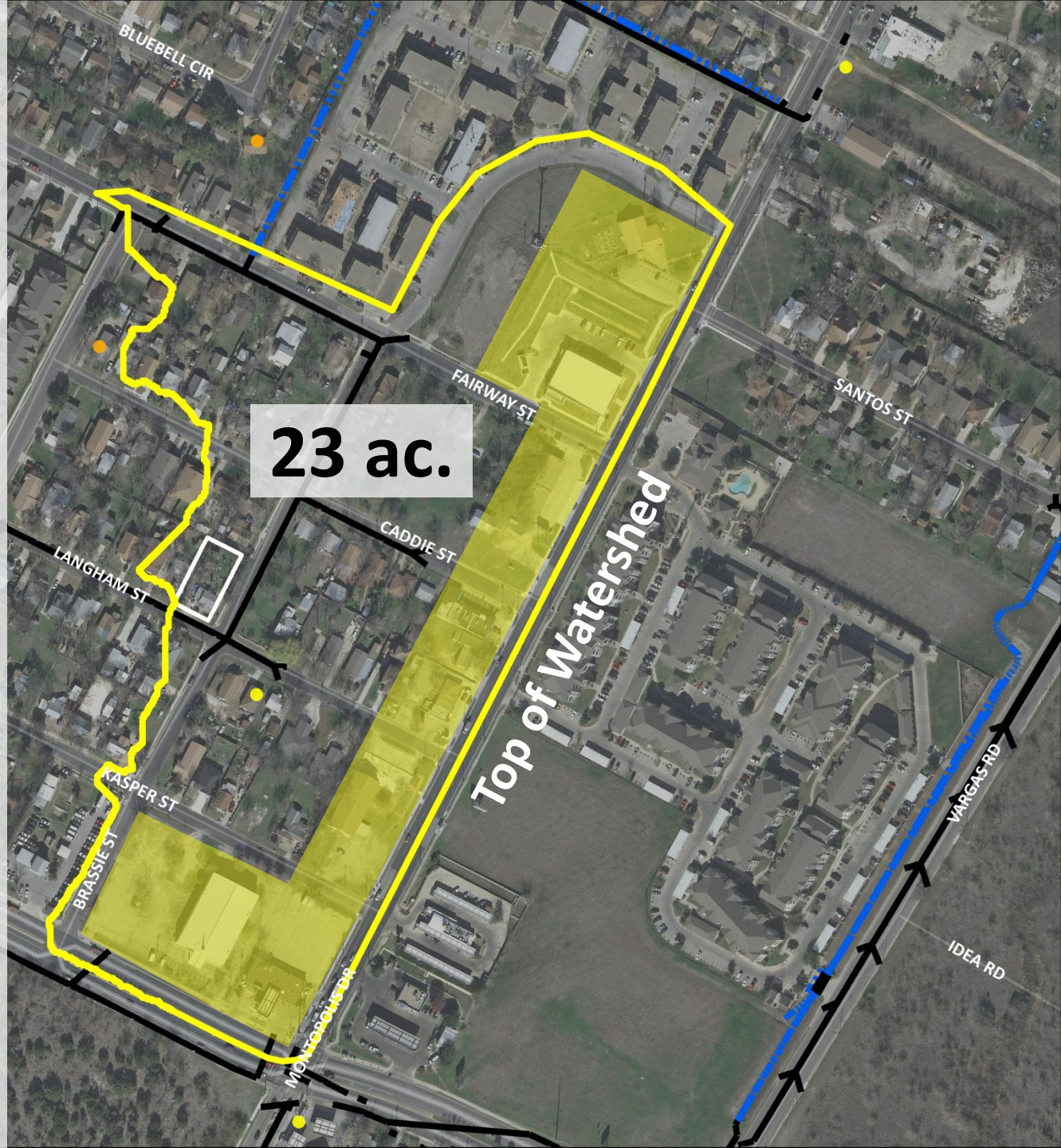
Subdivision into 3 lots

0.23³ acres

Yards

Site is at the
bottom of a
subarea:
**improved
conveyance;
payment-in-lieu**

Properties at
the top of a
subarea:
detain on-site



Small Group Discussion

- How might we achieve flood mitigation for redevelopment?
- If so, under what conditions?
 - Only in areas with existing downstream problems?
 - Only apply to larger projects? How large?
 - Mitigation to pre-development conditions? Other?
- What are the public & private cost implications?
- Other considerations?

Green Infrastructure Working Group Schedule

Kickoff	Jan. 30
Land Cover & Natural Function	Feb. 20
Integrate Nature into the City	Mar. 13
Beneficial Use of Stormwater	Apr. 10
Stormwater Options for Redevelopment & Infill	May 15
Integration of Green Elements	June 5

Contact Information

Matt Hollon

Watershed Protection Department
City of Austin

(512) 974-2212

matt.hollon@austintexas.gov

Erin Wood

Watershed Protection Department
City of Austin

(512) 974-2809

erin.wood@austintexas.gov

Green Infrastructure Working Group:

<http://www.austintexas.gov/page/green-infrastructure-working-group>