

Clean Rivers Project Briefing

Prepared for

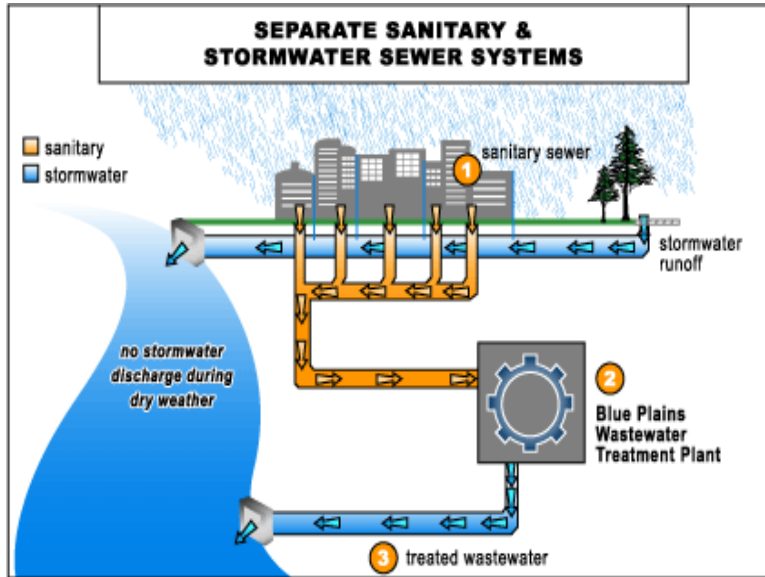
U.S. Senate Briefing

CSO Challenges and Innovations

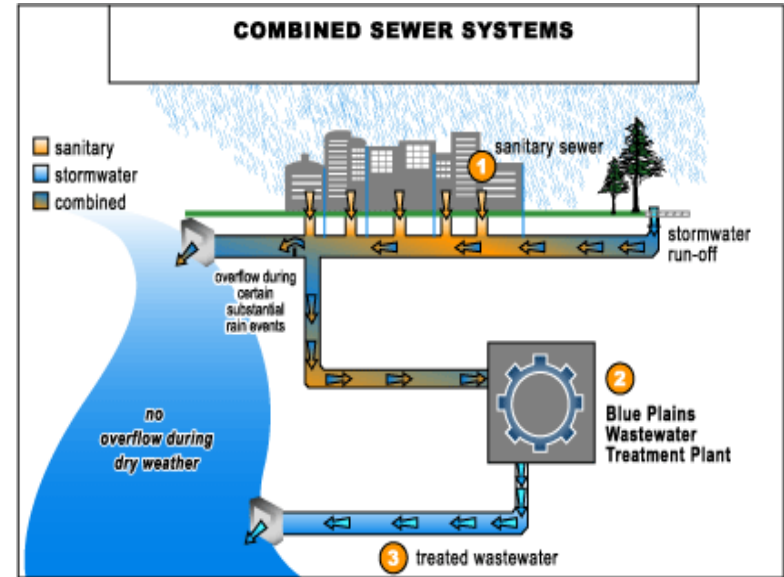
May 16, 2012



Separate and Combined Sewer Systems



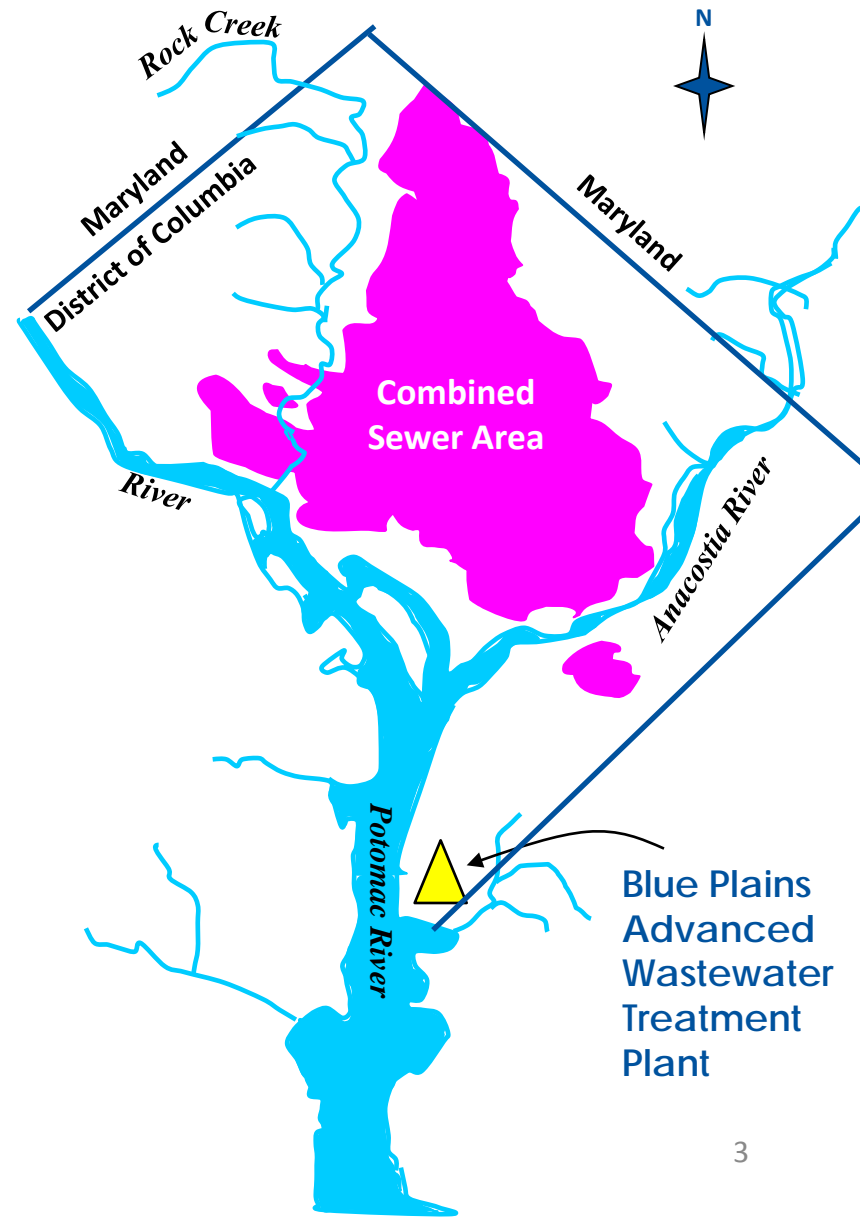
**100% of suburbs
67% of D.C.**



**0% of suburbs
33% of D.C.**

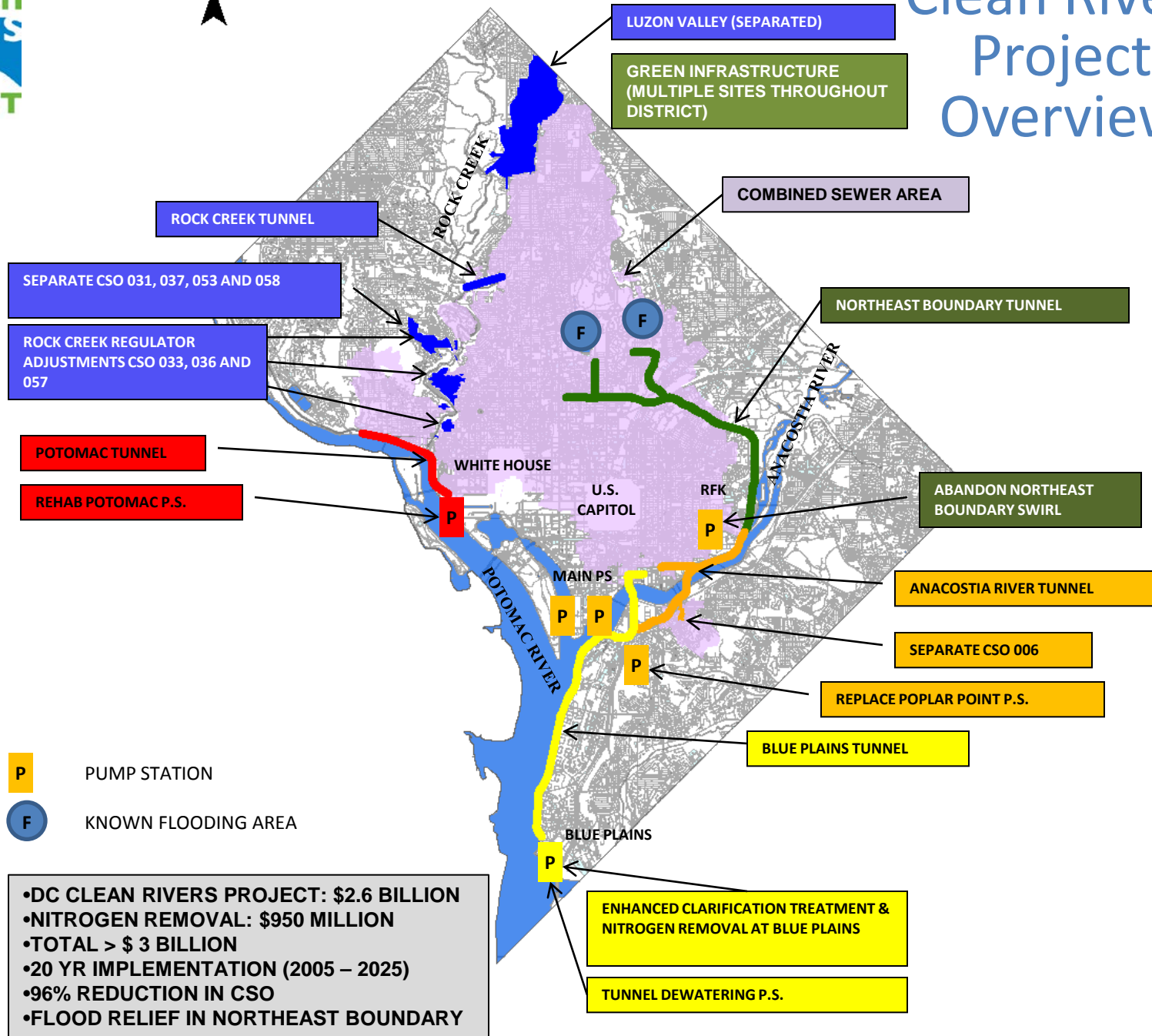
Combined Sewer System (CSS)

- One third of District of Columbia is served by the CSS
- CSS (built by Army Corp of Engineers) serves majority of federal government facilities in the District
- Serves millions of visitors to the Nation's Capital annually
- Total of 53 Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) outfalls:
 - 15 to Anacostia
 - 10 to Potomac
 - 28 to Rock Creek
- Three receiving waters
 - Anacostia River
 - Potomac River
 - Rock Creek
- A portion of CSS also serves Maryland and Virginia



How did we get here?

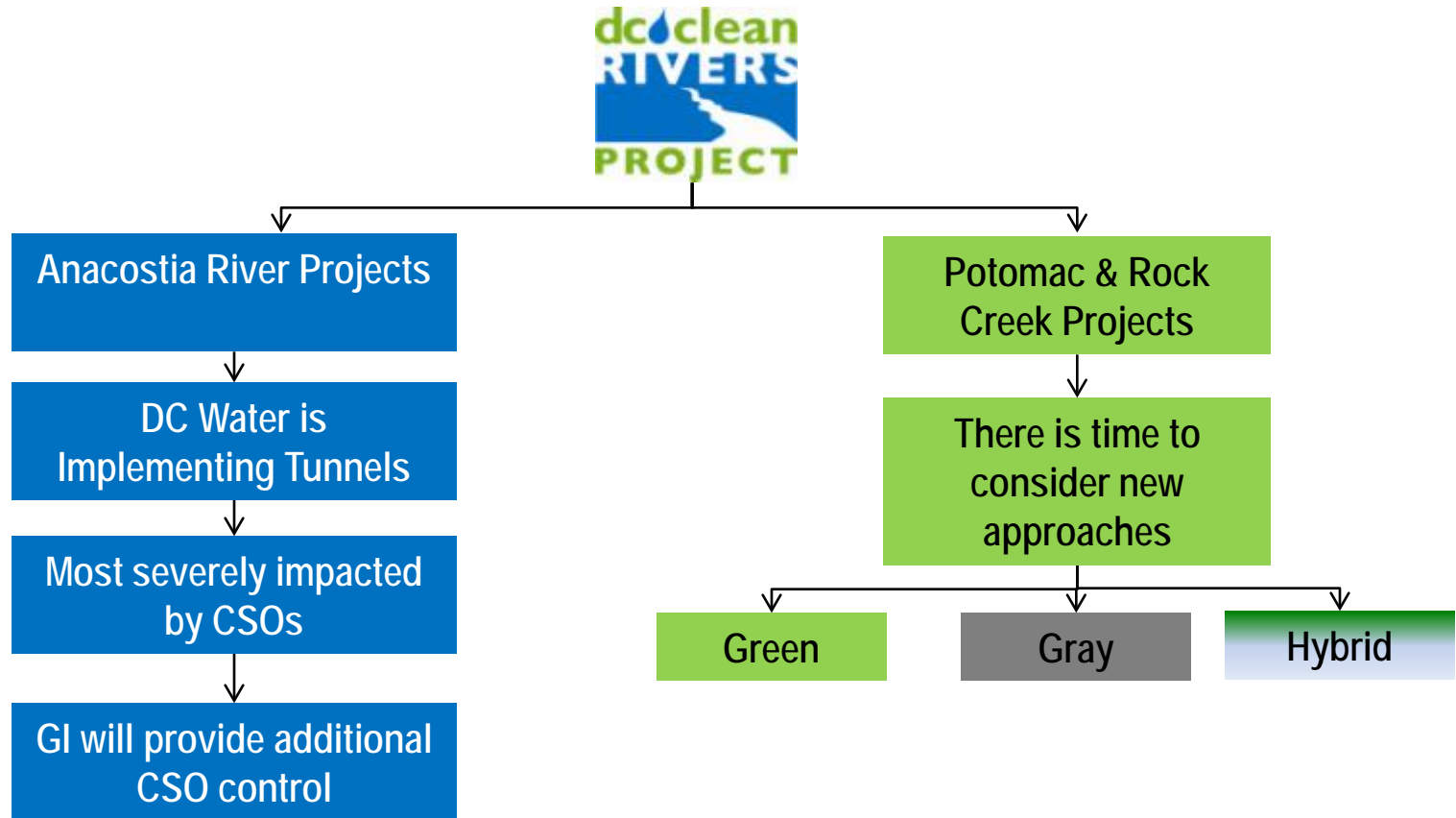
- **1800's Federal government built DC combined sewer system**
- 1972 Clean Water Act PL 92-500 – Outlines broad based water quality goals
- **1973 DC Home Rule Act – Federal government transfers municipal government responsibilities including sewer system/wastewater plant to locally elected officials**
- 1994 USEPA issues a national CSO Control Policy
- Implementation of minimum technology based CSO controls-- requires the development of CSO Long Term Control Plan (LTCP)
- 2000 CSO policy became law as Wet Weather Quality Act 2000 CWA 402(q)
- 2000 USEPA implements CSO Control Policy through NPDES permit
- **2005 DCWASA and the District entered into consent decree with USDOJ/USEPA**
- Consent decree outlines schedule for LTCP projects
- 2012 DC Water negotiating with USEPA to amend Consent Decree to include expanded green infrastructure component



Project Benefits

- 96% reduction in CSO volume
- Lowered levels of bacteria
- Trash produced from CSOs virtually eliminated
- Flood relief in Northeast Washington, DC
- Reduced cost for nitrogen removal program
- Community benefits:
 - Promote and enhance recreation near waterways
 - Increase property values
 - Improve public safety/cleanliness
 - Extend pavement lifespan

Adaptive Management Alternative



Why Adaptive Management?

- Consistent with EPA Policy directives
- Test effectiveness - level of certainty needed for billion dollar investment
- Demonstration large enough to provide meaningful results
- Allows for public input and consultation
- Allows for green infrastructure to grow and be evaluated
- Allows addressing water quality standards as part of process
- Results can be extended to MS4 system – national benefit

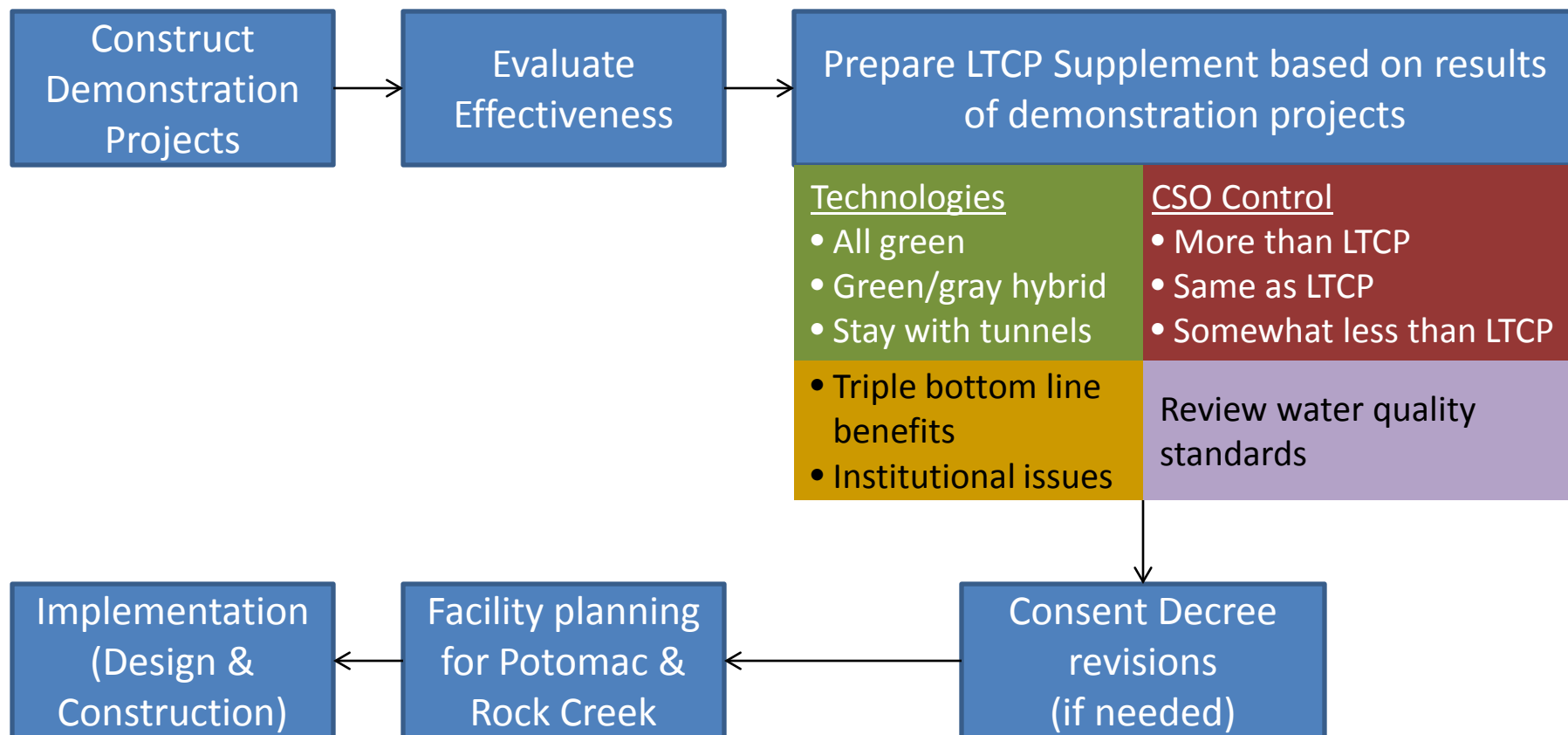
Advantages

- Local job creation
- Economic and neighborhood revitalization
- Energy savings
- Anacostia is being built
- Highest % capture

What is Needed?

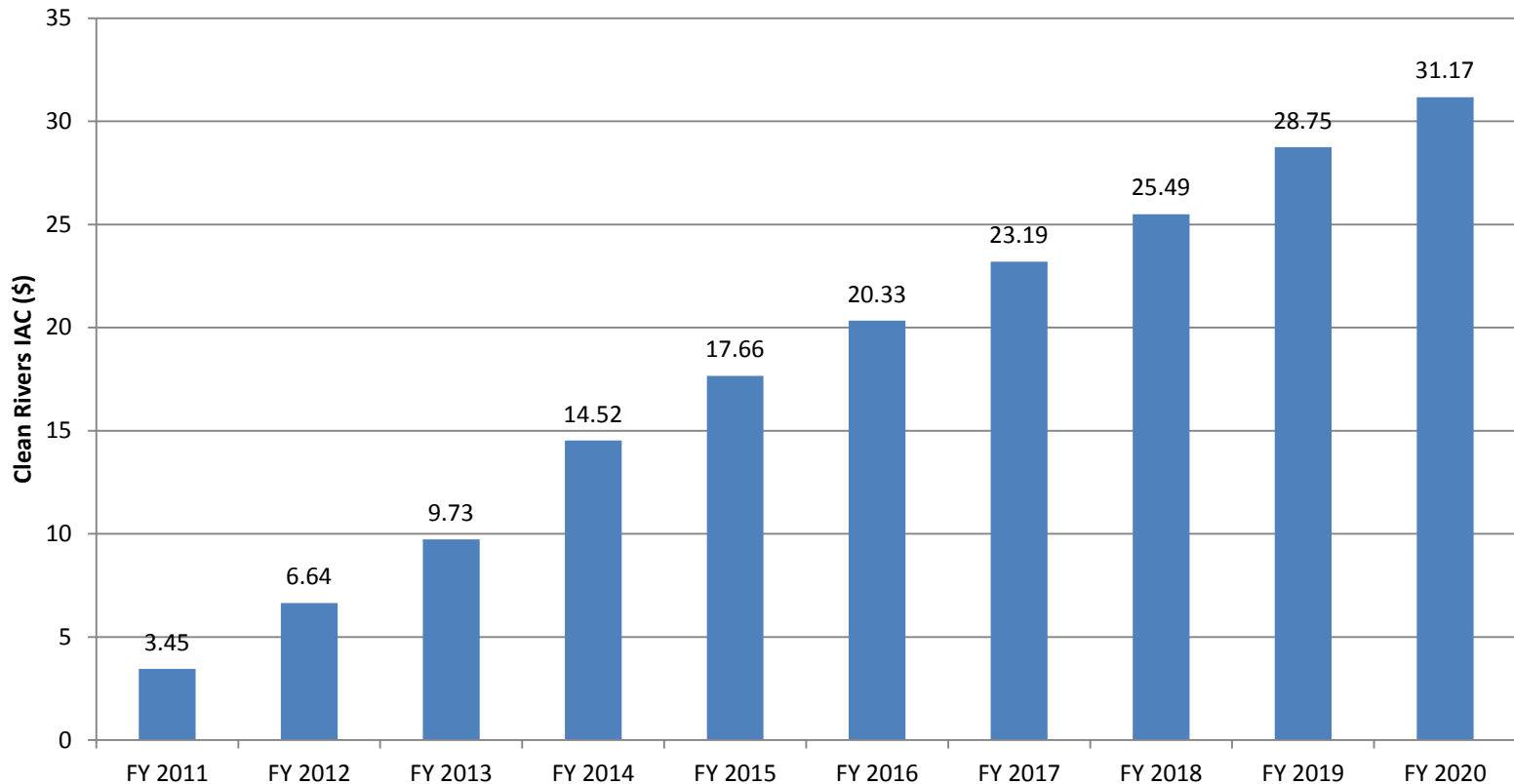
- Time for full scale demonstration
- Time to address Institutional Issues
- Careful selection of representative sites

Proposed Approach





Clean Rivers Impervious Area Charge (IAC) Ratepayer Impact





Significance of Federal Participation

- Clean Rivers project addresses improvements to a system designed and constructed by the federal government
- CSO improvements have been mandated by the federal government (USEPA/DOJ)
- Completed project will enhance the quality of the Nation's Capital and multi-jurisdictional waterways
- Federal government largely resides in CSO areas and is largest ratepayer for DC Water services and infrastructure
- Funding gaps will have to be assumed by small pool of individual ratepayers (approximately 130,000 retail customers)
- Wastewater and water infrastructure investment stimulates the economy and creates jobs - U.S. Conference of Mayors found that for every 1 job added in water and sewer, 3.68 jobs are created in the national economy to support that job

Thank You!



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