



MOUNTAIN  
REGIONAL  
WATER

# Initial Screening of Alternatives

## Signal Hill Water Treatment Plant Optimization

Advisory Control Board Meeting | Thursday September 19, 2024



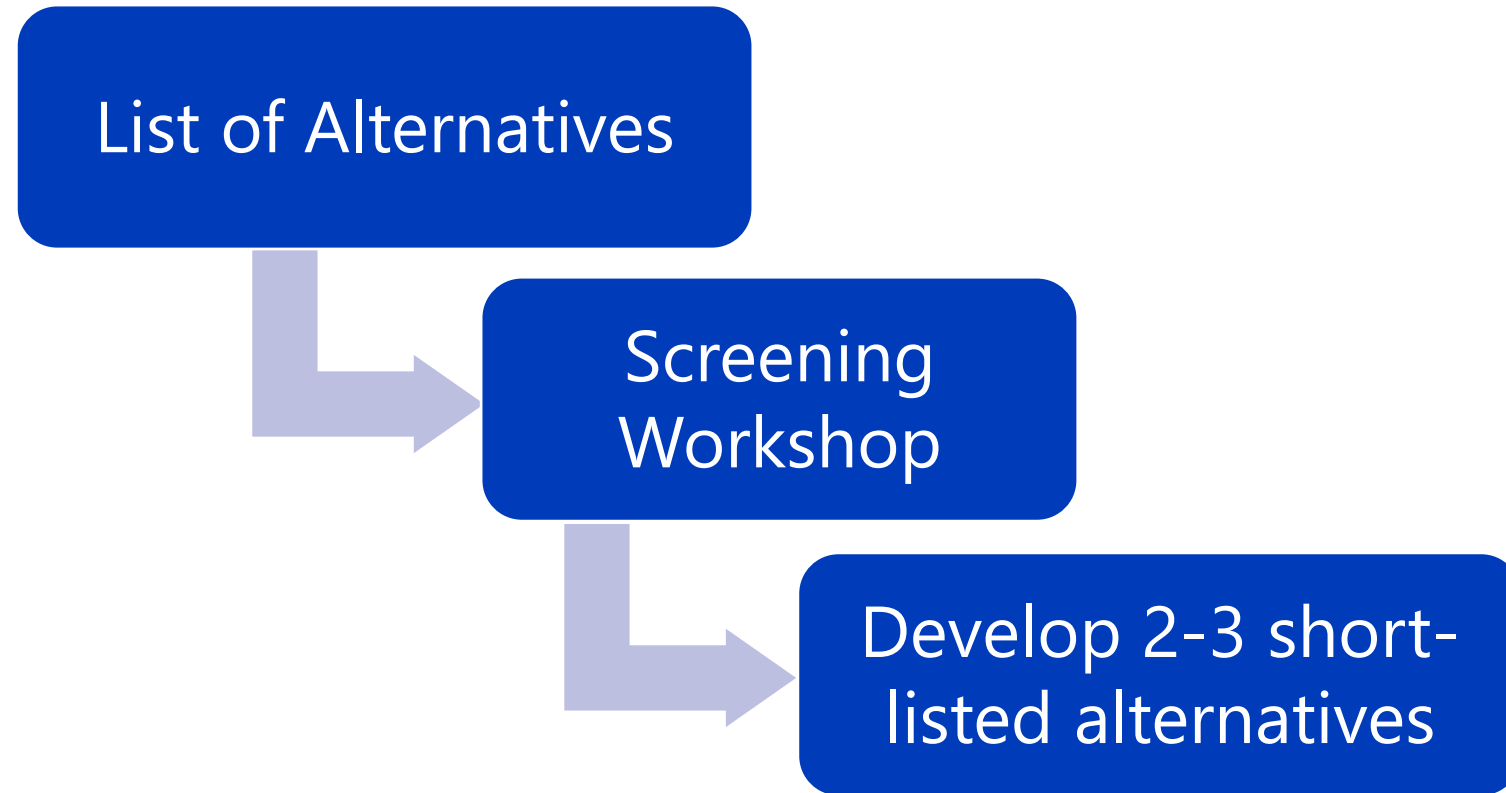
# — Agenda

- Introduction and Background
- Discussion of Big-Picture Alternatives
- Shortlisted Alternatives
- Summary
- Wrap up and Next Steps



# Introduction and Background

# Conceptual Design Workflow



# — Today's Meeting

- Discuss list of alternatives for future of SHWTP and use of Lost Canyon water
- Discuss how we screened alternatives to a shortlist for further evaluation

# The initial screening has the following caveats:

- Not based on in-depth analysis, detailed capital/O&M costs, etc.
- Rather, based on big-picture criteria, must-haves, pros/cons.
- Using Jacobs' previous costs as an anchor point and adding order-of-magnitude costs where needed.
- Does not include in-depth screening of individual process decisions (e.g., send residuals to SBWRD vs. mechanical dewatering).

# Establish big-picture criteria for the initial screening

- Meet increased demand
- Fully utilize Lost Canyon water
- Meet water quality objectives
- Increase safety
- Improve operations & maintenance
- Provide reliability/redundancy
- Future resilience (e.g., regulatory changes, wildfire, etc.)
- Capital and O&M costs

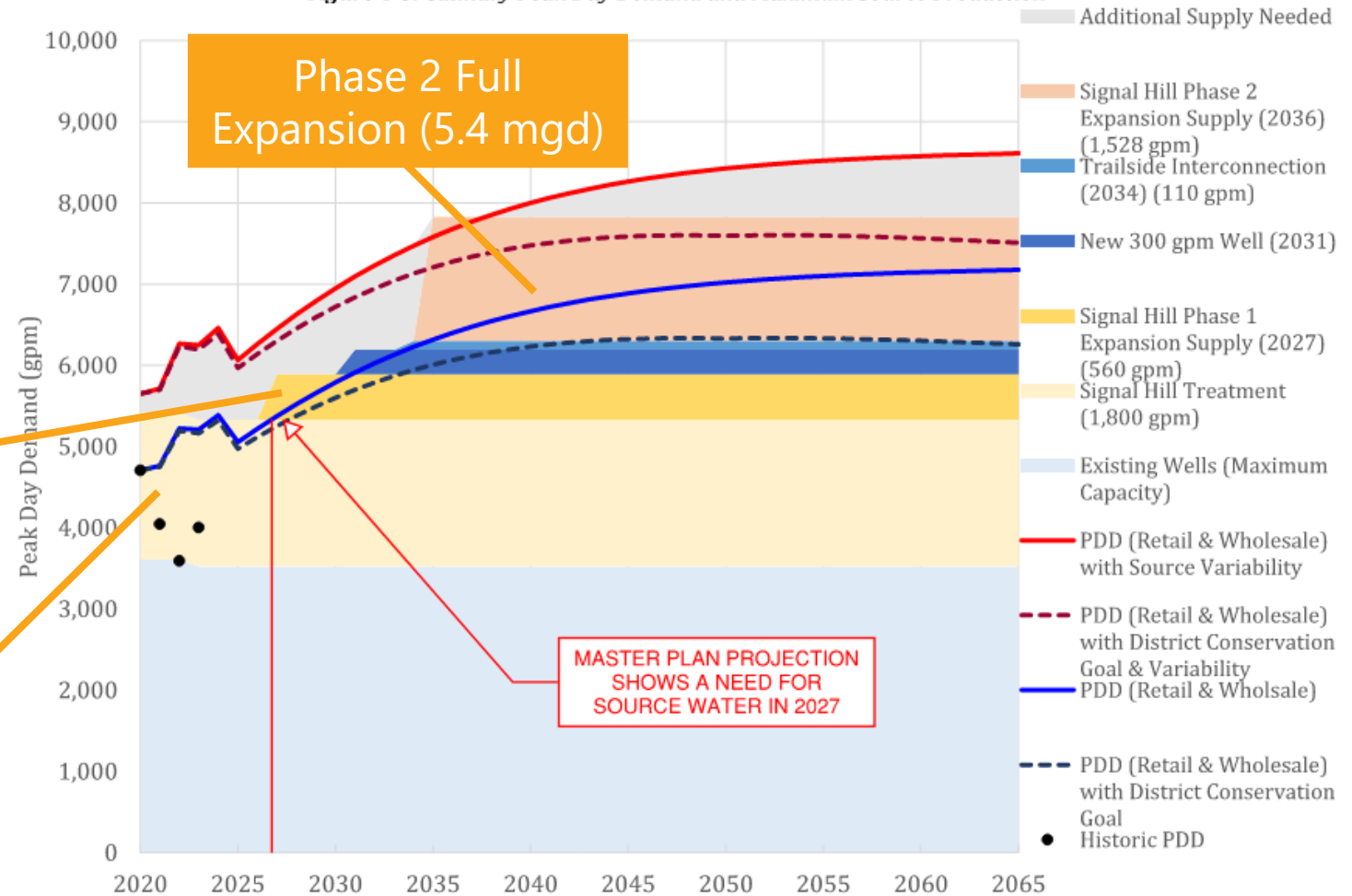
# MRW system demands are projected to increase

Current plan is to expand SHWTP to fully utilize 5.4 mgd Lost Canyon project capacity

Optimization/  
Expansion Phase 1  
(3.4 mgd)

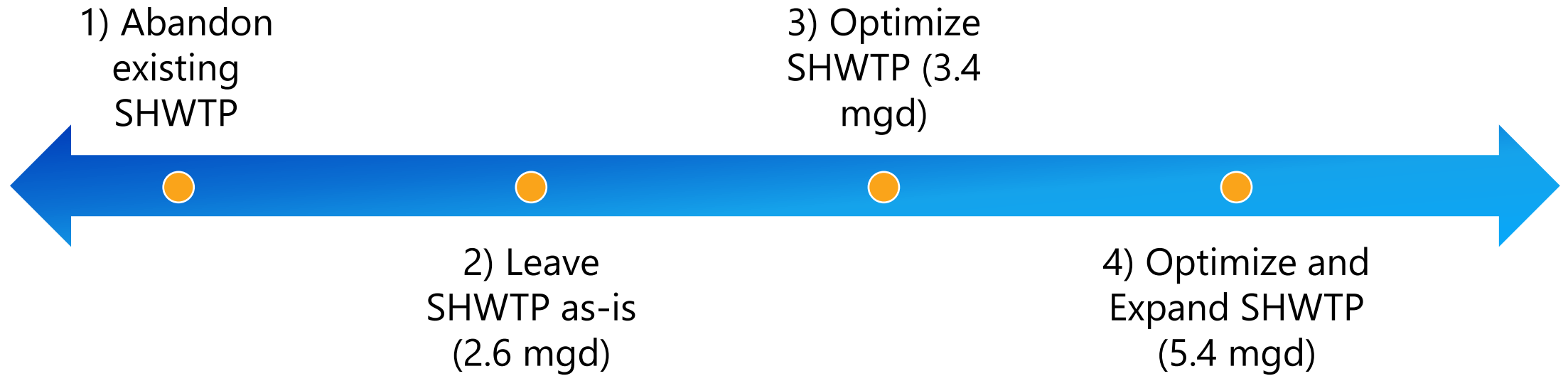
Existing SHWTP  
Capacity (2.6 mgd)

Figure 4-5: Culinary Peak Day Demand and Maximum Source Production





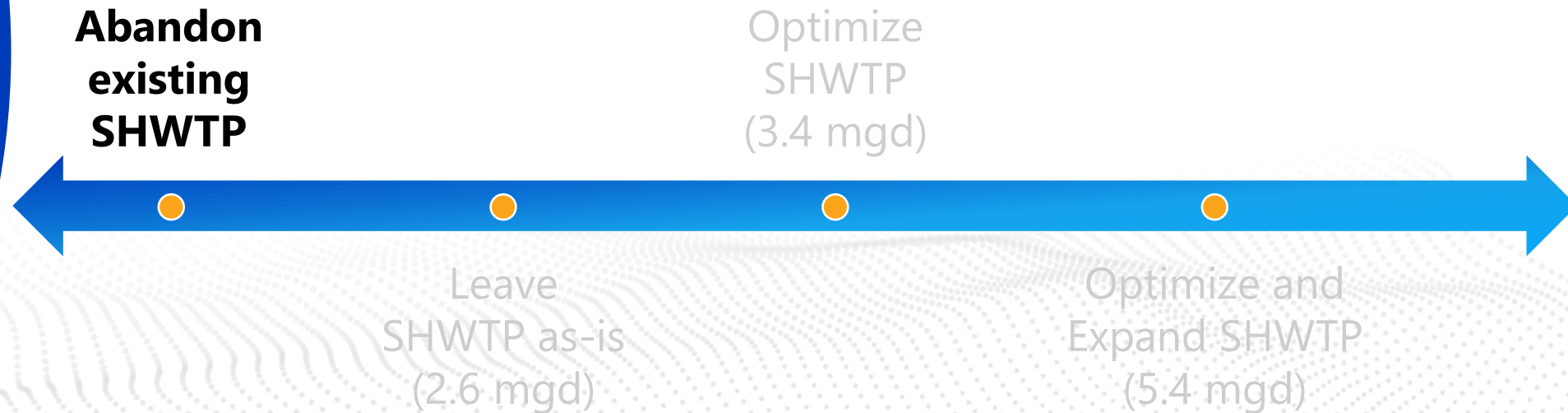
# There is a range of big-picture alternatives



ALTERNATIVE

01

# Abandon existing SHWTP



# 1) Abandon existing SHWTP and...

## ❖ **1a) Purchase wholesale water (5.4 mgd)**

### Pros

- Avoid capital investment in SHWTP

### Cons

- Stranded SHWTP assets
- Capital investment to convey finished water from PCMC to MRW
- Ongoing water fees paid to PCMC
- Lose control over rate increases
- Lose control over treatment operations
- Existing legal framework
- Trigger importation project earlier than otherwise
- Reassign treatment staff

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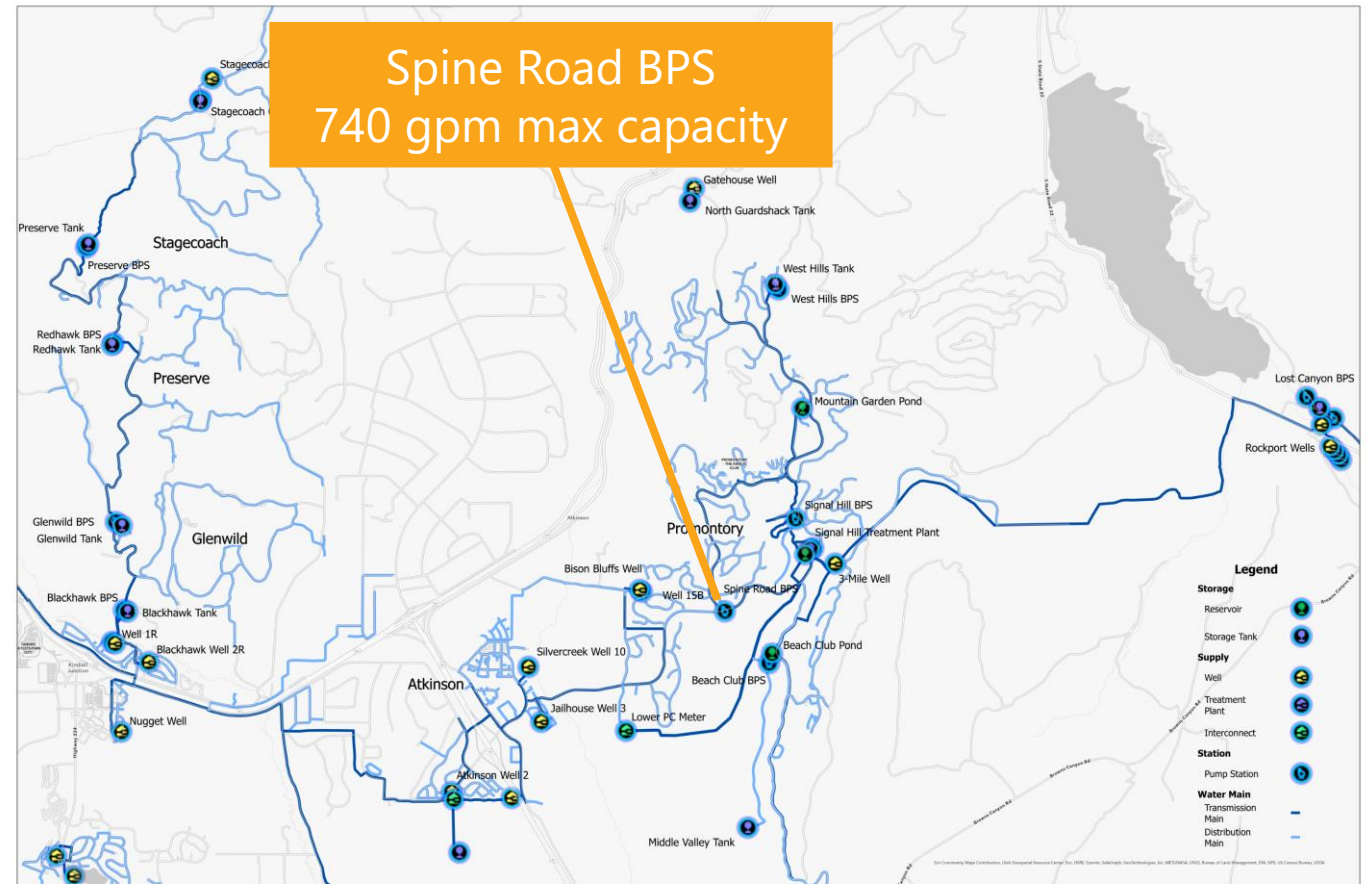
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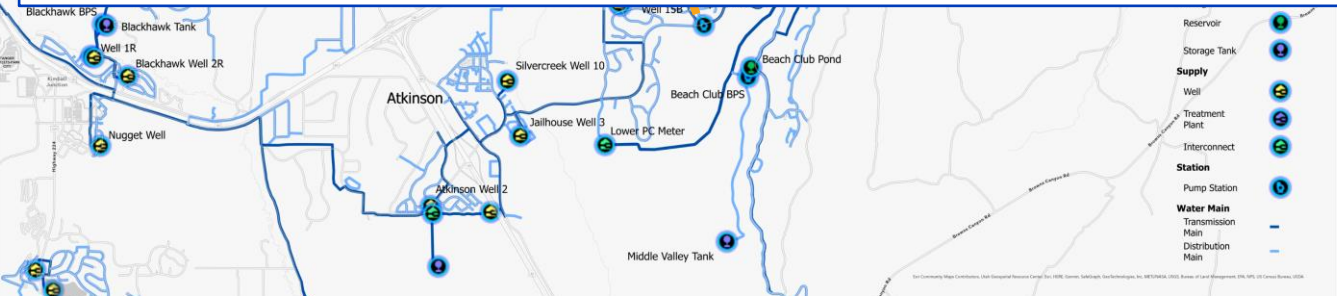
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**Table 5-1. Expansion vs. Interconnect, Life Cycle Cost Comparisons**

	Park City Interconnect + 3.4 mgd SHWTP	SHWTP Expansion to 5.4 mgd
<b>Capital Costs</b>		
Resiliency and Redundancy Project	\$21,982,000	\$21,982,000
SHWTP Expansion to 5.4 mgd Project	\$0	\$5,676,000
Park City Interconnect Project	\$1,878,000	\$0
<b>Annual O&amp;M Costs and Water Fees</b>		
Annual Average SHWTP Production, mgd	2.6	2.7
Annual SHWTP Operational Cost	\$620,000	\$623,000
Annual Average Interconnect Flow, gpm	399	0
Annual Park City Interconnect Water Fees	\$2,477,000	\$0
25-year Net Present Value <sup>a</sup>	\$47,058,000	\$32,325,000

<sup>a</sup>Net Present Value is based on the construction cost plus a discount rate of 5.0% for a 25-year period for O&M cost.



The map displays the water distribution network, including wells (Well 1R, Well 15B, Silvercreek Well 10, Jailhouse Well 3, Atkinson Well 2, Nugget Well, Blackhawk Well 2R), tanks (Blackhawk Tank, Middle Valley Tank), and various stations (Beach Club BPS, Lower PC Meter). It also shows interconnect lines and water mains (Transmission, Main, Distribution).

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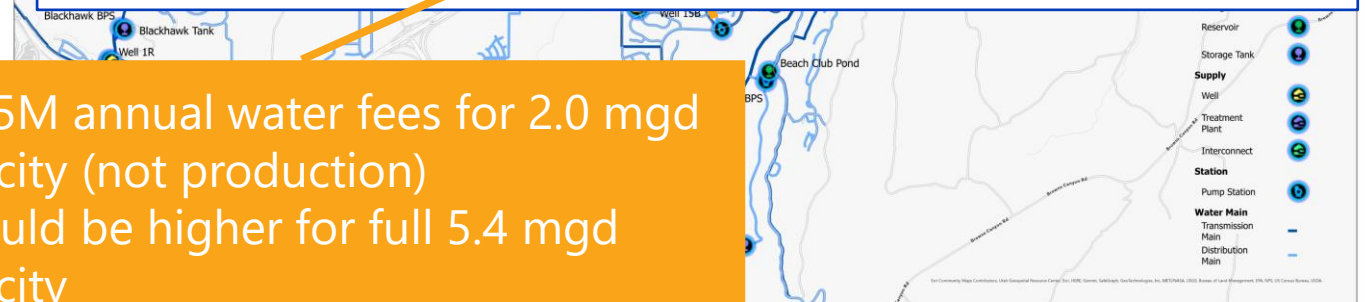
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- \$2.5M annual water fees for 2.0 mgd capacity (not production)  
- Would be higher for full 5.4 mgd capacity



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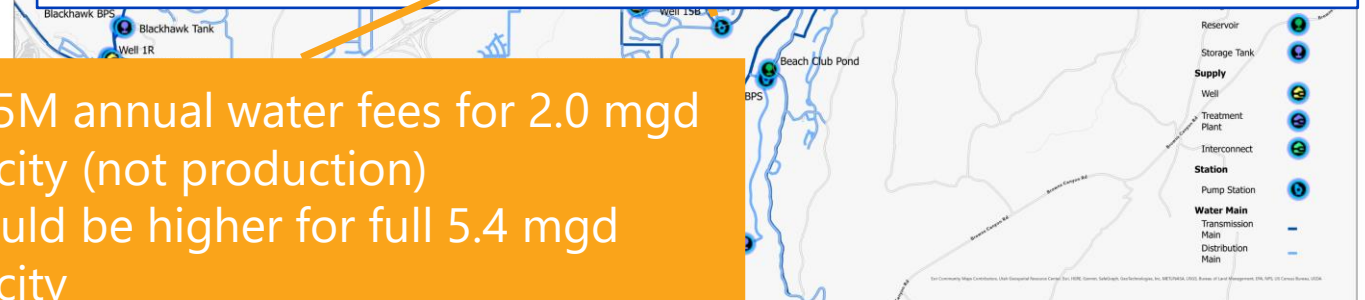
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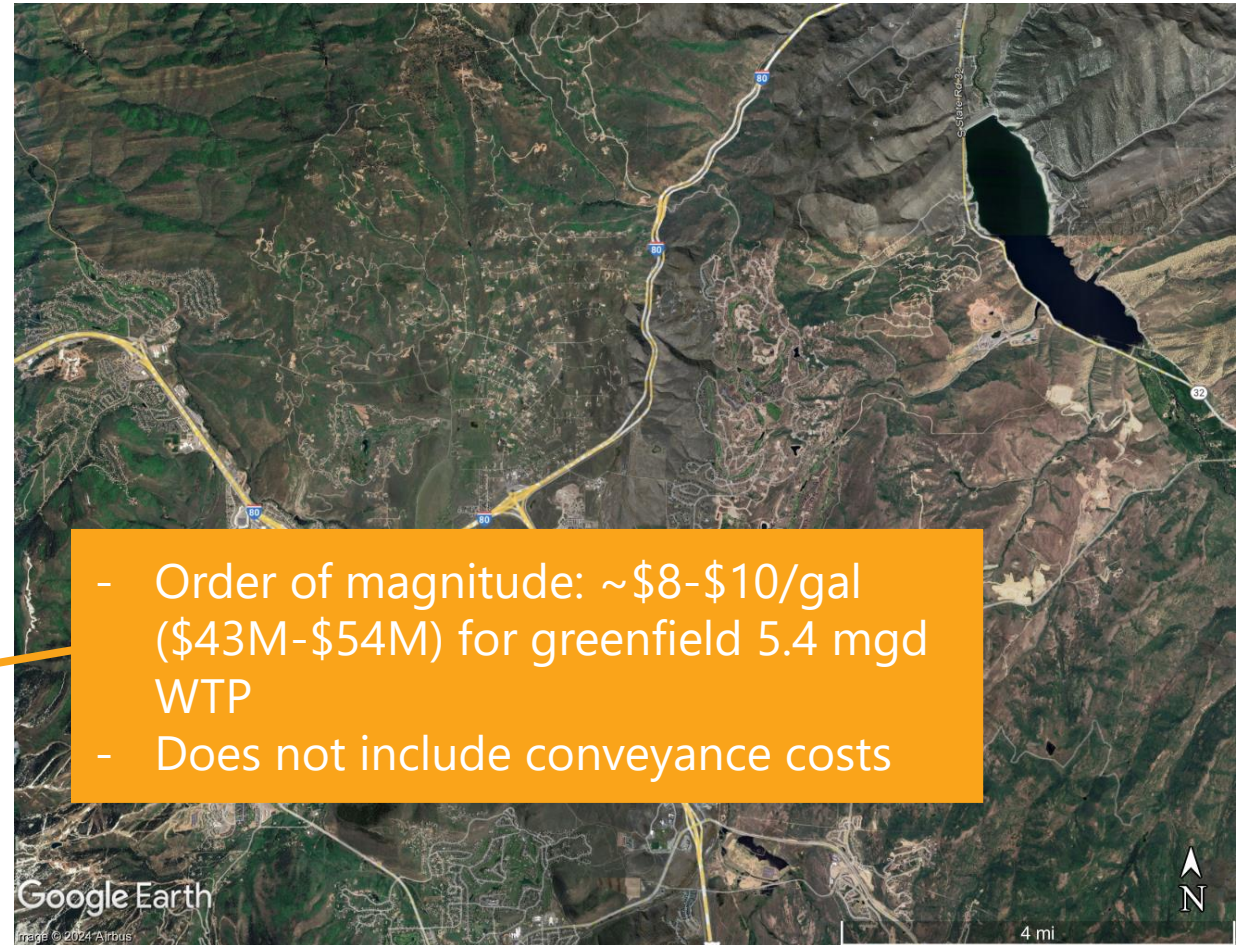
## ❖ 1b) Rebuild at another location (5.4 mgd)

### Pros

- Start from scratch, can build well-configured treatment facility resilient to future changes (e.g., wildfire)
- Can keep existing plant online during construction

### Cons

- High capital cost for new WTP
- Capital costs to convey raw water to new site and convey finished water back to Signal Hill site where system needs it.
- Signal Hill stranded assets



- Order of magnitude: ~\$8-\$10/gal (\$43M-\$54M) for greenfield 5.4 mgd WTP
- Does not include conveyance costs



# 1) Abandon existing SHWTP and...

## ❖ 1c) Demo and rebuild at the Promontory location in existing footprint

### Pros

- Start from scratch, can build robust treatment facility resilient to future changes (e.g., wildfire)
- No need to reconfigure raw water conveyance.

### Cons

- High capital cost for new WTP
- Capital investment to convey finished water from PCMC to MRW during construction



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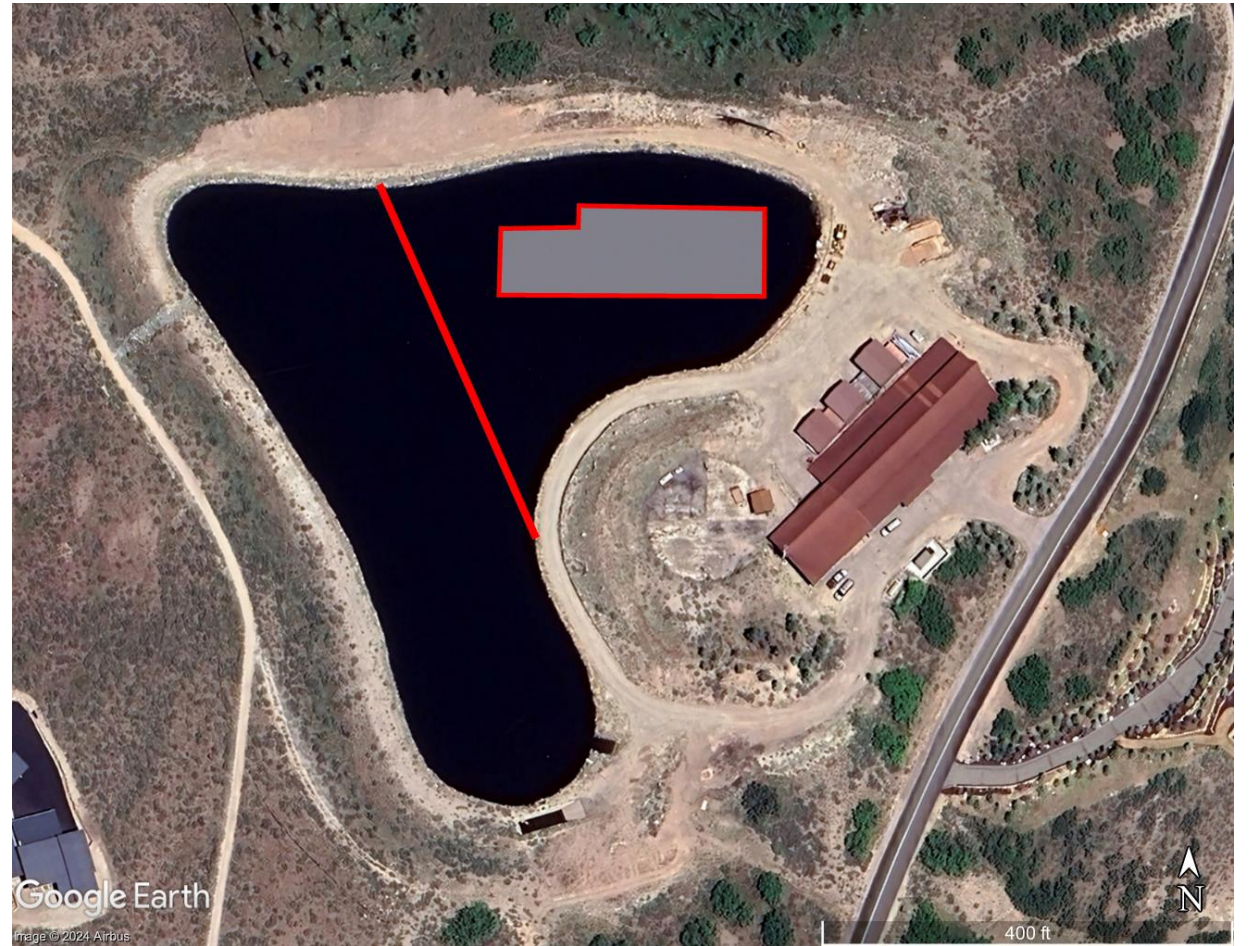
## ❖ 1c) Demo and rebuild at the Promontory location in pond footprint

### Pros

- Start from scratch, can build robust treatment facility resilient to future changes (regulator and/or wildfire)
- Build new WTP while existing remains online.
- No need to reconfigure raw water or finished water conveyance.

### Cons

- High capital cost for new WTP
- High capital cost to reconfigure Signal Hill pond.



# 1) Abandon existing SHWTP and...

## ❖ 1d) Build new on an "Adjacent" Property

### Pros

- Start from scratch, can build robust treatment facility resilient to future changes (regulator and/or wildfire)
- Build new WTP while existing remains online.
- Only small reconfiguration of raw water and finished water conveyance.

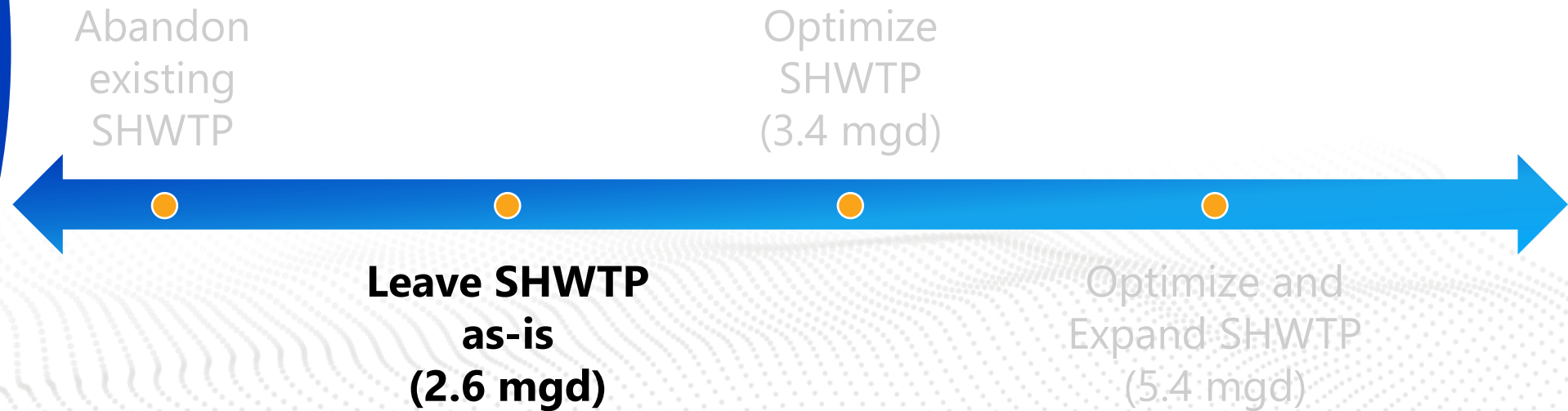
### Cons

- High capital cost for new WTP
- High to purchase new property.



ALTERNATIVE  
**02**

# Leave SHWTP as-is



## 2) Leave SHWTP as-is (2.6 mgd) and...

### ❖ 2a) Purchase wholesale water (2.8 mgd) and no capital investment

#### Pros

- No capital investment in SHWTP

#### Cons

- Does not address safety, operations, and maintenance concerns of the existing SHWTP
- Capital costs to convey finished water from PCMC to MRW system
- Ongoing PCMC water fees
- Still needs investment (e.g., membrane replacements, GAC replacements, etc.)
- Existing legal framework
- Trigger importation project earlier than otherwise



This feels like a non-starter

## 2) Leave SHWTP (2.6 mgd) as-is and...

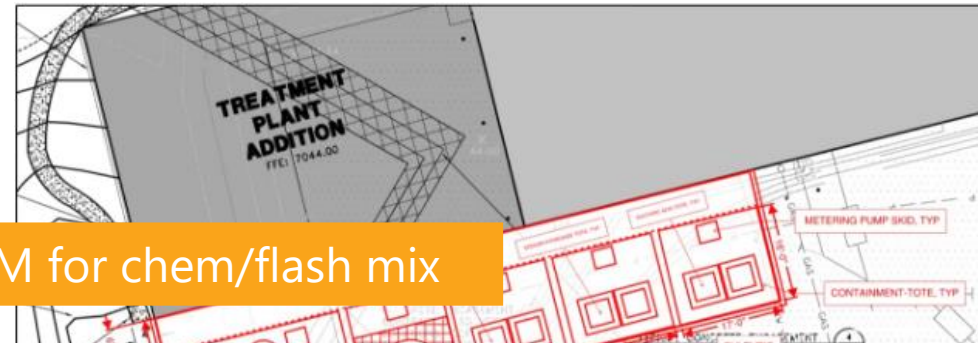
### ❖ 2b) Purchase wholesale water (2.8 mgd) and minimal investment in SHWTP

#### Pros

- Minimizing investment in SHWTP
- Address essentials, e.g., chemical bldg., flash mix

#### Cons

- Does not address all safety, operations, and maintenance concerns of the existing SHWTP
- Capital costs to convey finished water from PCMC to MRW system
- PCMC water fees
- Still needs investment (e.g., replace membranes periodically, GAC replacements, etc.)



~\$5M for chem/flash mix

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>\$1.8M

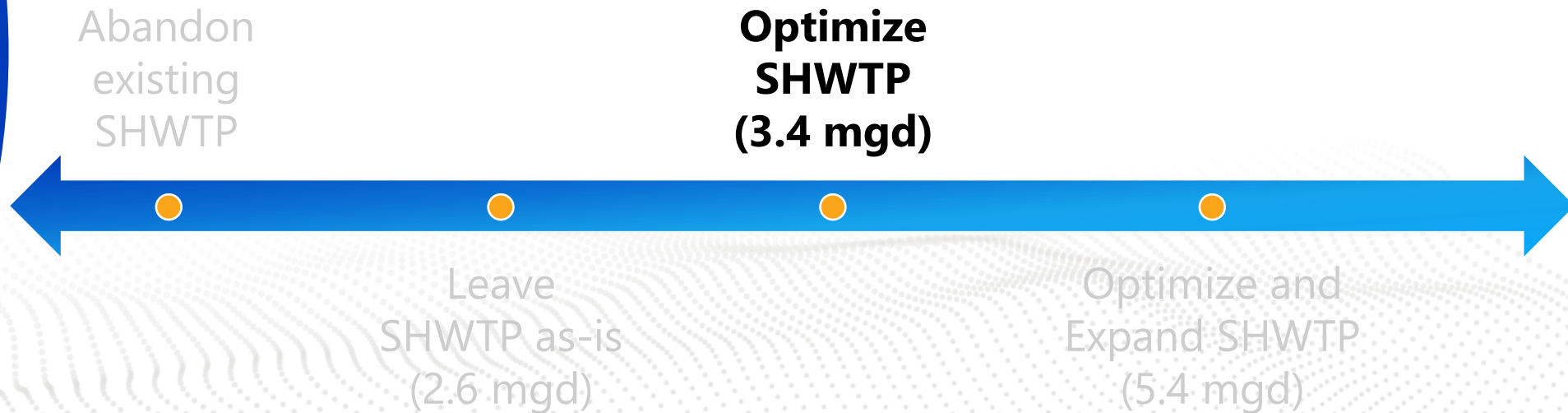
>\$2.5M annually



# Optimize SHWTP at current capacity

ALTERNATIVE

03



# 3) Optimize SHWTP at 3.4 mgd capacity and...

## ❖ Purchase wholesale water (2.0 mgd)

Jacobs already did this analysis, comparing this to full 5.4 mgd expansion

Figure 5-4. Comparison of Non-Cost Scores for the Alternatives

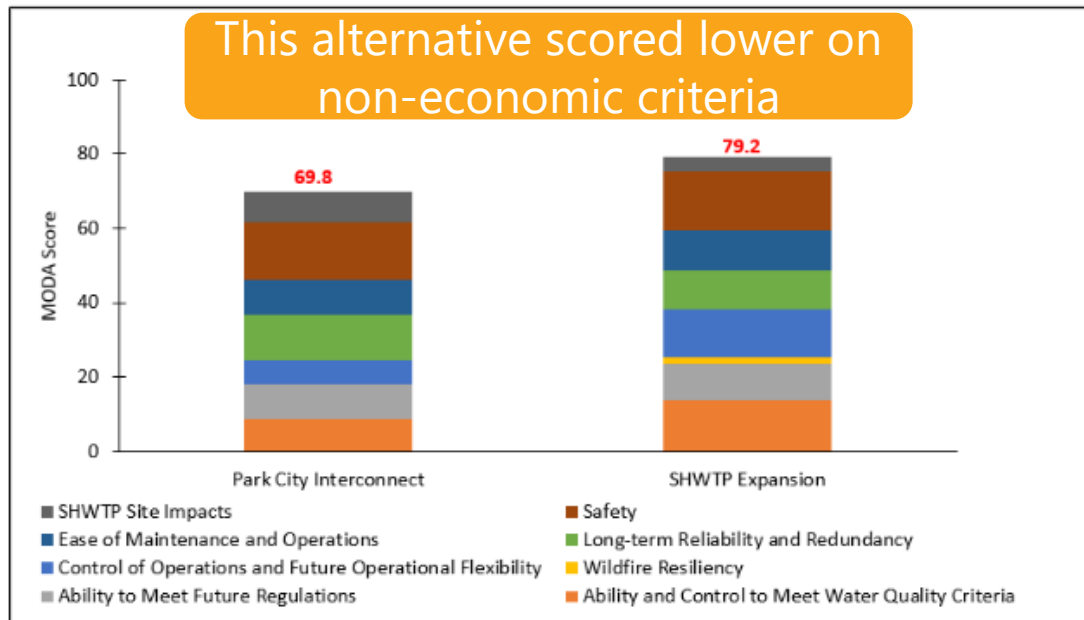


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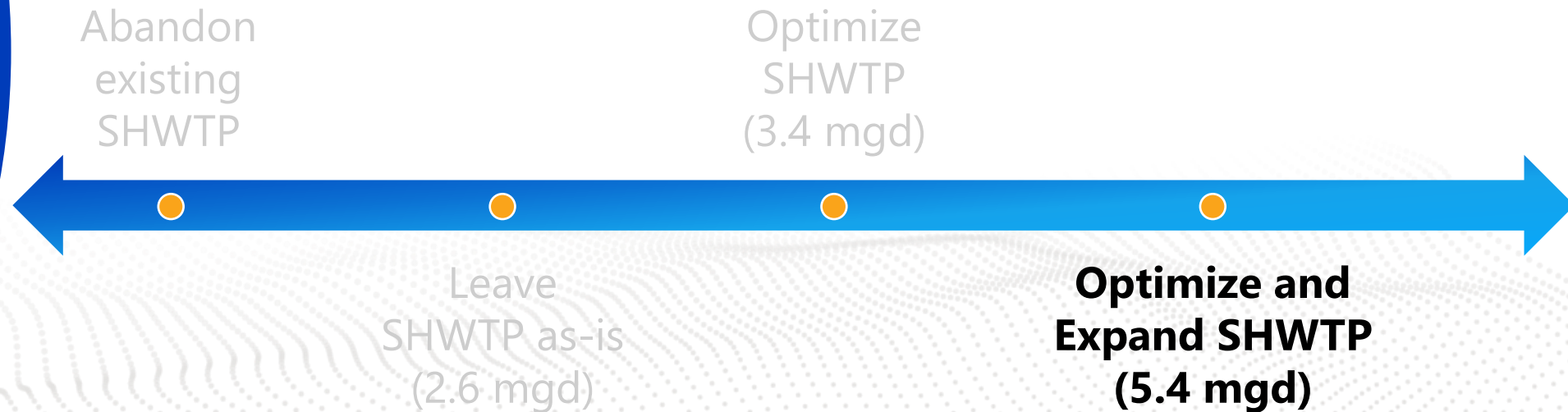
This alternative had a higher 25-year NPV



# Modify SHWTP to meet Lost Canyon capacity

ALTERNATIVE

04



## 4) Modify SHWTP to meet Lost Canyon capacity...

### ❖ Fully optimize and expand SHWTP to 5.4 mgd

- 4a) In a phased approach vs. 4b) In a single project

#### Jacobs phased approach:

Phase 1 (2.6 mgd -> 3.4 mgd)	Phase 2 (3.4 mgd -> 5.4 mgd)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Pretreatment<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Reclaim 2<sup>nd</sup> flocc/sed train</li><li>- Install mechanical mixers</li></ul></li><li>▪ Membrane Filtration<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Add 1 Pall AP-8 skid</li></ul></li><li>▪ GAC<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- New building addition</li><li>- Add 2 GAC vessels</li></ul></li><li>▪ Chemicals<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- New chemical facility</li></ul></li><li>▪ Residuals Handling<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- GAC backwash EQ basin</li><li>- Gravity Thickener</li><li>- Sewer Connection with SBWRD</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Membrane Filtration<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Add 1 Pall AP-8 skid</li></ul></li><li>▪ GAC<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Add 2 GAC vessels</li></ul></li></ul>

## 4) Modify SHWTP to meet Lost Canyon capacity...

### ❖ 4a) In a phased approach

#### Pros

- Rate increases can be smoothed out over time.
- Addresses safety, O&M, etc.
- Fully utilizes Lost Canyon water.

#### Cons

- Less efficient (two designs, two contractors, two mobilizations, etc.).
- Higher net present value compared to single project.
- Less redundancy in supply
- Is there really time to wait?

Phase 1:  
Optimize and expand to  
firm 3.4 mgd

Phase 2:  
Expand to 5.4mgd

## 4) Modify SHWTP to meet Lost Canyon capacity...

### ❖ 4b) In a single project

#### Pros

- One design, one contractor.
- Lowest net present value of all alternatives

#### Cons

- Largest near-term capital investment.

One Project to Rule Them All



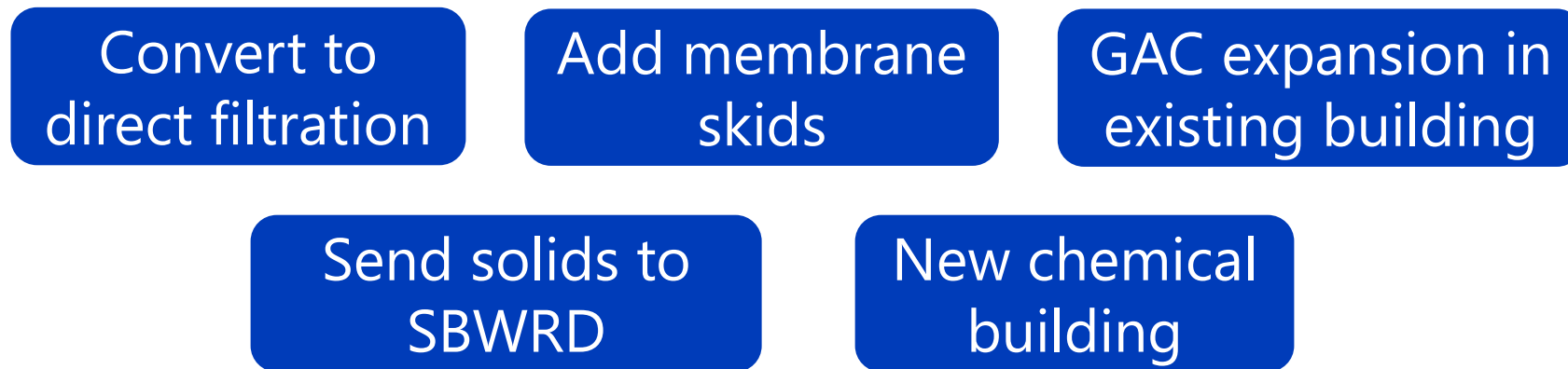


# Shortlisted Alternatives

# Modify SHWTP to meet Lost Canyon capacity...

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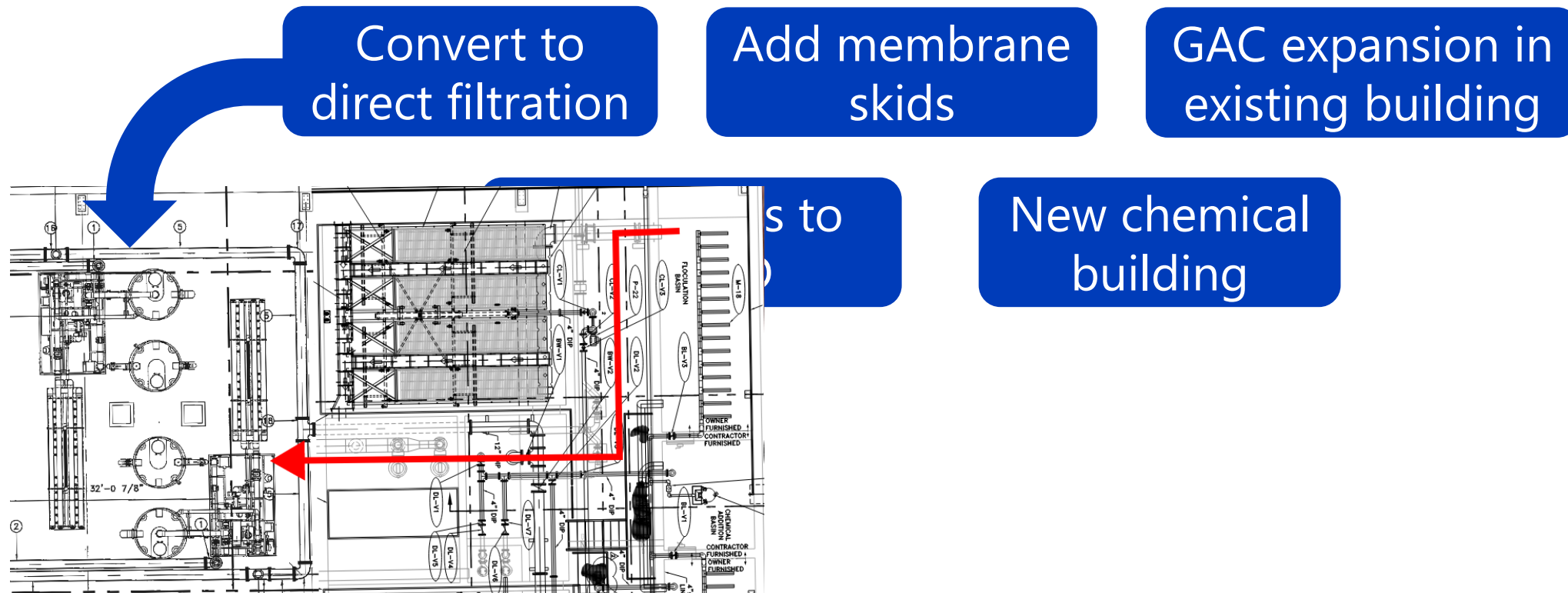
## ALTERNATIVE 1



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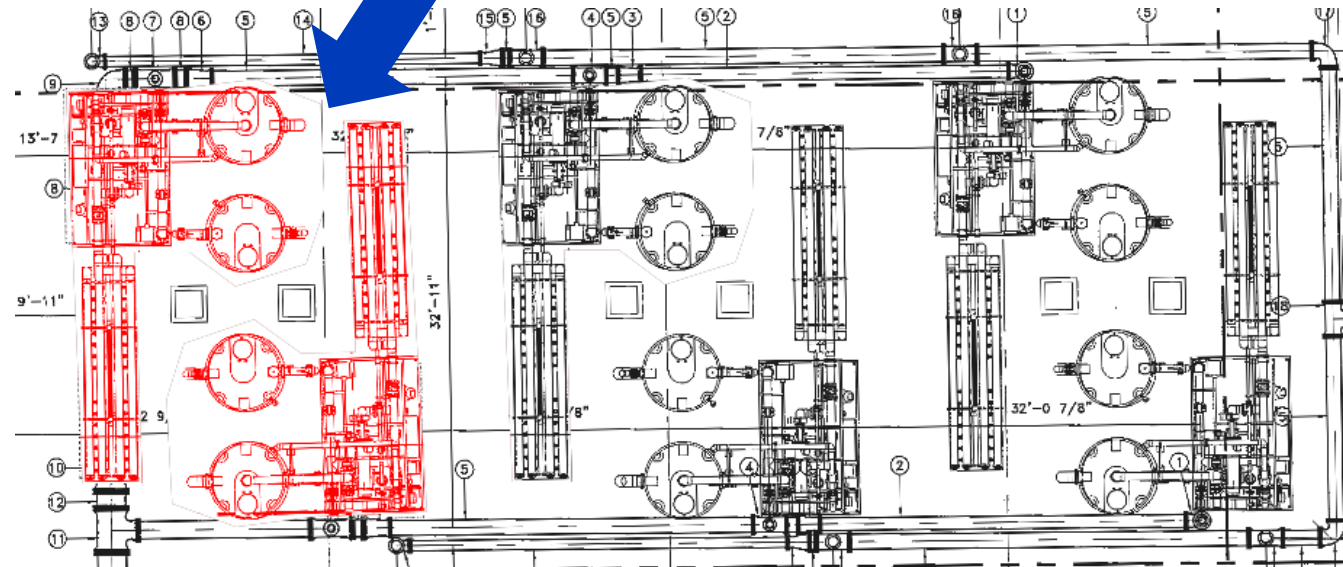
- ❖ Fully optimize and expand SHWTP to 5.4 mgd (whether phased or in one project)

## ALTERNATIVE 1

Convert to direct filtration

Add membrane skids

GAC expansion in existing building

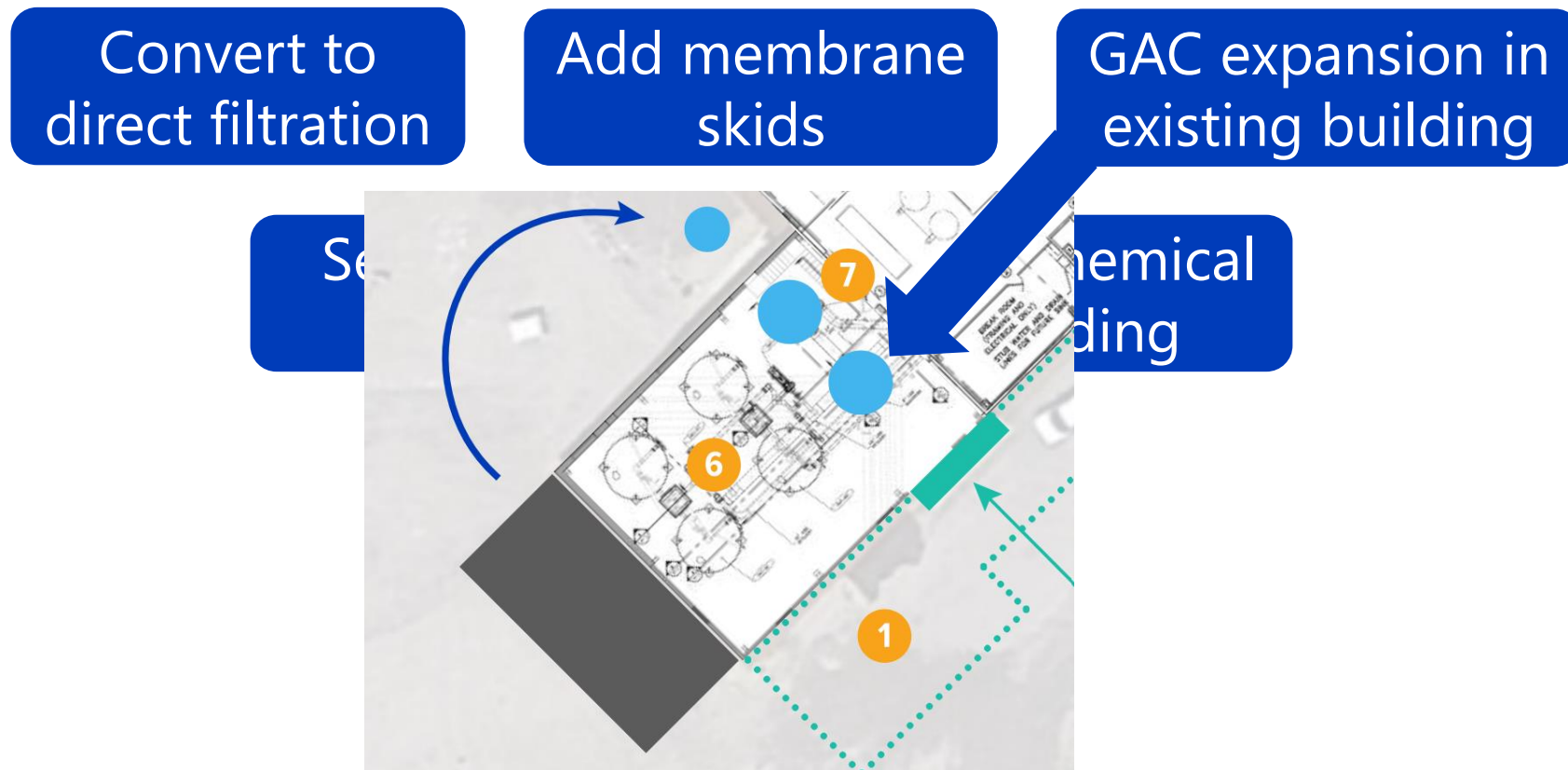




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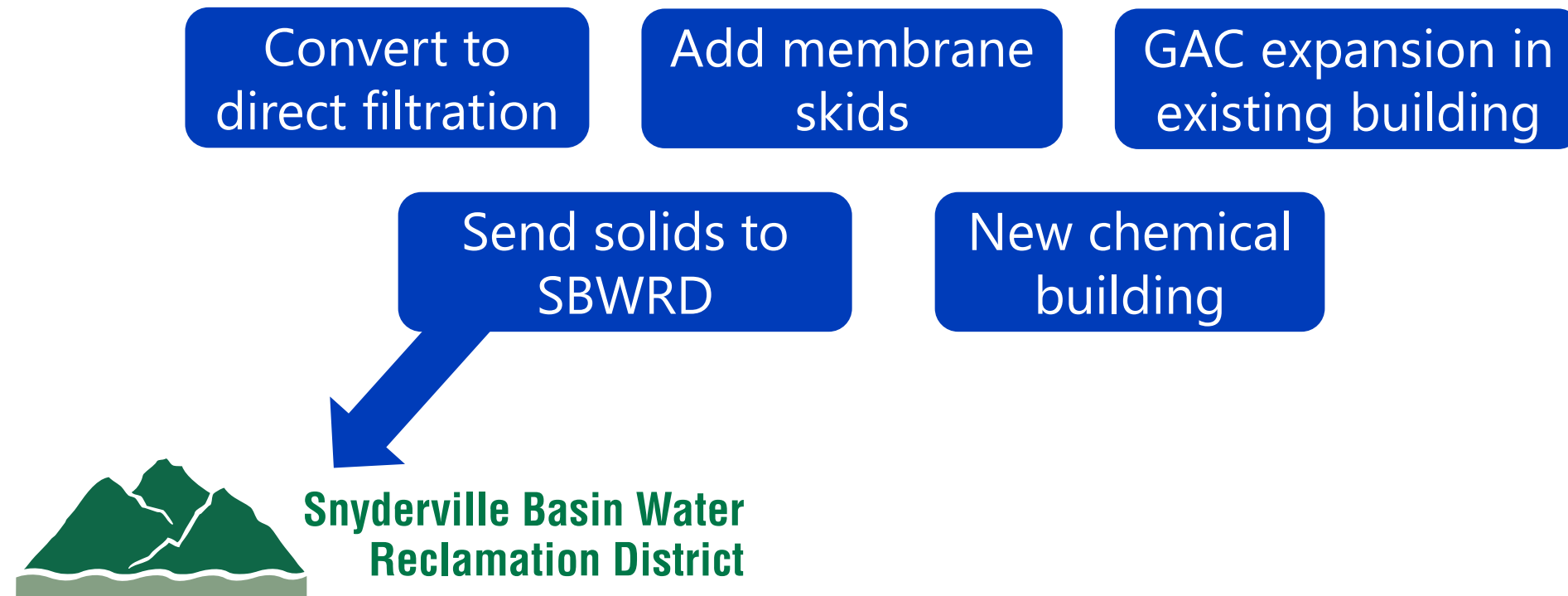
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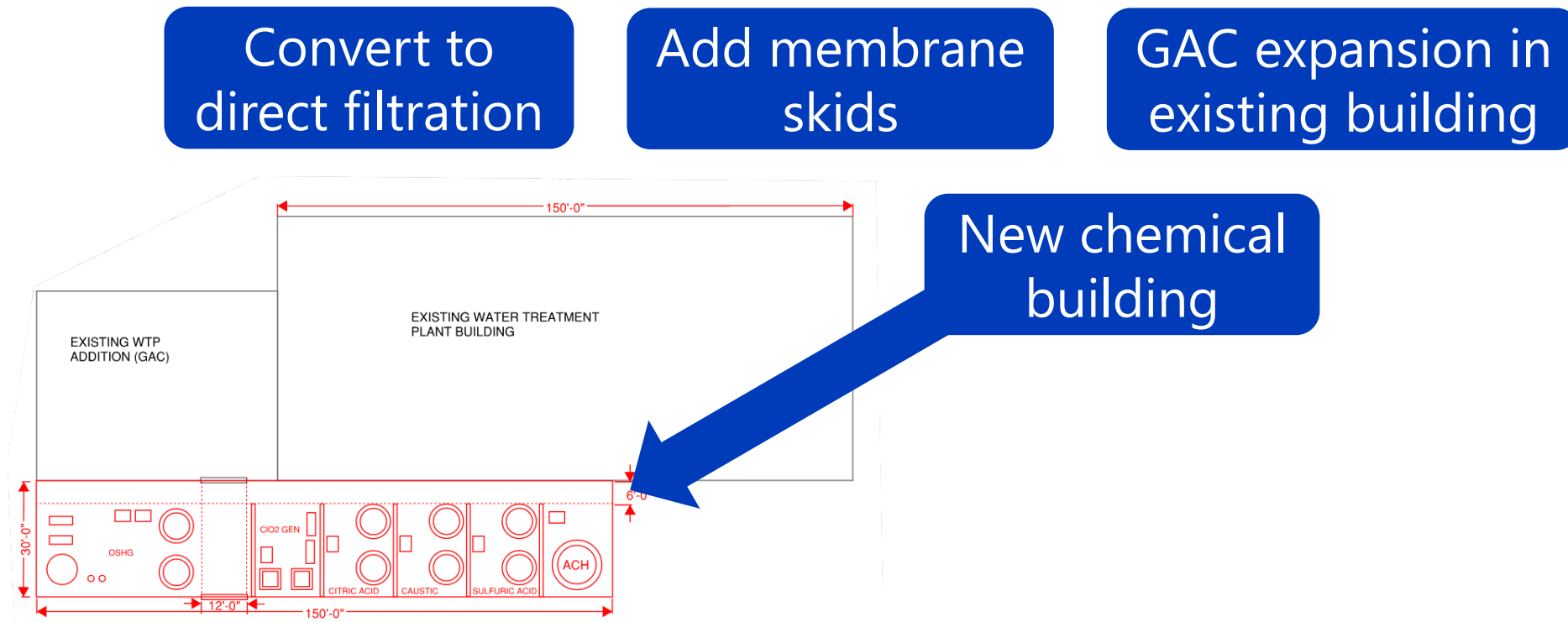
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## ALTERNATIVE 2

New sed adjacent  
to existing flocc

Quinns-style  
membranes

Expand GAC for  
new contactors

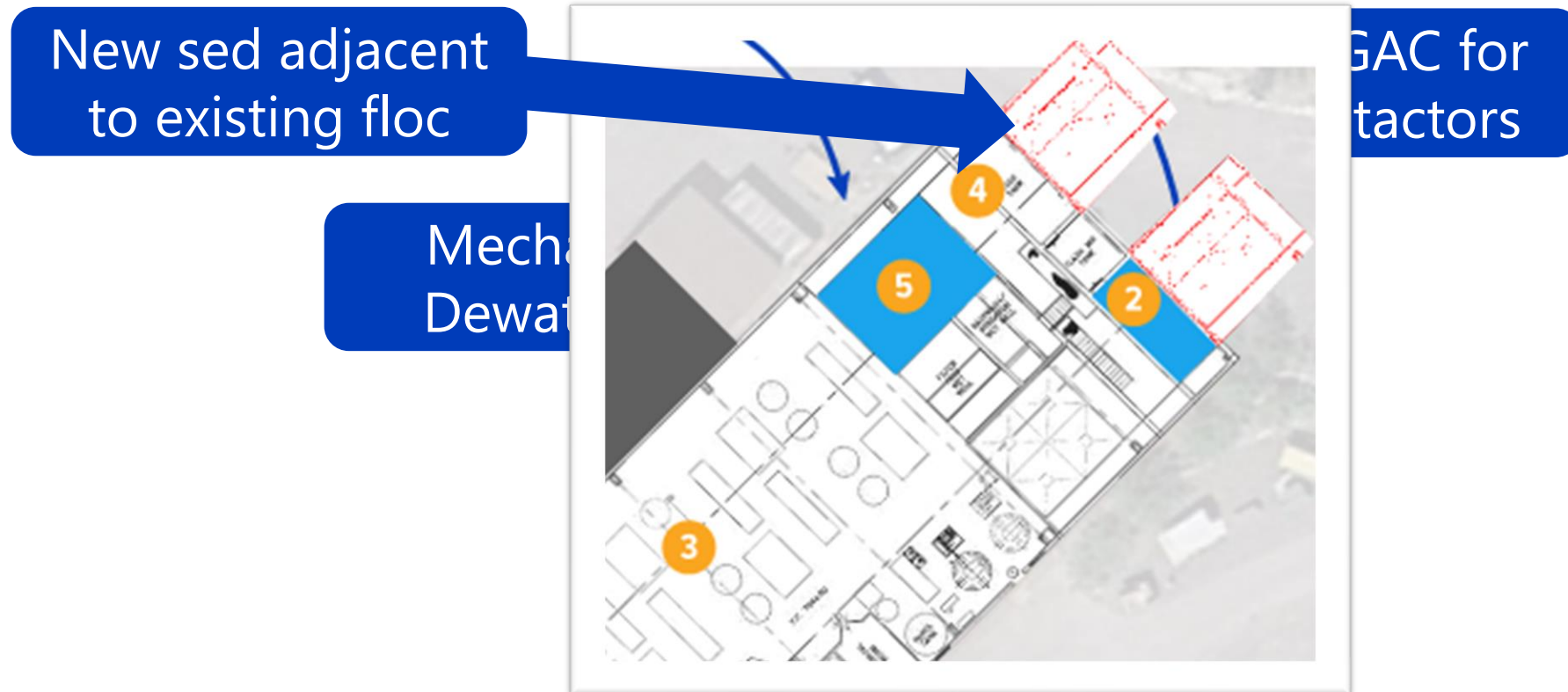
Mechanical  
Dewatering

New chemical  
building

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ALTERNATIVE 2



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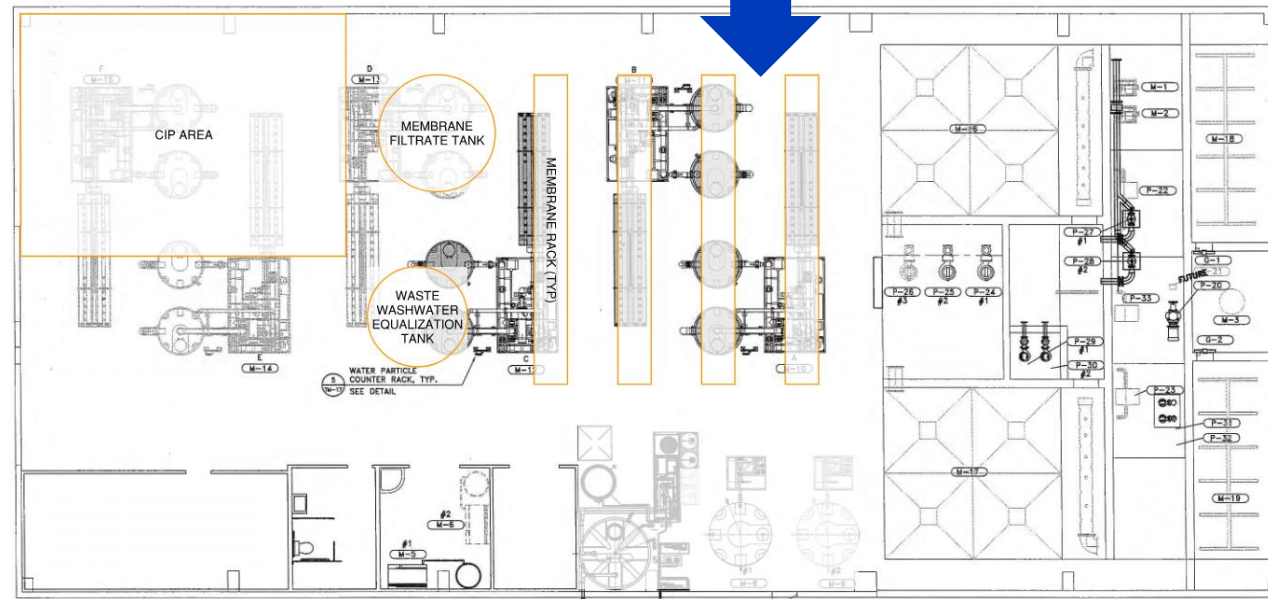
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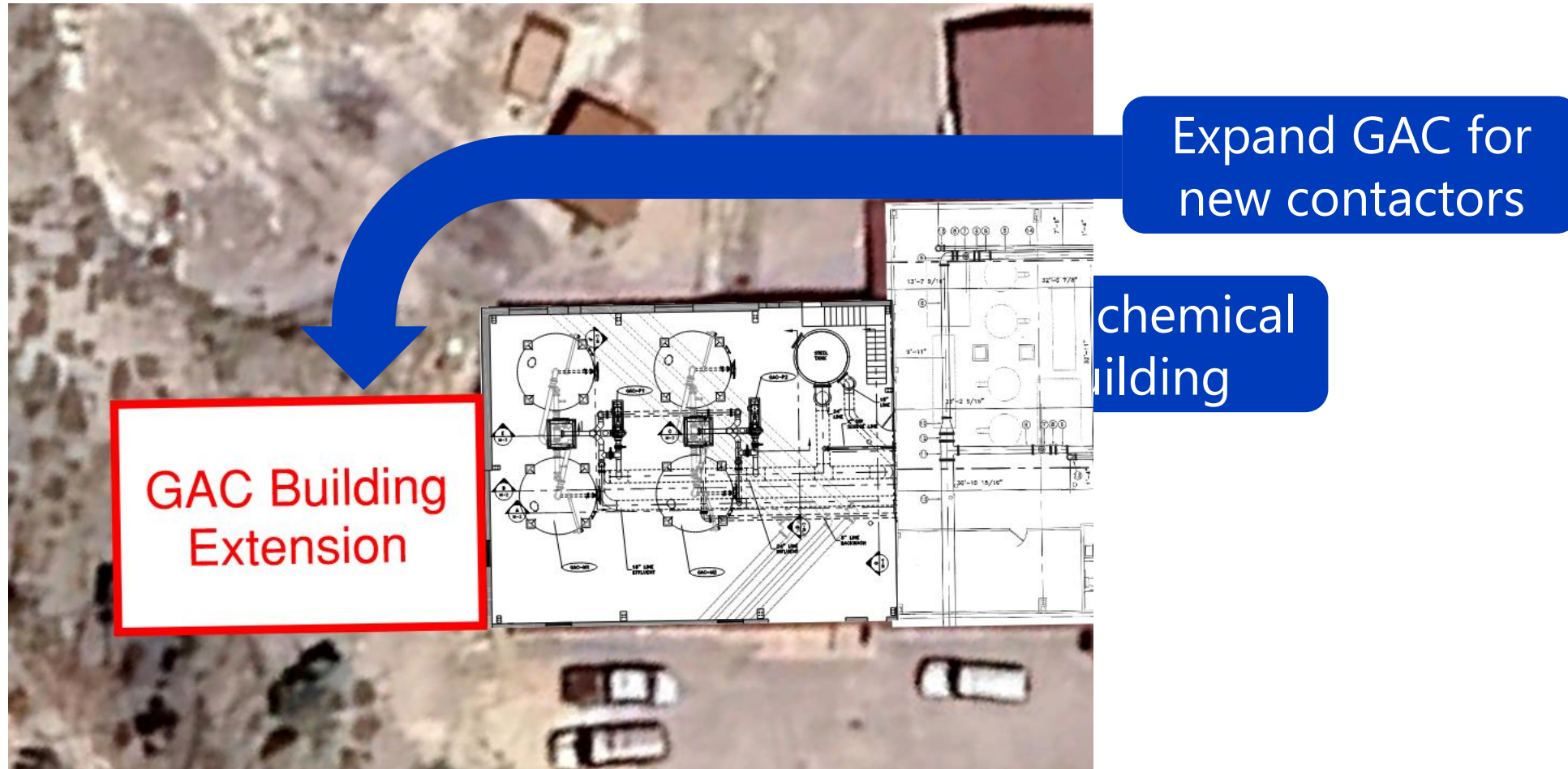
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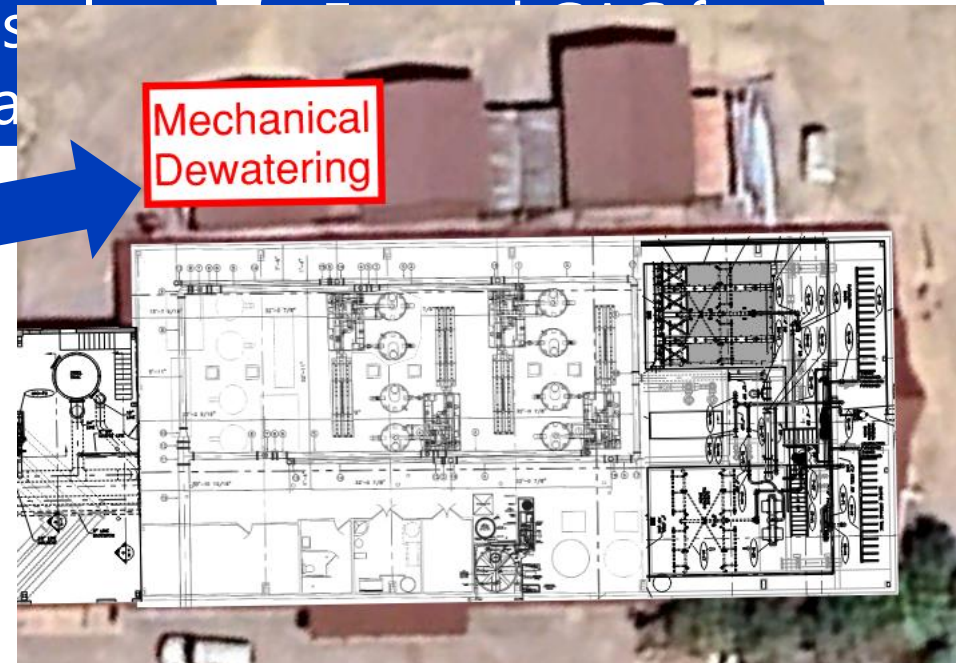
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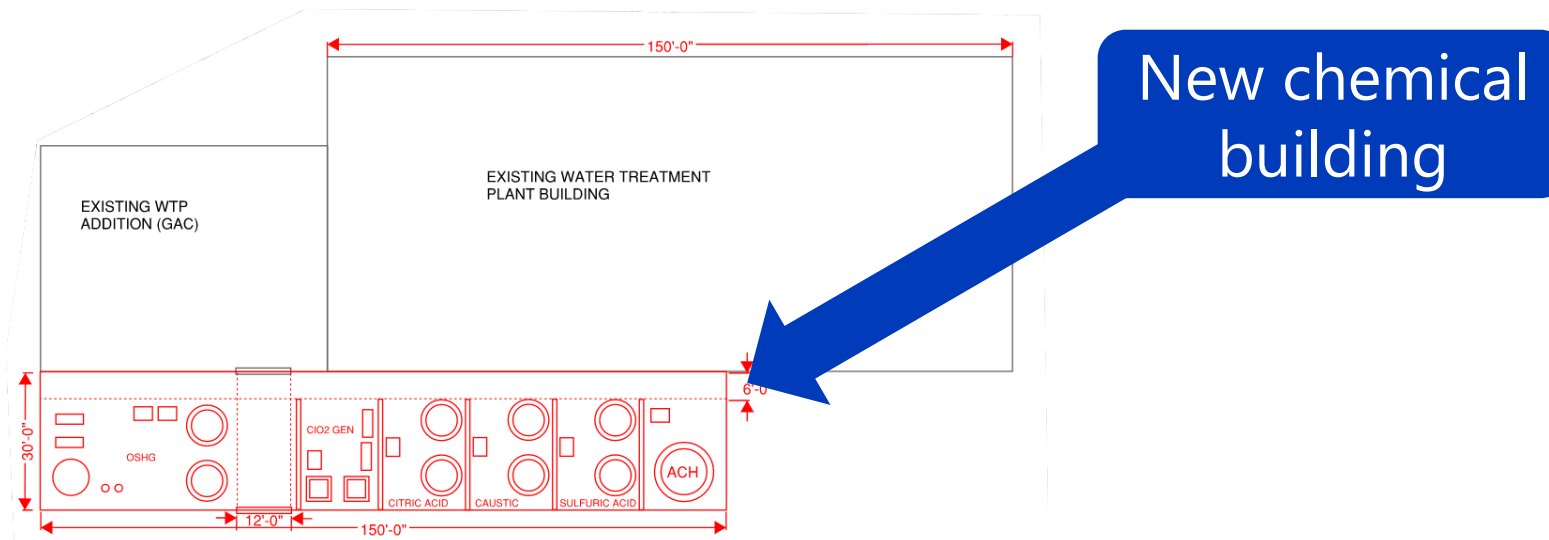
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## ALTERNATIVE 2

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Quinns-style membranes

Expand GAC for new contactors



New chemical building



# Summary

# Summary of alternatives

Alternative	Key Pros	Key Cons	Capital Costs	O&M Costs
Abandon SHWTP	+ Avoid capital investment in SHWTP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lose control (if purchase from PCMC)</li> <li>- High capital (if rebuild)</li> <li>- Stranded SHWTP assets and reassign staff</li> <li>- Trigger importation project earlier</li> </ul>	Very High	High
Leave SHWTP as-is (2.6 mgd)	+ Minimize capital investment in SHWTP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Does not address key objectives (e.g., safety)</li> <li>- Infrastructure capital costs</li> </ul>	Low	Medium
Optimize SHWTP only (3.4 mgd)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- High NPV</li> <li>- Lower non-economic benefit per Jacobs' analysis</li> </ul>	Medium	Medium
Optimize and Expand SHWTP (5.4 mgd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ Stay in control</li> <li>+ Meet key objectives</li> <li>+ Lowest NPV</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Large near-term capital</li> </ul>	High	Low



# Wrap up and Next Steps

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# Next Steps

- Develop shortlisted alternatives
- Finish bench testing and begin full-scale testing