



## Metropolitan Tunnel Redundancy Program Update

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## Pressure Aqueduct/Tunnel System (1939-1976)





#### 17.6 mile, 12 to 14 foot diameter, deep rock pressure tunnel was brought on-line in November 2003

#### Provides Redundancy to the Hultman Aqueduct





## Metropolitan Tunnel System





- Tunnel system:
  - Concrete-lined deep rock pressure tunnels
  - Steel and concrete lined vertical shafts
  - Surface pipe, valves and appurtenances
- Little maintenance required for tunnels and shafts. Little risk of failure
- Pipe, valves and appurtenances need maintenance, rehabilitation, replacement





## Valve Reliability Concern

- Valves that don't work
- Valves we can't operate





Shaft 8



Shaft 8

Shaft 8 PRV Chamber



#### Small pipe failures can lead to big problems





...came from a small gap in the pipe

250 MGD flow at Shaft 5 break....



- The estimated economic loss of water supply within the Boston Metropolitan area is:
  - ~\$208 million per day to businesses
  - ~\$102 million per day residents
  - total economic impact of ~ \$310 M per day



- If we do nothing, another failure will eventually occur
- We Need Redundancy!



#### **Recommended Alternative**

#### **Two Tunnels**

- Tunnels begin at Mass Pike/Route 128
  - Northern Tunnel 4.5 miles, connects to mid-point of WASM 3 in Waltham/Belmont area
  - Southern Tunnel 9.5 miles, connects to Shaft 7C and southern surface mains
- 10' finished diameter pressure tunnel
- 200' 500' deep (rock)
- Mined using TBMs
- Number and locations of shafts TBD
- No consent decree (this is a water distribution redundancy program)





- Provides redundancy for entire metropolitan tunnel system
- Provides normal water service and fire protection if existing tunnel system is out of service
- Designed to meet high day demand. No seasonal restrictions
- Provides ability to perform maintenance on existing tunnels yearround
- Avoids activation of emergency reservoirs
- No boil order!





- Midpoint of construction Northern Tunnel: \$472 million
- Midpoint of construction Southern Tunnel: \$1,003 million
- Midpoint of construction both tunnels is \$1,475 million
- Estimated time to completion of 17 23 years
- 30% contingency and 4% annual construction cost escalation



- The Program is managed by the MWRA Tunnel Redundancy Department (similar to PMD for BHP)
- The Program is funded in our Capital Improvement Plan
- DRAFT FY20 CIP Budget includes....
  - Program-Wide Support Services
  - Preliminary Design/Phase 1 Geotech/MEPA Review
  - Final Design(s)
  - Construction Management(s)
  - Tunnel Constructions
  - Surface Connections Constructions
  - Administration, Legal and Public Outreach





### **Program Organization**





- Preliminary geotechnical investigation, route and shaft site evaluations, identify environmental permits needed and prepare required MEPA review
- Produce significant project documents
  - Preliminary Geotechnical Data & Design Report
  - Environmental Impact Reports
  - Alternatives Evaluation & Preliminary Design Report
  - Preliminary Design Drawings
- It is expected this work can be accomplished within 3 3.5 years





- Program Support Services
  - Awarded in March 2019
- Preliminary Design/Phase 1 Geotech/MEPA Review
  - Issue RFQ: Summer/Fall 2019
  - Notice to Proceed: first half of 2020
  - Estimate Completed: late 2023
- Final Design
  - Start 2024-ish
- Construction
  - Start 2027-ish (D-B-B)







# Thank You!