

2024 Long Range Water Supply Plan Update

**City Council Briefing
December 3, 2025**

The logo of the City of Dallas, featuring a stylized white 'D' on a dark blue background. Inside the 'D' is a white three-leaf plant. To the left of the 'D' are three horizontal white lines.

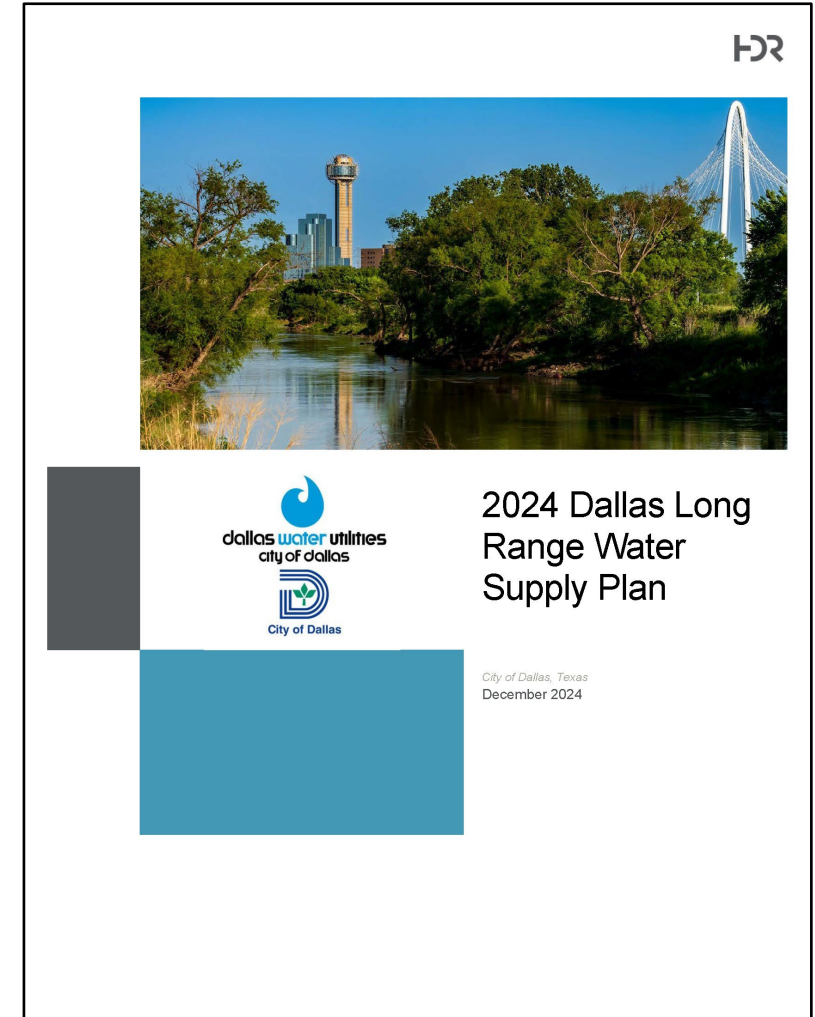
City of Dallas

Sarah Standifer, Director
Dallas Water Utilities
City of Dallas

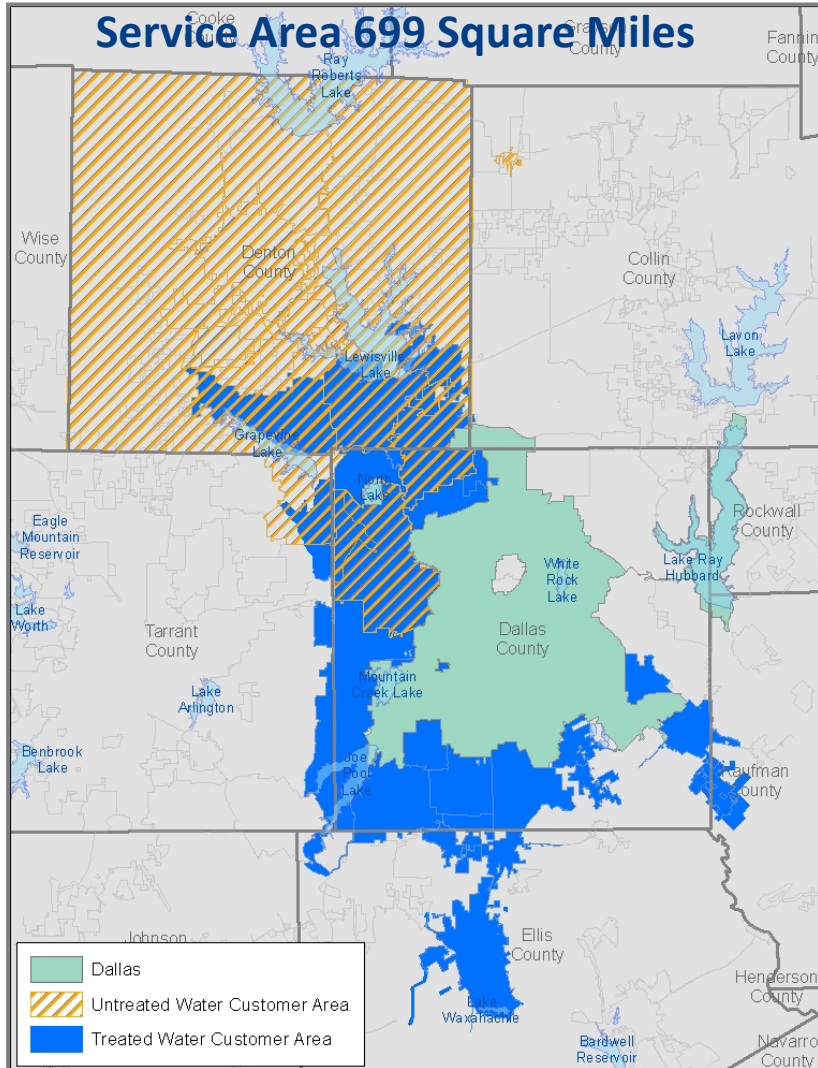
Overview



- DWU Water Supply System
- State and Regional Water Planning
- DWU Water Supply Planning
- 2024 Long Range Water Supply Plan
 - Recommended Strategies
 - Alternative Strategies
- Next Steps



Dallas Water Utilities (DWU) Overview



- Established by City Charter in 1881
- Operates under Dallas City Codes: 49, 51 and 19
- Regional provider of water, wastewater, stormwater and flood control services
- Fiscal Year 2025 net capital water and wastewater assets of \$6.45 B
- Funded from wholesale and retail water and wastewater revenues and stormwater fees (receives no tax dollars)
- Approximately 1,600 employees
- Combined operating and capital budgets of \$1.38B

Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budgets

Budget	DWU	SDM	Total
Operations	\$880.9 M	\$90.6 M	\$971.5 M
Capital	<u>\$355.0 M</u>	<u>\$55.0 M</u>	<u>\$410.0 M</u>
Total	\$1,235.9 M	\$145.6 M	\$1,381.5 M



City of Dallas One Water



ASSETS

WATER

- 7 reservoirs, (6 connected)
- 5,088 miles of water mains
- 3 water treatment plants (900 MGD capacity)
- 29 pump stations, 10 elevated and 12 ground storage tanks

WASTEWATER

- 2 wastewater treatment plants (280 MGD capacity)
- 4,088 miles of wastewater main
- 15 wastewater pump stations

STORMWATER

- 8 major storm water pump stations (5.3 BGD capacity)
- 1,886 miles of storm sewers
- 30 miles of levees
- 34,800 acres of floodplain

CUSTOMERS

2.6 million treated water customers

- 1.3 million – Retail (City of Dallas)
- 1.3 million – Wholesale
- 23 wholesale treated water
- 4 wholesale untreated water

320,000+ retail customer accounts

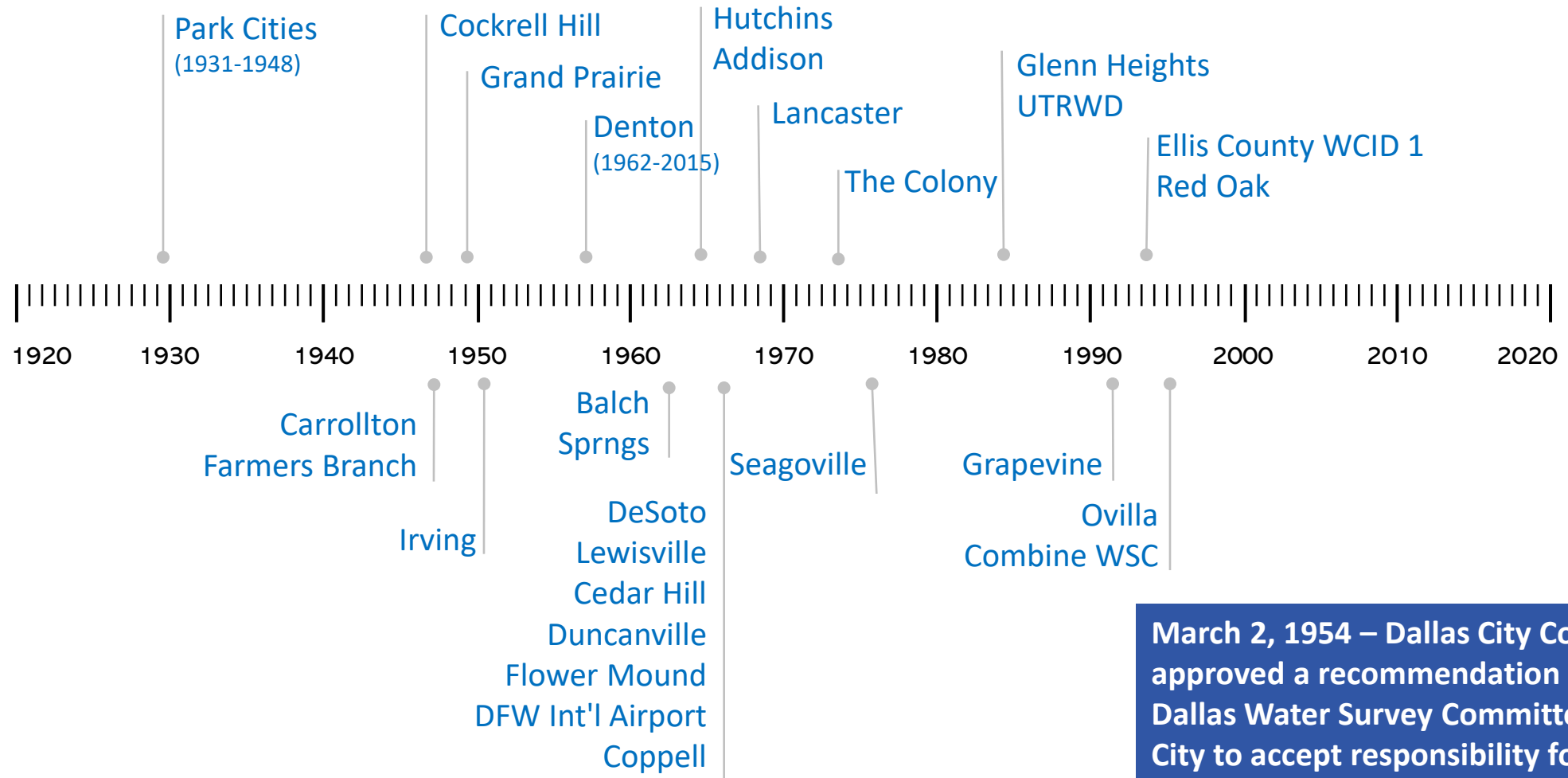
- 11 wholesale wastewater

300,000 storm water accounts

- 265,979 Residential
- 29,470 Commercial



DWU: Wholesale Water Customers



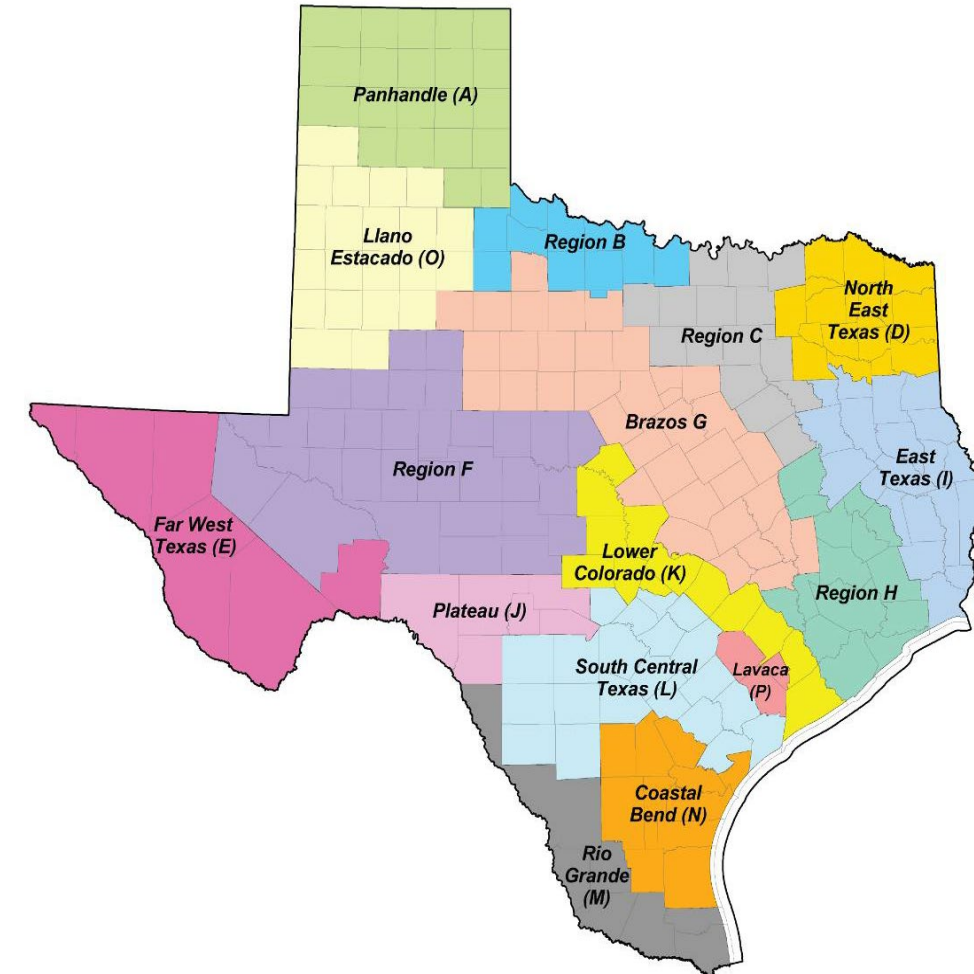
March 2, 1954 – Dallas City Council approved a recommendation by the Dallas Water Survey Committee for the City to accept responsibility for providing water supplies to all of Dallas County



State & Regional Water Planning



- Senate Bill 1 in 1997 changed water supply planning throughout the State
 - Regional water planning groups established
 - Regional and State water plans required every five years
 - Local plans to be provided for Regional Water Plan
 - Dallas located in Region C
- 6th State Planning Cycle
 - DWU water management strategies provided to Region C in December 2024
 - Region C Water Plan submitted to Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) in October 2025
 - State Water Plan due to Governor and Legislature in 2027



-



DWU History of Planning



- The current era of long-range water supply planning was in response to the drought of the 1950's
- The 1959 Plan was updated in 1975, 1989, 2000, 2005, and 2014
- As a result of the City's planning, the following lakes were constructed and/or contracted for:
 - Grapevine Lake(1952)
 - Lake Tawakoni (1964)
 - Lake Ray Hubbard (1973)
 - Ray Roberts Lake (1989)
 - Lewisville Lake (1955)
 - Lake Palestine (1971)
 - Lake Fork (1980)
- Dallas' 1959 Plan recommended that Dallas supply water to surrounding cities, becoming a regional provider
- Later studies encouraged aggressive water conservation and reuse, connecting existing reservoirs, and revising DWU's service area
- Long Range Water Supply Planning (LRWSP) update was completed and approved by Council in December 2024.



DWU Planning Guidelines



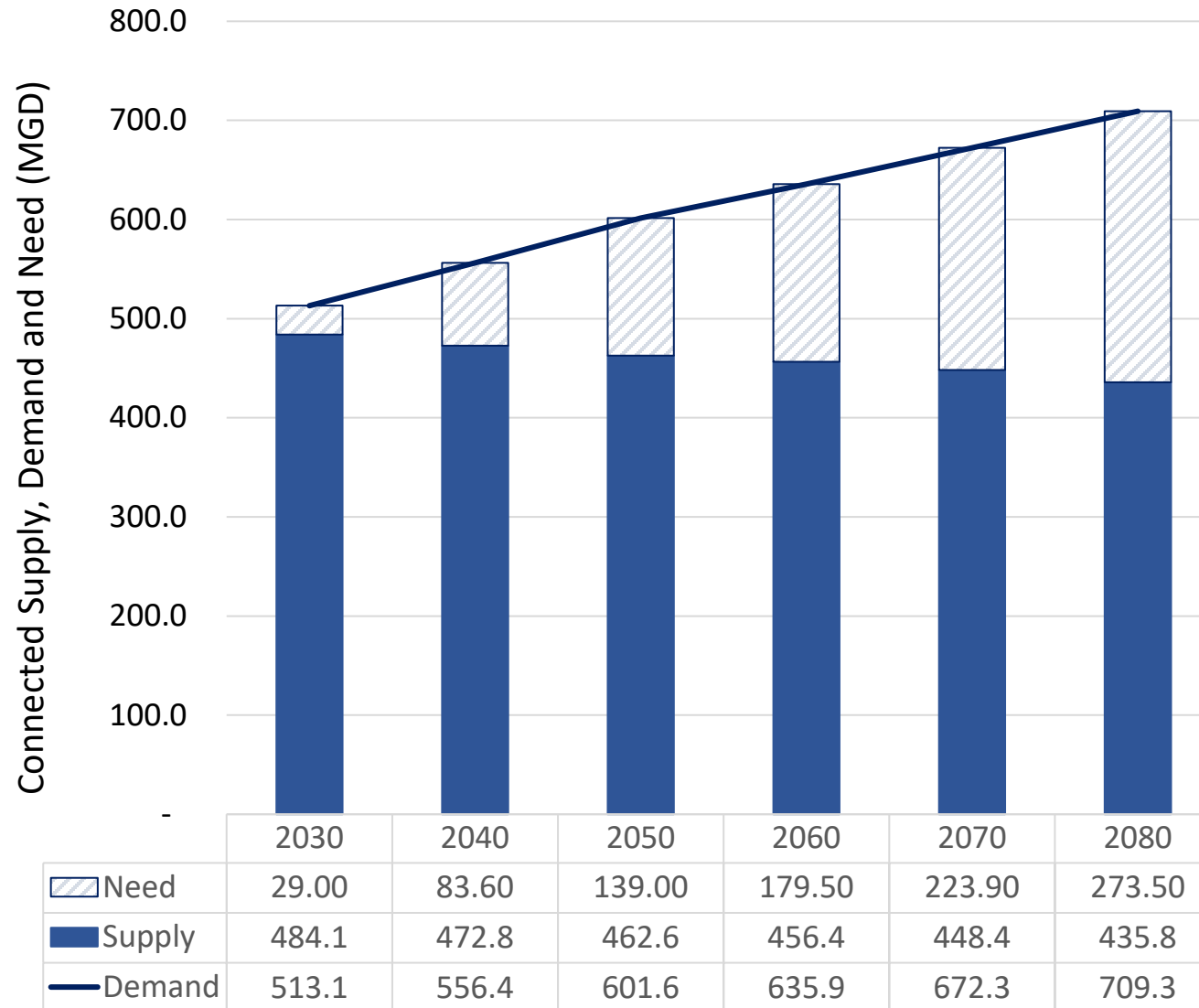
- **Dallas plans to have enough reservoir firm yield to meet water demands during a drought equivalent to the 1950s drought of record**
- Firm Yield - maximum amount of water that can be supplied from a reservoir during the drought of record
- Dallas' ranking for new water supply sources based on:
 - Costs (capital construction and O&M), efficiency, environmental impact, likelihood for implementation, treatability
- Supplies located closer to the City are generally less expensive
 - Lower infrastructure and energy costs
- Working with other area water providers to achieve greater economies of scale and thus reduce costs



Installation of 108-inch pipe along IPL Section 17



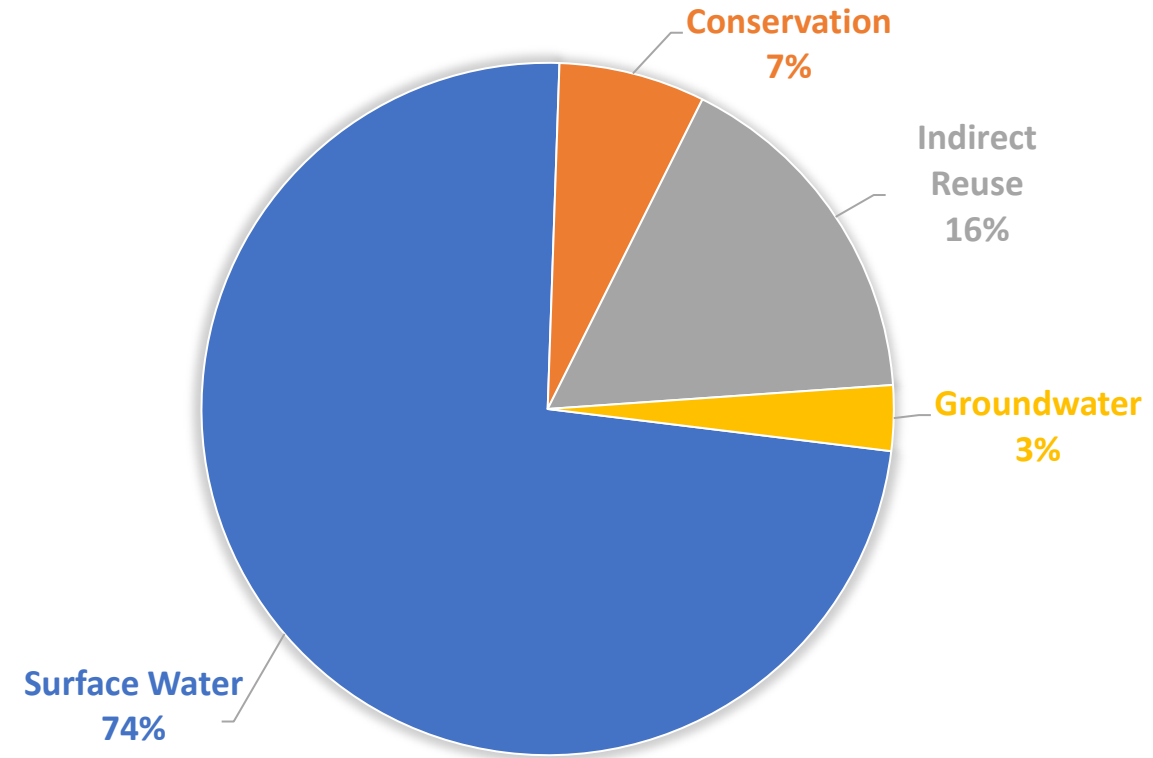
2024 LRWSP: Water Supply Needs



2024 LRWSP: Key Points



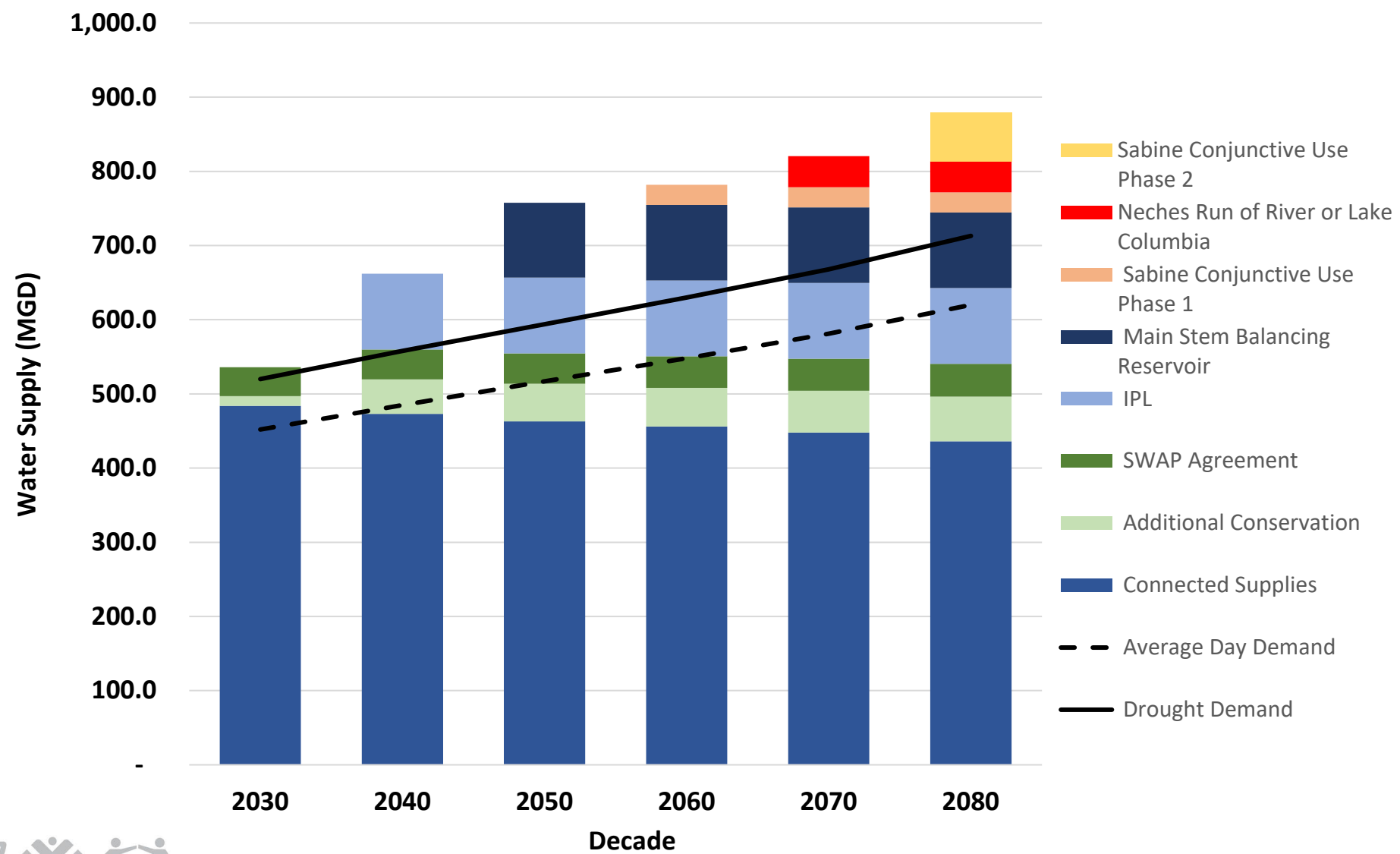
- System average day water demands reduced by 6.3% or approximately 45.5 million gallons per day (MGD), due to conservation and leak detection programs
- Connected firm yield reduced over time due to sedimentation and increased evaporation from higher temperatures
- Projected supply deficit beginning in 2040, if new supply is not connected
- 2024 LRWSP Recommended Strategies to meet 2080 DWU system demands consist of:
 - 13% additional conservation
 - 33% indirect reuse
 - 23% connection to existing water supplies
 - 25% new surface water
 - 6% groundwater



2080 Water Supply Portfolio
(Including Existing Supplies and Recommended Strategies)



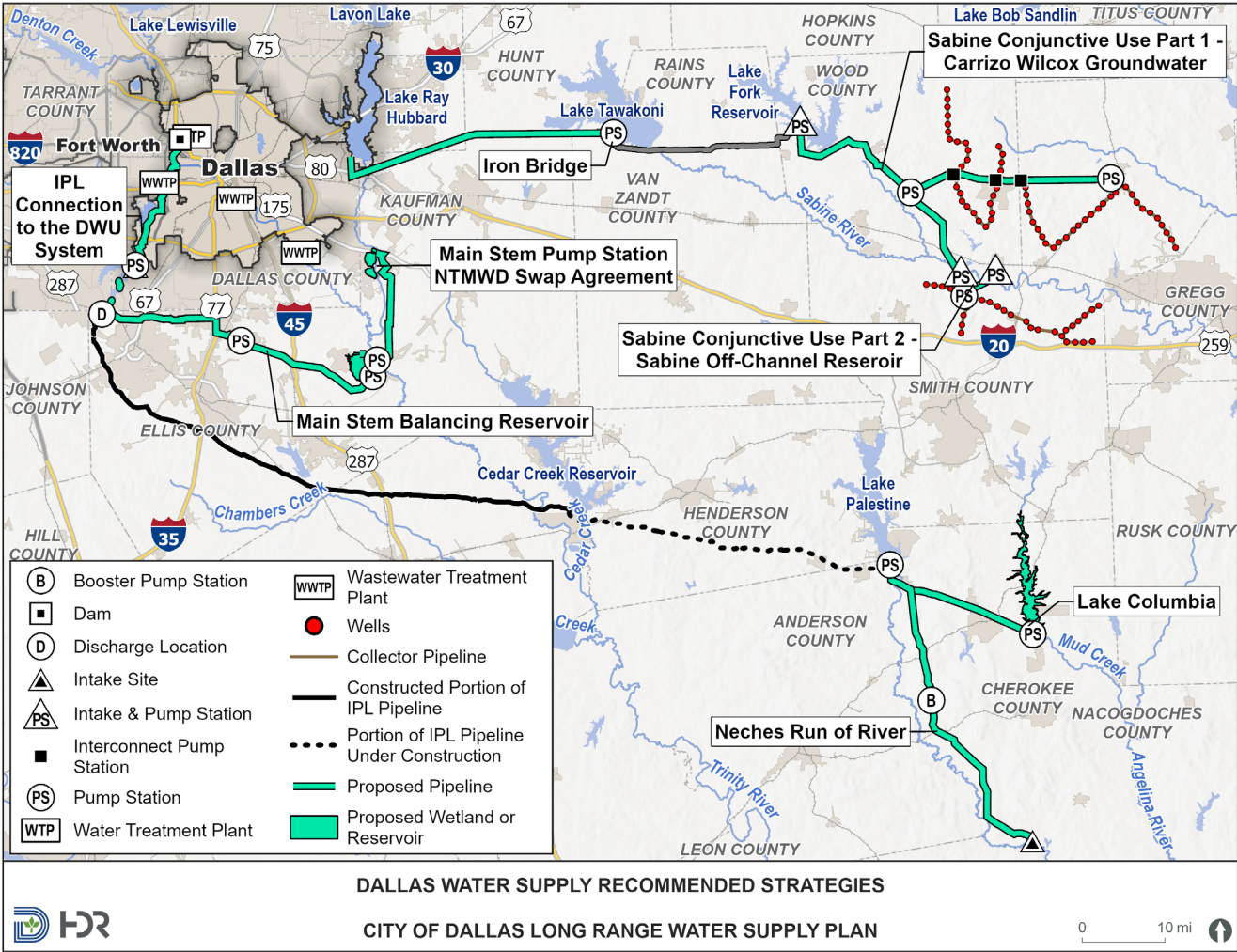
2024 LRWSP: Needs Met with New Supplies



2024 LRWSP Recommended Strategies



Recommended Strategies	MGD	Decade
Additional Conservation	60.5	2030-2080
Main Stem Pump Station – NTMWD Swap Agreement (Reuse supply in Lake Ray Hubbard)	44.2	2030
IPL Connection to the DWU System	102.0	2040
Main Stem Balancing Reservoir	102.0	2050
Sabine Conjunctive Use Part 1 – Carrizo Wilcox GW	27.0	2060
Neches Run-of-River or Lake Columbia	48.0	2070
Sabine Conjunctive Use Part 2 – Off Channel Reservoir	66.0	2080



2024 LRWSP Alternative Strategies



Alternate Strategies	Yield (MGD)
Sulphur Basin Project – High Yield	71.2
Sulphur Basin Project – Low Yield	62.8
Interstate – Little River – Millwood Lake (Ark)	268
Toledo Bend Reservoir (SRA TX)	89
Interstate – Toledo Bend Reservoir (SRA LA)	179
Red River Off Channel Reservoir	82
Interstate – Kiamichi River (OK)	268
Lake Texoma Desalination	130





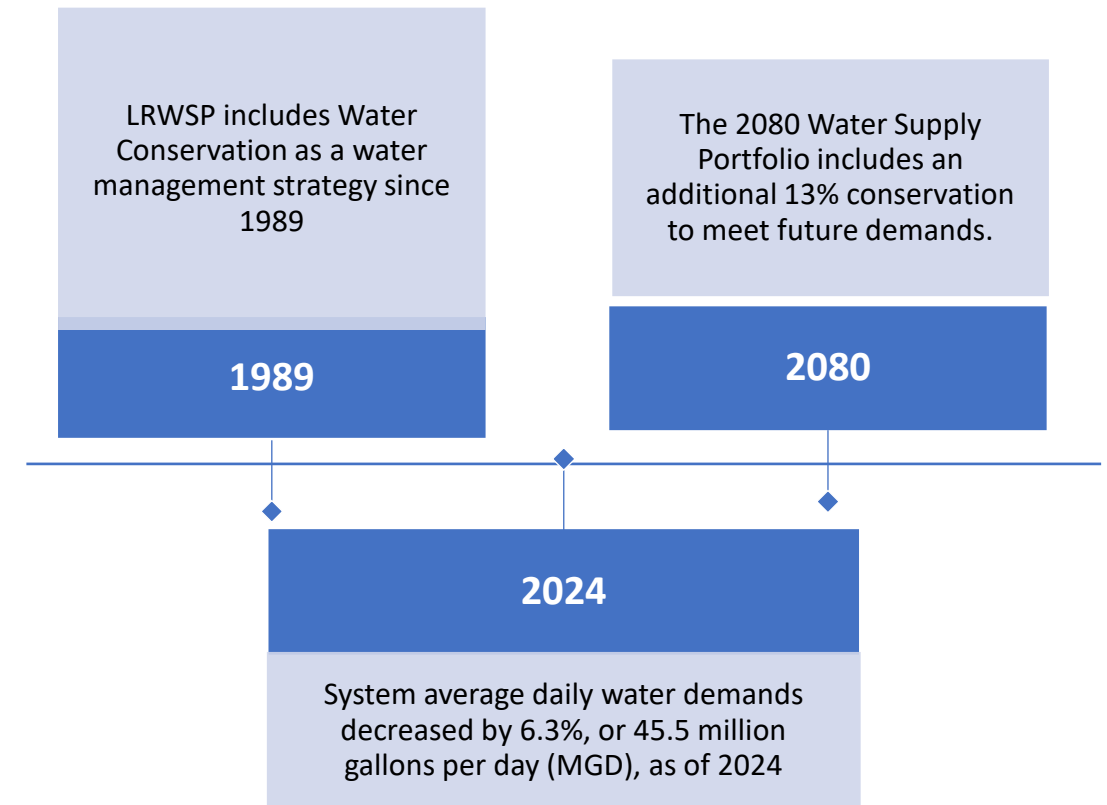
Near Term Implementation



Recommended Strategy - Additional Conservation



- One of the most cost-efficient water management strategies
- Involves actions by both DWU and its customers to reduce water use and system losses
- DWU updated its 2024 5-year conservation plan to maximize water savings
- Recommended efforts are expected to save additional 60.5 MGD over the 50-year planning period.



Additional Conservation Initiatives



Pilot Irrigation Rebate – New Initiative



- Address outdated irrigation systems
 - Encourage customers to make water-efficiency changes to their systems through ongoing education efforts
- Pilot Irrigation Rebate
 - Complement irrigation system check-up program and water-wise landscape seminars
 - Offer incentives up to \$3,000 rebate for
 - Drip irrigation equipment
 - Spray heads with more efficient distribution patterns
 - Zone Conversion
- Projected average water savings of 4 MG/Yr

Additional Conservation Initiatives



Time of Day Watering and Cool Season Grasses – Updated Restrictions

Current Restriction:

- No watering between 10am and 6pm from April 1 to October 31
- *City of Dallas*, Chapter 49, § 21.1.1

Updated Restriction:

- No watering between 10am and 6pm **all year**
- Prohibit variances for cool season grass establishment
- Ordinance consideration – Spring 2026

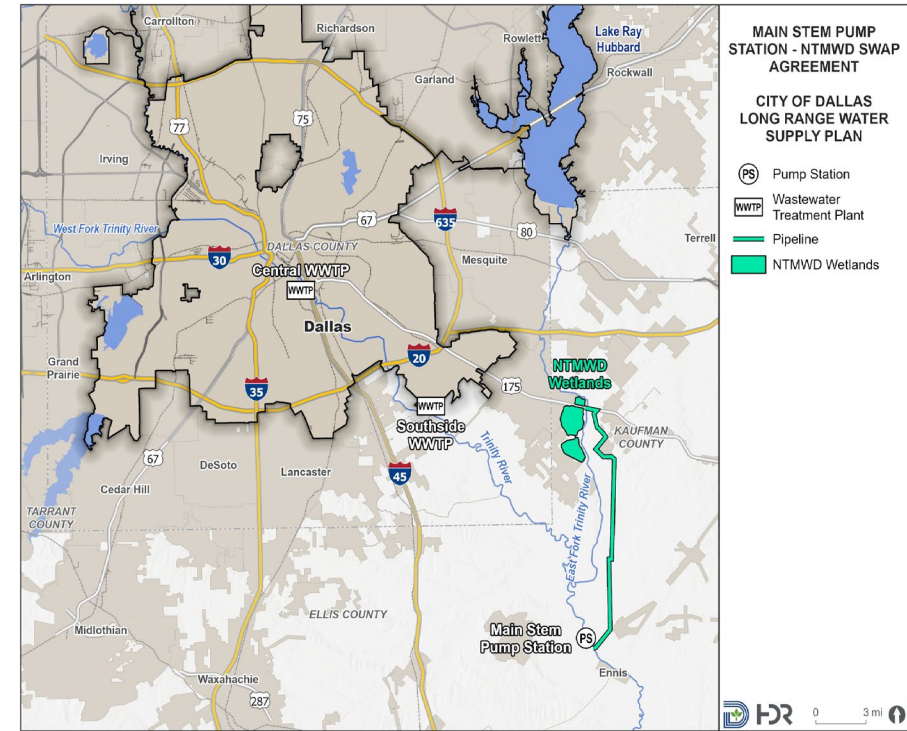


Recommended Strategy – Swap Agreement (2030)



North Texas Municipal Water District Swap

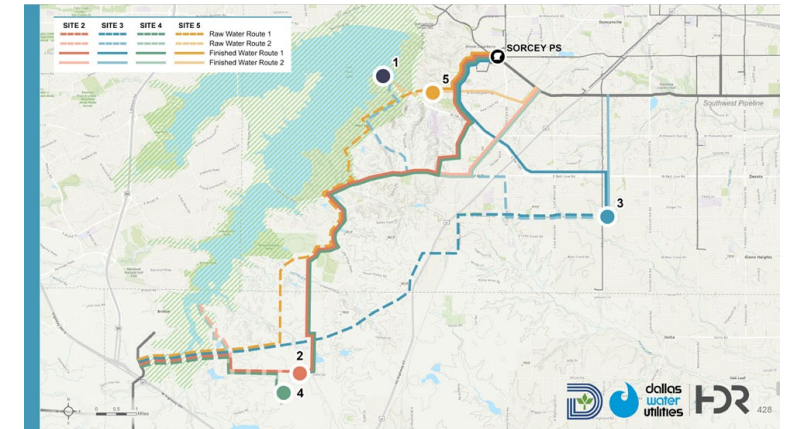
- DWU swaps its treated wastewater effluent for NTMWD's. Allows DWU to use more water stored in existing reservoirs (Hubbard, Lewisville, Ray Roberts) rather than releasing it downstream.
- NTMWD Main Stem Pump Station diverts DWU's return flows to their East Fork wetlands, fulfilling DWU's side of the swap.
- This provides 39.0 MGD in 2030, rising to 44.2 MGD in 2080. The final step needed is the finalization of the swap agreement.
- Discussions with NTMWD planned for 2026



Recommended Strategy – IPL to DWU System (2040)



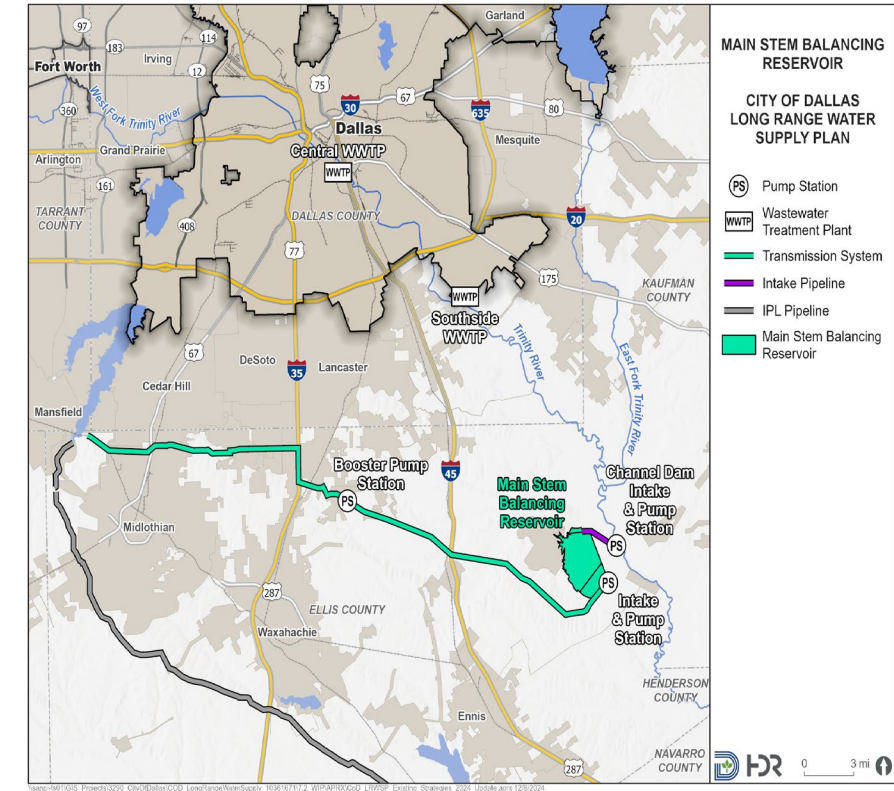
- DWU is contracted for 53.73% of yield in Lake Palestine, up to a maximum of 102 MGD
- Integrated Pipeline (IPL) is a joint project with Tarrant Regional (TRWD). DWU has a 150 MGD capacity share in this pipeline, scheduled for completion in 2028
- Additional infrastructure is required to connect IPL to the Dallas water system. Evaluation complete by end of 2025. Engineering to start in 2026, construction completion by 2040



Recommended Strategy – Main Stem Balancing Reservoir (2050)



- DWU has a permitted right to divert and reuse its effluent from the Central and Southside WWTPs.
- ~300,000 acre-feet reservoir required to store and provide natural treatment for these return flows.
- Water will be pumped to a DWU water supply system and/or swapped. This strategy is anticipated to provide up to 102 MGD by 2050.
- Feasibility Study will kick-off in 2026.



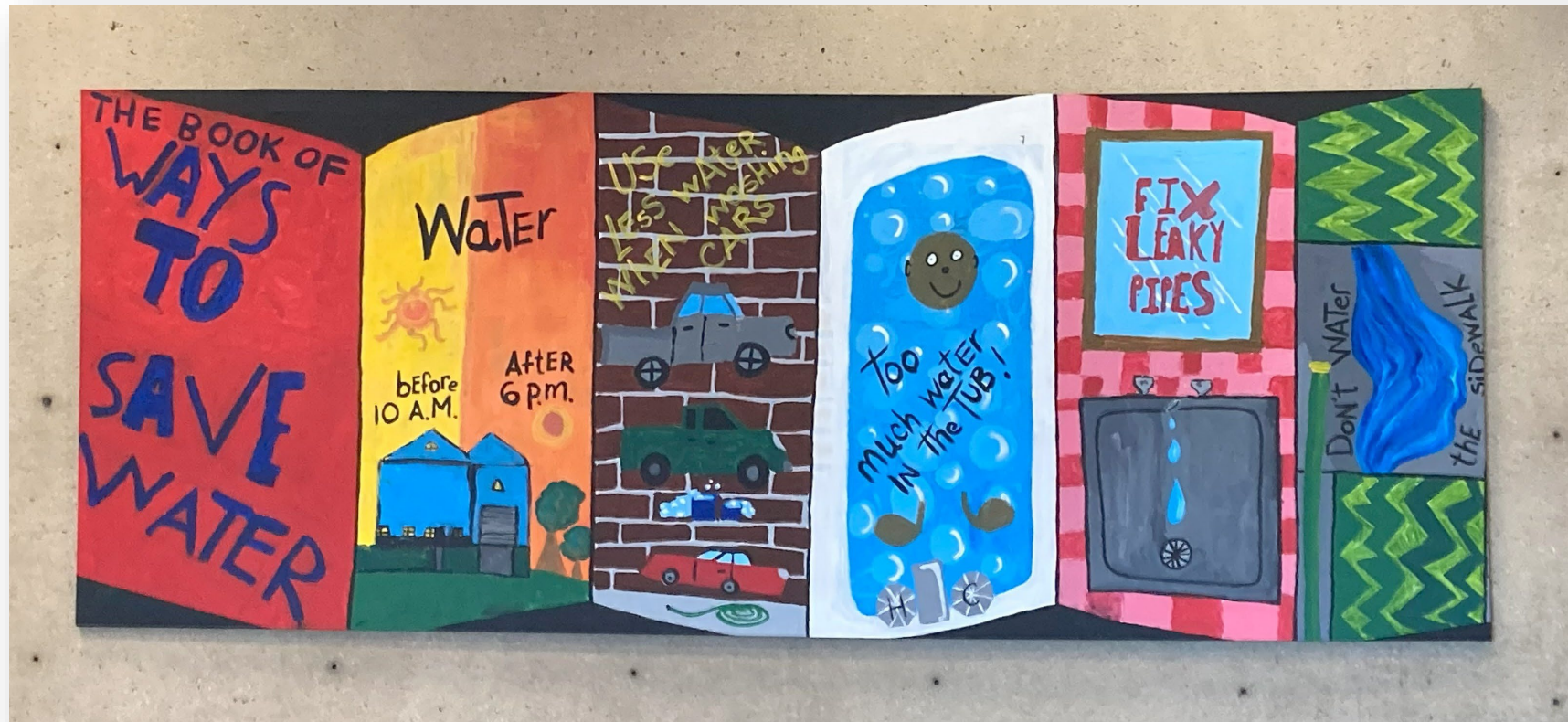
Next Steps



- Implement enhanced water conservation measures:
 - Pilot Irrigation Rebate Program – Spring 2026
 - No watering between 10am and 6pm year around – Fall 2026
 - Prohibit variances for cool season grass establishment – Fall 2026
- Finalize SWAP Agreement with NTMWD
- Complete IPL to Dallas Delivery Alternative Evaluation and begin engineering for infrastructure improvements
- Begin Main Stem Balancing Reservoir Feasibility Study
- Continue to evaluate alternative strategies



Questions



The mural that won the 2004 water conservation contest is displayed in the east entrance of Dallas City Hall.