



STEWARDS OF THE “SWIFT WATERS”: THE TOWN OF TONAWANDA’S WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Water
Resources Regional Body and Great
Lakes St. Lawrence River Basin Water
Resources Council Summer Meeting

June 13, 2024



TOWN OF TONAWANDA WATER RESOURCES

Drinking Water Treatment Plant

- 24 MGD Permitted, 18 MGD Average Day
- 150 MGD Intake Capacity

Wastewater Treatment Plant

- 75 MGD Peak Flows, 21 MGD Average Day
- SPDES Permit for Treated Effluent Outfall to Niagara River

Sewage Collection & Treatment

- Order on Consent for Abatement of Sanitary Sewer Overflows

ON-GOING WATER RESOURCE PROJECTS

Raw Water Intake Cleaning Project & Intake Structure Modifications

- Zebra Mussel debris accumulation impacting intake capacity and water quality.
- Opportunity to explore interconnection with neighboring Erie County Water Authority to promote water supply resiliency and redundancy.

Industrial Raw Water Service Project

- Secures a predictable raw water source for local industries.

Drinking Water & Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades

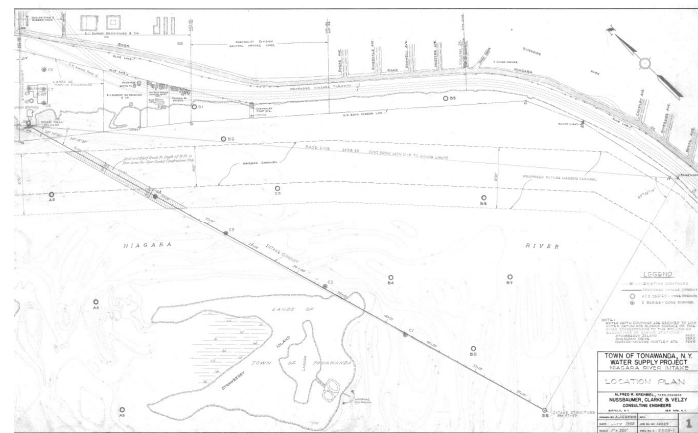
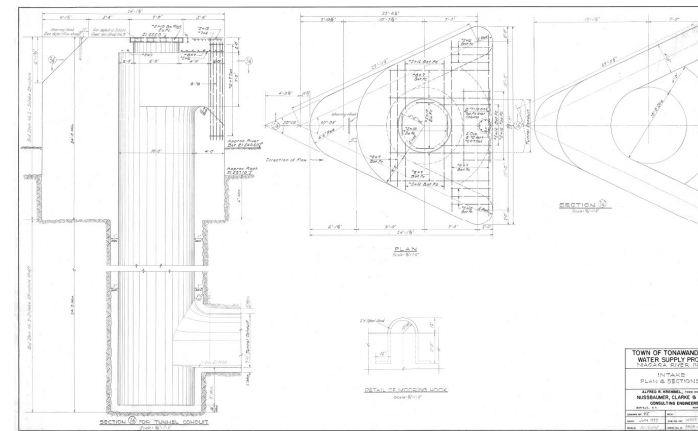
- WTP Filtration Upgrades
- WTP Electrical & Pump Improvements
- WWTP Oxygen Generation Project

NYSDEC Order on Consent for SSOs

Stormwater MS4 Permit Update Requirements

- Modernizing procedures and reporting to ensure compliance with new MS4 Stormwater General Permit

EPA Lead & Copper Rule Revisions/Improvements (LCRR/LCRI) Program



WATER RESOURCE CHALLENGES



Project Funding

Construction costs continue to increase (estimated 30% increase from 2023 – 2024).

ARPA funds to be obligated by 2024; spent by 2026.

Grant opportunities are very competitive.



Regulatory Landscape & Timelines

Project scopes are often dependent on regulatory updates and/or mandates.

Review process.



Emerging Contaminants (PFAS)

Town PFAS levels at Water Plant have been tested and are well below New York State's maximum contaminant level of 10 parts per trillion.

WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION

Moratorium on development of River Road.

Adoption of new Zoning Code that restricts/regulates industrial development along waterfront of River Road (adopted April 9, 2024).

Huntley Power Station (NRG) Site

- Actively pursuing the acquisition of the former Huntley Power site through eminent domain.
- Town has solicited expressions of interest from developers who have proposed mixed-use and light industrial uses.

Tonawanda Coke Clean-Up

- East of River Road: Brownfield Cleanup Site
- West of River Road: NYSDEC Superfund Site 108

Cherry Farm

- Redevelopment opportunity that reimagines a former landfill as a waterfront destination park & recreational area.



THANK YOU!

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