



## *ENVIRONMENTAL AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS AT MWRA*

Presentation for WSCAC

October 9, 2018



# **Service Area Expansion**



## Before the Connection or Expansion...

- Communities must be in compliance with various policies and procedures to be eligible to connect to MWRA's Water or Wastewater systems
  - MWRA Operating and Admission Policies
  - Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA)
  - Interbasin Transfer Act



# MWRA Admission Policies

- **OP.04** - Sewer Connections Serving Property Partially Located in a Non-MWRA Community
  - Structure must straddle municipal boundary
  - “Sewer Straddle” policy
- **OP.05** - Emergency Water Supply Withdrawals
  - Communities outside MWRA Water service area
  - Maximum of 6 months
  - Typically also DEP Declaration of Emergency
- **OP.09** - Water Connections Serving Property Partially Located in a Non-MWRA community
  - Structure outside water service on parcel subject to an integrated plan partly inside MWRA water service area
  - “Water Straddle” policy
- **OP.10** - Admission of New Community to MWRA Water System
- **OP.11** - Admission of New Community to MWRA Sewer System and Other Requests for Sewer Service to Locations Outside MWRA Sewer Service Area



# Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA)

- 301 CMR 11.00
- Public review process for projects that trigger certain regulatory thresholds and have potential environmental impacts
- Applies to project that require a state agency action
  - i.e. permits, financial assistance, land transfers
- Aims to avoid, minimize, and mitigate damage to the environment
- Thresholds for Water Supply Expansion that trigger MEPA review
  - New Interbasin Transfer of 1 mgd or more
  - New water service to a municipality through new or existing pipelines
  - Construction of five or more miles of new water main
  - New withdrawal or expansion of 2.5 or more mgd of surface water
  - New withdrawal or expansion of 100,000 or more gpd that requires new construction

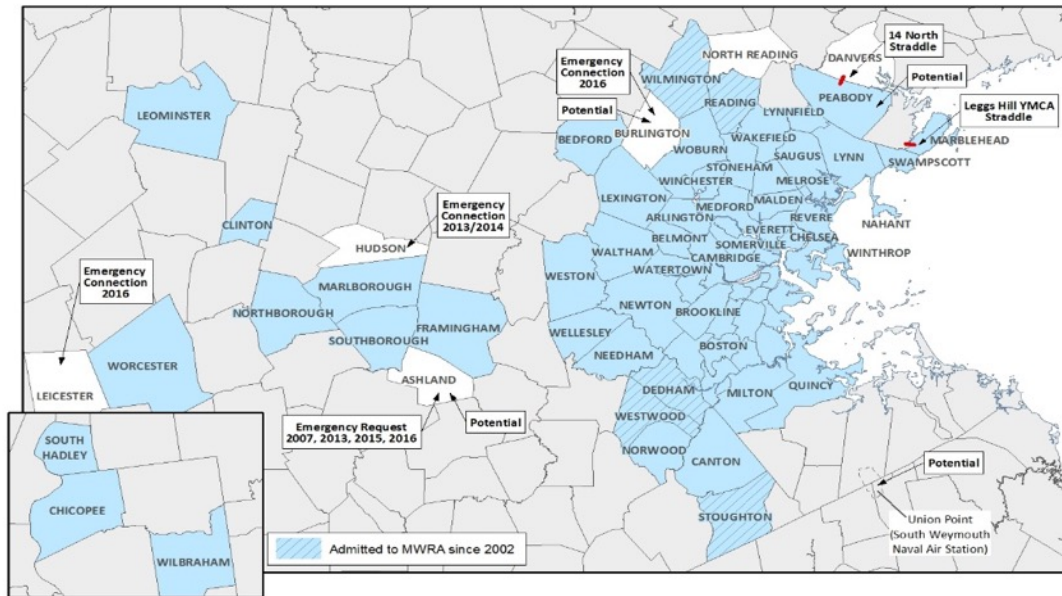


# Interbasin Transfer Act

- 313 CMR 4.00
- Administered by the Water Resources Commission
- Governs transfers of water and wastewater outside of the original river basin in the Commonwealth
  - MWRA Water and Wastewater Systems
- Ensures that resources in the donor basin are not adversely impacted and adequate instream river flow is maintained
- Requests are evaluated based on applicable criteria including
  - MEPA Compliance
  - Adequate water conservation measures
  - Development of all viable in-basin sources
- Donor Basin Application enables Regional Water Supply Systems to increase service to multiple communities by reviewing the donor basin separately from the receiving areas



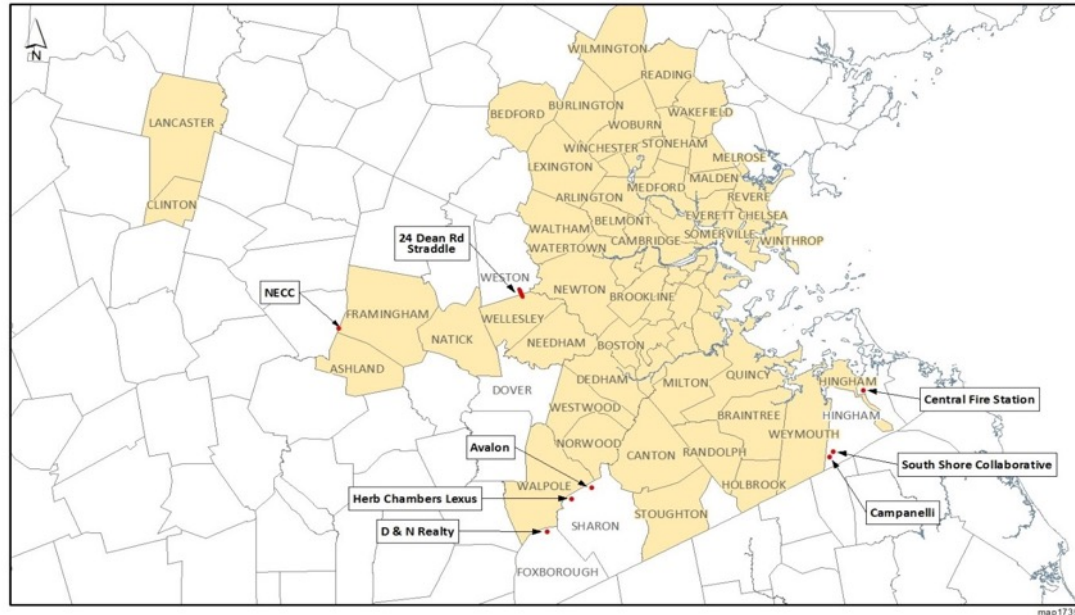
# Water Supply Expansion Possibilities



- All new connections since 2002 operating in compliance
- 2017: recovered from drought which resulted in 0 emergency connections
- Progress made on potential new connections



# Wastewater Expansion Possibilities



- Most new connections since 2002 operating in compliance
- Wastewater connections available – wet weather capacity always a consideration
- Looking Ahead...Crescent Ridge Dairy

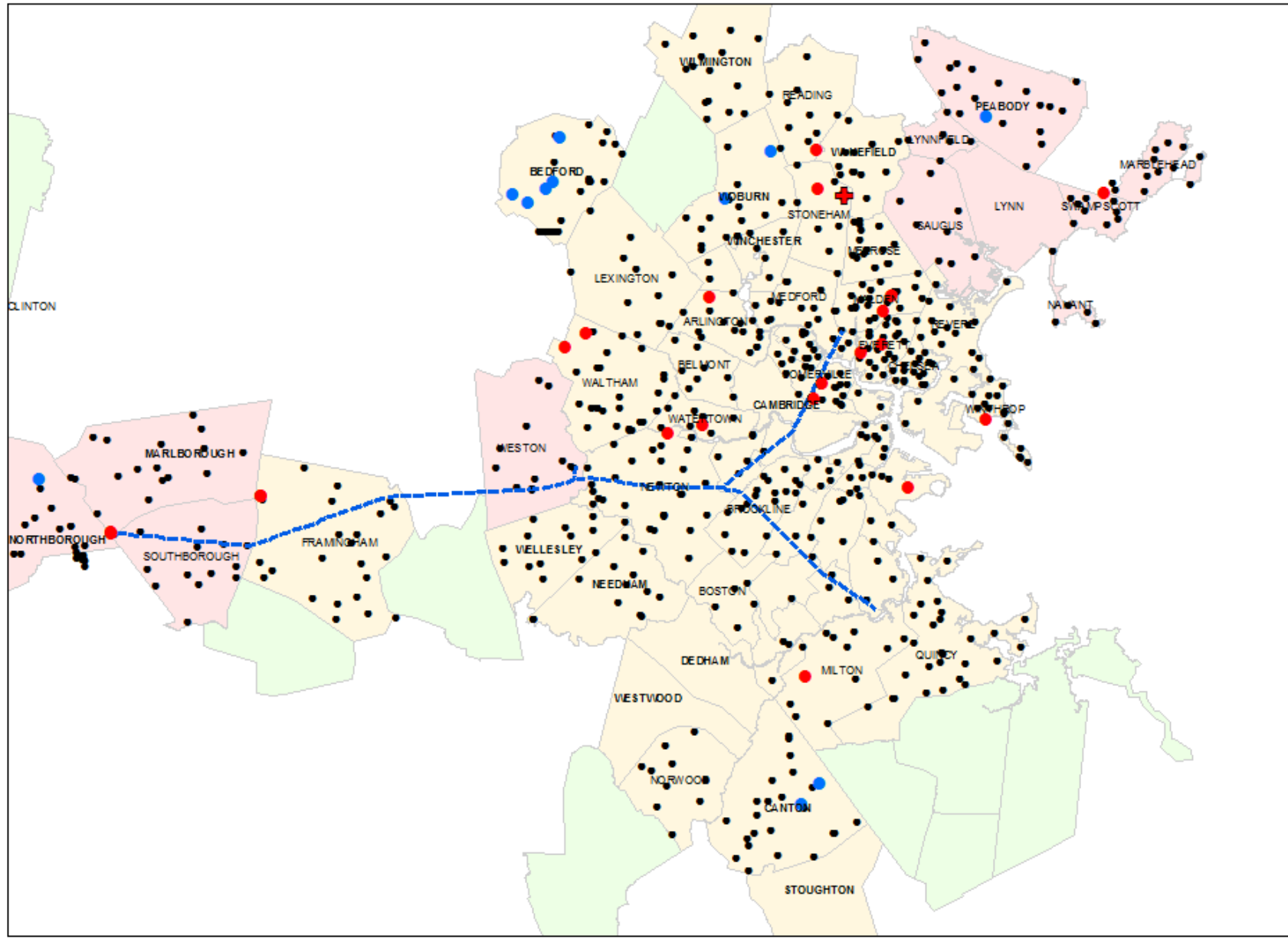




# **Water Quality**



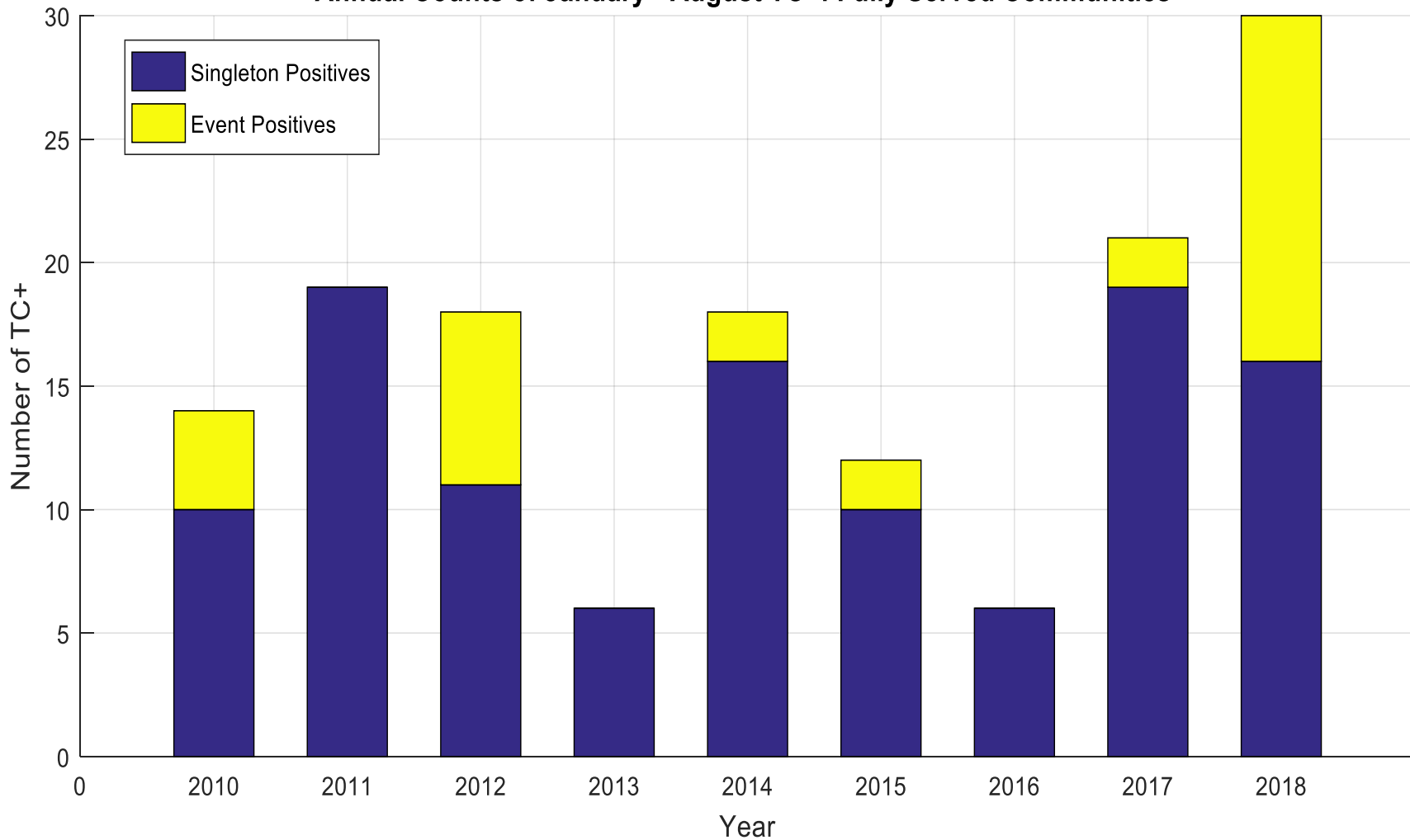
# 2018 TCR Sampling Locations Fully Served and Partial with Total Coliform Positives





# Annual Total Coliform Positives: January through August

Annual Counts of January - August TC+: Fully Served Communities





# Metropolitan Tunnel Redundancy

- 2 tunnels, extending north and south from Shaft 5 area
- Will provide much needed redundancy to Metro system
- About 14 miles of 10' concrete lined deep rock tunnel
- Mined using Tunnel Boring Machines (TBMs)
- Currently staffing Tunnel Redundancy Department





- Climate
- Stormwater
- Blending
- Lead in Drinking Water
- Waters of the US
- Emerging Contaminants



# QUESTIONS?

