

Larson Design Group®

## Village of Montour Falls and Watkins Glen

Regional Approach for Managing Wastewater Facilities

NYCOM Fall Conference | September 19, 2019



## AGENDA

- 1 Why a regional approach vs go it alone?
  - The problem
  - Alternatives considered
  - Why not bare minimum
  - Regional alternative
- 2 Selected Regional Alternative
  - Benefits of regional approach for Communities
  - Environmental concerns
  - Cost comparison
- 3 Forming the MOU, IMA, Funding Analysis
- 4 Lessons Learned

## **CURRENT SITUATION**

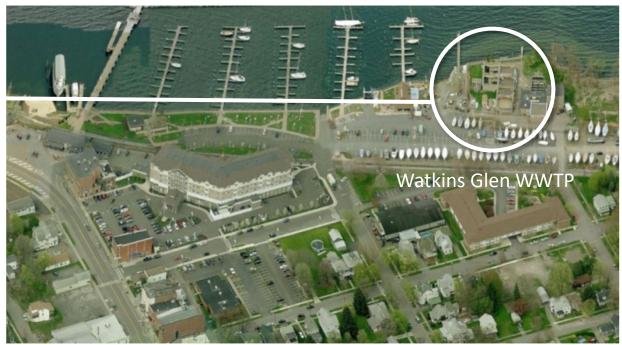
#### **In Montour Falls**

- 50-yr old WWTP inefficient, unreliable and at the end of its useful life, excessive collection system inflow/infiltration
- 76 SPDES Permit Violations resulting in "marginal compliance" with a Consent Order imminent
- Escalating capital and O&M costs

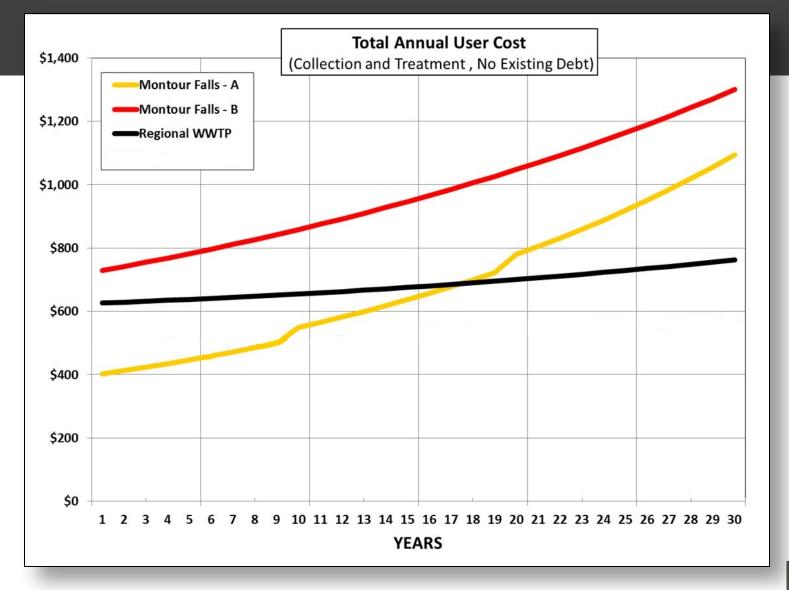
#### **In Watkins Glen**

- 50-yr old WWTP is inefficient, unreliable and at the end of its useful life, excessive collection system inflow/infiltration costs
- 118 SPDES Permit Violations resulting in 2012
   NYSDEC Consent Order
- Escalating capital and O&M costs
- Outfall in close proximity to beach and water intake





## STABILIZING COSTS OVER THE LONG-TERM



### WHY A REGIONAL APPROACH?

### **Benefits of Partnering**



**Regional WWTP** — lower cost over the long haul



Protect Seneca Lake - removed 49,000 pounds of contaminants per year



**Economies of scale** – by adding Watkins Glen user base, debt service for Montour Falls is reduced



Increased Efficiency — avoids duplicate design and engineering costs as well as ongoing administrative expenses



Access to Grants – the regional approach enables both Villages access to ~\$10 million in grants



## GOVERNANCE



# JOINT PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE (JPC)

will administer design, construction, operation and maintenance of regional wastewater treatment plant



#### 2 REPRESENTATIVES

from each Village will sit on the JPC, with rotating chairmanship, and one representative each from Dix and Reading with one rotating tie breaker vote



#### BUDGETS,

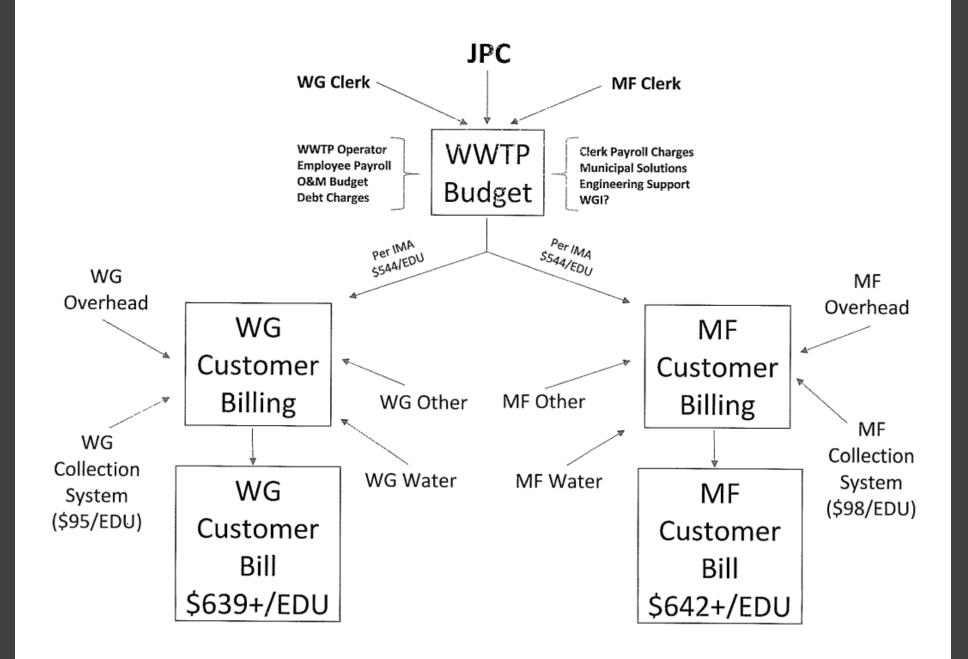
capital spending and user fee structure must be ratified by both Village boards



#### 1 VILLAGE

will be Administering
Village and employ staff
and handle accounting,
subject to audit





### REGIONAL WWTP CAPACITY ANALYSIS

- Capacity of a Regional WWTP is based on current flows and projected growth
- Initial I/I Reduction projects reduces plant treatment capacity to 1.2 MGD
- Planned technology provides flexibility to operate at 0.8 MGD during "non-peak" periods, which reduces O&M cost with a minor increase in construction cost

Source of Flow	Annual AVG	Max Month
(V) Montour Falls	0.25 MGD	0.37 MGD
(V) Watkins Glen	0.35 MGD	0.51 MGD
Projected Growth	0.2 MGD	0.32 MGD
Total	0.8 MGD	1.2 MGD

## ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR REGION

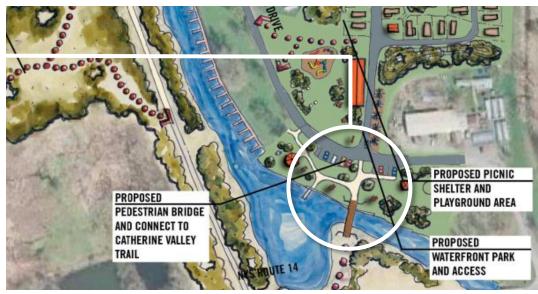
#### **Watkins Glen**

- Replacement/relocation of WWTPs is the key first step in a long-term economic development and waterfront revitalization effort which is expected to result in \$150 -\$200 million in public and private investment.
- Watkins Glen WWTP is located on prime waterfront property

#### **Montour Falls**

- Montour Falls WWTP is located at the entrance of the Village RV park, boat slips and adjacent to key recreational areas.
- Create nature trail over the force main
- Create circle route around the Seneca-Cayuga Canal

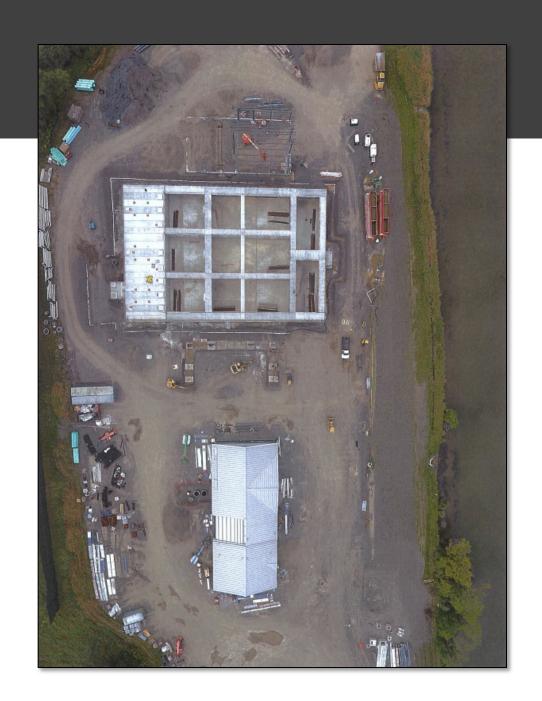




## **FUNDING PROFILE**

Total Project	\$32,000,000
Total Grants	\$10,300,000
0% Loan	\$15,000,000
2% Loan	\$6,700,000

Grant Funding		
CDBG	\$1,000,000	
ESD	\$4,300,000	
EFC	\$5,000,000	



## **LESSONS LEARNED**

## **Working Group to Manage Design - PMT**

Proper Planning,
Management
& Public
Engagement
was Key



Stepped Rates Up
Over 3 to 5 Years





Stressed Environmental Concerns



Hired Experienced
Operator During
Final Design

