

Walnut Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion and Modernization

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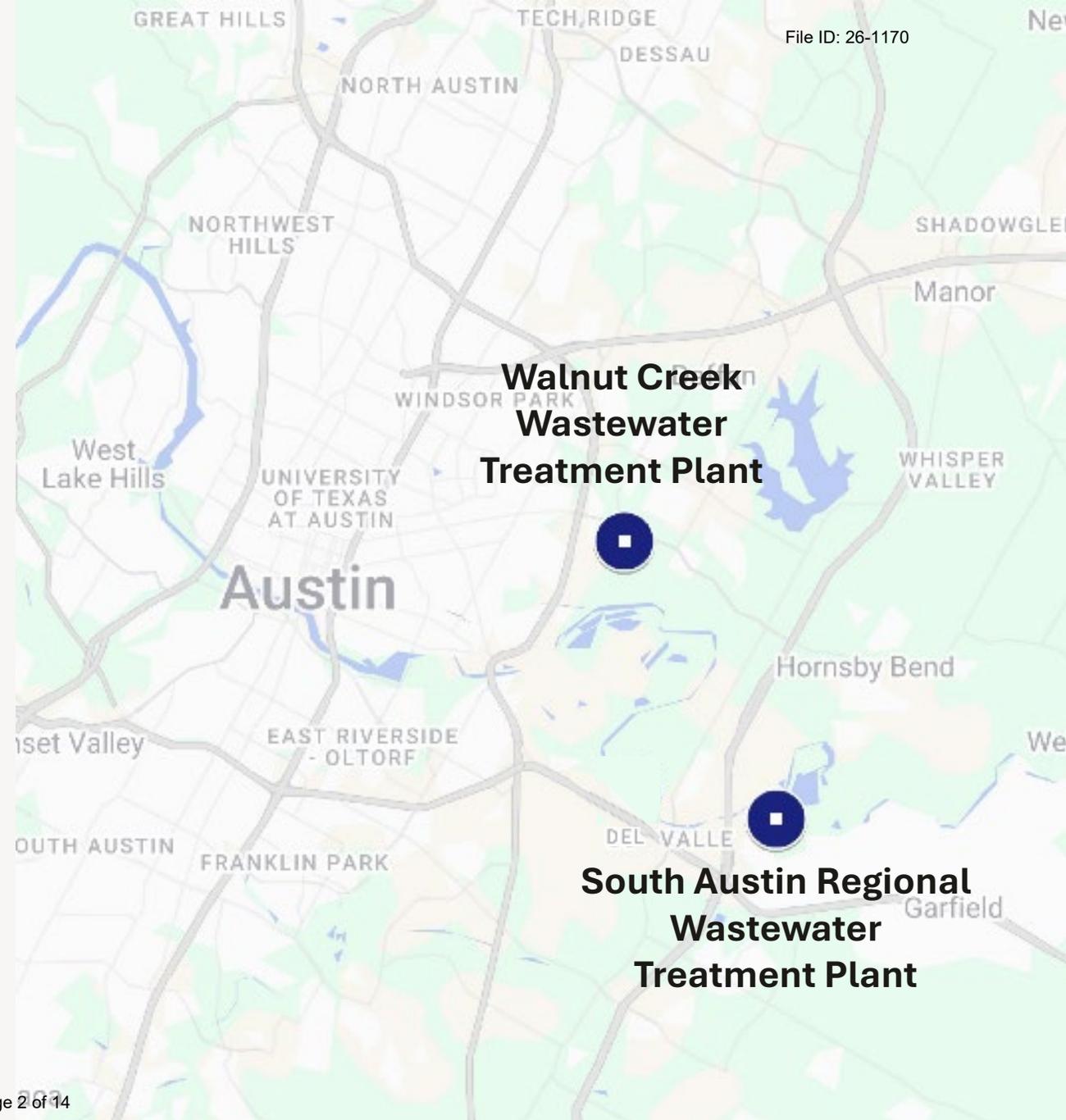


Climate, Water, Environment,
and Parks Committee

February 25, 2026

Wastewater Treatment Plants

- **1977 population 321,900**
Walnut Creek Wastewater Plant constructed at 18 MGD
Expansions of Walnut Creek WWTP in 1987, 1990, 2005 based on population growth
- **1986 population 447,342**
South Austin Regional Wastewater Plant constructed at 75 MGD
- **2025 population 1,035,002**
Walnut Creek Wastewater Plant expansion to 100 MGD



Expansion and Modernization

-  Upgrade existing facilities for new treatment process (Biological Nutrient Removal or BNR)
-  Construct new facilities for BNR
-  Construct new facilities for 25 MGD expansion

 **Upgraded Treatment**

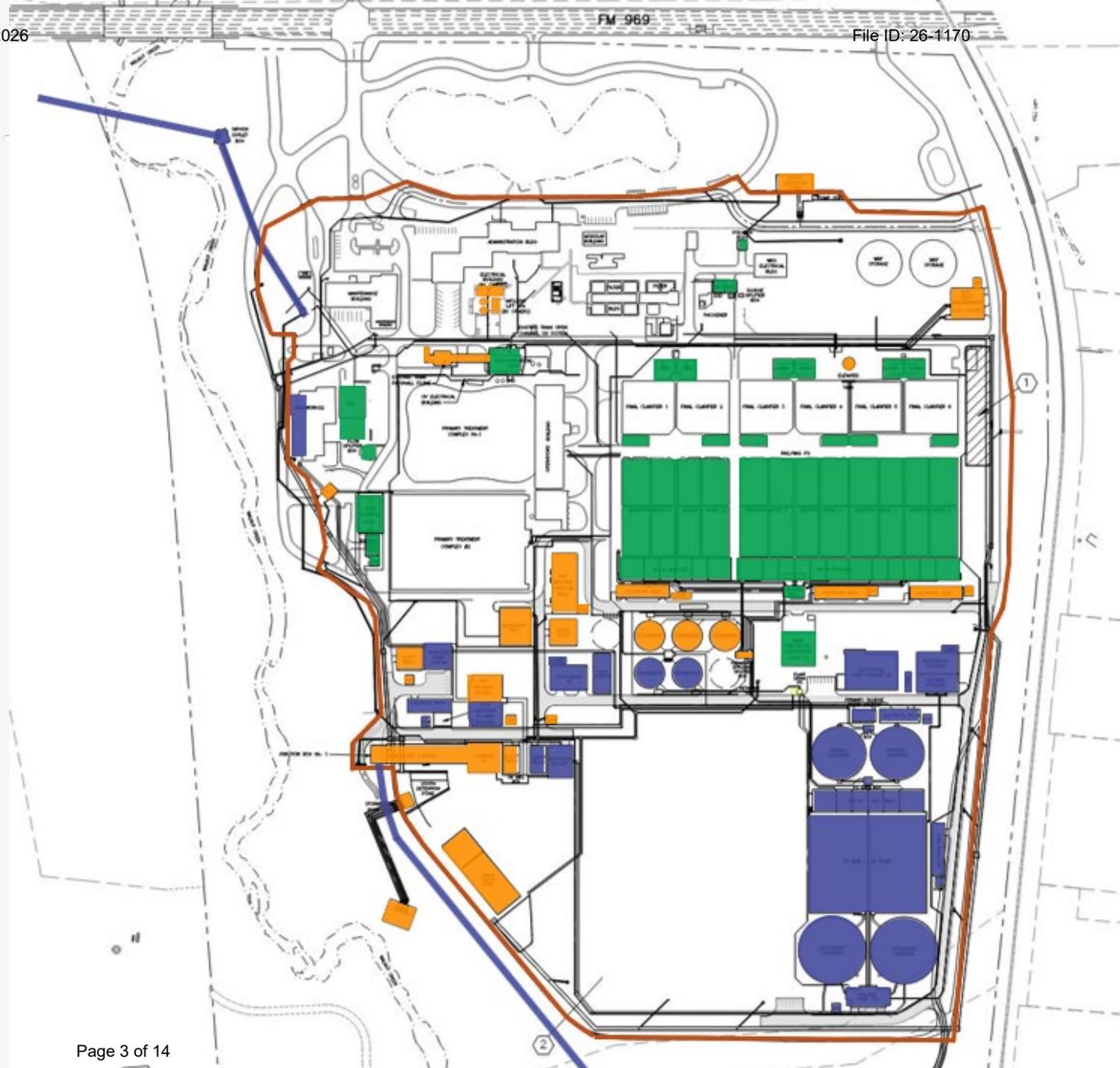
 **Plant-Wide Modernization**

 **Safer Disinfection Process**

 **Advanced Odor Control**

 **Flood Protection**

 **Continuous Service**

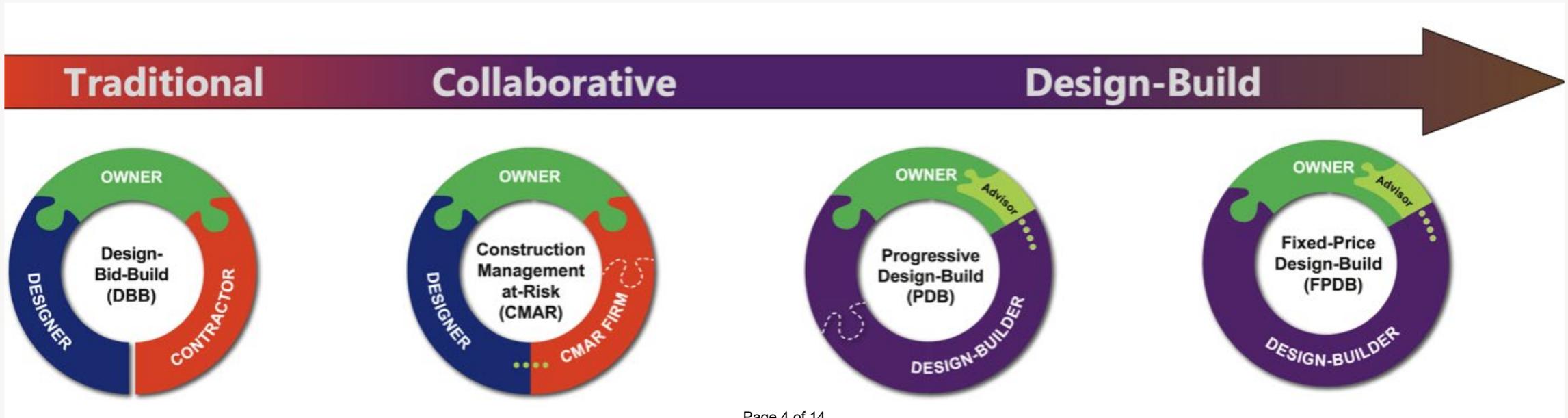


Construction Manager-at-Risk Delivery



December 8, 2022 – Council approved **Construction Manager-at-Risk (CMAR)** methodology

- Mitigates risks with collaborative approach to phasing and construction bid packages, identifying constructability approach for a complex project, maintaining continuous plant operations, and conducting value engineering during design.



CMAR Contract Execution



May 30, 2024 –Council authorized negotiation and execution of a contract for pre-construction and construction services for the Walnut Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion to 100 Million Gallons per Day with MWH Constructors Inc. in the amount of \$900,000,000.

The \$900 million contract amount was based on Preliminary Engineering.

CMAR Benefits – Preconstruction Services

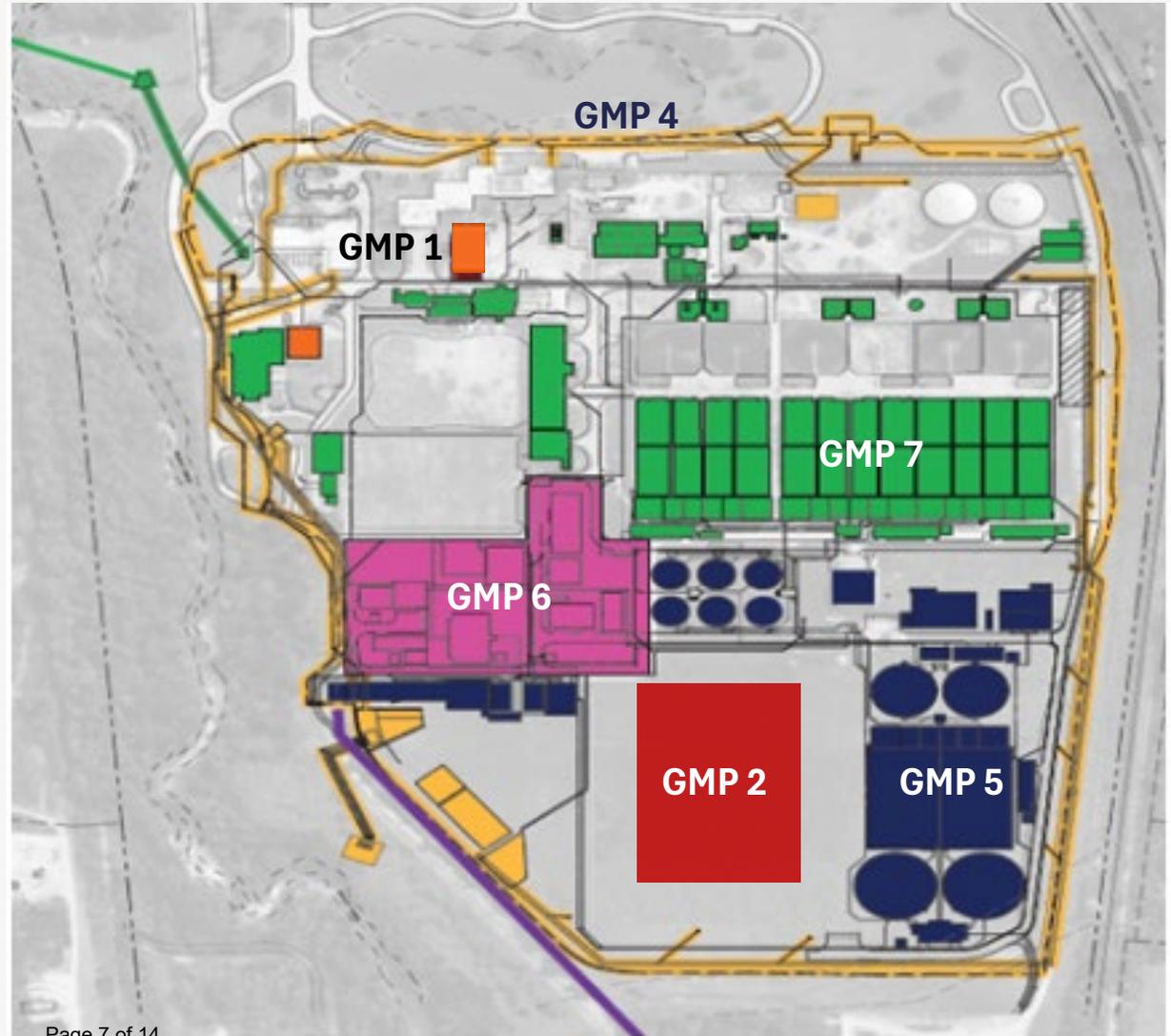


- **Collaboration:** Enhancing the level of detail in construction drawings and technical specifications.
- **Constructability:** Performing thorough constructability reviews to ensure efficiency and quality.
- **Continuous Service:** Supporting development of Maintenance of Plant Operation (MOPO) plans.
- **Scheduling:** Identifying construction sequencing for smooth execution.
- **Value Engineering:** Exploring cost-saving opportunities to maximize value.
- **Cost Refinement:** Continuing to refine Opinion of Probable Construction Cost for accuracy.
- **Bid Packages:** Preparing Guarantee Maximum Price (GMP) bidding documents in a phased approach.

Guarantee Maximum Price Progress



In Construction	GMP 1	Key Rehabilitation Projects
In Construction	GMP 2	Mobilization Site Services
In Construction	GMP 3	Long Lead Items Early Work Package
Contract Award	GMP 4	Flood Wall
Bidding Phase Bid Date: 12-18-2025	GMP 5	25 MGD Expansion
Bidding Phase Bid Date: 2-26-2026	GMP 6	Peak Wet Weather Flow Facilities
90% Design	GMP 7	75 MGD Existing Plant Modifications
60% Design	GMP 8	Outfall Pipe



CMAR Benefits - Accurate Cost Estimates



March 12, 2026 – Authorize additional expenditures for the construction contract for the Walnut Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion to 100 Million Gallons per Day project with MWH Constructors Inc., Construction Manager at Risk, to increase the amount by \$600,000,000 for a revised total contract amount not to exceed \$1,500,000,000.

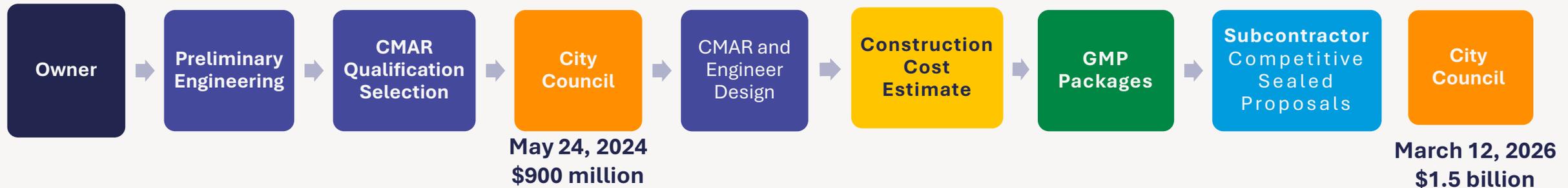
CMAR Benefits - Collaborative Delivery



Design → Bid → Build



Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR)



CMAR Benefits - Managing Cost and Risks



- **Monitoring Market Dynamics:** Proactively addressing cost escalation for goods and services due to on-going supply chain issues and elevated market demand.
- **Improved Accuracy:** Leveraging greater detailed construction drawings to achieve more precise cost estimates.
- **Operational Continuity:** Implementing constructability strategies that maintain plant operations.
- **Specialized Expertise:** Coordinating with specialized subcontractors to ensure quality execution.
- **Optimized Access:** Utilizing specialized equipment and construction sequencing required for limited site access.
- **Regulatory Excellence:** Permitting and regulatory compliance that includes tunneling 120-inch effluent pipeline to avoid trees.
- **Strategic Scheduling:** Managing an extended construction timeline.
- **Funding Support:** Federal and State Loan opportunities.

Funding Support Opportunities



March 12, 2026 – Approve a resolution authorizing the City Manager to increase the application amount for a low-interest loan to a total up to \$1,000,000,000. This loan, obtained through the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program.

Financing



EPA WIFIA (Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act)

- Council approved loan application for \$446.8 Million on July 18, 2024
- Revised Loan Request is up to \$1.0 Billion

TWDB CWSRF (Clean Water State Revolving Fund): \$59 Million

Austin Water Revenue Bond: \$441 Million

Austin Water does not anticipate modifying the rate plan shown in the five-year forecast included in the City of Austin approved 2025-26 budget.

Building Austin's water future, together.



Austin

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