

FAST Start Program Update and Summary for 2017



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This is NOT Flint !



Example continued:

- The Pittsburgh Water & Sewer Authority's initial estimate to replace all lead service lines (SL) - \$411 million.
- Pittsburgh has rising home prices, rising income tax revenue and a budget surplus.
- City estimates that it will take 5 years to replace all lead SLs.
- County estimates that it will take 10-12 years.

Flint Successes

- Completion of **all** non-Copper Service Lines (SLs) in **three years**
- **Service Line replacement plan “institutionalized in Concerned Pastors Federal Court order**
- **Creation of close partnership with DEQ** and other State agencies
- Long-term safe water source
- Creation of a system for tracking repairs which is indexed by street address.
- Citizens have to truly trust that **both** water and Pipes are safe for drinking, bathing and other uses



9 February 2016: Project Objectives

FAST Start Goals:

1. Get the lead out of Flint by determining how many non-copper service lines are in the City, where they are located and how fast they can be replaced.
2. When possible, hire Flint companies and/or workers to do the pipe replacements.
3. Assure that residents whose homes haven't yet gotten pipe replacements have working filters on their faucets and that they use them.
4. Ramp up work to address 6,000 pipes/year so residents don't have to wait forever to see their pipes replaced.



2016 -Barriers to Success

- **Lack of complete, comprehensible and manageable City water records**
 - **Unknown number of service lines**
 - **Unknown pipe composition**
- **Lack of revenue source (highest water rates in the State)**
- **Lack of sufficient revenue to maintain, improve, or fix system or replace unknown lines**
- **Lack of capacity**
 - **Newly elected Mayor**
 - **No staff as State Emergency Financial Manager had just left**
 - **No excess capability in City staff, incldg for**
 - **Strategic planning**
 - **New operations**
 - **Oversight**
- **Lack of TRUST**
 - **Need clear means of communications w. citizens**



Red = Lead, Blue = Galvanized, Green = Unknown



Criteria Chosen to Prioritize Where Pipes Should Be Replaced

- The criteria used for deciding where to replace pipes included:
 - Amount of lead in the water, determined by testing
 - Age of water in the area's distribution system
 - If there are children under 6 years old in the home
 - If there are elderly adults in the home
 - Concentration of lead/galvanized lines in the area
- In addition, homes must be occupied & have an active water account

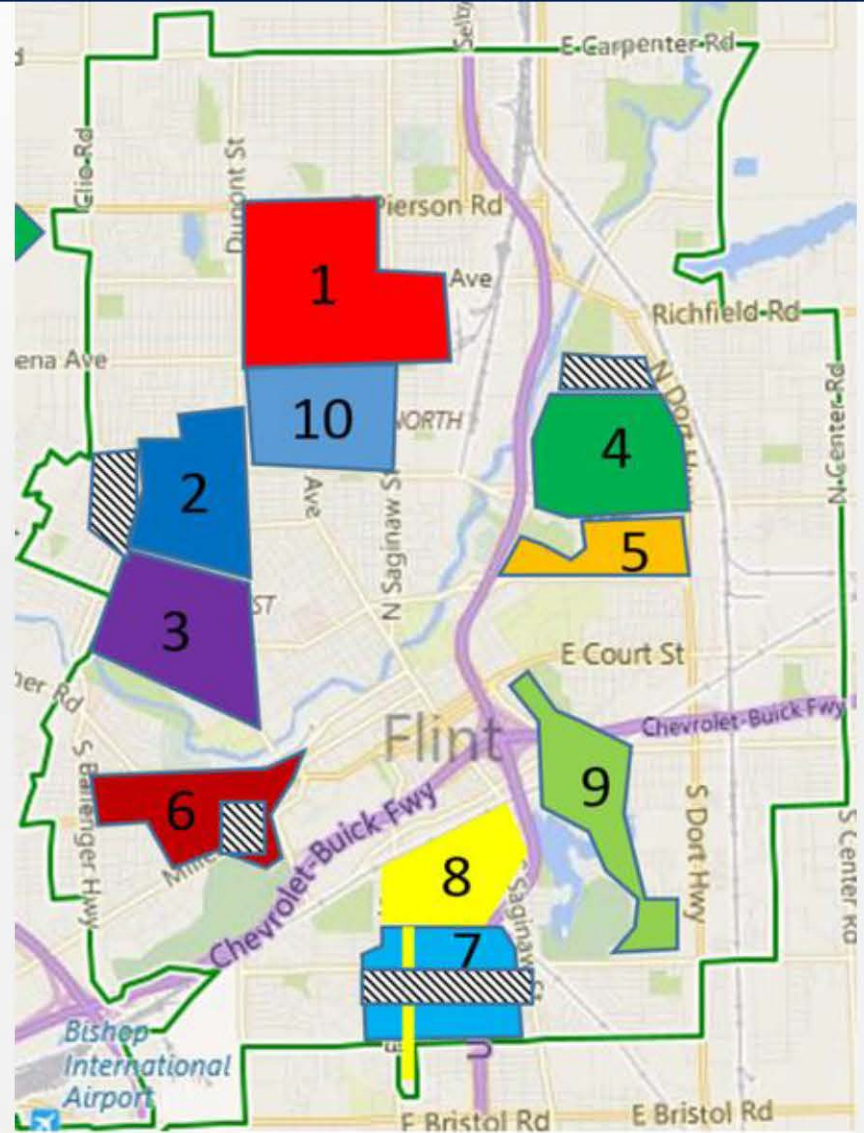
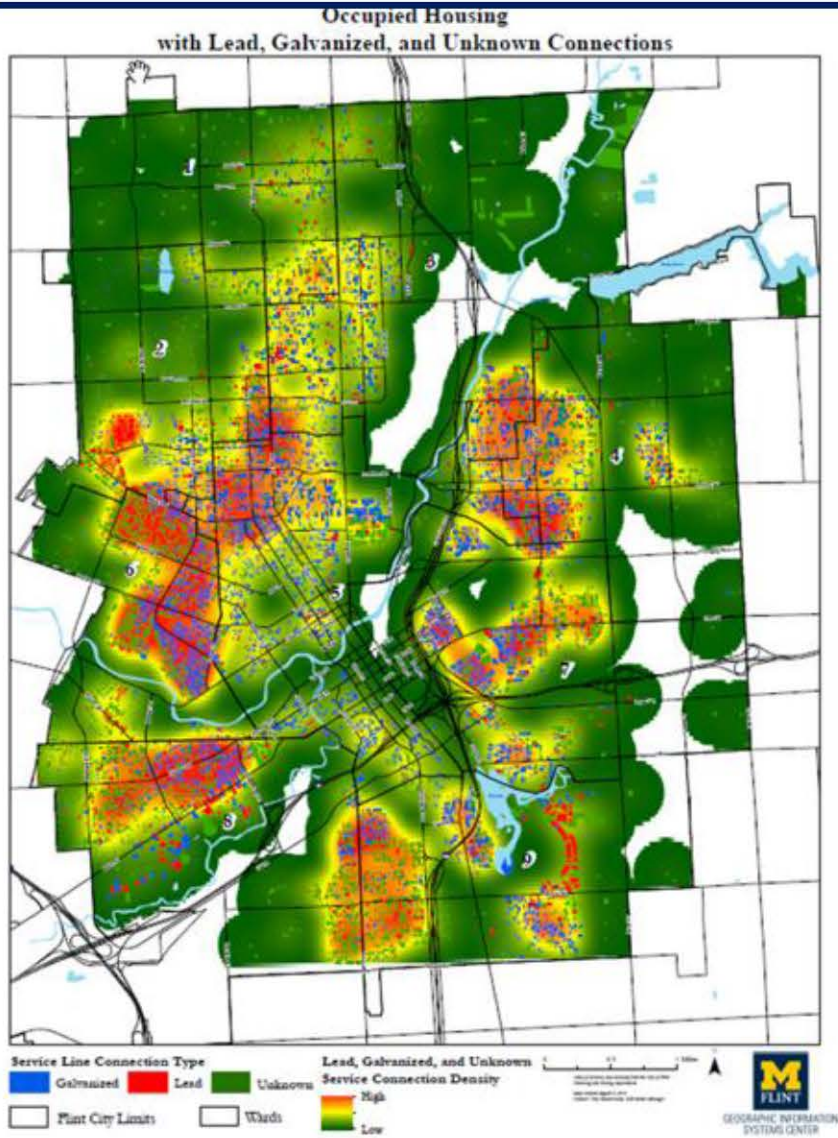


Schedule an Early Success

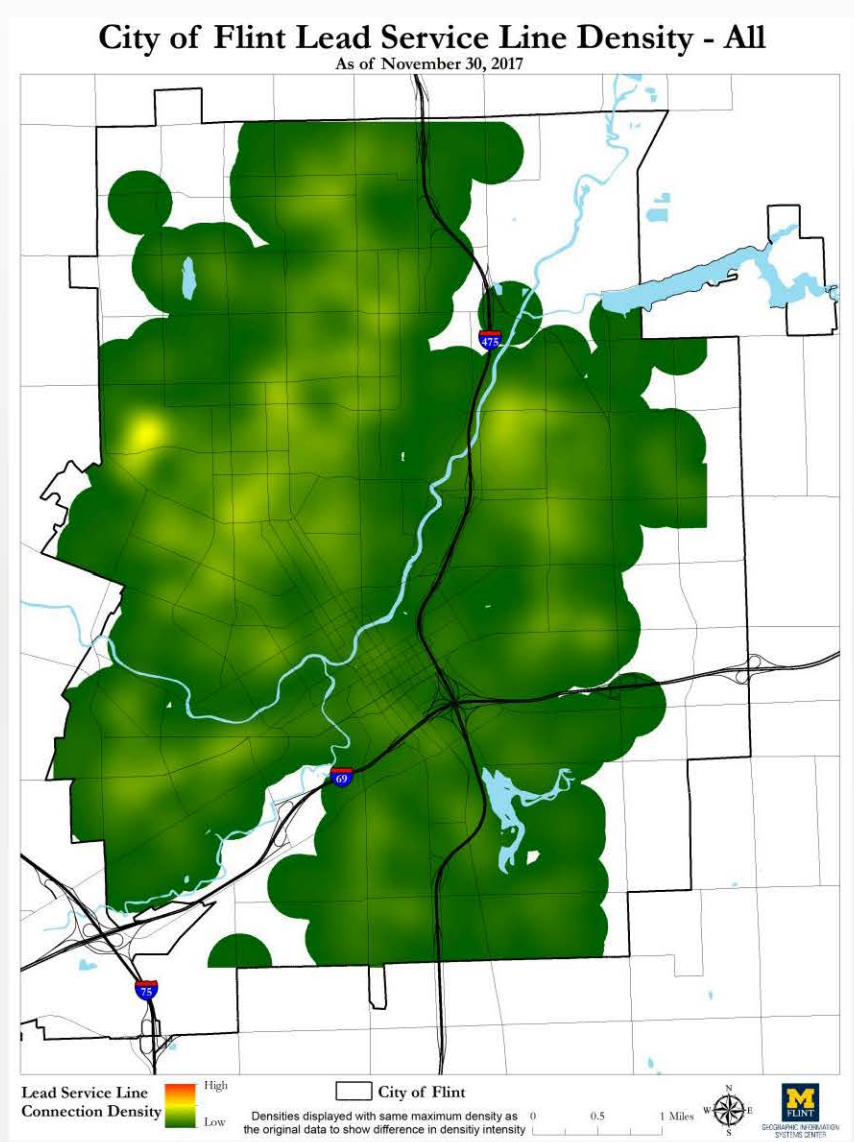
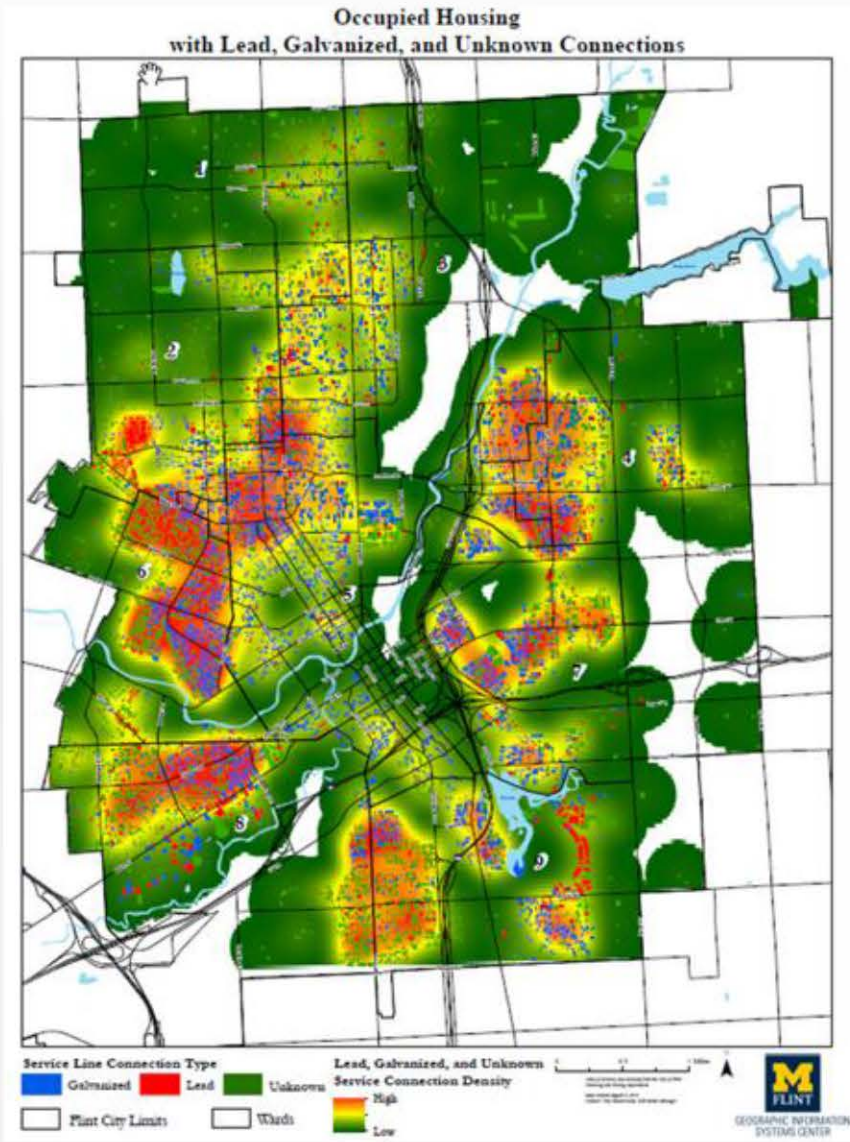
- First Service Line removed in late March/early April 2016, less than 2 months after SLR announcement
- Highlighted both Project Scope and Schedule
- Included recognition of City of Lansing BWL training efforts



Project Scope: Neighborhoods First Served Had Highest Concentrations of Lead-Tainted Pipes



Neighborhoods First Served Had Highest Concentration of Lead-Tainted Pipes



**Solutions to Lack of Records:
Hydro-Excavation to Find Non-Copper Pipes**

- DEQ approves hydro-excavation contracts to two contractors. Work began in June 2017. Hydro-excavation at 4656 sites has been completed.
- 1130 were Copper to Copper
- 2581 addresses had pipe composition verified
- Savings thus far: \$1.6 million.



Modernization and Innovation

- Developed a database for tracking all work conducted during Phase 4.
- Digitization of the City's service line material records, over 138,000 individual records .
 - Still need to develop accessibility
- Pre and Post construction water testing (MDEQ CLEAR Program).



2017
Flint Water
Infrastructure
Summit

A National Conversation

MARCH 7-9, 2017

Riverfront Banquet Center
1 Riverfront Center West, Flint, MI 48502

*Co-Sponsored by the City of Flint and the State of Michigan
Co-Chairs: Mayor Karen Weaver and Governor Rick Snyder*

A Solution to Lack of Revenue: Seek donations



- City had offers of free piping from both the Plastics Industry group, Alliance for Plastic Pipe and from the Copper Industry.
- We chose copper because it has a long history of safely conveying drinking water. Copper is a long-term solution.
- The City of Flint's building code requires that all new/replaced water service lines be copper.
- Copper is impenetrable. Outside products such as spilled fuels or insecticides and fertilizers spread on yards will be prevented from contaminating the water system.
- **CDA helped Flint acquire nearly 200,000 feet of copper piping for the current phase of the FAST START program, with deliveries being made on a regular basis. The copper industry's assistance is saving the city and state potentially \$1 million.**



Copper Development
Association Inc.

Copper Alliance

Current Status/Schedule:

- Per the *Concerned Pastors* settlement agreement, the City must excavate 6000 addresses by 1 January 2018.
- **City has excavated 8350 addresses in 2017**
- Flint FAST Start initiative has replaced **5929 lead-tainted service lines** in the City of Flint .
- Including **5487 replaced in 2017**



There's Still a Lot of Work to Do to Repair Flint's Drinking Water System

- The FAST Start initiatives focus solely on service line replacement. The replacement of nearly 20,000 lead and galvanized service lines is being paid for from state and federal funds under the federal court settlement.
- **Current phase to be completed by 8 December 2017. Besides our replacement goals, we will assist our follow-on PM, with a list of addresses for 2018 replacements, an RFP 2018, and a list of Best Practices.**
- After extensive study, Mayor Karen Weaver recommended that Flint continue to receive its drinking water from the Great Lakes Water Authority, rather than spending tens of millions of dollars to upgrade the Flint Water Treatment plant or switch to a competing water system.
- City Council approved the agreement on 22 November 2017.



Photo credit/Michigan Radio

The city's water distribution system is 80-100 years old and needs to be totally redone.





Questions?

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