

Lowlands Pump Station and Force Main Upgrade

Nahant, MA

March 2025

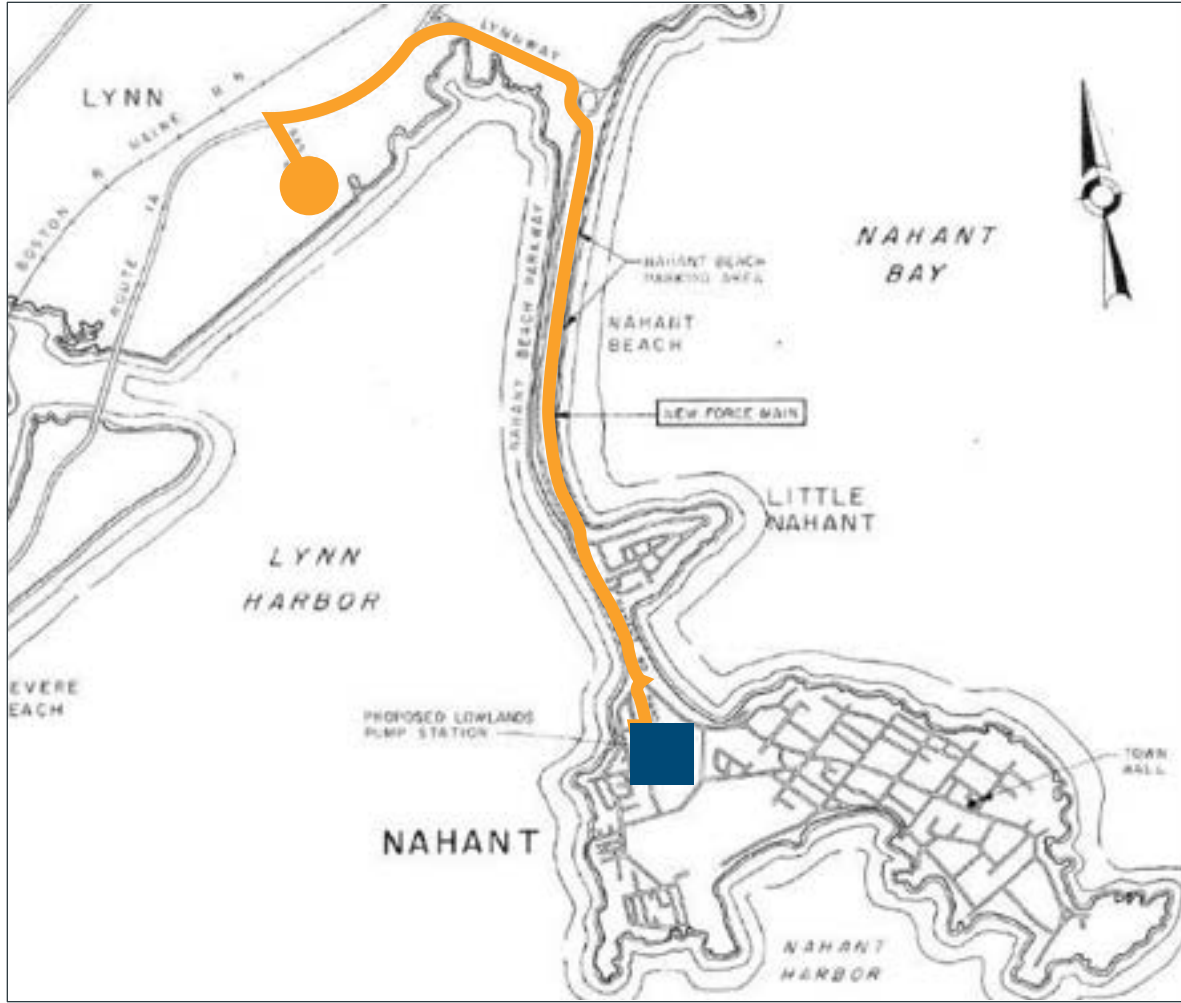
Stephanie Salerno, PE



Background: Nahant, MA



Project Overview: Lowlands Pump Station & Force Main



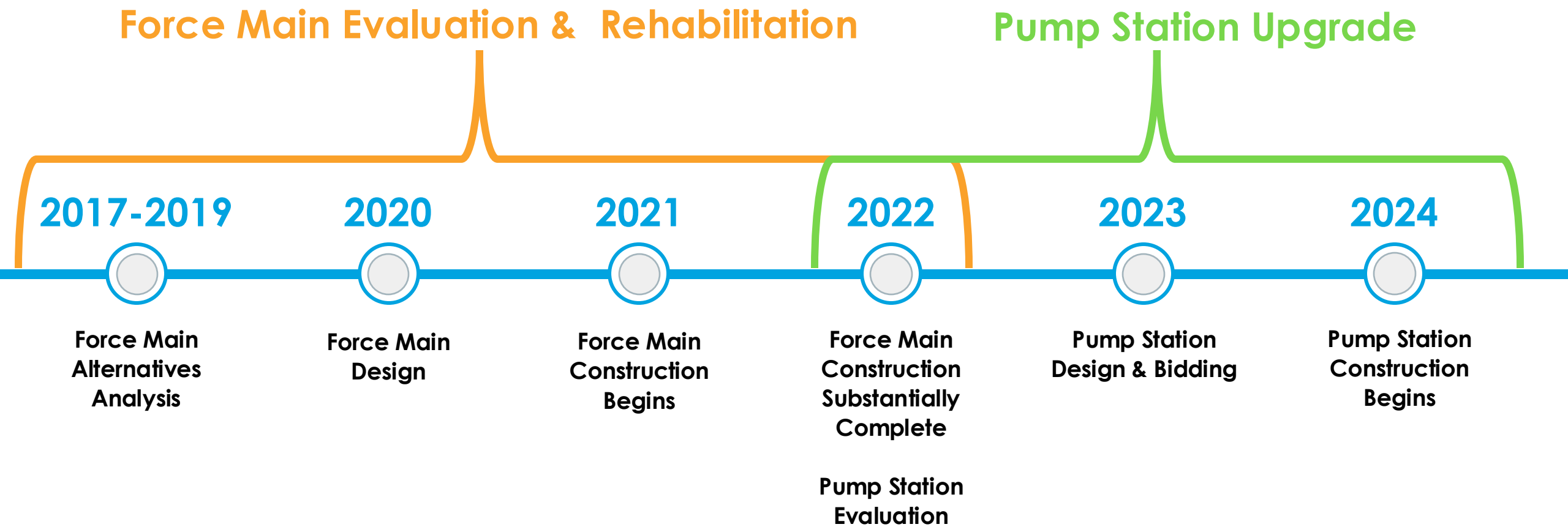
Lowlands Pump Station

- Size: 18" diameter force main
- Discharge to Lynn Regional WWTF
- Constructed in 1983
- 0.7 MGD avg daily flow
- 2.82 MGD peak flow

Two Major Construction Projects

- Lynnway Force Main Rehabilitation
- Comprehensive Pump Station Upgrade

Project Overview: Timeline



Background: Force Main Breaks



- April 7, 2017, break 282 Lynnway
- April 25, 2017, break 330 Lynnway
- June 3, 2019, break 260 Lynnway
- June 11, 2020, break 260 Lynnway
- September 29, 2020, break Lynnway
- June 2, 2021, break Lynnway

Force Main Evaluation: Methods of Corrosion



Break due to Hydrogen Sulfide



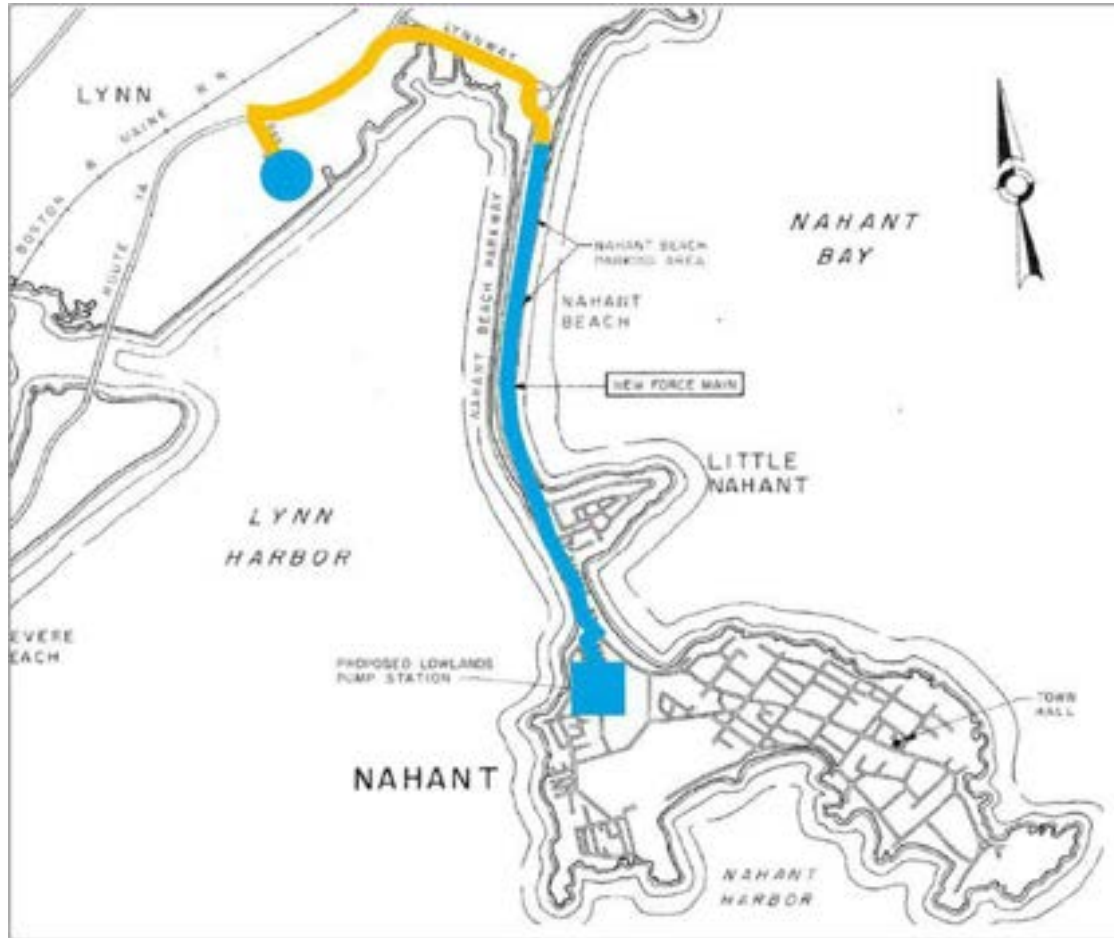
Break caused by Electric (Stray Current)

Force Main Evaluation: Ultrasonic Thickness Testing

Pipe Wall Thickness

Location	Pipe Thickness (inches)	Thickness Loss (Percent)
Causeway	0.51	Minimal
Causeway	0.38	7%
Rotary	0.32	22%
Lynnway	0.48	Minimal
Lynnway	0.21	50%
Lynnway	0.10	76%
Lynnway	0.10	76%
Lynnway	0.13	69%

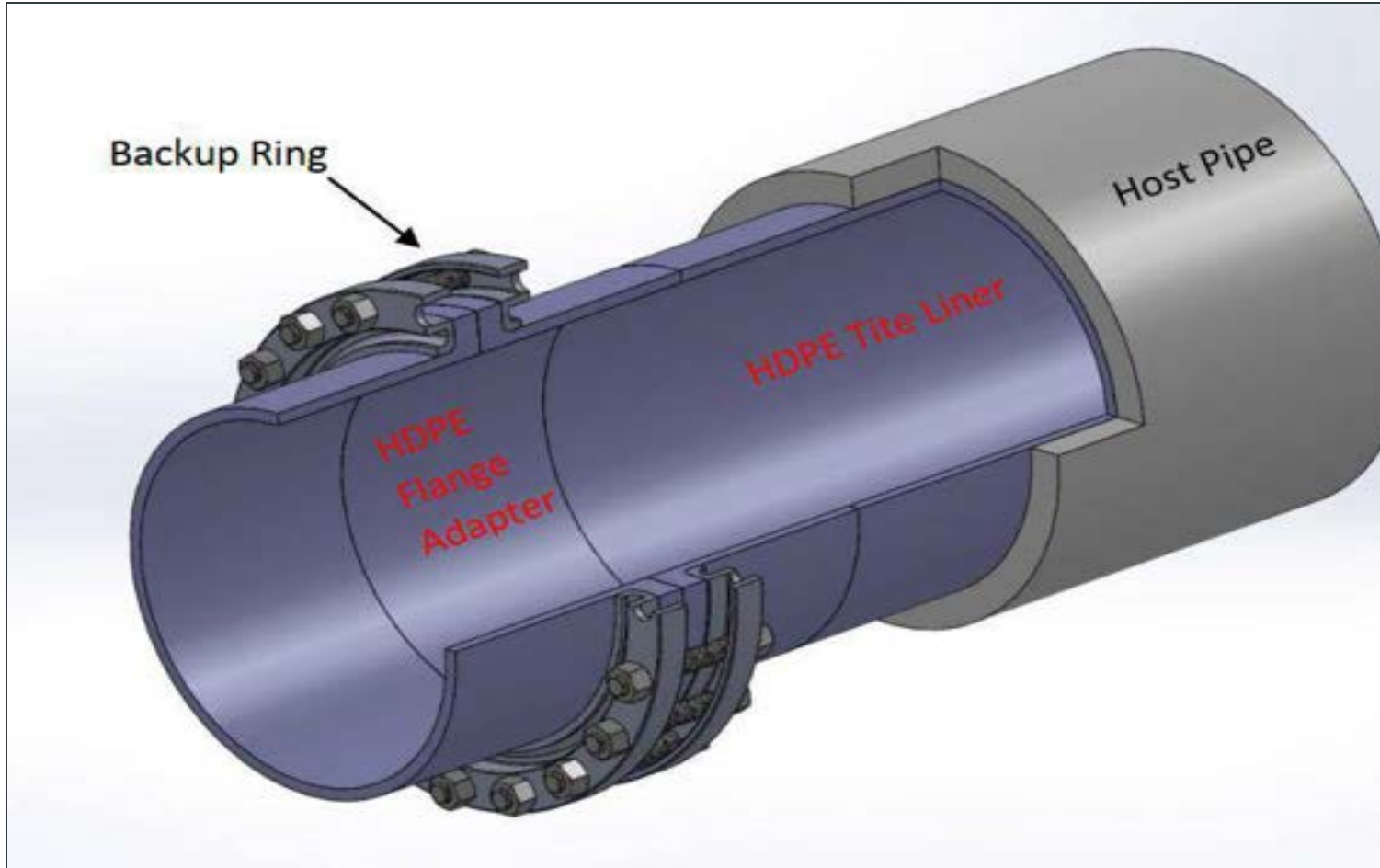
Force Main Evaluation: Recommendation



- Lynnway section is identified for immediate design and repair.
- Repair & Replacement methods considered
 - Repair as Required
 - Traditional Dig & Replace
 - Cross-Harbor Directional Drill
 - Trenchless Technologies

Force Main Evaluation: Compressed Fit HDPE Liner Pipe

Benefits



- Aegion Tite Liner System
- AWWA Class IV Product
- Custom pipe size
- 18-inch DR17 HDPE
- Pull length up to 1,000 LF
- Pull through 11-degree bends
- Minimize number of access pits

Force Main Construction: Compressed Fit HDPE Liner Pipe



Close up of roller box

Force Main Construction: Pipe Cleaning



Force Main Construction: Pipe Fusing



Force Main Construction: Pipe Insertion



Force Main Construction: Pipe Insertion



Construction: Pipe Receiving



Construction: Equipment Change



Construction: Pipe Receiving



Construction: Challenges



Contaminated groundwater and soils uncovered during excavation



Custom trenching required due to large quantity of utilities in the Lynnway

Construction: Challenges



Large concrete thrust blocks discovered in field



A Swampscott manhole installed on top of Nahant's force main

Construction: Challenges



Daytime Construction



Nighttime Construction

Question Break

Evaluation: Lowlands Pump Station



Issues identified:

- Pumps system aged and not reliable
- HVAC/air handling systems not functional
- Aged electrical system
- Unreliable standby generator
- Wet well isolation gates not functional

Conclusion:

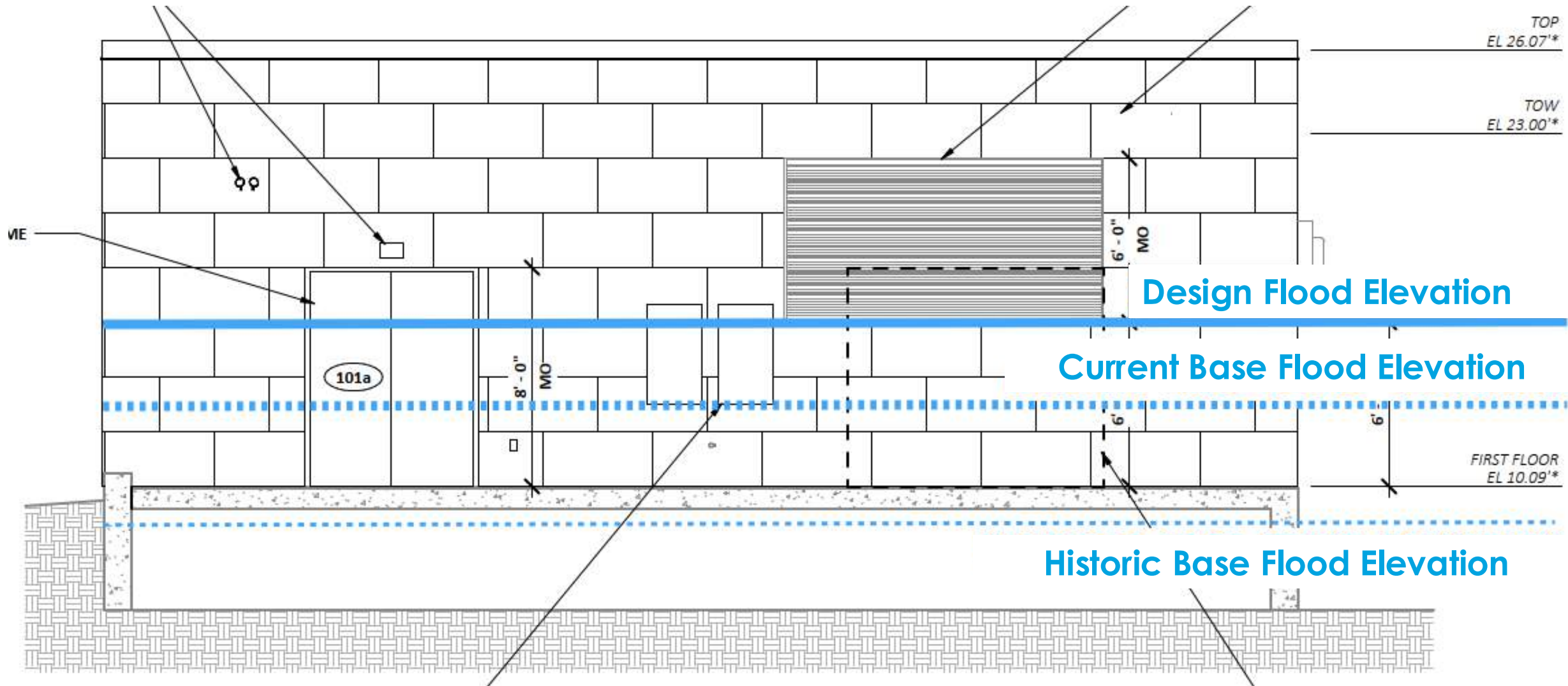
- Replace everything except the building!

Design: Comprehensive Upgrade

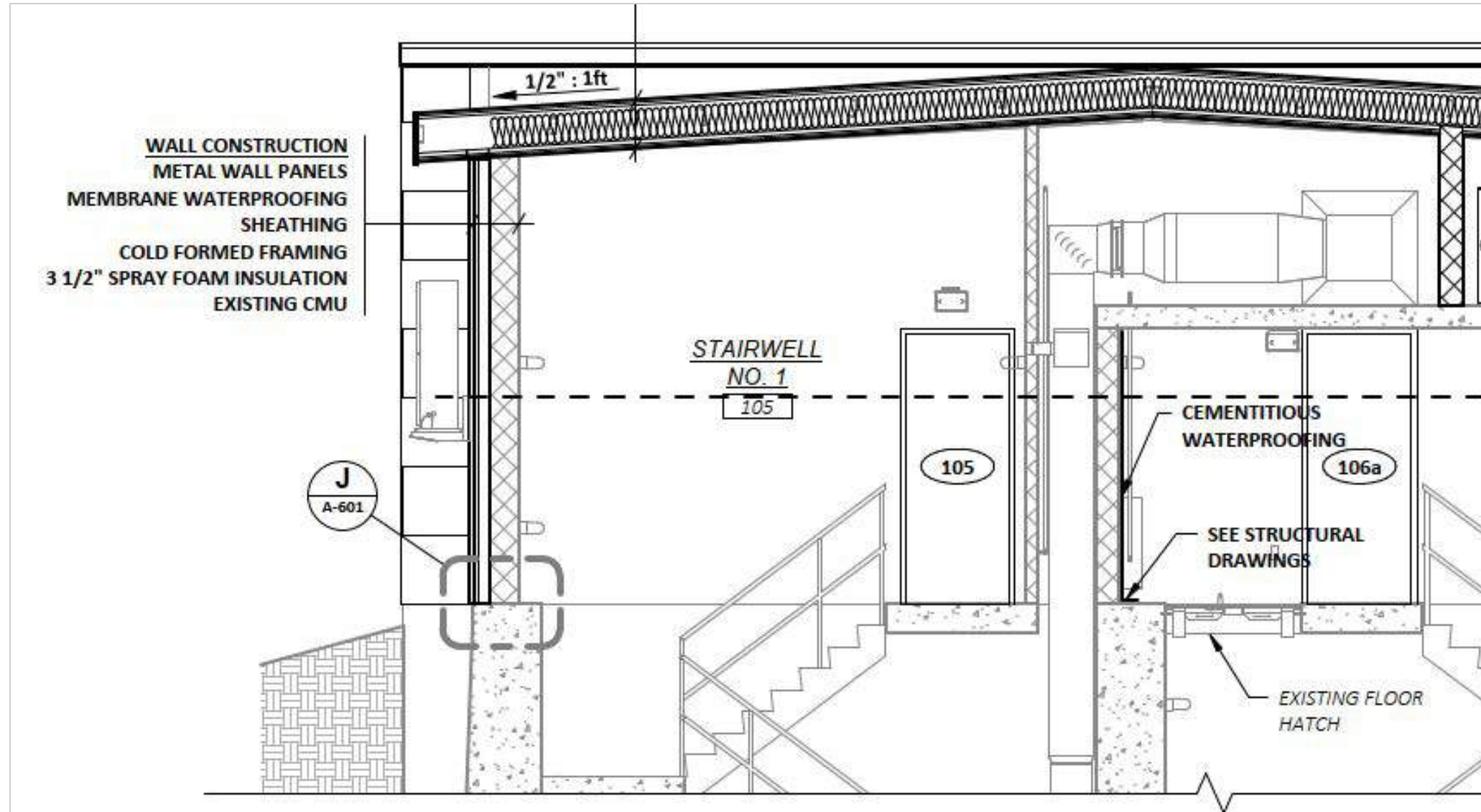


- **Wastewater equipment**
 - Dry-pit submersible pumps
 - Channel grinder and bar rack
 - Gates, valves, and pipes
- **HVAC**
- **Plumbing**
- **Electrical**
 - MCC, VFDs, power systems, lighting
 - Standby generator
- **Site improvements**
- **Building improvements**
- **Flood hardening**

Design: Flood Hardening



Design: Flood Hardening



Construction: Demolition Begins



- Building deficiencies found
- CMU block wall missing bond beam
- Grout reinforcement missing at wall openings
- Grout reinforcement missing below monorail
- Corroded structural steel and roof purlins

Redesign Approach: Knock It Down!

Original Design	Re-design
Renovate and retrofit	Build new from the floor up
Keep existing CMU block structure	New cast-in-place structure
Retrofit waterproof membrane/structure	Waterproofing admixture, retrofit waterstop
Keep existing flat roof structure	New gable roof supported by wood trusses
Architectural metal siding	Vinyl siding
Building layout	No change
Process, electrical, mechanical design	No change

Construction Take 2: Demolition

Demolishing the pump station to the first-floor slab



Construction Take 2: Protect Existing Equipment

Protect electrical gear and pumps during demolition



Construction Take 2: Rebuild



Construction Take 2: Rebuild



Construction Take 2: Flood Hardening



Retrofit waterstop



Equipment access platform

Construction Take 2: New Aesthetics



New pump station



Nahant life saving station

Construction Take 2: MEP Construction as Planned



Project Status

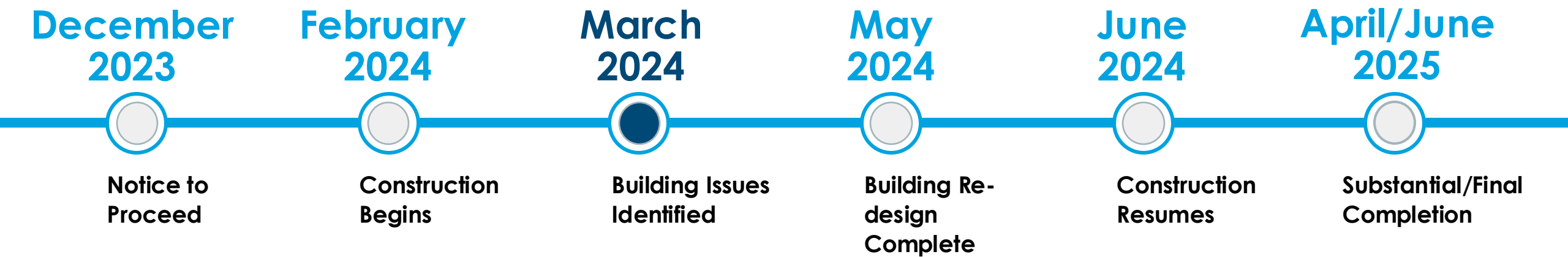
Project Cost

Contract price	\$5,997,677
Building re-design/national grid changes	\$135,788
New fire alarm system	\$75,694
Owner initiated CO	\$39,153
Unforeseen conditions CO	\$170,713
Estimated cost to complete	\$6,419,324



Total Re-design Cost = \$211,482
3.5% increase in bid price

Project Timeline



Project projected to be complete two months ahead of contract times.

Project Takeaways

1

Use a team approach with contractor and owner to overcome construction challenges.

2

Expect the worst during construction. Be proactive managing change.

3

Consider the benefits of new construction during preliminary design.

Acknowledgements



Town of Nahant



**P. Gioioso & Sons, Inc.
Force Main General Contractor**



**Waterline Industries
Pump Station General Contractor**

THANK YOU

Contact Information



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