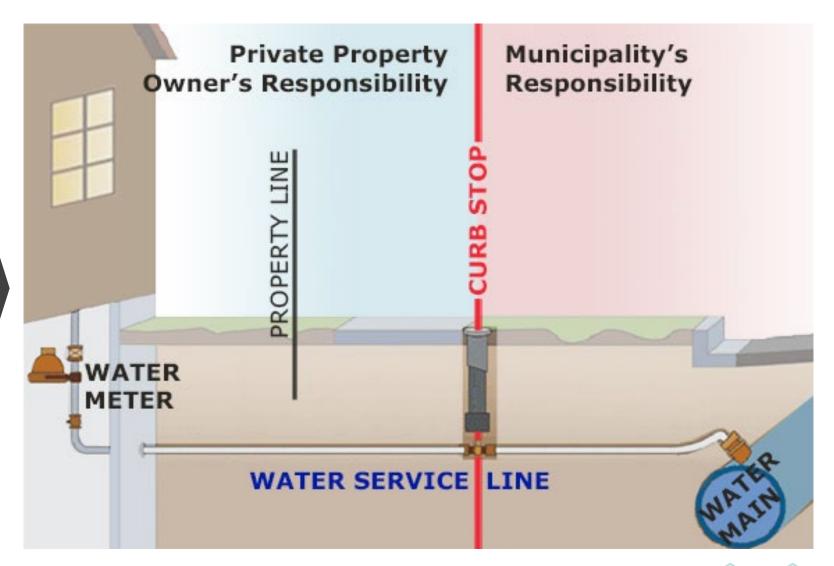


# Lead Service Line Replacement Strategy Update

**Engineering & Water Utility Partnership** 

What is a Water Service Line?

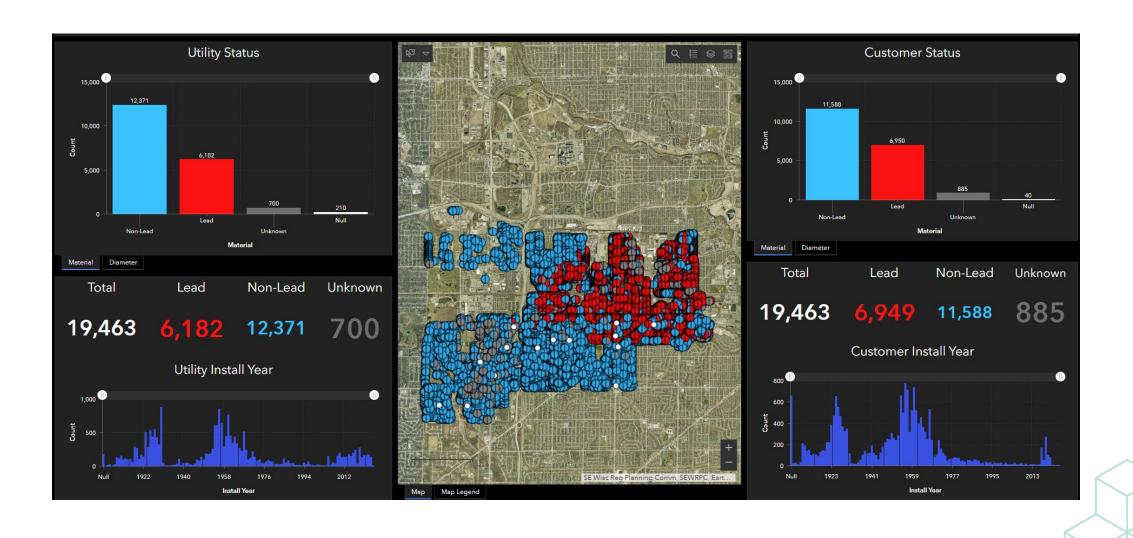




#### **Quick Facts**

- 19,463 Water Service Lines in West Allis
  - ~ 7,000 Contain Lead
  - ~1,000 Contain Unknown Material (likely lead)
- Primarily 99<sup>th</sup> Street East to City Limits
- Ownership: City (main to curb), Property Owner (curb to meter)
- EPA/WI-DNR Requirement: Replace 10% of LSLs per year for 10 years starting 11/1/2027
  - West Allis replaced 115 LSLs in 2025 and plans to scale to 300 in 2026
  - Estimated replacement will be 800+ annually in 2027-2037

#### Geographical Map of Lead Service Lines



#### **Ongoing Outreach**

- Annual notices sent to property owners and residents with known lead or likely lead (unknown material) service lines
- City continues data validation and GIS mapping
- Public education via website, mailers, and community meetings





 Financing limitations through Safe Drinking Water Loan Program (SDWLP) prioritized for disadvantaged areas

 Low-interest loans with low or no principal forgiveness outside target tracts

- CDBG grants limited to owneroccupied income-restricted properties
- Special Assessments: 10-year payback impacts City cash flow, 4% interest on unpaid balance for property owners
- Contractors will be working with ALL municipalities and will be difficult to secure



#### **Strategy Overview**

- Integrate LSL Replacement into 5-Year CIP
  - Bundle replacements with water main projects
  - Target backlog of properties that previously declined replacement
- Create Separate LSL Replacement CIP in addition to 5-Year CIP
  - Break City into areas based on water main age, lead concentration, and census tract
  - Target areas with best funding and most LSL first. Work with Finance on cash flow and borrowings.
  - Move strategically through City for 10 years.
  - May need a consultant to manage.



#### **Funding Opportunities**

- Currently
  - Safe Drinking Water Loan Fund
  - Community Development Block Grants
  - Special Assessments
- Future
  - Use Utility Funds (required PSC approval)
    - Pros: Adds funding flexibility, accelerates replacement
    - Cons: Rate increases for all customers, high in other cities (e.g., Kenosha)



### **Program Opportunity**



West Allis approved for 250 hours of technical assistance (9 months)



Partners: WaterNow Alliance and River Network



Goal: Multi-pronged community engagement plan



Re-engage residents who declined past opportunities



Collaborate with community organizations and leaders



#### **Next Steps**



Finalize CIP integration and funding requests



Develop outreach and education plan



Identify disadvantaged census tracts for funding priority



Consult PSC on utility fund use



Launch community engagement initiative (Q1 2026)



## Wrapping Up

Together, Engineering and the Water Utility are building a safer, lead-free, West Allis. Protecting public health through collaboration, compliance, and community trust is the goal.

