

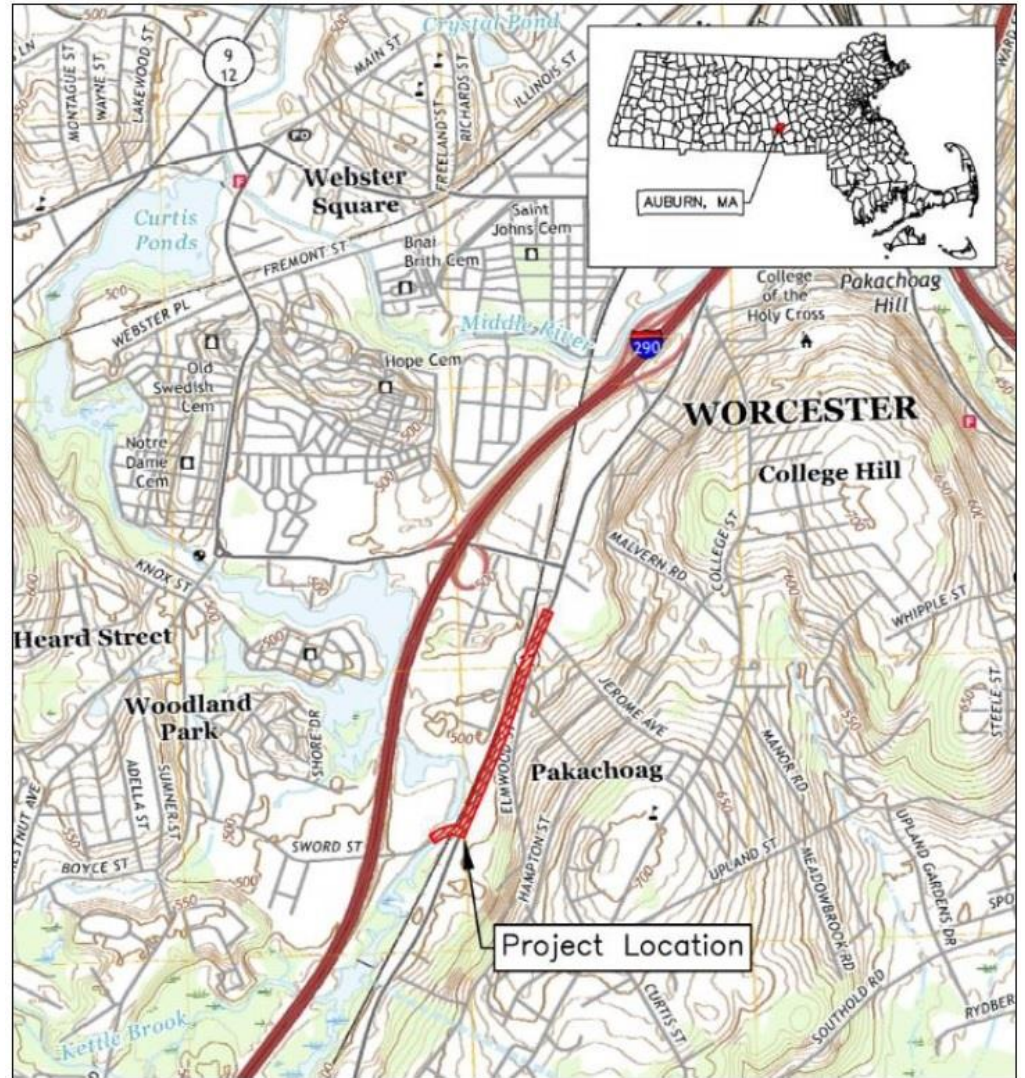
# THE AUBURN WATER DISTRICT'S PROPOSAL TO PURCHASE WATER FROM WORCESTER

Vote to Accept the Application as Complete

Massachusetts Water Resources Commission

December 9, 2021

# LOCUS MAP



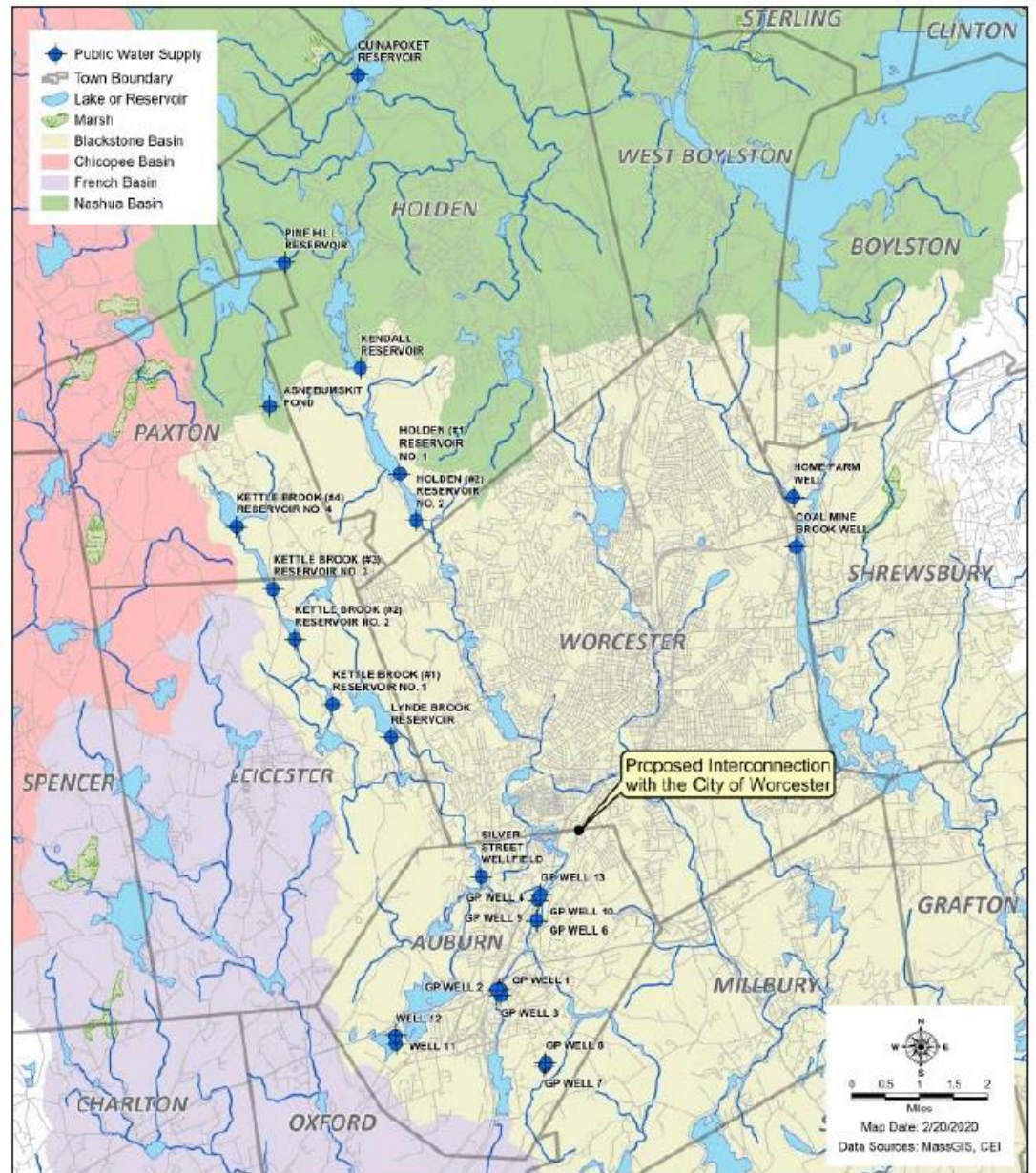
# FACTS PERTAINING TO THE APPLICATION

- Project Proponent and Receiving Area: Auburn Water District
- Donor: City of Worcester
- Auburn has land area in the Blackstone River Basin
- 12 groundwater wells:
  - Vulnerable to contamination due to the proximity of multiple major roadways
  - Deicing chemicals, fuel spills are of concern
- Proposing to purchase up to 0.54 MGD (0.36 MGD subject to ITA) to supplement existing water supply sources and improve reliability
- Worcester has sources in the Nashua & Blackstone River Basins

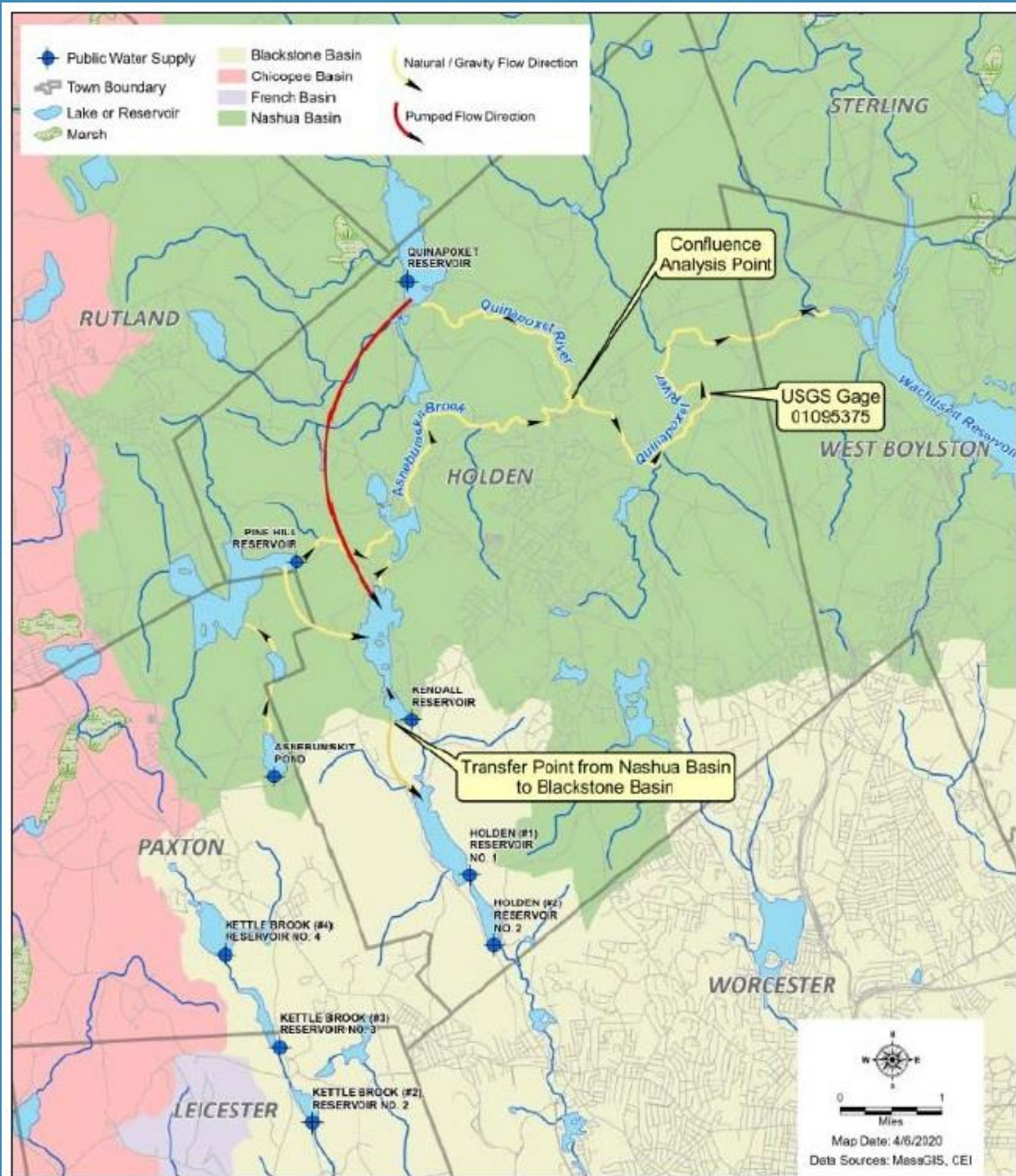
## BRIEF TIMELINE

- 1990s: District stopped pumping Well No. 2 into the distribution system due to high sodium and chloride levels
- May 2013: Increasing sodium and chloride levels measured in Wells No. 1 and 3
- 2015 Alternatives Analysis: reviewed existing sources, new sources, existing interconnection with Worcester, new interconnection
- Recommended Alternative: new interconnection with the City of Worcester

# WORCESTER AND AUBURN WATER SUPPLIES



# FLOW ANALYSIS POINT



# RESPONSE TO INFORMATION REQUEST

- Comments on the FEIR were due to MEPA on October 22, 2021
- AWD adequately responded in the FEIR to the WRC's prior request for additional information on the following criteria:
  - #3 - Water conservation
  - #5 - Instream flow
- MEPA decision issued on October 29, 2021 – the project adequately and properly complies with MEPA

## NEXT STEPS

- Request WRC vote to accept as complete today
- Hold two public hearings by February 7, 2022
  - January 20, 2022, 3pm; January 26, 2022, 10 am
- Aim to present draft staff recommendation at February/March WRC meeting
- Hold third public hearing on draft staff recommendation
- Aim to vote on the staff recommendation by April/May 2022