



Beyond the Bill – Achieving Community Affordability

Great Lakes Champions Workshop – Gary, IN

June 20 2019

Drew Williams-Clark | Center for Neighborhood Technology



CNT

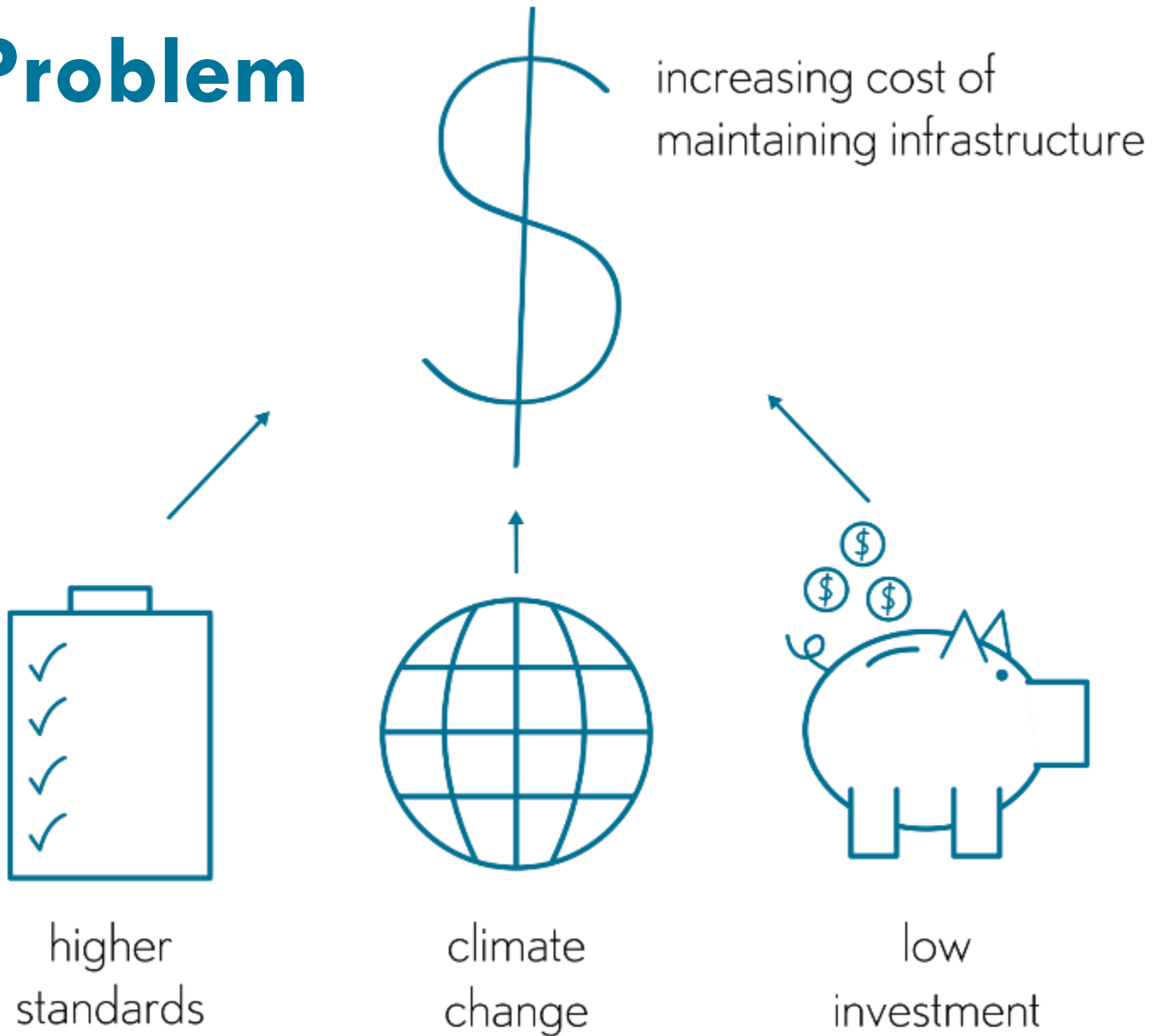
Innovations laboratory for urban sustainability

Our goal is to advance urban sustainability and shared prosperity through initiatives in transportation, water, climate resilience, and public policy. We coach city leaders, advise decision makers, and find new ways to solve challenges.

CNT's **Great Lakes Water Infrastructure Project** is working with Great Lakes communities to help them innovate on their water system needs to provide clean, affordable, and sustainable water.

<https://www.cnt.org/great-lakes-water-infrastructure>

The Problem





decreasing
agency
budgets



weak markets

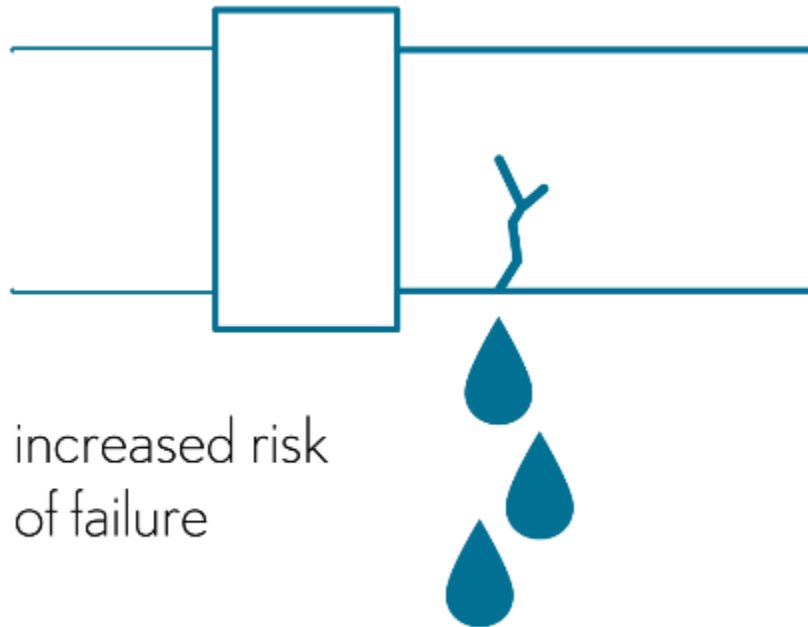


fewer ratepayers



lower incomes

If costs for water and sewer services must go up in order to finance the billions of dollars of infrastructure investment needed, how do utilities ensure affordability throughout their service area?



increased burden on ratepayers

Gary + CNT Partnership for Resilient Water Infrastructure

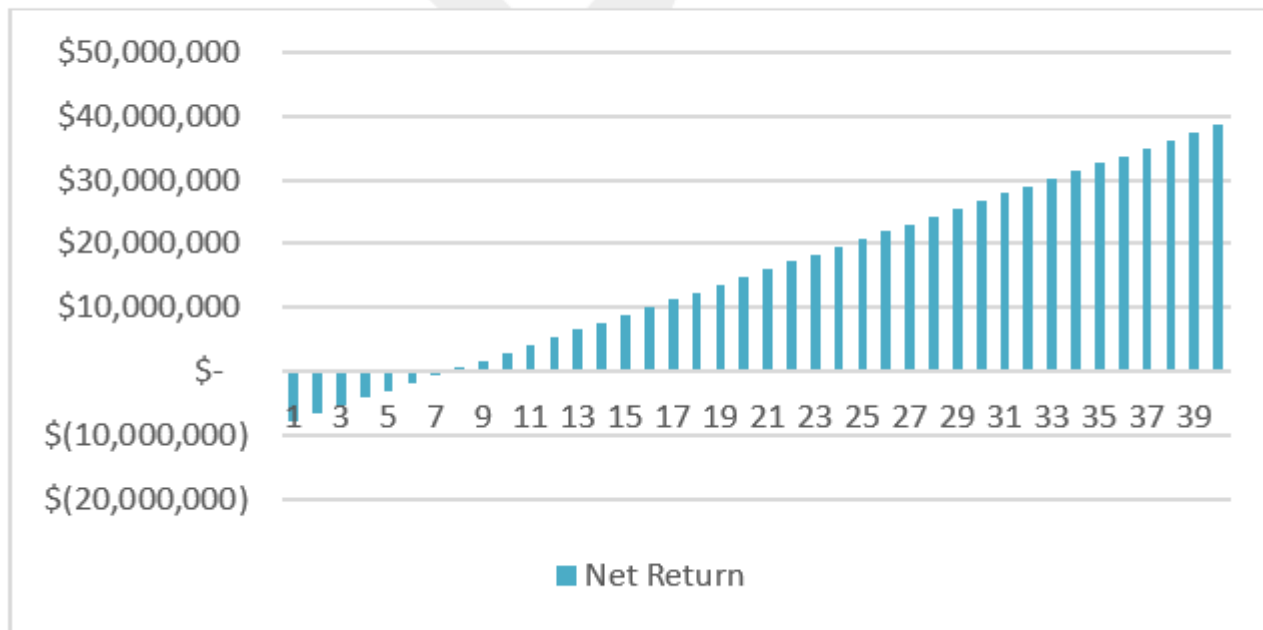
A series of conversations and a 3-day workshop with city staff and community stakeholders aimed at identifying strategic near, medium, and long term action steps that further Gary's clean and sustainable water goals.

Gary's Clean Water Future

- Gary is committed to clean, resilient, affordable, and equitable water, because clean water is life essential.
- To achieve these goals, the city will identify a set of strategic and modern investments in its water infrastructure systems (storm, waste, supply) that are integrated across those systems and result in community and equitable system benefits.

Earth Economics – Expert Consult

Image 1 Net Return of 105 acres of Pervious Pavement Installed in Gary, IN by Year



Action Plan Recommendations

1. **Align stormwater management and sanitary district water quantity and quality goals, based on planning efforts**
2. Create Integrated Water Management task force to improve interdepartmental coordination
3. Improve messaging on GSD website and other outreach platforms related to stormwater management
4. Develop complete streets guidance document
5. Invest in WWTP energy efficiency
6. Improve coordination on capital planning with the City's private water utility
7. Value community benefits, like economic development, of green infrastructure to attract new investment opportunities

Near Term Support

Align stormwater management and sanitary district water quantity and quality goals, based on planning efforts

- Developed stormwater masterplan checklist
- Helping the District make the best use of Delta-developed GI Plan to fulfill its goals
- Identifying funding opportunities for continued implementation efforts



Thank you!

Learn more at cnt.org/great-lakes-water-infrastructure

Reach out with questions:

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