

# Town of Switz City AMP Project

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Infrastructure Improvement Based on a Comprehensive Asset Management Approach

**Presented by:**  
**Tom Iseley, BAMI-I**  
**Wei Liao, BAMI-I**  
**Adam Hershberger, AIRW**

August 2025 | A Collaborative Success Story



# BAMI-I: BAMI-I Mission & Scope

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## Who We Are

- **Founded at Atlanta's Department of Watershed Management** - Center of excellence for underground infrastructure
- **International Reach** - Serving utilities and agencies worldwide
- **Academic Foundation** - Research-driven practical solutions
- **Industry Partnership** - Bridging theory and practice

### *Established Mission*

*Advance asset management education,  
research, and practice for buried  
infrastructure systems*

- 🎓 *Education & Training*
- 🔬 *Applied Research*
- 👷 *Industry Practice*



# BAMI-I: BAMI-I Mission & Scope

## Training & Education

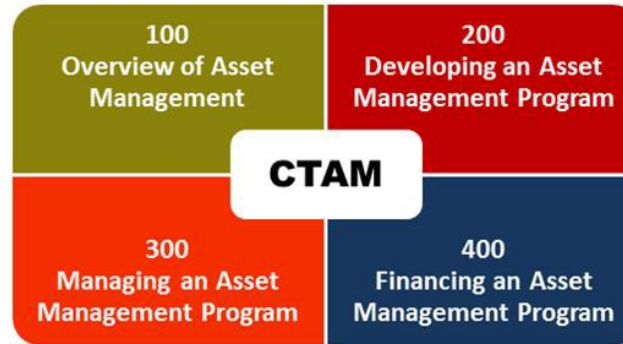
**CTAM** - Certification of Training in Asset Management

**UIS** - Utility Investigation School

**Pipeline Installation for Inspectors** – Online Course

**Workshops** - Hands-on technical training

**Webinar** - Case studies, demos & discussions



## Professional Certification

**AWAM** - Associate Water Asset Manager

**PWAM** - Professional Water Asset Manager

# BAMI-I: BAMI-I Mission & Scope



## Exchange Platform & Partnerships

**Annual Congress** - International knowledge exchange

**BAMI-I Journal** - Industry Insights publication

**Industry Collaboration** - Technology partners

**Government Relations** - Policy development support

**Research Networks** - Global academic partnerships

Bridging academia, industry, and government to solve real-world infrastructure challenges



# BAMI-I: BAMI-I Mission & Scope

JOIN US AT  
**GBAMC**  
The 3rd Global Buried Asset Management Congress

**2026**

**OCTOBER 11 - 13, 2026  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN, USA**

**THANKS TO OUR 2ND GBAMC  
SPONSORS**



**Organizers:**



SOUTHWEST  
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**Contact us or visit our website:**



318-497-8288

liao186@purdue.edu

<https://bami-i.com/congress/>



**CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS | BURIED  
ASSET MANAGEMENT CONGRESS 2026**

WE CORDIALLY INVITE INDUSTRY EXPERTS AND SCHOLARS TO  
SUBMIT PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS ON THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

- All about Buried Asset Management



Bridging academia, industry, and government to solve real-world infrastructure challenges

# Why Switz City?

- **Representative Challenge:** "Fix it when it breaks" approach, aging infrastructure, and limited resources
- **Policy Impact:** Supporting Indiana **SEA 272(2022)** implementation
- **Educational Value:** Living lab for students and professionals
- **Shareable Practices:** Lessons and tools that other small communities can adapt to their context

## **Switz City Demographics**

*Water Served: 870*

*Wastewater Served: 268*

*Daily Water Demand: 120,000 gallons*





# Project Genesis: From Concept to Reality

2023  
Initial  
Meeting

2024  
Data  
Collection

2025  
AMP  
Complete

2026  
Implementation  
Begins

2030+  
Long-term  
Goals

## Volunteer Phase (Jan 2023 - Jul 2024)

Pro bono effort to establish framework, build data foundation, and earn community trust

## Formal Execution (Jul 2024 - Jul 2025)

\$650,000 from IFA enabled systematic inspections and comprehensive AMP development



# The Volunteer Phase: Building Partnership

## Volunteer Effort (Jan 2023 - Jul 2024)

- **Zero Budget Start:** Entirely volunteer-driven collaboration
- **Technical Framework:** Risk-based AMP methodology for small systems
- **Data Foundation:** Integrated records, GIS, Asset inventories
- **Preliminary Fieldwork:** SL-RAT screening, CCTV inspections, I&I analysis
- **Graduate Students:** 5 teams developed complete AMPs

## Volunteer Contributors

### Industry Partners:

- Ziptility, Inc. • InfoSense • Utility Inspection Services
- 4M Analytics • Smart Views LLC

### Individual Experts:

- George Kurz (I&I Analysis) • Adam Hershberger (GIS & Data)
- Jeff Farmer (Operations)

### Educational Contributors:

- Adam Hershberger • Smith F. Rangel • Gregory Baird • Chris Callahan & Alex Churchill (InfoSense), Ross Waugh (AMP Expert), Joseph Eberly, Jim Harris





# Transition to Full Execution

## **\$650,000 Total Funding**

**\$250,000:** comprehensive AMP development

**\$400,000:** Urgent repairs and system upgrades

### **Expanded Team**

#### **Technical Institutions**

- ADS Environmental Services • ACE Pipe Cleaning
- George Kurz Consulting • Kurt Wright Consulting
- USG Water Solutions

#### **Financial Partners**

- Glenn Barnes, Water Finance Assistance (WFA)
- Heather Heather Himmelberger

#### **Data Quality Control**

- Smart Views LLC, Independent Review



# Data Acquisition: Building the Knowledge Base

## Baseline Inventory

### Water System:

- 28 miles of mains • 348 connections
- 52 hydrants • 200,000-gal elevated tank

### Wastewater System:

- 5 miles of mains • 79 manholes
- Treatment plant • Pump stations



## Condition Assessments

### Comprehensive Inspections:

- CCTV inspection of critical segments
- Manhole structural surveys
- Smoke testing for infiltration
- SL-RAT acoustic screening (90% coverage)
- Elevated tank interior/exterior assessment



## Data Management System

### Integrated Platform:

- GIS asset mapping
- Operations & maintenance records integration
- Quality control
- Periodic data updates





# Critical Infrastructure Challenges

## Water System Issues

### 78.6% Increase in Water Loss

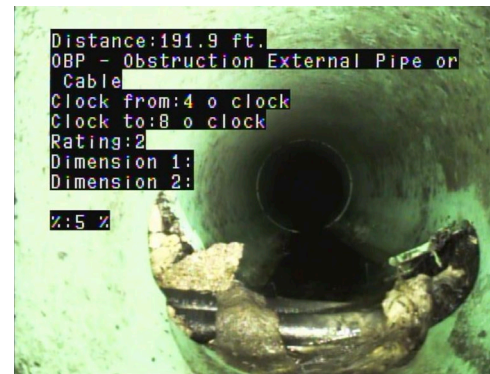
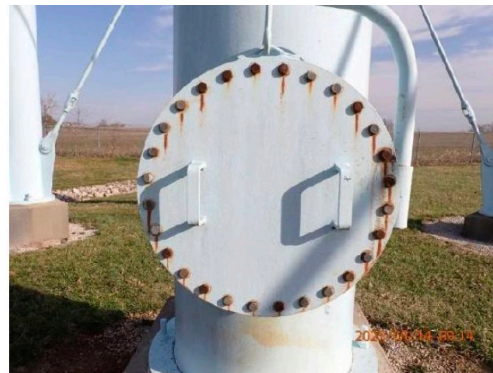
Non-revenue water cost: \$60,428 (2019) → \$107,941 (2023)

### Infrastructure Leakage Index: 16.86

Far exceeds the industry benchmark of <3.0

### Aging Infrastructure

Multiple hydrants and valves inoperable, aging cast iron mains



## Wastewater System Issues

### 46% I/I Rate

Excessive infiltration and inflow causing hydraulic overload

### Treatment Capacity Exceeded

Daily flows exceeded capacity on 102 of 110 study days

### Critical Asset Deterioration

Effluent outfall, valves, and critical pipe segment replacement require immediate replacement



# Linking Data to Decisions

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## Criticality Assessment Framework

- **Probability of Failure (PoF)** - Asset condition and age
- **Consequence of Failure (CoF)** - Service impact and cost
- **Risk Score = PoF × CoF**

## Priority Classifications

**Critical (Score >16):** Immediate action required

**Important (Score 9-16):** Medium-term planning

**Low Risk (Score <9):** Routine maintenance



**Data-Driven  
Decisions**

# Improvements in Action: 20-Year Capital Improvement Plan

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## Priority Projects Identified

### Immediate (2026):

- Critical pipe segment replacement
- WWTP pump and valve upgrades
- AMI meter deployment

### Short-term (2027-28):

- I&I reduction
- Manhole rehabilitation program

## Long-term Strategy

### Investment Framework:

- \$3.72M total over 20 years
- Risk-based asset renewal schedule
- Performance monitoring milestones

### Target Outcomes:

- Water loss <25% by 2030
- I&I reduction to 30%
- 100% regulatory compliance

# Improvements in Action: Example

## Smart Meter Implementation

### Project Scope

#### 348 Ultrasonic Smart Meters

- Complete system upgrade
- Real-time data collection
- Integrated leak detection
- Remote reading capabilities



### Direct Benefits

#### Accurate Billing

Eliminates meter reading errors and reduces commercial water losses

#### Fair Cost Distribution

Ensures customers pay only for water actually consumed

#### Early Leak Detection

Immediate alerts for unusual consumption patterns

#### Data Analytics

Consumption pattern analysis for system optimization



# Community Impact & affordability Considerations

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## Community Economic Profile

- **47%** of families at/below 200% federal poverty level
- Median household income **\$28,000 below** state average
- Income growth has **not kept pace** with inflation
- 20th percentile income: **\$23,000/year**

## Affordability Strategy

- Phased rate implementation reduces shock
- Grant funding minimizes customer burden
- Energy efficiency reduces operational costs
- Proactive maintenance prevents emergency costs

**Critical Balance:** Without these investments, deferred maintenance will result in emergency repairs costing 3-5x more, ultimately creating greater affordability challenges.

## Rate Structure Simplification Recommended

Analysis suggests moving from complex 6-block decreasing rate structure to simplified single-rate approach (\$15.89/1,000 gallons) to reduce administrative burden and improve equity.

# AMP Implementation Framework

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## Organizational Structure

- **Town Board:** Policy direction, funding approval
- **Clerk-Treasurer:** Coordination, administration
- **BFU (Contract Operator):** Technical implementation
- **Technical Partners:** Ongoing support, training

## Performance Monitoring

- Monthly operational metrics
- Quarterly stakeholder updates
- Annual comprehensive review
- 5-year major plan updates

## Key Success Factors

**Data-Driven Decisions:** Continuous asset condition monitoring and performance tracking

**Stakeholder Engagement:** Regular communication with customers, regulators, and funding agencies

**Adaptive Management:** Annual plan updates based on actual performance and changing conditions

**Technical Support:** Ongoing partnership with BAMII, AIRW, and industry experts

# Broader Impacts: Beyond Infrastructure

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## Improved Financial Planning

### Comprehensive Rate Study:

- 20-year financial sustainability model
- Multi-source funding strategy
- 60% SRF loans, 30% operating revenue, 10% grants
- Transparent rate adjustment justification

## Regulatory Compliance

### Meeting Requirements:

- **SEA 272 Compliance** Complete AMP meeting all Indiana statutory requirements for SRF eligibility
- **EPA Guidelines:** Best practices implementation following EPA asset management guidance
- **IDEM Requirements:** Full documentation for drinking water and wastewater permit compliance
- **HB 1459 (2025) mandates compliance**
- Comprehensive reporting framework
- Proactive asset management documentation

## Workforce Development

### Educational Integration:

- Training platform for professionals
- Academic curriculum enhancement
- Knowledge transfer to industry
- Capacity building for small utilities

## Statewide Model

### Reference Framework:

- Manual of Practices development
- I-WIIC platform establishment
- Policy framework demonstration



# Key Takeaways



## Asset Management Provides a Roadmap

- Systematic approach to infrastructure challenges
- Data-driven decision making
- Long-term financial sustainability
- Risk-based prioritization of investments



## Switz City as Reference Model

- Proves feasibility for small systems
- Demonstrates compliance pathway
- Provides replicable methodology
- Shows measurable outcomes



## Collaboration = Success

- Multi-sector partnership model
- Academic-industry integration
- Community engagement and trust
- Shared expertise and resources

**"Everything's (About to Be) Up to Date in Switz City"**

From crisis to opportunity, from reactive to proactive

# Thank You!

### **Contact Information:**

Dr. Tom Iseley: [diseley@purdue.edu](mailto:diseley@purdue.edu)

Wei Liao: [liao186@purdue.edu](mailto:liao186@purdue.edu)

Adam Hershberger: [ahershberger@inh2o.org](mailto:ahershberger@inh2o.org)

Project Website: <https://bami-i.com/>

*"From crisis to opportunity, from reactive to proactive -  
This is the future of utility asset management."*