SCAJAQUADA LANDMARKS

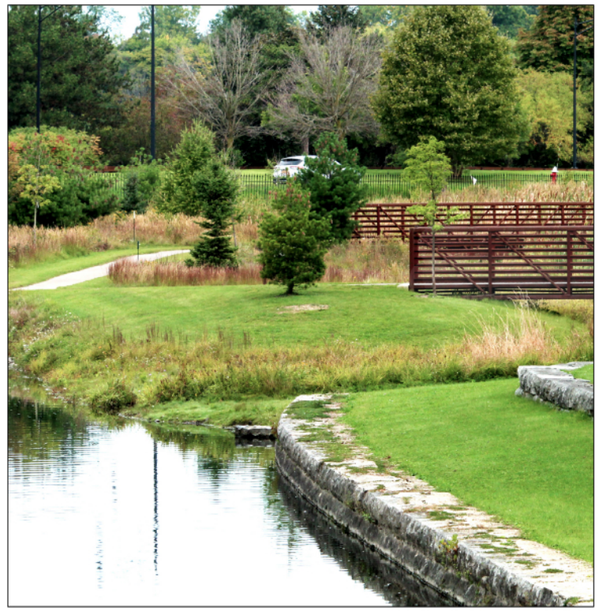
PUBLIC & PRIVATE GREEN SPACES, BROWNFIELDS, & HISTORIC LANDMARKS

The Scajaquada Creek Watershed encompasses 29 square miles of land that flows through the Town of Lancaster, Village of Depew, Town of Cheektowaga, and City of Buffalo. This map identifies parks, green spaces and a few of the many cultural landmarks this watershed supports. This illustrate how water is the common thread which binds together community, economy, and ecology.

The vacant lots and brownfields in the City of Buffalo are also highlighted on the map to visualize green space potential and living infrastructure opportunities like rain gardens and shoreline enhancements that elevate neighborhood resiliency and naturally absorb stormwater pollutants. Brownfields are areas of previously developed land that are no longer occupied and, in many cases, hold contamination or pollution from industrial use (ie. utilities, chemical production, metal process, gas stations). There are efforts to repurpose this land, and it is important to highlight how to incorporate elements that would improve water quality and communities.

MAP KEY:

- SCAJAQUADA CREEK
- SCAJAQUADA CREEK (BURIED)
- PUBLIC GREEN SPACE
- PRIVATE GREEN SPACE
- BROWN FIELD OPPORTUNITY AREA (BOA)
- BROWNFIELD PARCEL
- VACANT PARCEL (Buffalo Only)

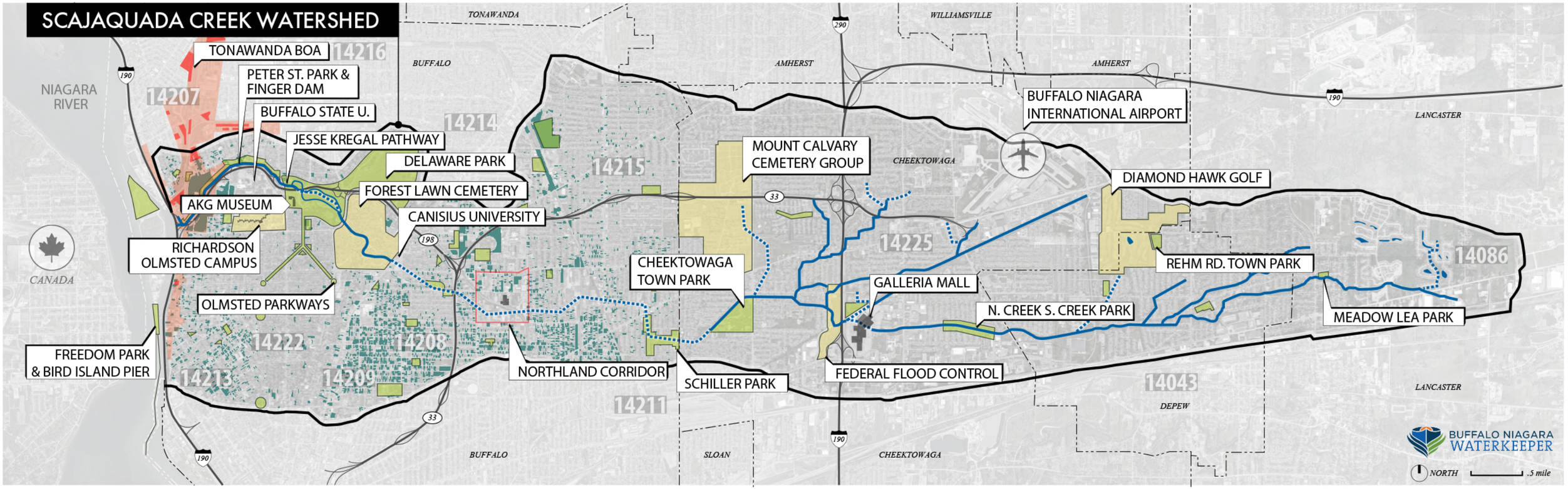


FOREST LAWN CEMETERY

This floodplain restoration project showcases native plants that can be viewed from trails and overlooks.

CHEEKTOWAGA TOWN PARK

Scajaquada Creek flows through this park before being tunneled under Buffalo's East Side Neighborhoods.



Produced December 2024

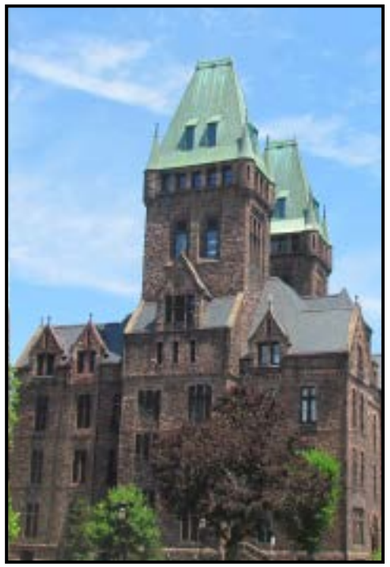
LANDMARKS: Part Two

The Scajaquada Creek Watershed encompasses 29 square miles of urbanized land throughout four municipalities, The Town of Lancaster, Village of Depew, Town of Cheektowaga, and City of Buffalo. From the Lancaster headwaters to the creek mouth in Buffalo's Black Rock Canal, Scajaquada Creek flows by notable landmarks and community spaces. This map displays well-known landmarks in the watershed to show the size and scope of the creek's impact on our communities. Scajaquada Creek is the common thread that connects these communities in creating a vision to restore this important waterway.

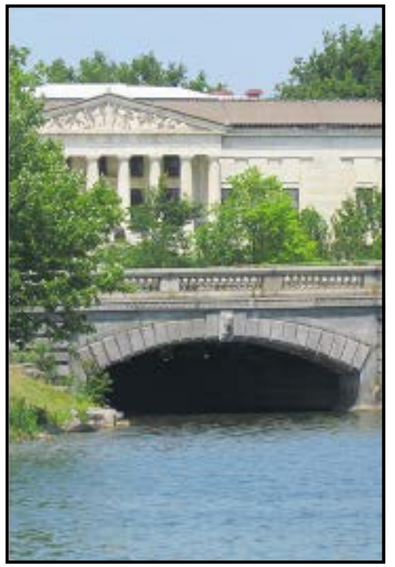
MAP KEY:

- SCAJAQUADA CREEK
- SCAJAQUADA CREEK (BURIED)
- LARGE GREEN SPACES
- BUILDING FOOTPRINTS
- WATERSHED LIMIT
- MUNICIPALITY BOUNDARY

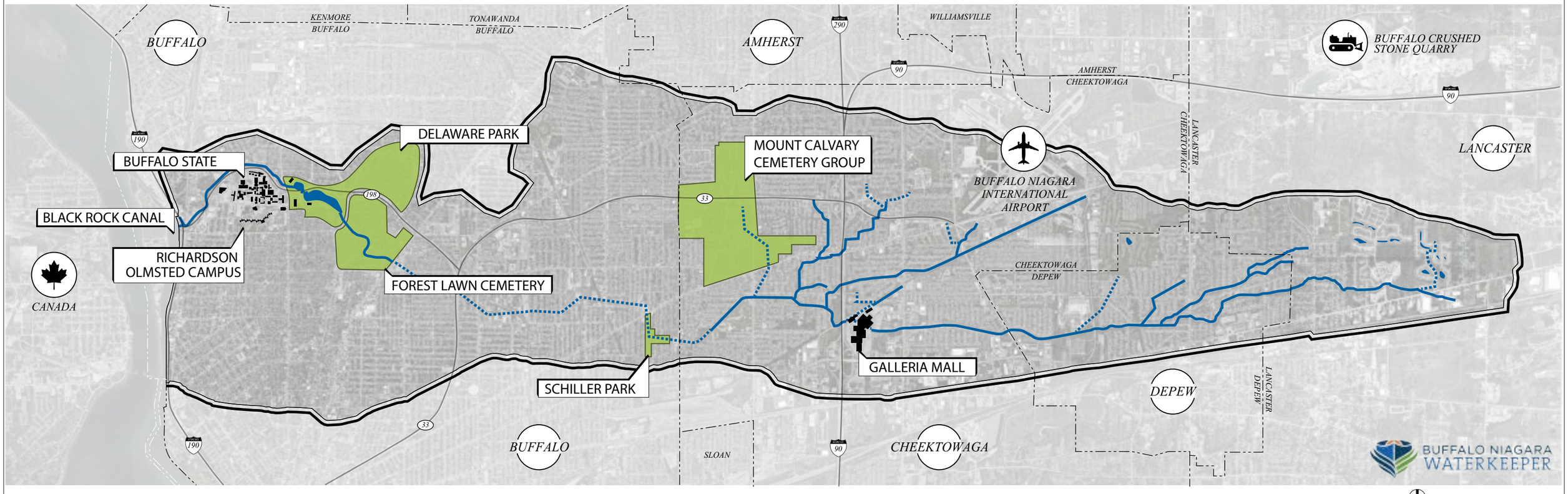
MOUTH OF SCAJAQUADA



HOTEL HENRY



BUFFALO HISTORY MUSEUM



Produced June 2024

EXISTING GREEN SPACE / LIVING INFRASTRUCTURE

Green space such as parks provide residents with recreational opportunities and habitat for urban wildlife. In the words of Frederick Law Olmsted, these spaces serve as the “lungs of a city” where natural vegetation cleanses city air. Healthy and abundant vegetation, paired with open space, is a critical component of a healthy watershed. Living Infrastructure keeps large amounts of stormwater runoff from entering and overloading sewer systems, preventing sewer outfall events from occurring during heavy rains. This map inventories public and privately-owned green space to illustrate the extent of natural resources, as well as those areas lacking in green space.

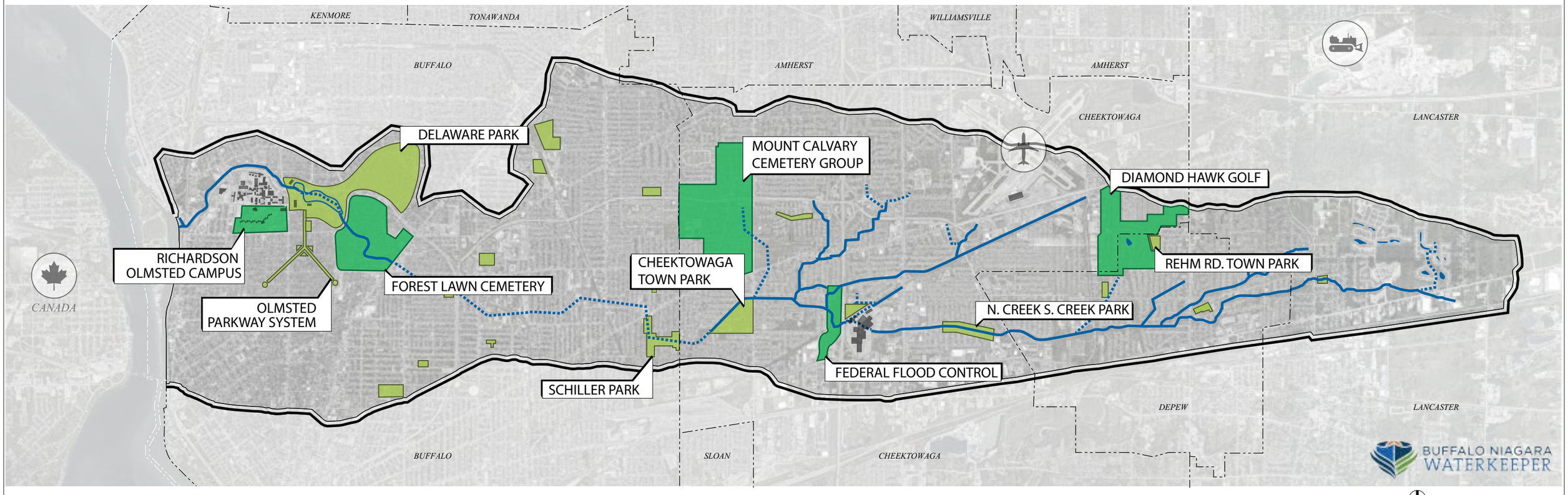
MAP KEY:

- SCAJAQUADA CREEK
- SCAJAQUADA CREEK (BURIED)
- PUBLIC GREEN SPACE
- PRIVATELY OWNED GREEN SPACE
- WATERSHED LIMIT
- MUNICIPALITY BOUNDARY

FEDERAL FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT

FOREST LAWN CEMETERY

CHEEKTOWAGA TOWN PARK



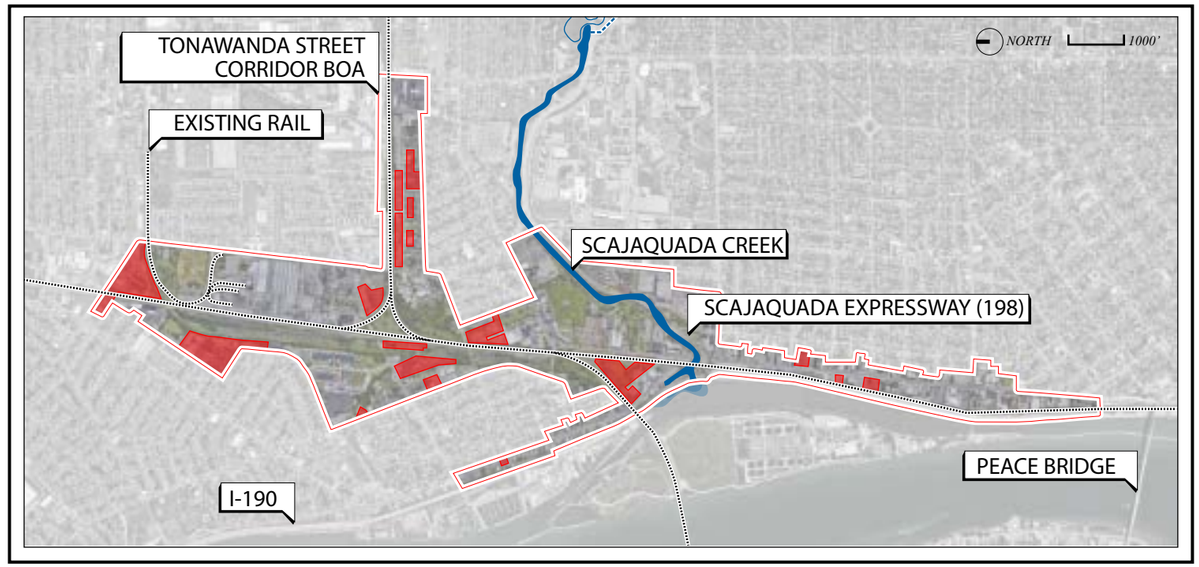
Produced June 2024

BROWNFIELDS / VACANT LAND

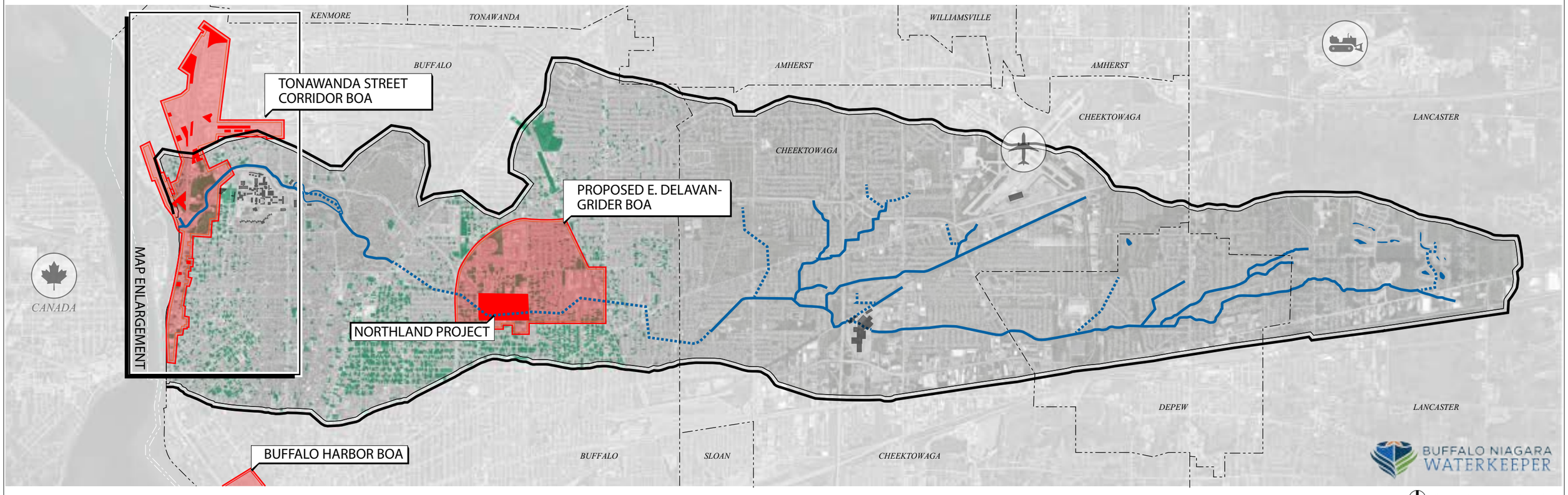
Individual brownfield sites and larger Brownfield Opportunity Areas (BOAs) reflect priority opportunities for land remediation and redevelopment of industrial sites within urban areas. Vacant parcels in residential neighborhoods can be utilized for innovative green and living infrastructure programs where vacant parcels are transformed into rain gardens and green spaces that enhance neighborhoods and naturally utilize stormwater. Thoughtful reuse of vacant land within the Scajaquada Creek watershed will help drive investment and employment, and support a "Blue Economy" in surrounding communities.

MAP KEY:

- SCAJAQUADA CREEK
- SCAJAQUADA CREEK (BURIED)
- VACANT PARCEL (BUFFALO ONLY)
- BROWNFIELD OPPORTUNITY AREA (BOA)
- BROWNFIELD PARCEL (TYP.) >.25 ACRES
- WATERSHED LIMIT
- MUNICIPALITY BOUNDARY



MAP ENLARGEMENT
Tonawanda Street Corridor BOA



Produced June 2024

SEWER / STORMWATER

Aging and failing sewer infrastructure is a major source of sewage contamination to Scajaquada Creek. This map shows two distinct areas of the watershed: The City of Buffalo, which has combined sewer systems, where rainwater and sanitary waste is mixed in one pipe, and the three upstream communities which have separated sanitary and stormwater sewers. Combined systems have Combined Sewer Overflows (CSO), while separated systems have Separated Sewer Overflows (SSO). These CSOs and SSOs are the points where overloaded sewer systems discharge untreated wastewater directly into streams. Also shown are regulated stormwater outfalls, where stormwater is conveyed directly into the creek rather than to a treatment plant.

MAP KEY:

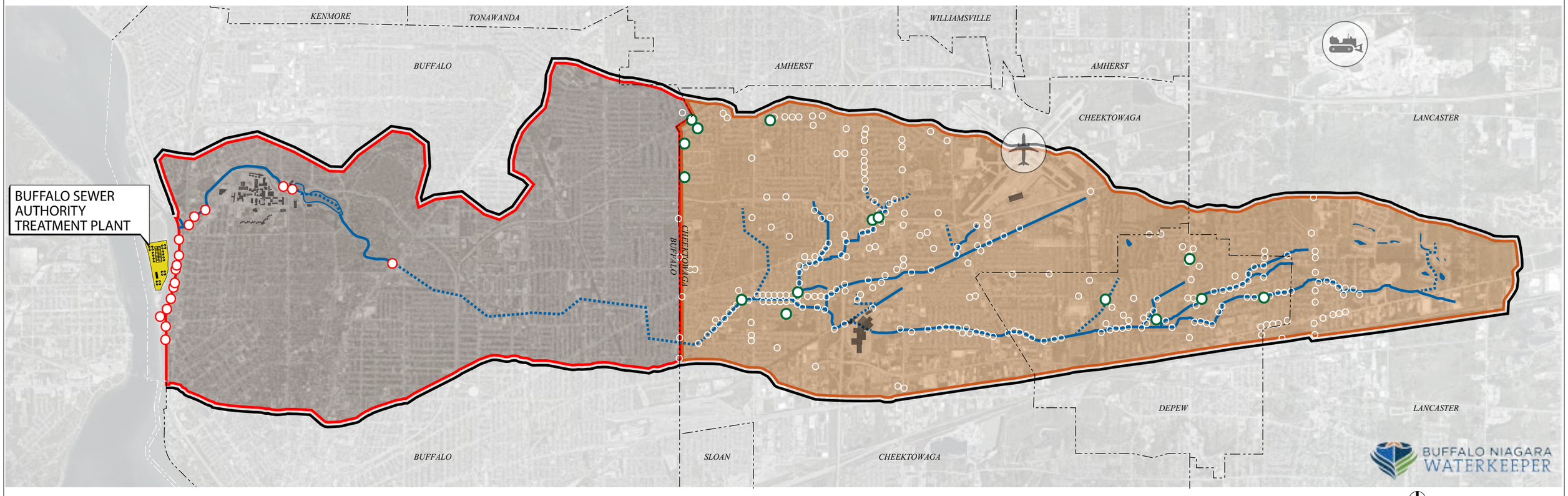
- SCAJAQUADA CREEK
- SCAJAQUADA CREEK (BURIED)
- CSO DISCHARGE LOCATION
- SSO DISCHARGE LOCATION
- REGULATED STORMWATER DISCHARGE LOCATION (WHITE CIRCLE)
- CSO WATERSHED AREA
- SSO WATERSHED AREA

CSO CONTAMINANTS AT TRASH RACK

SSO OUTFALL

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Rain Gardens



Produced June 2024

SCAJAQUADA HYDROLOGY

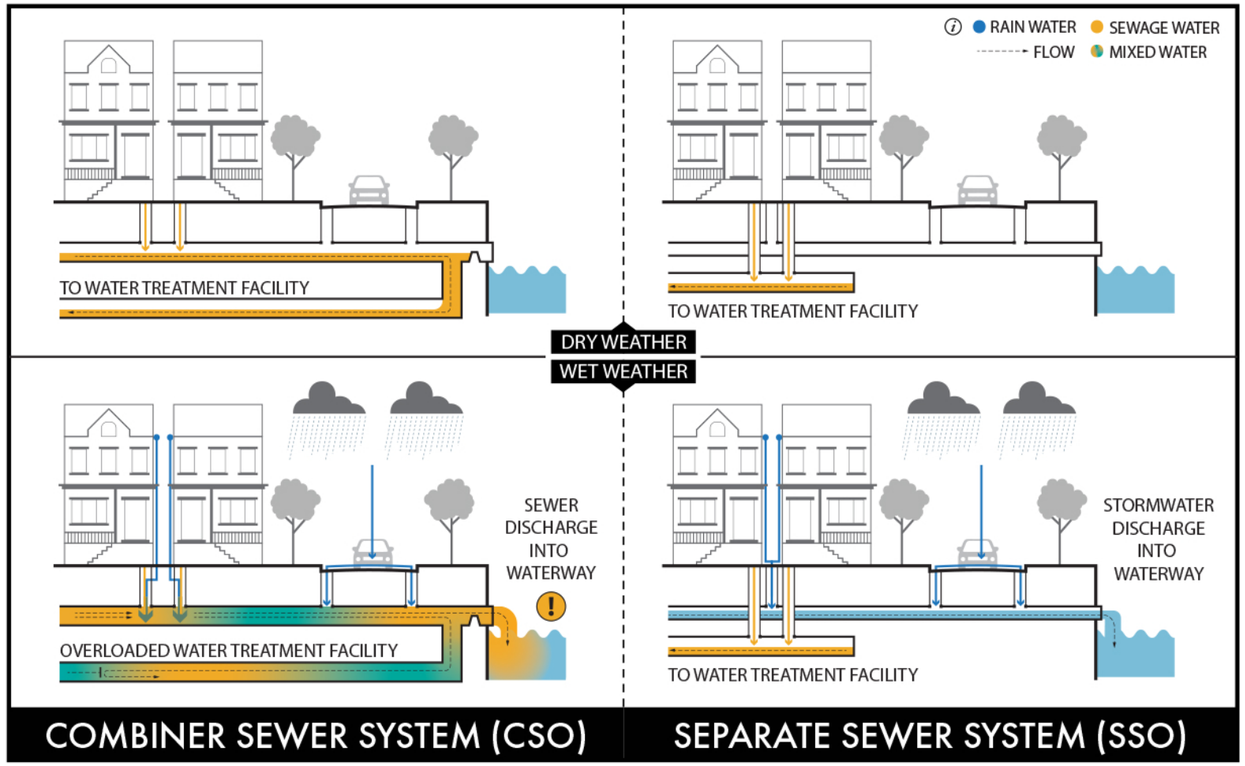
CREEK FLOW, CHANNELIZATION, AND STORMWATER DISCHARGE

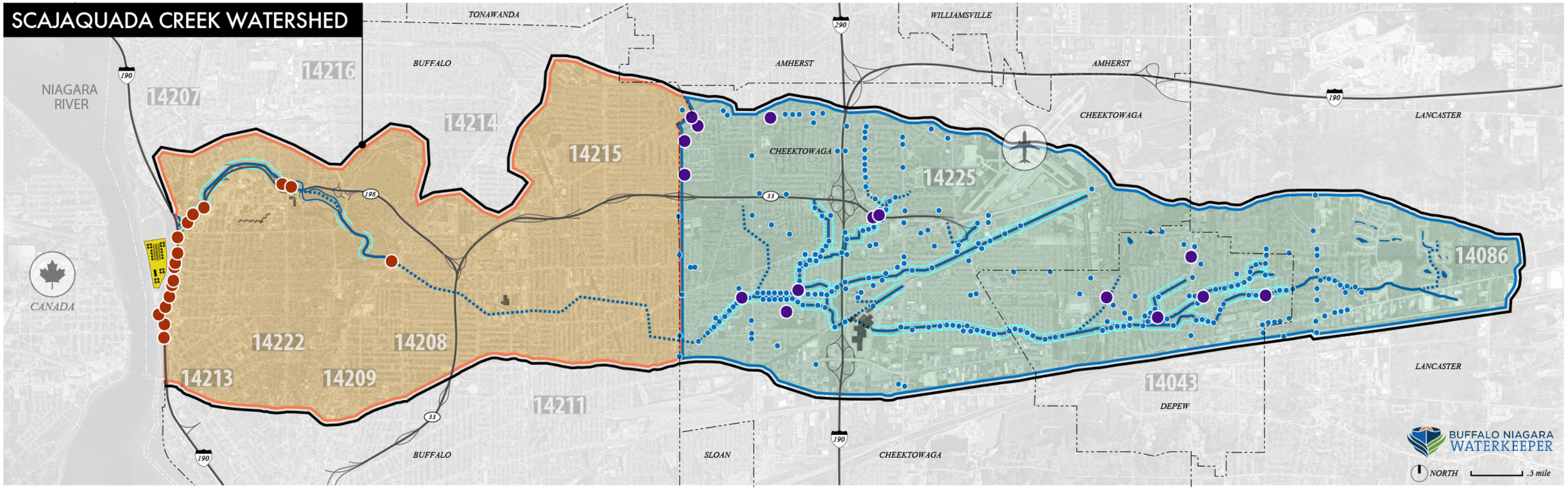
This map outlines Scajaquada Creek's unique and complex hydrologic system and how it interconnects with municipal sewer systems throughout the watershed. The impact of sewer systems and stormwater on the creek is important because it directly impacts the water quality and health of surrounding ecosystems. The more areas of land that support living infrastructure like plants and trees, the less untreated water we have entering the creek and overloading our sewers.

In the Combined Sewer Systems of Buffalo, rain and snowmelt (stormwater) flows directly into the sewer system via the storm drain. That combined water flows to the Buffalo Sewer Authority where it is treated and discharged into the Niagara River. During heavy rainfall, the system can reach its limit, causing Combined Sewer discharges of untreated water into Scajaquada Creek. In the Separate Sewer Systems of Cheektowaga, Depew and Lancaster, stormwater discharges directly into the creek without treatment and sewer water flows separately to the water treatment facility.

MAP KEY:

- SCAJAQUADA CREEK
- SCAJAQUADA CREEK (BURIED)
- CHANNELIZED CREEK SEGMENT
- CSO DISCHARGE LOCATION
- SSO DISCHARGE
- STORMWATER DISCHARGE
- CSO WATERSHED AREA
- SSO WATERSHED AREA
- BUFFALO SEWER AUTHORITY *Bird Island Treatment Plant*





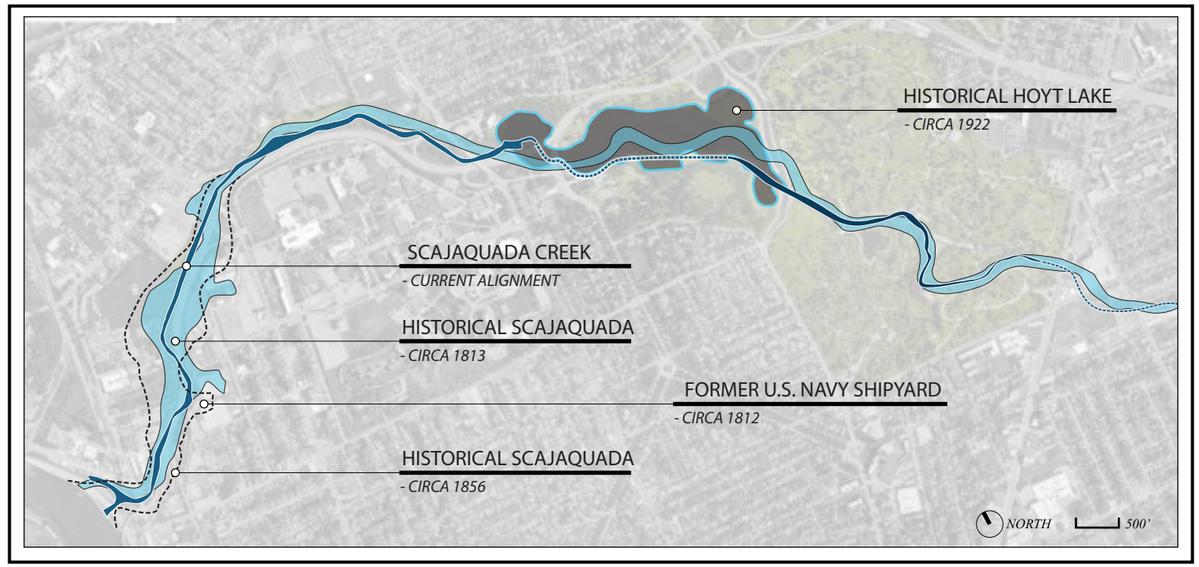
Produced December 2024

HYDROLOGY: Part Two

Scajaquada Creek is a highly modified waterway. The creek has been channelized, straightened, and even buried in a tunnel underground for 3.7 miles. This map shows channelized sections of the creek that could be naturalized, and highlights opportunities to daylight (unbury) the creek. This map also shows the Active River Area (ARA), the area where land is physically connected to the creek by hydrologic features such as groundwater and floodplains. Finally, the inset to the right shows the historical alignment of the creek near its mouth as inspiration for reclamation and restoration of its natural channel.

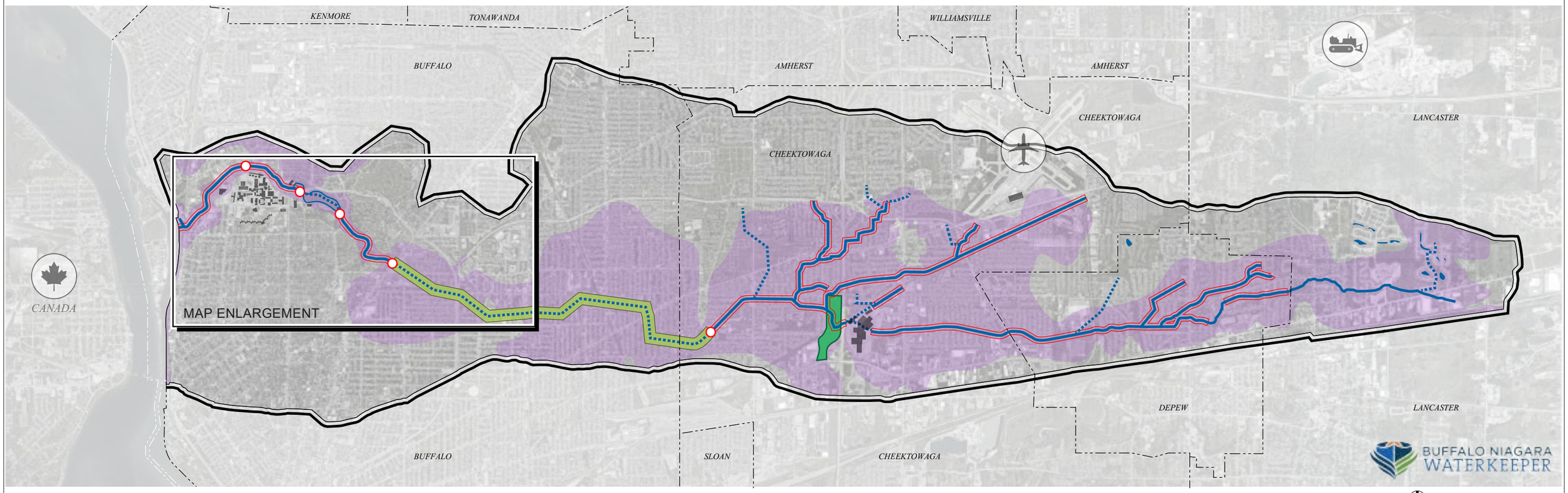
MAP KEY:

- SCAJAQUADA CREEK
- SCAJAQUADA CREEK (BURIED)
- ACTIVE RIVER AREA
- CHANNELIZED CREEK SEGMENT
- CREEK DAYLIGHT OPPORTUNITY
- CREEK BARRIER
- WATERSHED LIMIT
- MUNICIPALITY BOUNDARY
- FEDERAL FLOOD CONTROL



HISTORICAL SCAJAQUADA (1813) HISTORICAL SCAJAQUADA (1856)

MAP ENLARGEMENT
Scajaquada Historic Alignment



Produced June 2024

EXISTING OPPORTUNITY ZONES

This map highlights areas where major opportunities exist to solve large-scale problems within the watershed. The map shows headwater municipalities where stormwater and sewer infrastructure improvement projects are ongoing or needed to reduce sewer overflow events. It also shows priority areas for de-channelization, habitat improvements and conservation. Also shown are targeted areas for public access improvements to connect people to the water, expand recreational opportunities, and improve the overall quality of life of nearby communities.

MAP KEY:

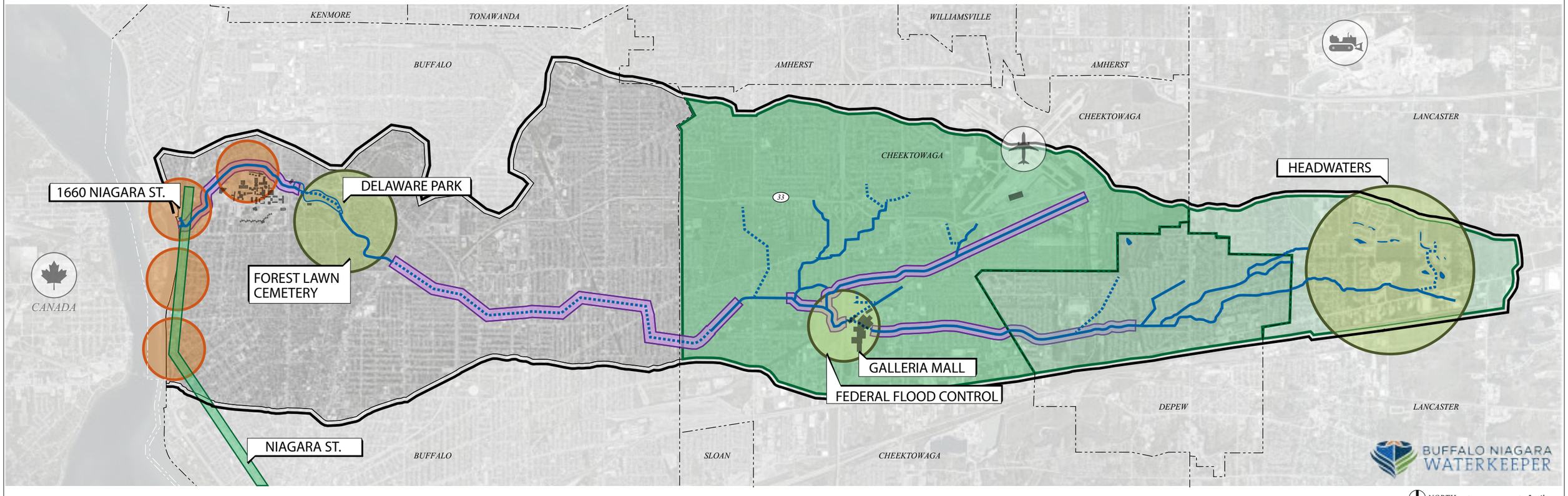
- SCAJAQUADA CREEK
- SCAJAQUADA CREEK (BURIED)
- STORMWATER CONTRIBUTION
  - HIGH VOLUME
  - MID VOLUME
  - LOW VOLUME
- DE-CHANNELIZE OPPORTUNITY
- CREEK DAYLIGHTING OPPORTUNITY
- HABITAT IMPROVEMENTS
- WATERSHED LIMIT
- MUNICIPALITY BOUNDARY
- WATERWAY ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS

1660 NIAGARA ST.

SHORELINE RESTORATION

DELAWARE PARK IMPROVEMENT PROPOSAL

Credit: Olmsted Parks Conservancy



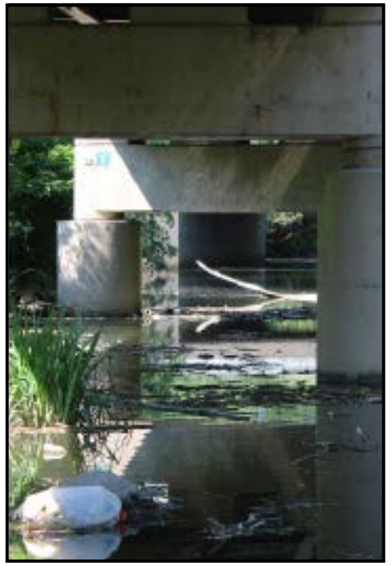
Produced June 2024

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

In Scajaquada Creek, water quality, habitat, public access, and community cohesion are all impaired due to decades of poor planning and infrastructure decisions. Major roadways that intersect and impact Scajaquada Creek are highlighted in red in the accompanying map. These roads crisscross the creek, and the Scajaquada Expressway (NYS Route 198) is built directly on top of the creek, with concrete support structures even anchored into the streambed. This urban creek corridor can be restored to benefit our region's environment, community, and economy, rather than simply being passed over and forgotten.

MOUTH OF SCAJAQUADA

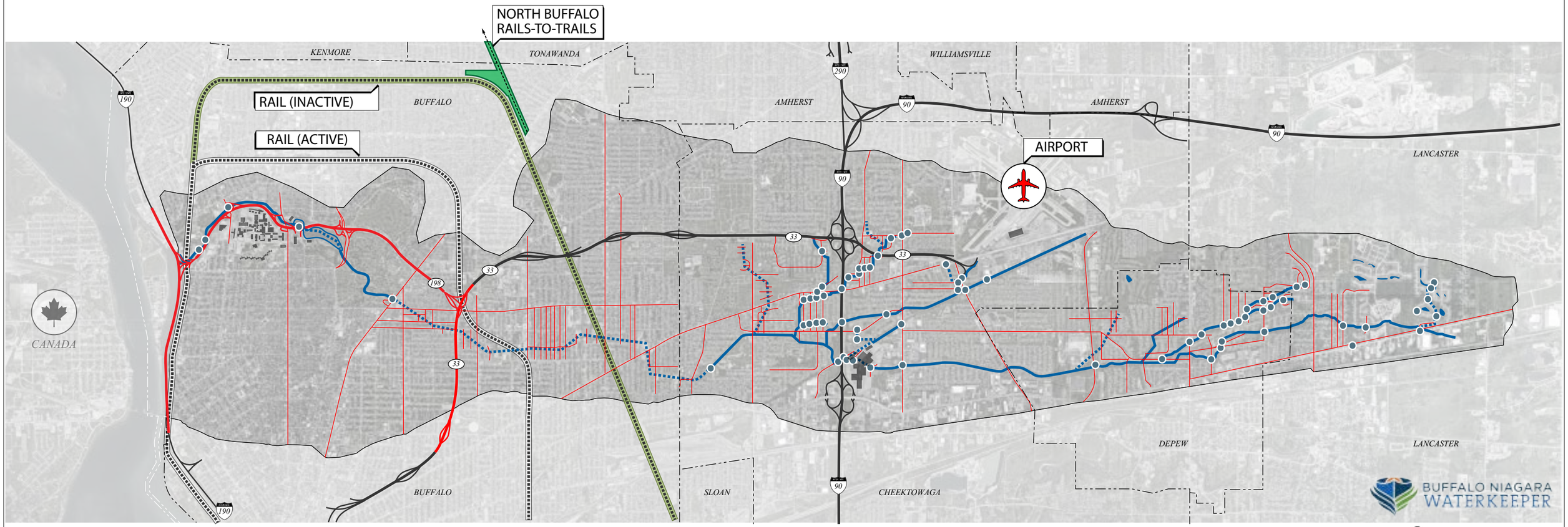
SCAJAQUADA DRAIN IN CHEEKTOWAGA



SCAJAQUADA EXPY NYS RT 198

MAP KEY:

- SCAJAQUADA CREEK
- SCAJAQUADA CREEK (BURIED)
- CULVERT
- LIMITED ACCESS ROAD (HIGHWAY)
- LIMITED ACCESS ROAD / CREEK CONSTRAINT
- NON-HIGHWAY / CREEK INTERSECTION
- INACTIVE RAIL
- ACTIVE RAIL
- RAILS-TO-TRAILS



Produced June 2024

PUBLIC CREEK ACCESS

Scajaquada Creek is located within a heavily urbanized watershed, and the vast majority of properties directly on the creek are privately-owned. This map displays publicly-owned lands such as municipal parks that allow for the public to access the creek. Highlighted in red, are major impediments to public access that act as a physical barrier, cutting people off from the creek, and separating communities from each other.

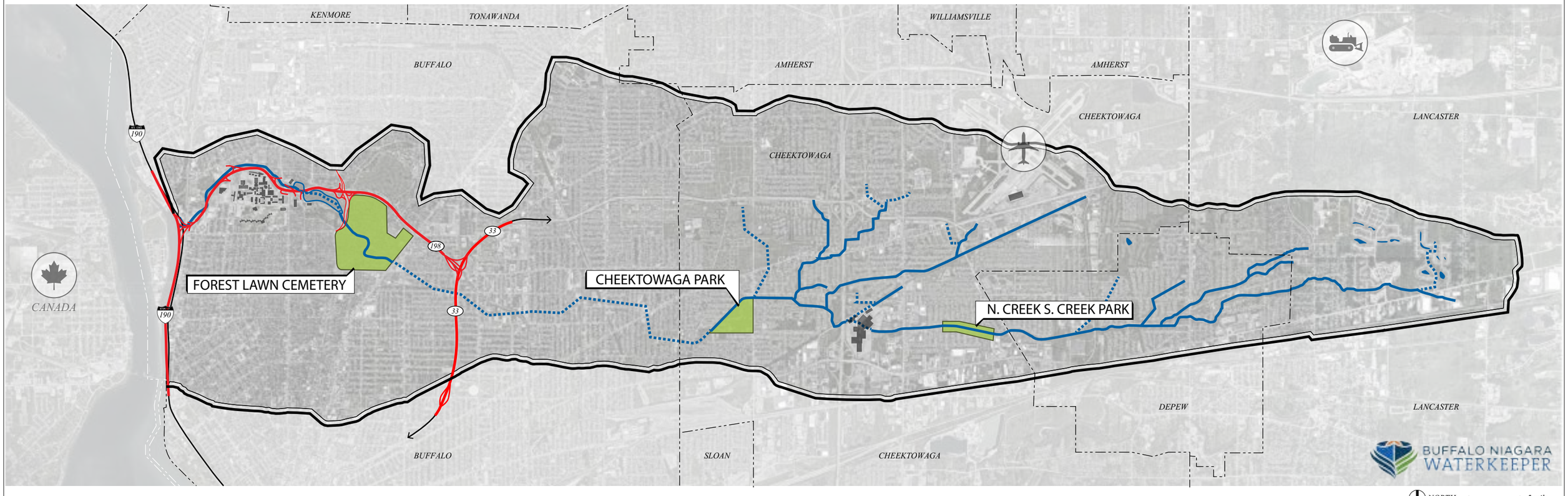
FOREST LAWN CEMETERY

Restored Floodplain

NORTH CREEK
SOUTH CREEK PARK

MAP KEY:

- SCAJAQUADA CREEK
- SCAJAQUADA CREEK (BURIED)
- LIMITED ACCESS ROAD (HIGHWAY)
- LIMITED ACCESS ROAD BOUNDARY
- GREEN SPACE WITH ACCESS
- WATERSHED LIMIT
- MUNICIPALITY BOUNDARY



Produced June 2024