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Townlake YMCA Update 10/21/25

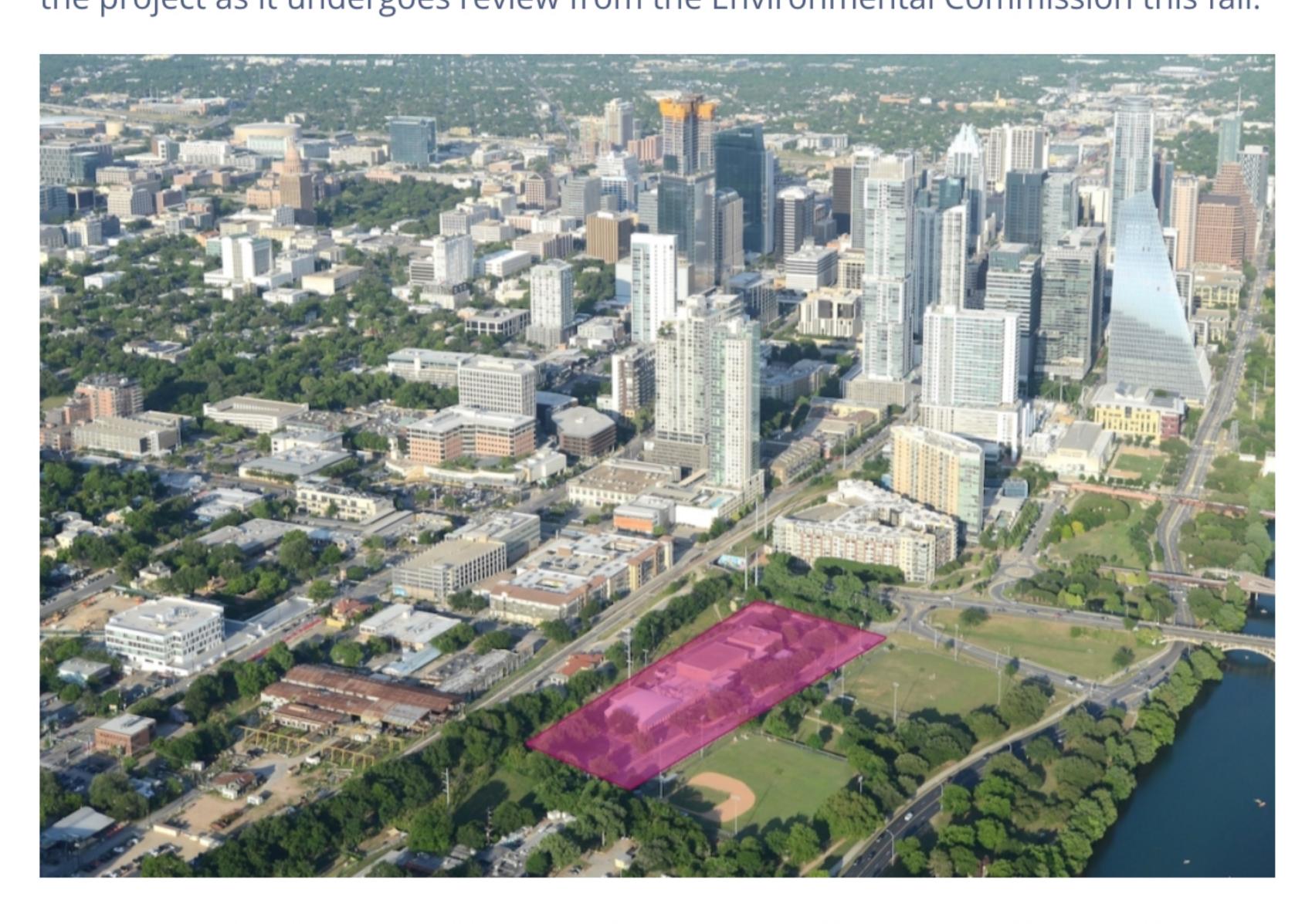
Austin YMCA Unveils Plans for Waterfront Site Complete with Condo Towers, Water Treatment Plant

Austin, TX

The Greater Austin YMCA has announced plans for a large-scale redevelopment of its TownLake facility at 1100 W. Cesar Chavez St., introducing a mix of residential, recreational, and community-oriented uses to the downtown waterfront.

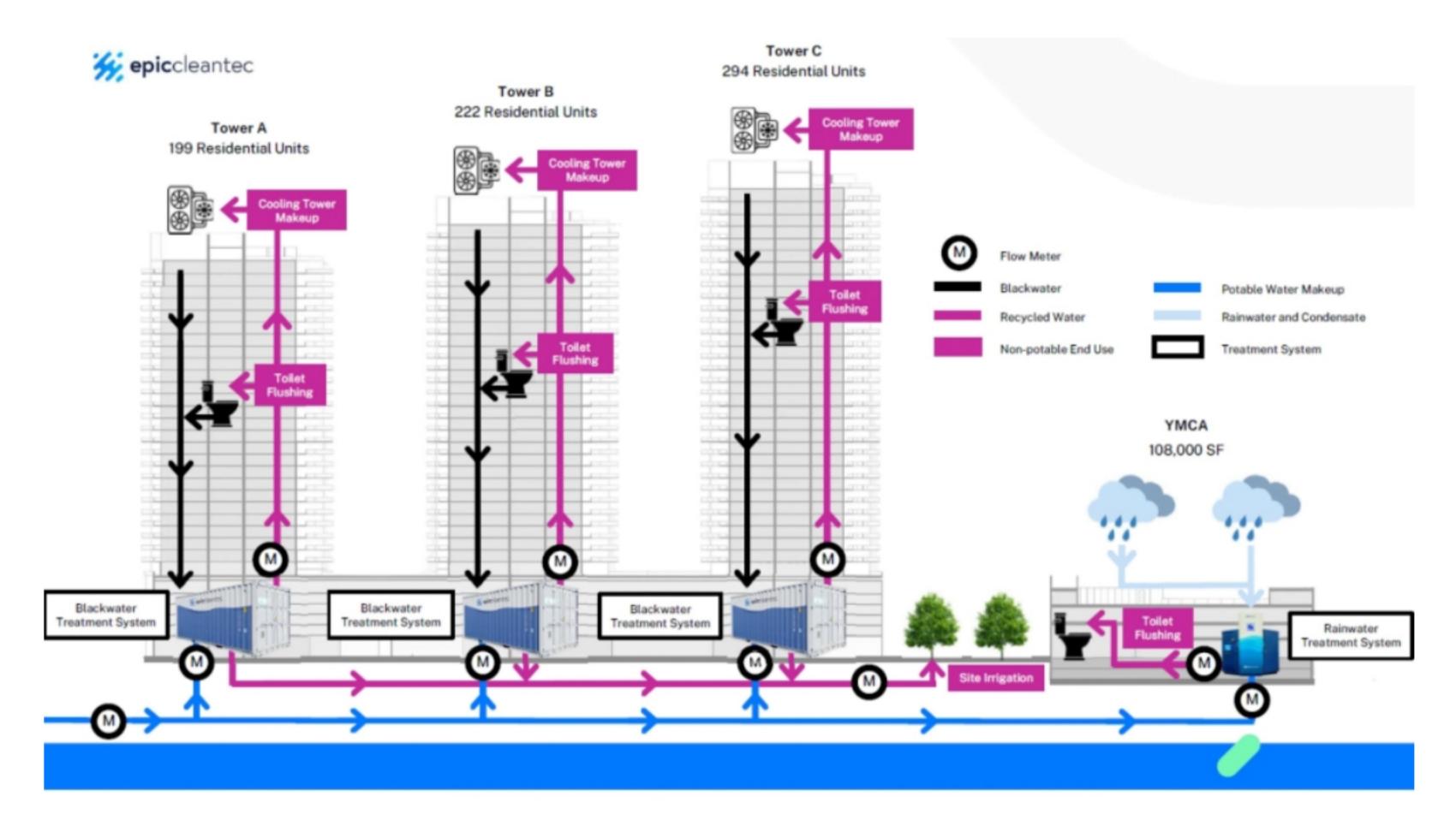
The proposed project, located adjacent to Lady Bird Lake, would replace the aging YMCA complex with a new 110,000-square-foot facility including wraparound amenities such as wellness and childcare programs, mental health counseling, and an early education center known as the Tomorrow Academy. The redevelopment will also include three residential towers containing up to 750 market-rate condominiums developed by

affiliate MP-Austin. Local real estate law firm Drenner Group is the lead representative for the project as it undergoes review from the Environmental Commission this fall.



In partnership with nonprofit Foundation Communities, the YMCA plans to add approximately 90 affordable housing units on the 4.8-acre site. Most of these units will be two- and three-bedroom apartments reserved for households earning between 30% and 80% of Austin's median family income.

The project's design includes roughly 35,000 square feet of pedestrian-oriented space at street level, including restaurant and retail components. Sustainability measures are also planned, such as a water reuse system designed to conserve millions of gallons annually, flood control improvements, and enhanced pedestrian and bike connections along the lakefront.



To move the plan forward, the YMCA has filed a Planned Unit Development (PUD) zoning application, a designation often used for complex mixed-use projects that incorporate public benefits. The organization has stated that proceeds from the market-rate condominium portion will help fund the new community facilities and affordable housing.

The redevelopment is currently under city review, with additional approvals and design refinements expected over the coming months. A final vote by Austin City Council is anticipated in 2026 or later.



Photo Courtesy: City of Austin via Drenner Group

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