

RENT OR MAINTAIN?

For years, you've enjoyed a great data center space. But what happens when your data center needs change because your:

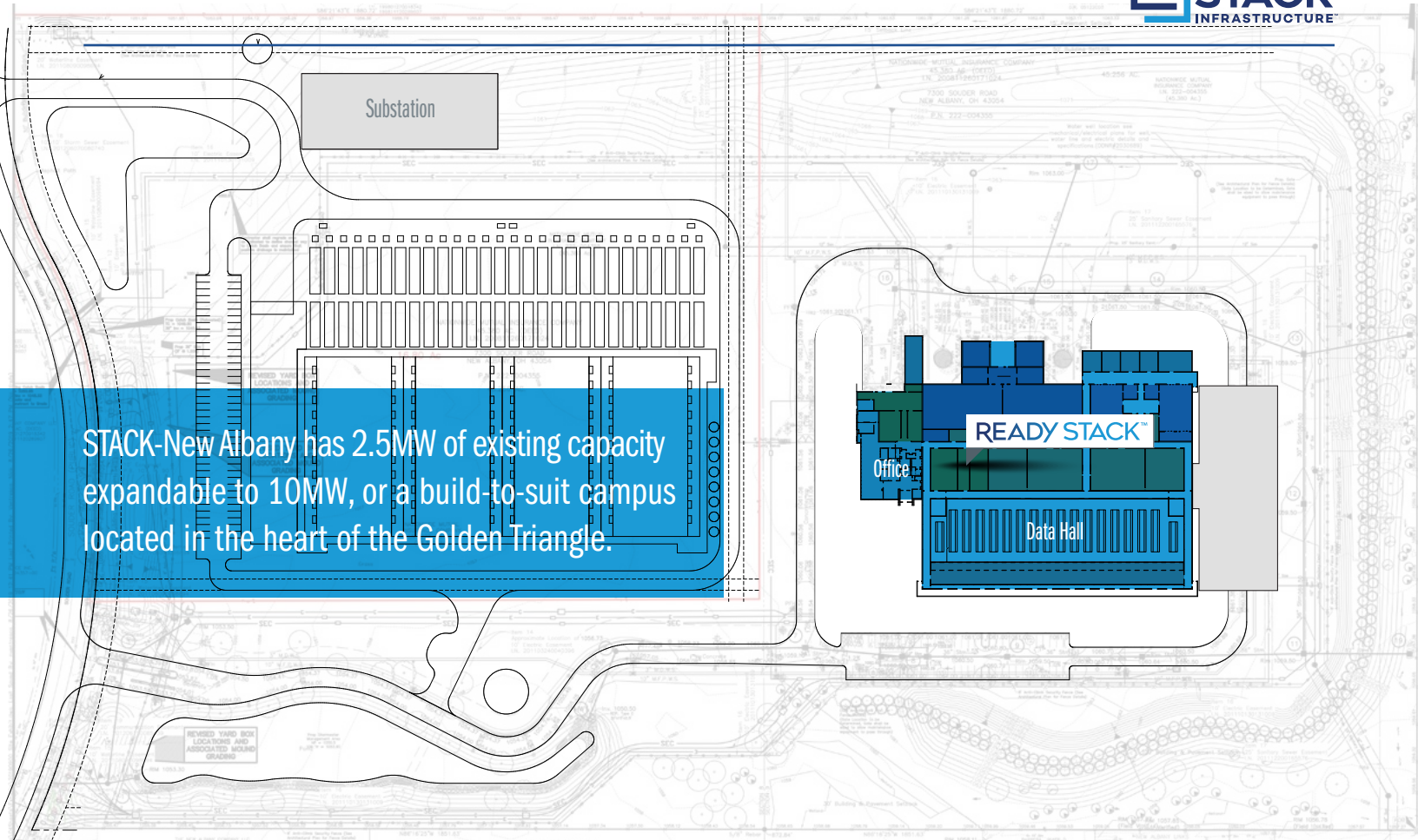
- **Business grows**
- **Digital demands change**
- **Space and power need a refresh or an upgrade**
- **Team wants to repatriate workloads from the cloud?**

As your business evolves, your data center should too. And like so many IT leaders you'll face the unenviable task of answering a difficult question: do we pick up and move to a different location to get what we need or try and maintain what we already have?

WEIGH THE PROS AND CONS

Just like the choice between renting a house and buying one, renting a data center space versus maintaining your own comes with a pros and cons. Here's a helpful checklist that provides a side-by-side comparison of your options and will help in determining the best choice for your business.

	MAINTAIN	VS.	RENT
Upfront Costs	Planning, design, installation/deployment		Basic setup and racking fees
Hardware maintenance	Self-managed equipment and component cleaning, maintenance, and repair.		Preventive, predictive, and corrective maintenance included in rent based on service provider partner roadmap
Upgrades	Server swaps, cabling, and networking device refreshes are planned, procured, and executed by employees in addition to their regular daily responsibilities		Coordinated and executed by data center service provider
Power and Cooling	Negotiated commercial rates for standard power and cooling. Design process can drive efficiencies in PUE, WUE, and equipment depending on your team's expertise.		Large portion of monthly operating expenses; included in rent
Security	Self-managed physical security protocols and staffing; co-responsibility for securing cloud infrastructure		Physical security included in rent; co-responsibility with cloud service provider for cloud security
Availability / Disaster Recovery	SLAs are as comprehensive as your team is capable of delivering (often dependent on Tier rating). You're also responsible for standing up failover/secondary site for redundancy		SLA contracts managed and delivered by an outsourced team
Staffing	Internal for greater control, with salaries averaging \$65,000 for technical operators		Outsourced staff balances multiple client commitments but offer greater cost controls
Flexibility	Your data center is built specifically to your requirements		Additional capacity can be deployed as needed.



If you're considering expansion to accommodate new growth, weigh your options carefully. STACK can also help you determine the right path for your business. To learn more, visit stackinfra.com

