Action Item	In Place Upgrade	Parallel or side by side upgrade
Upgrade Efforts	MinimumUpgrade is AutomatedNo data migration needed	 Efforts needs to be planned Manual migration Data migration required
Downtime	 Requires downtime 	 Minimum or no downtime required Production will be online while migration is taking place
Configuration Changes	 Configuration changes are Automated by the system Application configuration is not needed since it would use same connection information 	 All configurations needs to be preserved and migrated over to new SQL Server instance Applications needs to change configuration to connect to new SQL Server instance Requires manual check of all configurations (system and user)
Data Transfer	 No Data Transfer required All Server integration changes remains intact and gets upgraded by the system (Replication, Mirroring, Linked Server and SQL Server Agent Jobs etc. 	 Data Transfer required and can be planned in staging manner All server integrations needs to be created over to new SQL Server Instance
Server Name and IP	 No changes in Server and SQL server instance Application can continue using same server Name and IP address 	 Server and IP address will change All application needs to change their connection to connect to new server with new IP address
Testing	 Testing is relatively faster as same testing script 	 Thorough testing required as there are

	and be used once upgrade is completed	chances to a configuration mismatch Testing needs to be planned and new testing script required since Server Instance has changed for testing script
Rollback	 Rollback usually is rebuilding the whole system Requires backup of all configuration, databases including system databases 	Rollback is very easy as production system remains online during migration, if testing fails, it can be remediated with no downtime required and all application can connect to previous Online production system
SQL Versioning and Architecture	 Versioning upgrade would be possible with same architecture (32 bit to 32 bit), 32bit to 64 bit is not supported 	Since it would be new install, any version with any architecture can be installed and tested