

Grand Rapids Public Utilities

April 22, 2026

Operational and Capital Updates

GRPU Management Team



**GRAND RAPIDS
PUBLIC UTILITIES**
Service is Our Nature



MISSION VISION VALUES

WHO WE ARE

Grand Rapids Public Utilities (GRPU) is a statutory municipal utility established by the city of Grand Rapids, Minnesota. The Grand Rapids Public Utilities Commission (GRPUC) provides full control, operation and management of the GRPU electric power distribution system, the water production, treatment and distribution systems, and the wastewater collection and treatment systems.



Our Vision

Our vision is to be a dynamic public asset for the thriving community of Grand Rapids, enhancing lives and fostering growth through excellence in the provision of essential utility services.



Our Mission

Our mission is to empower GRPU team members to deliver safe, reliable, affordable, sustainable, and customer-focused utility services for our community.



Our Values

- Safety** We hold paramount the well-being of our employees and the public in all operations.
- Integrity** We uphold ethical standards and foster trust with all stakeholders.
- Customer Focus** We prioritize customer needs and satisfaction in all our decisions and actions.
- Efficiency** We maximize resources to provide cost-effective services without compromising quality.
- Reliability** We consistently deliver high-quality utility services and strive for uninterrupted access.
- Sustainability** We employ environmentally responsible practices in our operations and services.
- Transparency** We openly share information and decision-making processes, promoting informed community involvement.



Uninterrupted, High-Quality Utility Services (US)

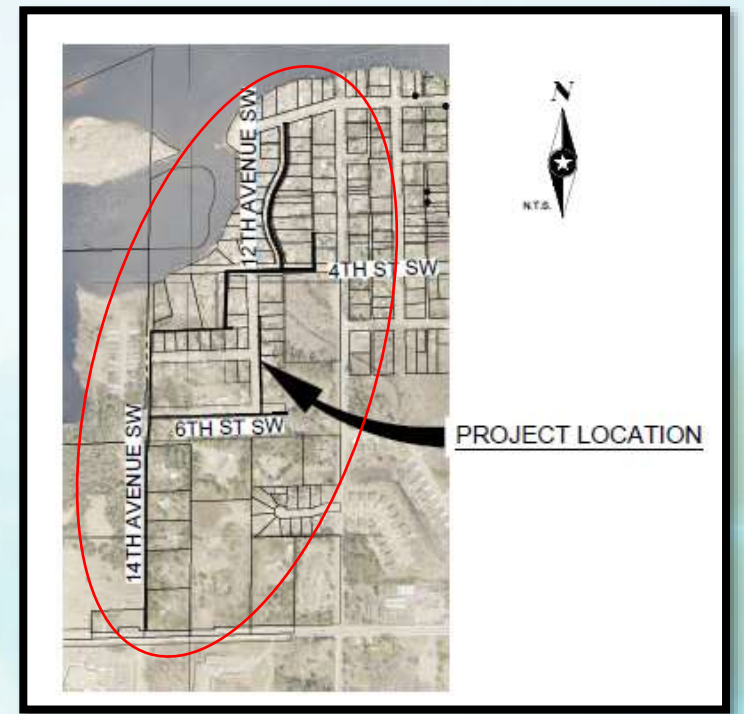
Capital: 12th & 14th Ave SW Electric Project by Julie Kennedy

Project: Underground conversion that supports the broader GRPU voltage conversion on the south side, converts select overhead secondary lines to underground to improve reliability and reduce tree-related outages and improves crew access for faster restoration.

Budget Update: Construction bids were ~12% below budget.

Construction Schedule: Completed by July 17.

Next Steps: Preconstruction Meeting



Execution Phase: Contractor Bids Received April 14

Dept	Project #	Strategic Goal	Materials / Inventory	Consultant / Contractor	Equipment	Internal Labor	Total Project	Funding Sources
100	ELCP5043	US-3	\$239,288	\$220,000 \$195,800	\$40,000	\$96,000	\$595,288 \$571,088	Reserves



Uninterrupted, High-Quality Utility Services (US)

Capital: 29th St SE & Crystal Springs Rd Electric Project by Julie Kennedy

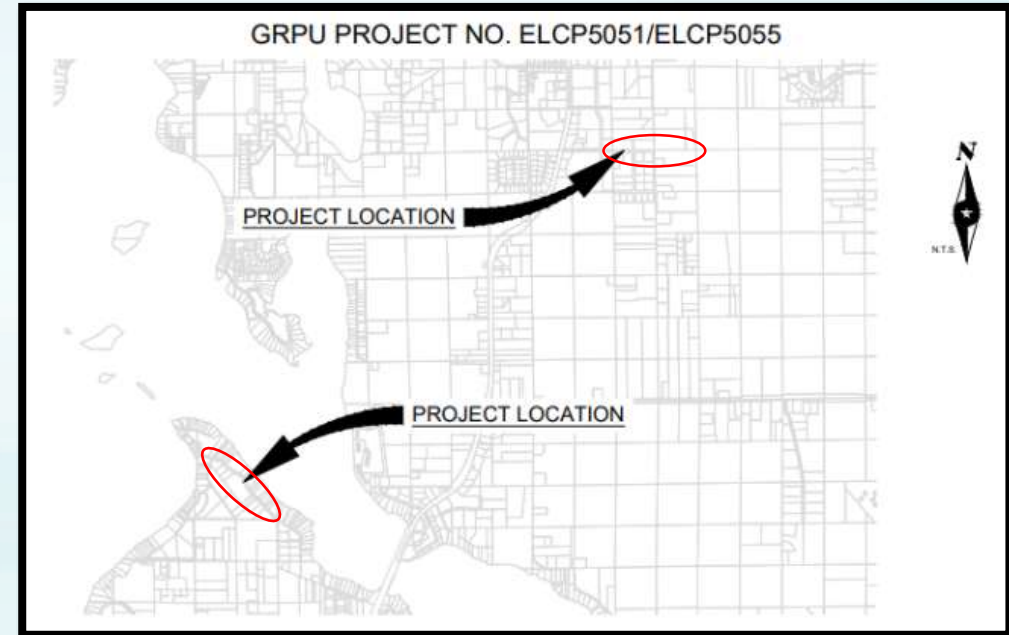
29th Street Project: Underground upgrade to increase the Grand Rapids Industrial Park capacity and enhancement to GRPU system redundancy and operational flexibility.

Crystal Springs Loop Project: Overhead to underground infrastructure conversion that supports the broader GRPU voltage conversion on the south side.

Budget Update: Construction bids were 52% below budget.

Construction Schedule: Crystal Springs completed by July 24 and 29th Street completed by August 13.

Next Steps: Preconstruction Meeting



Execution Phase: Contractor Bids Received April 14

Dept	Project #	Strategic Goal	Materials / Inventory	Consultant / Contractor	Equipment	Internal Labor	Total Project	Funding Sources
100	ELCP5051/ ELCP5055	US-3	\$102,000	\$200,000 \$103,005	\$31,200	\$97,000	\$430,200 \$333,205	Reserves



Uninterrupted, High-Quality Utility Services (US)

Capital: Screen House Pumps VFD Upgrade by Steve Mattson

Description: The variable frequency drives (VFDs) enable the industrial lift station pumps to adjust their pumping rate in response to incoming flow conditions.

Purpose: The asset management plan for the screen house identified the existing VFD's being beyond the useful life and need to be replaced to ensure consistent operation into the future and meet commission strategic goals of 100% compliance of regulations.

Status/Win/Issue/Risk: Phasing the replacement over the next 4 years helps spread out investment, ensure new technology works while having a back-up.

Next Steps: Procurement and preparation/planning. Followed by removal of existing and installation of newer, smaller VFD.



Execution Phase: Estimated Budget (± 3-10%)

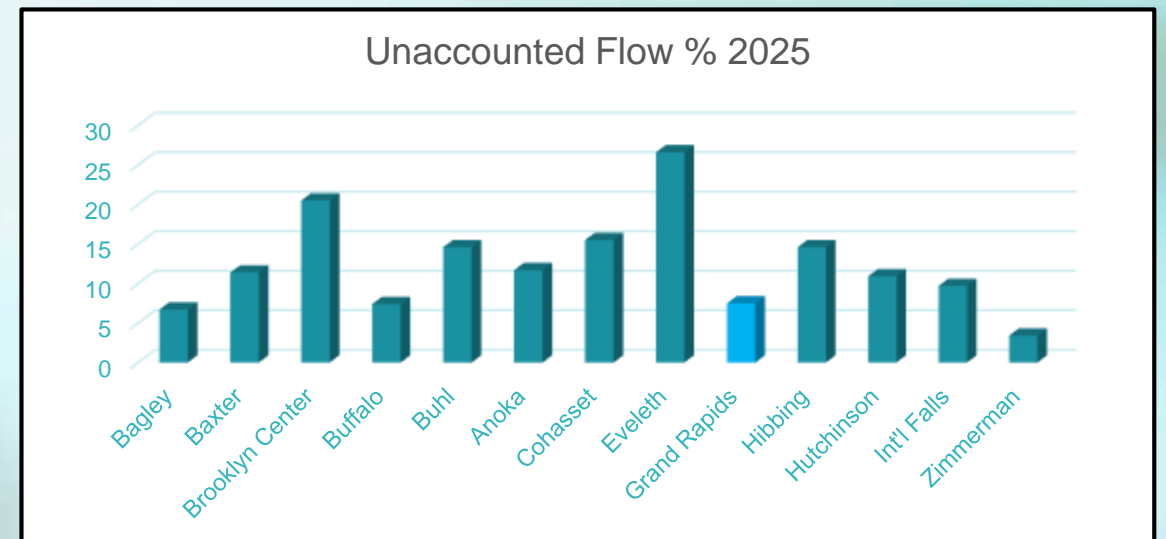
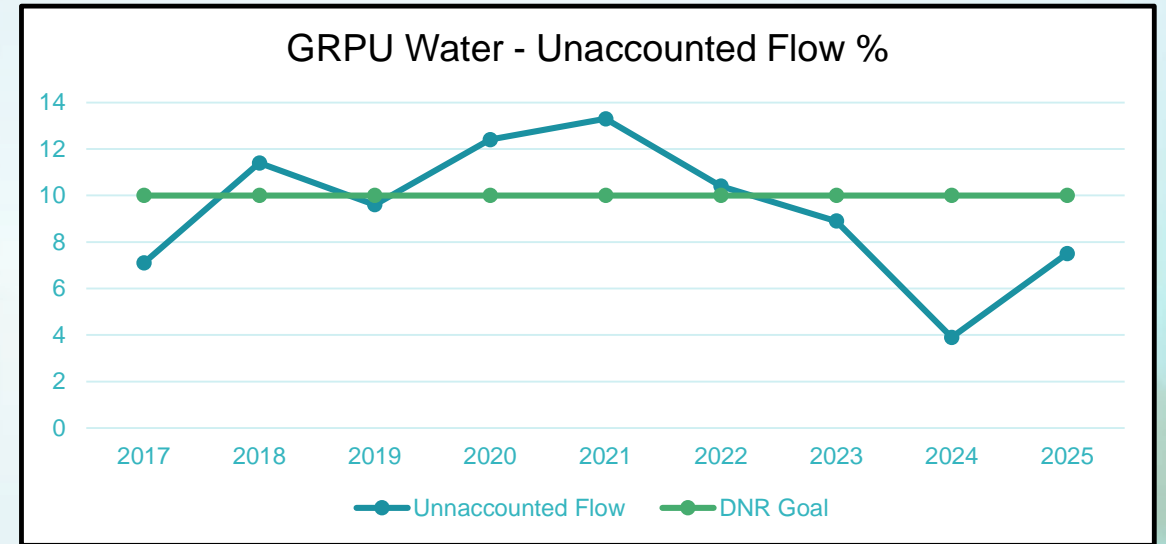
Dept	Project #	Strategic Goal	Materials / Inventory	Consultant / Contractor	Vehicle Usage	Internal Labor	Total Project	Funding Sources
470	WTCP8200	NE-1	\$2,000	\$12,745	\$0	\$6,000	\$20,745	UPM Blandin



Strategic and Sustainable Fiscal Management (FM)

Operations: Water Unaccounted Flow Update by Steve Mattson

- DNR established a goal of < 10% unaccounted flow for Public Water Suppliers
- 2025 – Unaccounted flow was 7.5%
- Real and apparent losses ~\$95,000/yr
- Survey of 30+ utilities – 51% of non-revenue water loss is from leaks on distribution mains and service connections
- 2024 - Replaced flow meters at Water Treatment Plant and wells 4&6
- 2025 – Replaced flow meter for well 3
- Operations: Continue with distribution system leak studies biennially, annual flow verifications on flow meters





Engaging and Educating the Community (EC)

Operations: Customer Incentive for Lead & Copper Testing by Julie Kennedy

Required Compliance Testing: GRPU does lead & copper sampling at MDH-approved sites (60 samples, twice annually) that is dependent on customer participation.

Current Process: GRPU does an evening drop-off of bottle/form; customer collects first-draw sample in the morning and leaves for pickup and lab submission.

Challenge: Missed or declined samples require securing new MDH-approved sites, increasing administrative time and delays

Operational Impact: Higher CSR coordination, added field staff time, and additional state approval steps.

Proposed Pilot: Offer a \$20 customer bill credit for successful sample completion to those customers on the MDH-approved site list.

Cost vs. Benefit: ~\$2,400 annual cost is lower than staff time spent managing retests; expected to improve participation and streamline compliance.





Operational Excellence (OE)

Operations: April Safety Summary by Julie Kennedy

Safety Topic This Month:

Safety Brad will conduct Hot Sticks and Grounds Testing on April 22.

Safety Committee Program Review This Month:

The Safety Committee will meet on April 23 and review the follow up from the mock OSHA inspection.

Incidents Reported last Month by Department:

(thru March workdays)

Administration: None

Business Services: None

Electric: None

Water-Wastewater: None

Cumulative Incidents for 2026

Recordable Incidents	1
Lost Time Days 2026	0
Restricted Days 2026	0
First Aid Only (not recordable)	0

Total FROI 1

Recordable Incident 5-year History

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
ADMIN	0	0	0	0	0
BUS SVCS	0	1	0	0	0
ELEC	0	0	1	0	0
W-WW	0	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	0	1	1	0	1

Grand Rapids Public Utilities

Upcoming Commission Meetings

Work Session: May 13, 2025

Regular Meeting: May 27, 2025



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