# Report to the City Council
# City of Grand Rapids, MN

GRAND RAPIDS
PUBLIC UTILITIES
*Service is Our Nature*

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**Grand Rapids Public Utilities**
**November 9, 2026**

# Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Renovation Project

## Project Scope

Rehabilitation and modernization of the 1987 (39-yr old) facility to address aging infrastructure, replace original equipment, and meet current MDH requirements.



*Improvement Areas:*

- Aeration
- Gravity Filters
- Ion Exchange Softeners
- Chemical Feeds
- Pumps and Electrical

*Schedule:*

| | |
|---|---|
| Preliminary Design: | Aug 2025 to Feb 2026 |
| Final Design: | Mar 2026 to Dec 2026 |
| Approval & Bidding: | Jan 2027 to Jun 2027 |
| Construction: | Jul 2027 to Dec 2028 |

# Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Renovation Project

Clean, reliable water is essential, and our system is failing now.

- Our hospital, schools, businesses and families all depend on a water system that has reached the end of its life. Repairs are only band-aids.
- The GRPU has exhausted every cost-saving option. This project cannot be phased or delayed responsibly.
- Every year we wait, inflation drives the price higher. Acting now is the fiscally responsible choice.



# Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Renovation Project

GRPU & the State have done their part. We need federal partners to close the gap.

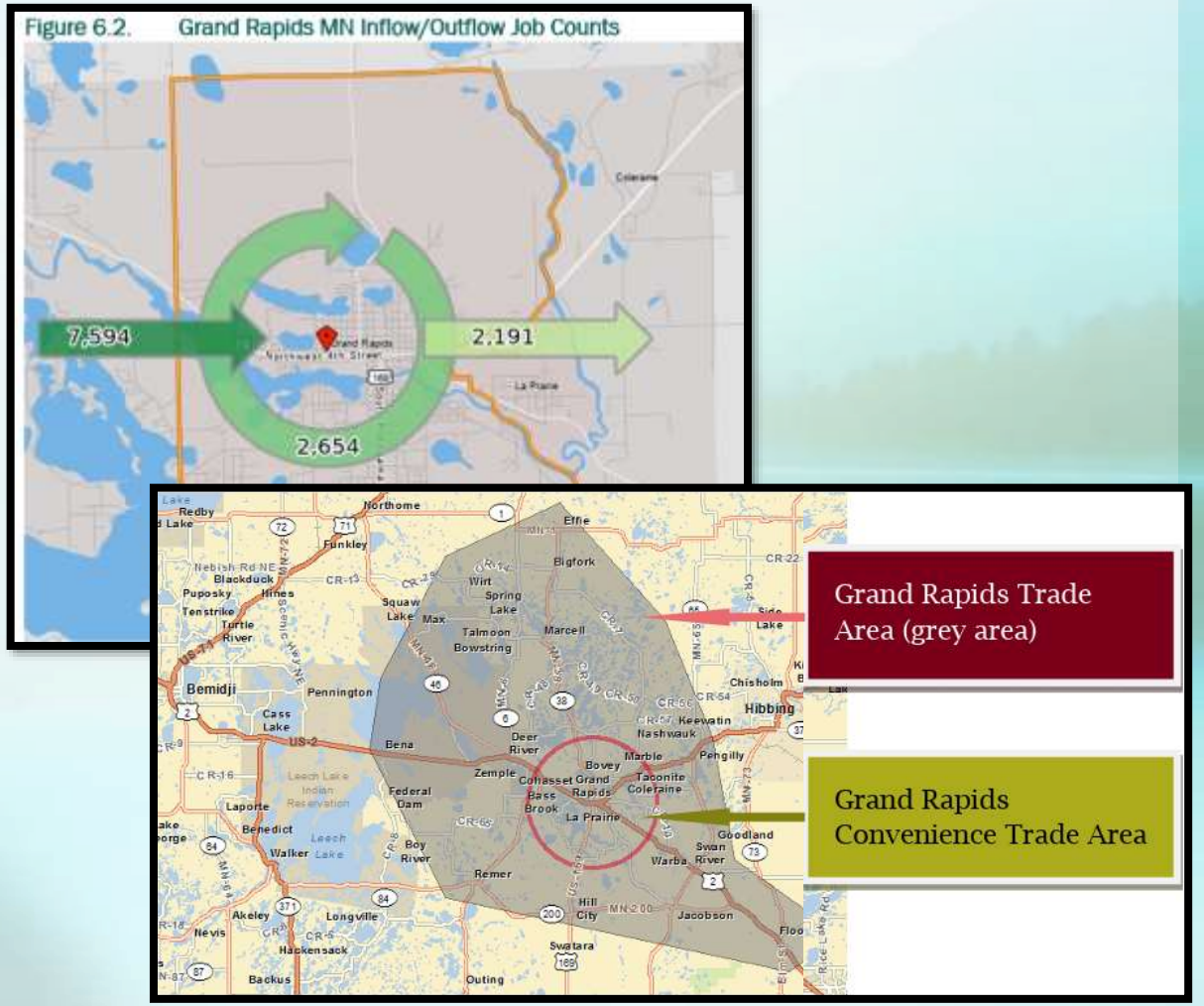
- Our GRPU ratepayers have invested $1.3M and made tough local decisions to get here.
- The State of Minnesota committed $2.5M in 2023. Federal funding for the remaining $8M protects that investment.
- No community our size can fund a project of this scale alone. Infrastructure has always been a local, state and federal partnership.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Updated Cost Estimate: | $13,800,000 | |
| MN SPAP Grant (secured): | $2,500,000 | (18%) |
| Federal Funding (requested): | $8,000,000 | (58%) |
| Local GRPU Customers: | $3,300,000 | (24%) |

# Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Renovation Project

Without federal help, families, businesses and the region pay the price.

- Residents are already feeling the squeeze of rising costs. Putting the full burden on ratepayers would hurt the people we serve.
- Higher water costs hit our hospital, schools and employers, and those costs get passed on through higher prices and strained budgets.
- As northern Minnesota's economic hub, what happens in Grand Rapids affects the whole region. Federal support keeps it affordable and strong.




Credit: Grand Rapids Comprehensive Plan

# Comments / Questions

## Grand Rapids Public Utilities

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