

# Grand Rapids Public Utilities

May 27, 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)

## Operations: Hydrant Flushing 2026 by Steve Mattson

- Purpose: to remove sediment, rust, and stagnant water from water mains, helping maintain water quality and proper disinfectant levels throughout the distribution system

It is also to verify hydrants are working properly for adequate firefighting

- Last completed May 2025
- Dechlorination is now required to protect environment
- Flushed May 19-21
- North side – water quality normal, 1-2 calls
- South side – few calls, some sediment
- LaPrairie – water quality normal, no calls





# Strategic and Sustainable Fiscal Management (FM)

## Capital: ISD 318 Admin Building Redevelopment by Steve Mattson

Description: The old ISD 318 administration building location on north Pokegama avenue is being redeveloped for single family homes called Crystal Lake estates.

Purpose: This project will add eight more single family homes to the city that includes new services for E/W/S.

Status/Win/Issue/Risk: This a win for Grand Rapids.

Next Steps: Successful connection of all utilities will add 8 connections to the utility for water, sewer and electric.



			Execution Phase: Estimated Budget (± 3-10%)					
Dept	Project #	Strategic Goal	Materials / Inventory	Consultant / Contractor	Vehicle Usage	Internal Labor	Total Project	Funding Sources
600	WRCP6076	FM-3	\$0	\$345,000	\$0	\$2,600	\$347,600	Replacement

# Engaging and Educating the Community (EC)

Operations: Storm Safety Campaign by Julie Kennedy

## **When Thunder Roars.. Go Indoors!**

If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to be struck by lightning.

### **Stay Safe During Severe Weather**

- Seek shelter in a sturdy building
- Stay away from windows
- Avoid electrical equipment and plumbing
- Bring pets indoors
- Get off the lake immediately — even if the fish are biting!



For power outage information, visit [GRPUC.org](http://GRPUC.org)



# Use and Stewardship of the Natural Environment (NE)

## Capital: Tower Mixers by Steve Mattson

Description: Installing a GridBee mixer in a water tower improves water quality by continuously circulating stored water, which prevents thermal stratification, reduces disinfectant loss, and minimizes conditions that lead to taste, odor, and biological growth issues.

Purpose: By keeping the tank well-mixed, it helps maintain consistent chloramine residuals, reduces the risk of nitrification, reduce ice damage, ultimately supporting regulatory compliance and more reliable distribution system performance.

Status/Win/Issue/Risk: Recommended per asset management plan, consultants and regulatory agencies.

Next Steps: Procurement, MDH approval, scheduling, installation.



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

Dept	Project #	Strategic Goal	Materials / Inventory	Consultant / Contractor	Vehicle Usage	Internal Labor	Total Project	Funding Sources
600	WRCP6063	NE-1	\$4,600	\$67,779	\$0	\$6,975	\$79,354	Replacement funds



# Use and Stewardship of the Natural Environment (NE)

## Capital: Landfill Loadout 2 PLC by Steve Mattson

Description: Leachate from the sumps of the open landfill phases 5-8 pump into a 20,000-gallon leachate storage tank. The levels in the sumps, storage tanks, pump controls, flow measurement and loadout of leachate into the tanker is all controlled by the loadout 2 PLC.

Purpose: To be able to manage leachate loadout effectively from load out station 2, PLC beyond useful life and showing signs of failure. The asset management plan indicates it is due for replacement.

Status/Win/Issue/Risk: The sump of phase 5-8 must be managed to prevent violation of landfill permit. The PLC is a critical to manage leachate.

Next Steps: Procurement followed by installation and training.



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

Dept	Project #	Strategic Goal	Materials / Inventory	Consultant / Contractor	Vehicle Usage	Internal Labor	Total Project	Funding Sources
485	WTCP8510	NE-1	\$2,000	\$31,757	\$0	\$2,620	\$36,377	Customer Contributions/Replacement Funds



# Use and Stewardship of the Natural Environment (NE)

## Capital: Sludge Blend Tank Improvements

Description: The sludge blend tank is used to mix primary solids with waste activated sludge (WAS) to be pumped into the dewatering operation.

Purpose: To renovate the blend tank to improve the chemical resistivity and mixing of the sludge. Asset management plan identified tank is exposed to H<sub>2</sub>S and zinc chloride with corrosion observed, requiring extensive repairs and coating. Failure to do could impact operation of the dewatering process.

Status/Win/Issue/Risk: Further tank deterioration would lead to significant downtime. This project will provide the necessary tank protection to protect the asset into the future.

Next Steps: Engineering/planning, followed by installation.



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

Dept	Project #	Strategic Goal	Materials / Inventory	Consultant / Contractor	Vehicle Usage	Internal Labor	Total Project	Funding Sources
481	WTCP8304	NE-1	\$15,000	\$177,482	\$0	\$14,550	\$207,032	Customer contributions



# Use and Stewardship of the Natural Environment (NE)

## Capital: Sludge Dump Truck

Description: The sludge dump trucks are used for dewatered sludge storage but also is the only means to transfer the sludge to the open landfill one mile away. WW operators manage the dewatering process utilizing the fleet of dump trucks.

Purpose: Rolling stock dump truck is past useful life. The asset management plan recommends replacement of 25 year-old machine.

Status/Win/Issue/Risk: The WW operators use the trucks for sludge storage and sludge management and need the entire fleet to be able to run the dewatering plant efficiently.

Next Steps: Procurement followed by delivery and training. Sale of old machine at auction.



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

Dept	Project #	Strategic Goal	Materials / Inventory	Consultant / Contractor	Vehicle Usage	Internal Labor	Total Project	Funding Sources
481	WTCP8303	NE-1	\$0	\$255,840	\$0	\$3,057	\$258,897	Customer contributions



# Operational Excellence (OE)

## Operations: May Safety Summary by Julie Kennedy

### Safety Topic This Month:

Safety Brad trained required employees on Chainsaw Safety on May 20.

### Safety Committee Program Review This Month:

The Safety Committee met on May 20 and reviewed the Wastewater Treatment Plant Service Center Mock OSHA Inspection.

### Incidents Reported last Month by Department:

(thru April 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



# Operational Excellence (OE)

## Operations: MMUA Interacting on the Issues by Julie Kennedy

### Protecting, promoting, and strengthening your hometown utility

MMUA's 2026 statewide *Interacting on the Issues* policy tour is your opportunity to hear how this year's legislative and regulatory actions will impact utilities and their community.

MMUA's policy experts will break down what passed, what didn't, and what it means for Minnesota's municipal utilities.

The MMUA Government Relations team looks forward to connecting with us to talk through the implications of new laws, identify our needs and perspectives, and carry forward our commitment to protecting, promoting, and strengthening hometown utilities. Our commissioners and city council members are strongly encouraged to join GRPU and MMUA in these important conversations.



# Grand Rapids Public Utilities

## Upcoming Commission Meetings

**Work Session: June 10, 2026**

**Regular Meeting: June 24, 2026**



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