



WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

“Willmar Municipal Utilities will provide safe, reliable & quality utility services at competitive rates for their customers.”

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

March 2023

Northeast Water Treatment Plant Improvements Project:

- Total project cost: \$21M

Key Project Highlights:

- Manganese, which can be harmful to brain development of newborns and young children, will be removed.
- Current manganese levels exceed EPA’s secondary water quality standards by 25%.
- Iron, ammonia, and chlorinated disinfectant by-products will also be reduced.
- Environmentally friendly: It is a biological process thereby reducing chemical usage.

Regional Significance:

- Provides increased capacity to support planned economic development that provides high-quality jobs in west central Minnesota.
- Willmar is comprised of a diverse population with less than 80% Caucasian and over 20% assorted nationalities.
- WMU has already raised water rates 85% and will need to continue implementing significant water rate increases in the absence of state grant funding resulting in negative economic development.
- Willmar has the 4th highest wastewater rates in the state based on the AE2S 2020 Rate Survey.

We ask for your support in funding our Northeast Water Treatment Plant Project so that we can have high-quality, reliable, and affordable water here in Willmar that supports the economic growth and job creation that is needed in west central Minnesota.



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