



## **Clarks Grove, Minnesota - Funding Request Fact Sheet**

### **BACKGROUND**

The City of Clarks Grove is in desperate need of several infrastructure replacement projects including two new lift stations and city-wide sewer and water system replacement due to the age and condition of these facilities and large amount of inflow and infiltration (I/I). The City conducted an analysis of these facilities and determine they are in extremely poor condition and need to be replaced ASAP. In fact, the two lift stations are in such disrepair that the maintenance staff cannot enter these facilities due to their condition and terminal safety issues, so in essence it is a race against time before our community has catastrophic failure and floods out many or all of the homes and businesses within the City of Clarks Grove with sewage.

In addition, the City has no water treatment plant and desperately needs one. The current untreated water has high levels of copper in it. Local doctors have long indicated that the untreated water within the City of Clarks Grove may be having a negative impact on the health and wellbeing of our citizens including a disturbing large number of residents with serious thyroid problems.

There are numerous reasons why Clarks Grove have turned to the State of Minnesota for financial assistance including the fact that the City recent had a tornado devastate our community including destroying our fire station. Unfortunately, the insurance fought back against the City in their hour of need and would not fund much of the fire hall replacement project, having an enormous negative impact on the financial wellbeing of our community. This large financial burden would have been the funds that could have been used to pay for some of the infrastructure needs, but now do not have the funds to pay for these projects. This very unfortunate situation and **financial hardship** and has left the residents and City with no funds or capacity to pay for the new lift stations, sewer, water or treatment plant facilities.

### **PROPOSED PROJECTS**

In order to replace the old and antiquated lift stations, sewer and water pipes and water treatment plant, the City of Clarks Grove proposes to complete the following project at a cost of \$11,000,000 which the City is willing to pay for a portion of this project (10% of the project costs or \$1,100,000) for **a net request from the State of \$9,900,000** –



#### Projects –

- 1) Replace two primary sanitary lift stations – This is desperately needed for the wellbeing of all of our citizens – These two primary lift stations convey all of the wastewater to our treatment plant. We cannot enter or maintain this facility due to their age and condition, it's only a matter of time before we have a catastrophic failure that will impact every resident in our community.
- 2) Replace the entire 55-year-old sanitary sewer system with 15,000 linear feet of 8" PVC sewer including new manholes.
- 3) Replace the entire 55-year-old watermain system with 15,000 linear feet of 6" watermain including new gate valves and hydrants.
- 4) Construct a new water treatment plant – we currently have no treatment of our potable water. The current untreated water has high levels of copper in it. Some doctors are indicating that this is causing serious health problems including thyroid issues to our citizens.

#### Reasons for the Request –

- 1) The City does not have the means to fund these projects due to the financial hardship the recent tornado had on our community.
- 2) City of Clarks Grove has high utility rates (sewer plus water).
- 3) City of Clarks Grove has one of the lowest MHI.
- 4) Sewer and water facilities are over 55 years old and have to be replaced due to their condition and age.
- 5) Inflow and Infiltration in their sewer system.
- 6) High levels of copper in our water with no current treatment of our water – need to be replaced due to health concerns.

**Financial** - The fundamental reason for this \$9.9 million request is due to the fact that our community was financially impacted due to the recent tornado, all of our infrastructure is in need of replacement right now including the two primary lift stations, and the need for a water treatment plant for the safety and wellbeing of our residents. In addition, the current pandemic has especially been hard on Greater Minnesota communities for businesses, economic development and jobs. Our current financial situation prohibits our community from being able to fund these projects.

Thanks you for your support and consideration of our request !!

**City of Clarks Grove**