

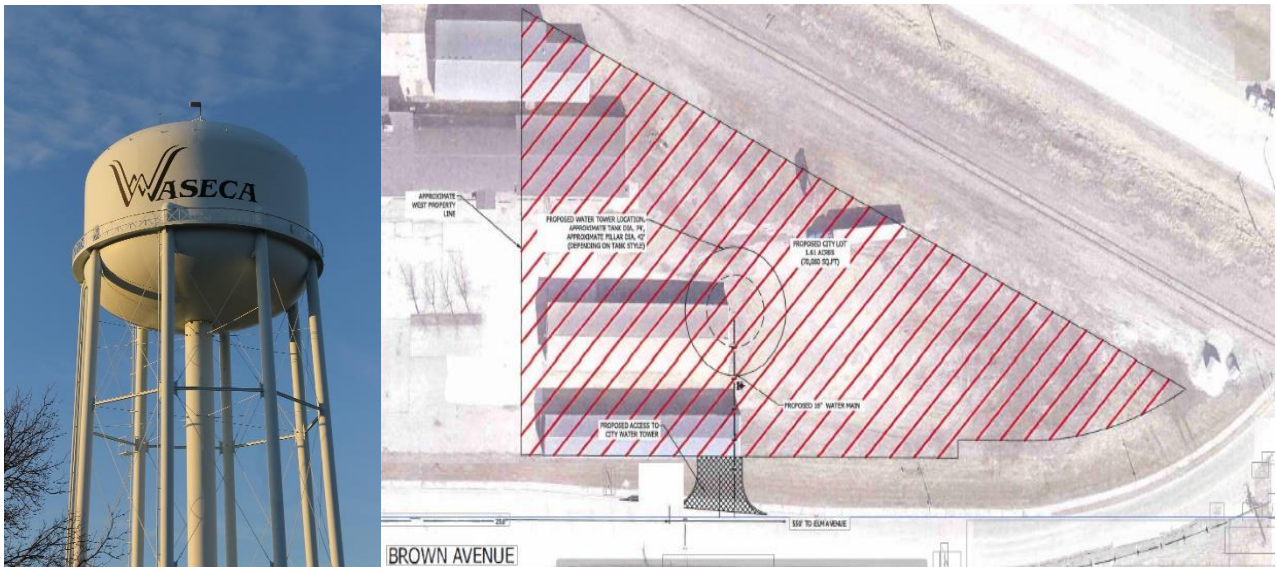
Minnesota House Capital Investment Committee

City of Waseca Bonding Requests—Water Tower & Sanitary Sewer Improvements

We Can't Do This Work Without Your Help!

1) Water Tower Funding Request: Why Waseca, Why Now?

- ***\$4.386 million is the request to help Waseca build a new 1.0 million gallon water tower needed to support commercial growth, retain & expand existing businesses, and meet fire protection needs throughout Waseca.*** Recent business closings include Brown Printing Company (Quad Graphics), Clear Lake Press, Corchran's Metal Manufacturing, Delta Truck Body, Hy-Vee and Cash Wise grocery stores, Taco Johns, Dollar General, and just announced this year, Itron meter equipment manufacturer.
- We have requested an additional \$3M for this project through federal Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) appropriation.
- We have invested over \$5.5M in the past 10 years in infrastructure to support a new water tower.
- A new Water Tower is needed to support the new Conagra (Birds Eye Foods) vegetable plant, repurposing the closed Brown Printing Company (now MJ Properties), TH 14 interchange commercial development, and improved fire protection for existing and future residential development.
- A new Water Tower allows for the decommissioning of the 1954 Water Tower at City Hall which would decrease long-term operation and maintenance costs for Waseca.
- Waseca's project is only #108 on the Public Priority List. PFA has said we are NOT grant eligible.
- Our median income is \$57,022, only 73.4% of our State's median income.
- Residential rates are now \$33/month; \$57/month without project funding; \$43/month with funding.
- ***Our water rates are 122% higher than the combined average of the neighboring cities of Owatonna, Mankato, and Faribault.***



EXISTING & PROPOSED WATER TOWER SITE NEAR CONAGRA & MJ PROPERTIES

2) Sanitary Sewer Clean Water Infiltration Reduction Project Funding Request: Why Help Waseca?

- **\$5.427 million is our ask to rehab existing sewer mains and construct new higher capacity sewer pipes to alleviate chronic bypass pumping of raw sewage into our lakes and to stop the flooding of household basements with raw sewage within in the Hospital Sewershed.**
- Sewer bypass pumping and backups are a result of excessive clean water infiltrating into deteriorated and undersized clay sewer pipes and brick manholes. Waseca has NO combined storm & sanitary sewers.
- No citizen or property owner deserves raw sewage in their homes or businesses and protection of our water resources is everyone's responsibility.
- Waseca has been under an MPCA mandate to STOP illegal releases (bypass pumping) of raw sewage.
- Since 2015, Waseca has had to pump 37 million gallons of raw sewage into the environment.
- Our Hospital Sewer area is at especially high risk of flooding during rain events and spring snow melt.
- \$20M has been invested since 2008 (over 50% with PFA loans), yet more problems persist.
- Conagra/Birdseye wants to partner with us to treat their vegetable wastewater year-round; we need increased sewer system capacity that is currently being limited by rainwater & snow melt!
- Waseca's project is only #88 on the Public Priority List. PFA has said we are NOT grant eligible.
- \$3M grant requested for project through federal Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) program.
- Sewer residential rates are now \$53/month; \$85/month without project funding; \$72/month with funding.
- **Our sanitary sewer rates are 171% higher than the average of Owatonna, Mankato, and Faribault.**
- **Waseca needs Bonding Bill appropriations to complete these critical infrastructure improvements!**

