

THE CITY OF ST. FRANCIS

REPLACEMENT AND EXPANSION OF TRUNK WATER & WASTEWATER FACILITY LINES

"A City of Progress, Pride and Possibilities" 



The City of St. Francis is requesting assistance on the replacement and expansion of trunk water and wastewater facility lines. St. Francis is a city of 8,300 residents on the northern edge of Anoka County. Our cities facilities were constructed in the 1970's including our main trunk lines that extend along the highway, with a population of roughly 900 residents.

Today, there is a total of 2,965 households in St. Francis. The portion of the trunk line that the city is requesting support for carries most of our services for residential, commercial and light industrial users, including water support for 344 fire hydrants.

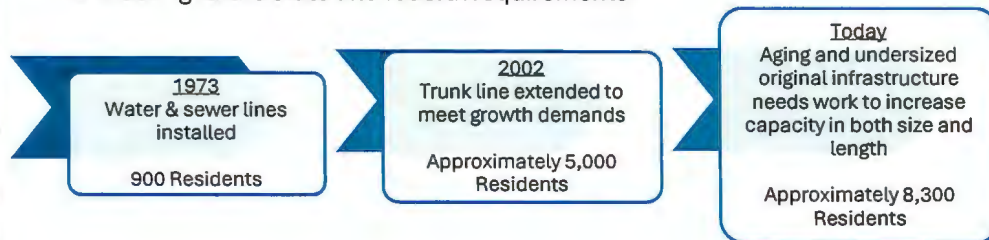
Expanding and modernizing the infrastructure

Prepares our city for continued growth

Avoids the risk of overburdening it's systems

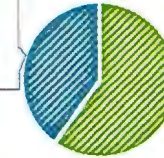
EXPANSION BENEFITS:

- Service cost relief to existing residents
- Open 140 acres for development
- Increase number of users on the system that aid in the repayment of future maintenance and facility changes
- Meeting future state and federal requirements



CURRENT USAGE

Remainder of residents/businesses
40%



Connected to public water
60%

PROJECT TIMELINE

This project would occur before or at the time of a State Highway 47 reconstruction project. St. Francis can create efficiencies and save money to complete the underground work during a highway reconstruction project. The City has applied for various grants on behalf of this project to MnDOT to complete the pavement portion of the project, but those funds do not cover the added expense necessary for infrastructure.

Phase 1

\$4,069,494

Phase 2

\$4,673,998

With mobilization costs and inflation, it is the goal of the city to work to complete all the work in one project.

TOTAL COST: \$8,743,492

The City is prepared to secure a bond and utilize cash funds as needed for this project.

TOTAL REQUEST: \$3,000,000

City Administrator – Kate Thunstrom (763) 267-6191
kthunstrom@stfrancismn.gov



April 15, 2024

Congressman Tom Emmer
464 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Emmer,

As Council of the City of St. Francis we are writing to express support in the City receiving Federal Assistance for a Utility Replacement and Expansion project. Not only is there priority in keeping water and sewer user rates reasonable we strive to ensure stability of the structure of the lines.

City Council is responsible to oversee a stand-alone water and sewer facilities. Responsibilities that come with these types of facilities include making decisions related to the stability of the structure as well as the overall impact on rates to our users. Rate users include residential, education, industrial, commercial and retail uses.

Supporting our businesses with stability aids in ensuring residents and visitors have opportunities for a diverse commercial base that meets households needs and creates job opportunities. Our businesses provide goods and services to St. Francis residents as well as residents of the surrounding cities and townships. The commercial and retail base provides opportunities for child care, banking, groceries, restaurants, fuel stations, pharmaceutical needs, to name a few. In a 2022 market report, it was identified that there was a total population of 60,940 within a ten-mile radius. Additionally, we are continually working with housing providers to have a city that can offer a range of housing opportunities from multi-family, single family homes and senior living options.

It is important to us that the structure as well as the rates remain stable. If the local economy becomes difficult due to the infrastructure needs it will negatively impact the stability and future growth for our city. Federal assistance would aid in the success of the project that may otherwise directly and potentially negatively, impact residents, school districts and commercial users. We support the request for funding and thank you for the consideration.

Sincerely,

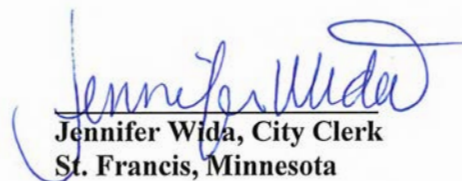
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Joseph Muehlbauer
Mayor

STATE OF MINNESOTA }
COUNTY OF ANOKA }
CITY OF ST. FRANCIS }

I, the undersigned, being duly qualified and acting Clerk of the City of St. Francis, Minnesota do hereby certify that I have carefully compared the attached Resolution No. 2024-13 with the original adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council held on April 15, 2024 and find that the attached Resolution No. 2024-13 is a full, true, and complete copy of the original which was introduced by Councilmember Sarah Udvig seconded by Councilmember Crystal Kreklow and adopted by the City Council with a 4-0 vote with the following members present: Councilmember Sarah Udvig, Councilmember Kevin Robinson, Councilmember Crystal Kreklow and Mayor Joseph Muehlbauer. The following members were absent: Councilmember Robert Bauer.

WITNESS MY hand as Clerk and the corporate seal of the City this 15th day of April, 2024.



Jennifer Wida, City Clerk
St. Francis, Minnesota

**CITY OF ST. FRANCIS
ST. FRANCIS, MN
ANOKA COUNTY**

RESOLUTION 2024-13

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A REQUEST FOR FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS.

WHEREAS, The City of St. Francis has a project need to place the water and sewer lines from Cree Street to Ambassador Blvd in the City to address aging and undersized utility infrastructure that is essential to the prosperity of the community and surrounding area;

AND WHEREAS, to further support the water and sewer facilities in this area, there is a need to expand the existing utility lines to allow development connections through growth north of Ambassador Blvd in the City of St. Francis;

AND WHEREAS, project costs on the utility lines would have a greater efficiency and reduced cost if completed as one project before or during the proposed Hwy 47 reconstruction project currently in the planning phase by the Minnesota Department of Transportation working in partnership with the City of St. Francis;

AND WHEREAS, the provision of grant funds for the construction of water and sewer utility lines from Cree Street to Ambassador Blvd will have a regional impact in the orderly development of residential and commercial opportunities both in the City of St. Francis and surrounding communities;

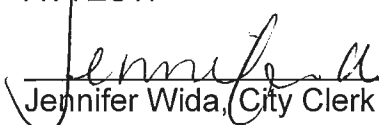
AND WHEREAS, an application was submitted to Representative Tom Emmer's office for federal assistance of 80% of the project costs hereto in March of 2024; and,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ST. FRANCIS, MINNESOTA THAT:

1. The City Council supports the Federal Funding request for the Utility replacement and expansion project as described above.
2. The City Council authorizes staff to prepare all grant documentation and project information to assist Representative Tom Emmer and his staff towards seeking to obtaining federal grant funds for this project.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ST. FRANCIS THIS 15th DAY OF APRIL, 2024.

ATTEST:


Jennifer Wida, City Clerk



APPROVED:


Joseph Muehlbauer, Mayor



CITY HALL
19900 Nightingale Street NW
Oak Grove, Minnesota 55011
763.404.7000
admin@ci.oak-grove.mn.us
www.ci.oak-grove.mn.us

April 2, 2024

Congressman Tom Emmer
464 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Emmer,

I am writing to express support for the City of St. Francis's request to receive Federal Assistance for a Utility Replacement and Expansion project. Without the assistance, project costs weigh heavily on rate users that impact not only residents of St. Francis but directly includes part of the Oak Grove community.

The City of Oak Grove is under contract with St. Francis for both water and sewer services to serve a neighborhood on our northern border. Currently 220 Oak Grove households are on the St. Francis system with expansion space for 40 more. It is important to us that the rates from St. Francis remain reasonable as there is a direct impact to our residents.

Increased rates put pressures not only on our residents but impact the school district levy in which our residents are part of. Additionally, residents in Oak Grove utilize many of the commercial and retail services in St. Francis. As the city owns and operates their infrastructure there is a smaller base in which project costs are shared related to infrastructure needs. If the local economic needs are negatively affected by increased rates it makes it difficult for our residents when faced with school levy's and to remain local in their commercial and retail needs.

Federal assistance would aid in the success of the project without the increasingly high cost of the project impacting local residents, school districts and commercial users. We support the request for funding and thank you for the consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Weston Rolf", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Weston Rolf, Mayor of Oak Grove

Office of the Superintendent

District Office
4115 Ambassador Boulevard NW | St. Francis MN 55070
763-753-7040 | www.isd15.org



St. Francis Area Schools

April 8, 2024

Congressman Tom Emmer
464 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Emmer:

The St. Francis Area School District is writing to express support for the City of St. Francis to receive Federal Assistance for a water/wastewater replacement and expansion project. Without the assistance, project costs weigh heavily on rate users, such as the School District, which is then passed along to the families that are within our district boundaries.

St. Francis Area Schools serves about 4,000 students and expands over or into nine cities and townships. The district has several buildings within the City of St. Francis water and sewer boundaries including an elementary school, learning center, middle school, high school and district offices. Our school boundaries include households in St. Francis and a majority of the Anoka County 6th Congressional District, including Oak Grove, Bethel and East Bethel.

The project impacts families within the city's project boundaries by increasing expenses for their homes and businesses as well as the impact on the district's budget. Federal assistance would aid the success of the project without the increasingly high cost of the project impacting our district and our families.

The city owns and operates its infrastructure that is not connected to a metropolitan system. This creates a smaller base in which project the cost must be shared related to infrastructure needs. When the city is faced with large projects, the impact to the residents, businesses and school district are also proportionally large. We support the request for funding and thank you for the consideration.

Sincerely,

Karsten Anderson

Karsten Anderson
Superintendent



11180 Zealand Ave N.
Champlin, MN 55316
952.837.0545
www.vistaprairie.org

April 9, 2024

Congressman Tom Emmer
464 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Emmer,

Vista Prairie Communities is writing to express support for the City of St. Francis's request to receive Federal Assistance for a Utility Replacement and Expansion project. Without the assistance, project costs weigh heavily on rate users that impact not only residents of St. Francis but the services in which they depend upon.

Vista Prairie Communities is looking to build a 134-unit senior living community in the City of St. Francis in 2024. I had a brief opportunity to discuss this project with your aid when I visited your D.C. Office in 2023. Vista Prairie is a non-profit organization offering senior living options and comprehensive care services to older adults. Projects such as this are built for the needs of our residents and their loved ones providing housing and support services. Additionally, Vista Prairie is an employer and typically draws from a local base to fill staffing needs. Costs of local taxes and rates has a direct impact not only on our senior services but to the households we are looking to support through employment opportunities. Our employees support the local commercial and retail services as well as visiting families. If the local economy becomes difficult due to the infrastructure demands it will negatively impact growth for our business, residential, and healthcare models.

It is important to us that the rates from St. Francis remain reasonable as there is a direct impact to our residents, services, and employees. Federal assistance would aid in the success of the project without the increasingly high cost of the project impacting local residents, school districts, and commercial users.

We strongly support the request for funding and thank you for the consideration.

Sincerely,


James E. Bettendorf
President & CEO



STEVE BROWER	<i>Senior Pastor</i>
JOEL ALBRIGHT	<i>Assistant Pastor</i>
BERNIE BOLDT	<i>Assistant Pastor</i>

April 5, 2024

Congressman Tom Emmer
464 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Emmer,

First Baptist Church of St. Francis is writing to express support for the City of Saint Francis to receive Federal Assistance for a utility replacement and expansion project. Without the assistance we know that project costs will weigh heavily on rate users. This directly impacts non-profit and religious organizations like us and weakness our impact in the community.

First Baptist Church of St. Francis has been located in St. Francis since 1893 and has continued to grow within the community. Our ministries are an important part of many households as we offer support and outreach for children through adult ages including senior programs, grief support, and community development programs. In addition to our worship center we also operate St. Francis Christian School with 172 students. The school offers programs pre-kindergarten to High School including postsecondary enrollment options (PSEO) and it is our joy to partner with many parents within our larger community.

Although necessary, large water and sewer projects have a direct impact not only to our costs as a non-profit institution but we also understand how infrastructure and costs can impact our families. Federal assistance would greatly aid the success of this necessary project without the increasingly high cost of the project negatively impacting our community families and our non-profit work. We support the request for funding and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Steve Brower
Chairman of the Board
Lead Pastor



April 2, 2024

Congressman Tom Emmer
464 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Emmer,

The St. Francis Economic Development Authority (SFEDA) is writing to express support for the City of St. Francis's to receive Federal Assistance for a Utility Replacement and Expansion project. Not only is there priority in keeping rates reasonable but concern in the overall stability of the structure of the lines. To have replacement needs unmet could leave the city, residents and businesses in a devastating situation.

Community and economic development create the goals and priorities of the SFEDA. It is our local commercial base that we strive to support and grow for the benefits which in turn support residents and visitors that travel in and through St. Francis. Local businesses provide goods and services for St. Francis residents as well as residents of surrounding cities and townships.

In a 2022 market report, it was identified that there was a total population of 60,940 within a ten-mile radius showing a median age of 38.5. The commercial and retail base within St. Francis provides the market area with opportunities for child care, banking, groceries, restaurants, fuel stations, dental and orthodontic needs, to name a few. Many of these services are within the corridor in which the project will directly affect. The stability of the water and sewer lines is important in keeping the doors on businesses open. If the local economy becomes difficult due to the infrastructure demands it will negatively impact the stability and future growth for our business having an overflow impact on jobs and commercial accessibility.

It is important to us that the structure as well as the rates remain stable as to not negatively impact commercial and retail services. Federal assistance would aid in the success of the project that will impact local residents, school districts and commercial users. We support the request for funding and thank you for the consideration.

Sincerely,

Mike Rodger
St. Francis EDA President

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Mike Rodger'.



St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce
St. Francis, Minnesota

April 4, 2024

Congressman Tom Emmer
464 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Emmer,

The St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce is writing to express support for the City of St. Francis's to receive Federal Assistance for a Utility Replacement and Expansion project. Not only is there priority in keeping rates reasonable but concern in the overall stability of the structure of the lines. The City has a priority to keep replacement needs on schedule to avoid circumstances that could leave the city, residents and businesses in a devastating situation.

Economic development and business needs create the goals and priorities of the Chamber. It is our local commercial base that we strive to support and grow for the benefits of residents and visitors that travel in and through the St. Francis area. Local businesses provide goods and services and a job base for St. Francis residents as well as the residents of surrounding cities and townships.

The commercial and retail base within St. Francis provides opportunities for child care, banking, groceries, restaurants, fuel stations, dental and orthodontic needs, to name a few. Many of these services are within the corridor in which the project will directly affect. The stability of the water and sewer lines are important in keeping the doors on businesses open. If the local economy becomes difficult due to the infrastructure demands it will negatively impact the stability and future growth for our business having an overflow impact on jobs and commercial accessibility.

It is important to us that the structure as well as the rates remain stable as to not negatively impact commercial and retail services. Federal assistance would aid in the success of the project that will impact local residents, school districts and commercial users. We support the request for funding and thank you for the consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michelle A. Anderson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michelle A Anderson Chairperson of the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce

PO Box 655 St. Francis, MN 55070

Email: Chamber@StFrancisChamber.org