

SAFE DRINKING WATER INITIATIVE



Safe Drinking Water in the City Sauk Rapids – What Residents Deserve

Water is survival, and for those without safe drinking water to sustain their communities, correcting this issue is a time-sensitive health imperative.

THE NEED:

- **Sauk Rapids drinking water has been impacted with polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS, also known as forever chemicals).**
- This project will address the issue by modifying the existing wellfield and abating and mitigating high PFAS levels to provide safe drinking water for Sauk Rapids residents.
- To comply with the U.S. EPA's new National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWR) enforceable PFAS limits, Sauk Rapids must replace Wells No. 2 and 3, as they exceed these standards, and make other modifications and improvements to their water system.
- The PFAS components found in the City's water supply are now classified as hazardous under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).
- The EPA has also tasked the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to investigate the PFAS contamination in Sauk Rapids, prompting significant regulatory implications moving forward.

THE WHY:

Due to the health risks associated with PFAS and recent EPA mandates, providing the citizens of Sauk Rapids with safe drinking water is an immediate necessity. This community has a household income far below the state average. Without bonding bill funds, undue burden is placed on those who can least afford it.

SAUK RAPIDS
POPULATION **13,862**

\$66,442
SAUK RAPIDS MEDIAN
HOUSEHOLD INCOME

\$84,313
MINNESOTA MEDIAN
HOUSEHOLD INCOME



THE COST

We are requesting a Bonding Bill Funding Package of **\$3,600,000** – half the full cost of \$7,200,000 for phases one and two of the project.

THE FIX:

To address high levels of PFAS and provide residents with safe drinking water, the City's plan includes:

- Adding three new drinking water wells away from Wells No. 2 and 3 (with the highest PFAS levels)
- Constructing a combined well house for four of the City wells and an additional raw water main to increase supply to the treatment plant
- Modifying the existing water treatment plant (WTP) capacity

This project will be completed in three phases:

PHASE ONE

- Construction of a new Well No. 7, booster station modifications, ground storage tank yard piping improvements, and route all source water to the WTP
- Place Wells No. 2 and 3 in backup status
- Completed in 2024 due to health-risk urgency
- **Cost: \$1,000,000**

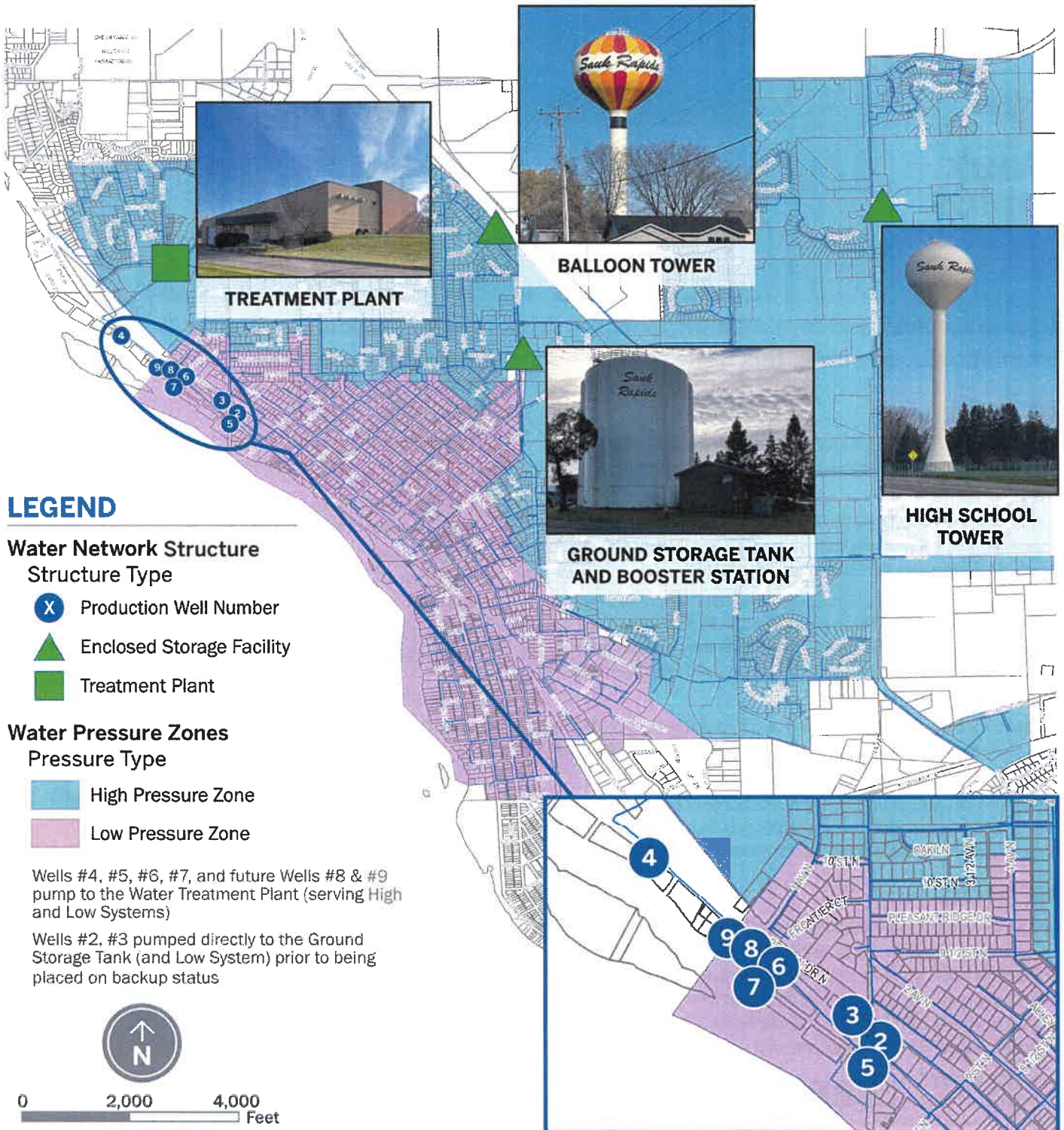
PHASE TWO

- Construction of new Wells No. 8 and 9 to replace Wells No. 2 and 3 and place them on permanent backup status
- Construct new well house for Wells No. 6, 7, 8, and 9
- Raw water main hydraulic capacity and flushing modifications
- Capacity Modifications to existing water treatment plant
- **Cost: \$6,200,000**

PHASE THREE

- PFAS Granulated Activated Carbon (GAC) treatment installed in water treatment plant
- Not part of current funding request, but planned for future request when needed
- **Cost: \$15,000,000 + \$1,000,000 annual O&M costs**

Thank you for considering the City of Sauk Rapids Clean Drinking Water Initiative for bonding bill funds.



TREATMENT PLANT



BALLOON TOWER



GROUND STORAGE TANK AND BOOSTER STATION



HIGH SCHOOL TOWER



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9