



Braham Water Infrastructure Request

GO Bonding - [SF 1780](#) – Sen. Koran / [HF 1977](#) – Rep. Johnson

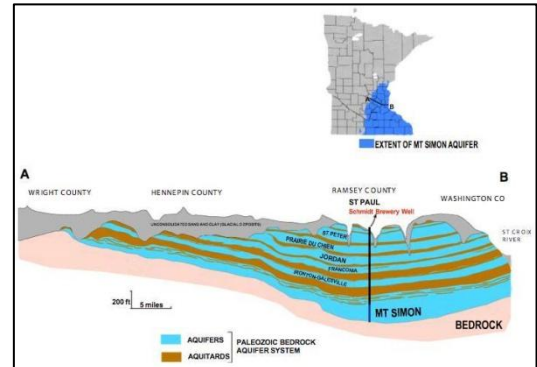
General Fund - [SF 1781](#) – Sen. Koran / [HF 1975](#) – Rep. Johnson

The GF portion taken from state surplus would allow for a quick 2023-24 project start.

Braham has immense water infrastructure needs in excess of \$25 million to serve a community of 1,800 people - and cannot reasonably address these issues on its own without suffering undue financial hardship. The City has not asked for state bonding help previously, but now faces huge fiscal challenges - not only with water infrastructure costs – but with extensive street repair burdens. Fully 25% of Braham residents have incomes below the poverty line; and the 2023 property tax levy has increased by more than 40%, due - in large part - to high emergency repair costs.

✓ Located just above a high water table, Braham straddles the edges of two major watersheds with water flowing into the

Mississippi via the Rum River and the St. Croix via the Snake River. The highly vulnerable geology funnels water into the deepest aquifers beneath the entire Twin Cities area.



✓ An estimated 85% of the wastewater collection system is 60+ years old - crumbling clay tiling that has far-exceeded its expected service life. Numerous water mains have lead service fittings. Failing treatment facilities lack modern automation, driving up labor costs by at least \$16,000 additional yearly.

✓ Braham is experiencing commercial growth and rising residential development pressures, but the existing water infrastructure is not adequate to meet anticipated demand, or allow for more growth.

Braham Water Infrastructure Request specifics:

Drinking Water – Watermain replacement in various locations - \$13.84 million cost

Wastewater System - Collection system & Treatment plant upgrades - \$11.64 million cost

Braham State Funding Request - \$12.74 million of the estimated \$25.48 million total cost

2023 PFA rankings: Clean Water (wastewater system) – 250th of 674 / Drinking Water – 82nd of 276

The current \$94 monthly Braham water bill (5,000 gals.) would swell to \$157 in 2030 with no state help (2022 dollars - no COLA added); estimated increase would be limited to \$126 with a 50% state/federal funding match.

For more information, please contact:

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