



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:

- Recently, routine testing by the Minnesota Department of Health of the Sauk Rapids water supply indicated levels of polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) that exceeded proposed health-based values in Well No. 2 and approaching on Well No. 3.
- Multiple PFAS compounds were discovered in all additional wells, indicating the local aquifer is likely contaminated with PFAS.

### THE WHY:

Due to the health risks associated with PFAS, 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**

**\$59,962**  
SAUK RAPIDS MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

**\$82,338**  
MINNESOTA MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME



### THE FIX:

To address concerning 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 capacity

This project will be completed in three phases:

#### PHASE ONE

- Construction of a new well and booster station improvements
- Place Wells No. 2 and 3 in backup status
- Currently underway due to health-risk urgency
- **Cost: \$1,000,000**

#### PHASE TWO

- Installation of two additional wells and possible closure of the two wells with the highest PFAS levels
- Well house reconstruction
- Raw water main hydraulic capacity modifications
- 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: \$14,490,000**

## 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.

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

