

Construction UPDATES



Construction of the infrastructure needed to bring treated Lake Michigan water from Chicago to the members of the Grand Prairie Water Commission is gearing up. There is a lot to be built to deliver water to the member communities in 2030, and construction is under way.

Construction of the Tunnel Extension in Chicago is on-going, and a contract for construction of a 4 million gallon Suction Well and Low and High Service Pump Station at the same site was awarded on December

4th. It is anticipated that the suction well and pump station work will begin in the Spring of 2026 and continue for several years.

A contract for construction of the first group of four water delivery structures was also awarded December 4th. Construction of these facilities at sites in Channahon, Minooka, and Joliet will also begin in 2026.

The Commission received multiple-qualified bids for both of the recent projects, with the low bids being below the amounts reserved for the projects in the overall Program budget.

These are just three of the twenty-six contracts that will need to be completed to bring the new regional water system online. Design for the other projects is between 60% and 90% complete, and more than 15 more are planned to be advertised for bidding in 2026.

To learn more about the various projects, visit the GPWC website and click on the interactive map.
www.gpwc-il.org/construction

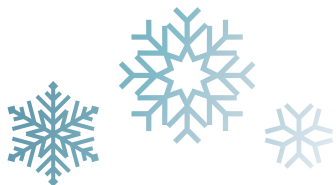


CONTRACTOR OUTREACH

An outreach event was held in September for contractors interested in doing work for the Grand Prairie Water Commission. The purpose of this event was to provide information on the types of work that contractors are needed for and to give an update on when that work is expected to be advertised.

The event was well attended with 59 contractors participating. Feedback from contractors will help the GPWC with developing future bid opportunities.





Program FUNDING UPDATE

In November, the Grand Prairie Water Commission completed the sale of just over \$50 million of revenue bonds to help fund infrastructure construction. The Commission plans to close on its **\$610 million WIFIA loan** from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency early next year.

Community SPOTLIGHT CREST HILL

Crest Hill has been working on being ready to receive Lake Michigan water from the Grand Prairie Water Commission (GPWC) in 2030. The new water supply will provide a long-term solution for addressing issues with PFAS and other future contaminants found in the existing groundwater supply.

After evaluating five potential solutions, the Crest Hill City Council decided to begin reducing and eliminating the water contribution from selected wells with higher PFAS readings under a 24-hour operation. It is anticipated that the reduction or elimination of water from some of the wells will begin in early 2026. Testing for PFAS will be conducted to ensure that levels are being reduced due to the elimination or blending of the water supplies from each well.

The Crest Hill City Council also directed staff to begin discussion on a Treatment System (Granular Activated Carbon) at selected well locations. City staff are putting information together on a pilot program that would be required by the IEPA for this solution. If approved, a pilot program will take approximately a year to complete. It is anticipated that discussion of the pilot program will occur in January/February of 2026.

Final design engineering was completed for two new water receiving stations which will accept water supplied by the GPWC and be distributed throughout the city. These facilities along with a new 2.5 million gallon ground storage tank are currently scheduled for construction beginning in Spring/Summer of 2026 and will take approximately 2 years to complete.

Conservation CORNER



During the cold months of winter there are things you can do to conserve energy or protect your water pipes. To conserve energy, consider installing a programmable thermostat so you can set a cooler temperature while you are away.

As for water, frozen pipes can be a nightmare and waste a lot of water. When the temperature is consistently below freezing, be sure to keep your thermostat above 55 degrees and leave cupboard doors open to allow heat to circulate around pipes.

