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Fulton, IL 61252

**CITY OF FULTON, ILLINOIS
WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS
IEPA PROJECT NOS. IL174297, IL176303, IL176304, AND IL176305**

**IEPA PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY
REVOLVING FUND LOAN PROGRAM
PROJECT SUMMARY AND PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS
DETERMINATION**

**PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
MARCH 13, 2023
5:30 P.M.**

City Clerk, Tammy L. Garibay called the Public Hearing Meeting to order at 5:30 pm, on March 13, 2023. Mr. Matt Hansen, Willett Hofmann Engineer was present to answer any questions and take public comment. There were no other persons in attendance.

Mr. Hansen read through the objectives of the project as outlined below:

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Public Hearing is to satisfy a public participation requirement for eligibility in the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) Public Water Supply Revolving Fund (PWSRF) Loan Program for the Water System Improvements projects.

Documents available on the Water System Improvements projects that are available for public inspection are:

1. Project Plan Report
2. IEPA Project Summary and Preliminary Environmental Impacts Determination document dated February 23, 2023.

The IEPA has reviewed the Project Plan Report and has determined the project to be technically sound and cost effective. The IEPA will approve the Project Plan at the close of the public comment period unless new information is received from public comments that would cause the IEPA to reconsider.

PROJECT NEED

The City of Fulton's water system dates back to 1887. The water system has (4) wells, a well building, a water treatment plant building, 170,000 gallon ground level storage tank, a 750,000 elevated water storage tank, and water distribution system with watermain sizes ranging from 4" to 12" diameter.

Water Storage Deficiencies:

- The elevated water storage tank paint system is starting to fail and the tank needs to be painted. Typically the paint systems last 20 – 25 years.

Water Distribution Deficiencies:

- Portions of the water distribution system are over 130 years old and parts of the distribution systems have had a history of breaks.
- The 4" diameter watermain in the water distribution system need to replace with a minimum 6" diameter watermain.
- The City has dead end watermains on 22nd Avenue and 31st Avenue. Dead end watermains cause stagnate water and no redundancy.
- Complete the water transmission main to reinforce the south part of the water distribution system.

PROJECT SCOPE

The recommended improvements will include the following:

1. Apply a new paint system on the elevated water storage tank.
2. Construct a 12" diameter watermain along the IL Route 84 from 22nd Avenue and 31st Avenue to loop the dead end watermains.



3. Construct 5,300 feet of 12” diameter water transmission main on 8th Street, 20th Avenue, 6th Street, 24th Avenue, and 4th Street to complete water transmission main that feeds the south part of the City.
4. Construct approximately 18,700 feet of watermains at various locations in the watermain distribution to replace 4” diameter watermains and watermains with a history of breaks.

The locations of the water system improvements are show on the attached Project Location Map.

PROJECT COST ESTIMATE

The water system improvements will be constructed in 4 phases. The projects description and project cost for each phase in detailed in the table below.

PHASE	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	PROJECT COST
1	Project #1: Elevated Water Storage Tank Painting Project #2: IL Route 84 Water Transmission Main Loop Project #9: Downtown District Watermain Replacement and Looping	\$2,448,000
2	Projects #3 and #5.	\$2,507,000
3	Projects #4, #6, and #7	\$2,022,000
4	Projects #8 and #10	\$1,466,000
Total		\$8,443,000

PROJECT FINANCING AND IMPACTS TO USERS

The project will be funded with an IEPA Public Water Supply Revolving Fund Loan. The City is eligible for the Small Community interest rate of 0.93% (FY 2023), a 30-year loan term, and principal forgiveness in the amount of 50% of the loan up to a maximum of \$1,250,000. The IEPA loan terms change every July 1st so the final loan terms will be determined in the fiscal year the City obtains each loan. The projected annual loan payment for each fiscal year is detailed below.

PHASE	IEPA ANNUAL LOAN PAYMENT
1	\$ 47,000
2	\$ 48,300
3	\$ 38,800
4	\$ 28,200
Total	\$162,300

The current water rates are adequate to complete Phases 1 – 3 and maybe adequate to complete Phase 4 depending on the operation and maintenance cost increases over the next 4 years. The

average residential customers in Fulton uses 4,129 gallons of water per month and their average monthly water bill is \$36.97.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The City obtained clearance from the Illinois Department of Natural Resource (IDNR) State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) that the water system improvements are in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and any historic impacts are unlikely.

The City obtained clearance from the IDNR EcoCat website that the water system improvements are in compliance with the Illinois Endangered Species Act and the Illinois Natural Preservation Act and the Illinois Wetlands review requirements. IDNR has concluded the water system improvements impacts are unlikely.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

The projected construction schedule for each phase is detailed in the table below.

PHASE	CONSTRUCTION START	CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION
1	March 2024	October 2024
2	March 2025	September 2025
3	March 2026	September 2026
4	March 2028	September 2028

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The City will continue to receive public comments concerning this project for a period of 10 days after this public hearing. (Thursday evening, March 23, 2023). Public comments can be made in writing to Mr. Dan Clark, City of Fulton, 415 11th Avenue, Fulton, Illinois 61252 or to Mr. Fred Blanford, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Bureau of Water, Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276.

With no further discussion, meeting was adjourned at 5:50 pm.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy L. Garibay
Fulton, IL City Clerk