



REQUEST FOR ACTION

Rochester Public Utilities Water System Master Plan Update (3:30 - 4:15 p.m.)

MEETING DATE:

July 27, 2026

ORIGINATING DEPT:

Rochester Public Utilities

AGENDA SECTION:

Presentation Items

PRESENTER:

Todd Blomstrom, Assistant
General Manager,
Operations

Report Narrative:

RPU initiated a Water System Master Planning process in July 2025 to evaluate the long-term reliability, capacity, and sustainability of Rochester's municipal water system. The Master Plan is intended to identify strategies to meet the community's future water demands while ensuring compliance with evolving state and federal drinking water regulations.

The planning effort was initiated following notification from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources that additional groundwater appropriations from the Jordan aquifer would require further evaluation of regional groundwater impacts. As a result, the Master plan includes development of a regional groundwater model and evaluation of future water supply alternatives.

The study session will provide an overview of the planning process, summarize technical work completed to date, and discuss preliminary findings regarding future water supply needs. Staff will present information on the following topics:

- Population growth and long-term water demand projections.
- Statutory requirements for determining safe yield and sustainable groundwater appropriations.
- Regional groundwater modeling and aquifer sustainability.
- Evaluation of future water supply strategies and alternatives.
- Current and emerging drinking water quality and regulatory considerations.

The Master Plan is expected to provide a framework for future water supply investments over the next 40+ years that will support Rochester's continued growth while protecting the sustainability and reliability of the municipal water system.

Priorities & Foundational Principles:

Transformational Capital Projects

Prepared By:

Todd Blomstrom

Attachments:

