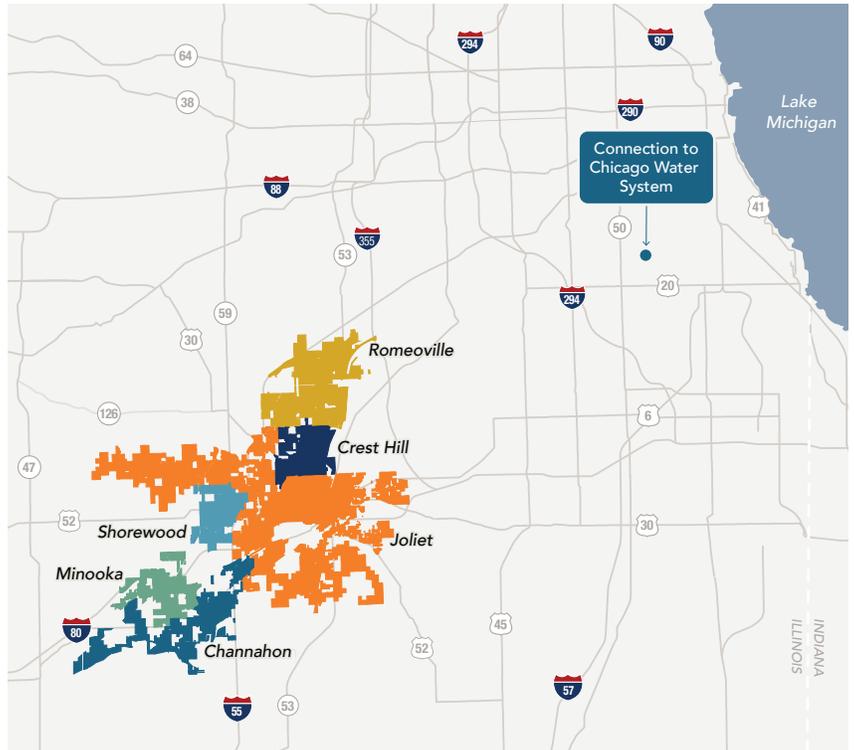


Introducing the Grand Prairie Water Commission

The communities of Channahon, Crest Hill, Joliet, Minooka, Romeoville, and Shorewood have joined together to proceed with formation of the Grand Prairie Water Commission (GPWC). The mission of the Grand Prairie Water Commission is to provide a sustainable, reliable, and high-quality water supply for the member communities by 2030 and beyond in order to support public health, safety, economic interests, and quality of life.

An amendment to Senate Bill 280 was signed into law in December 2021 to enable creation of a southwest suburban water commission. A press event was held in August to introduce the name, logo, and website www.gpwc-il.org for the GPWC. The event was attended by many federal and state dignitaries.

The GPWC will own and operate the water system that brings Lake Michigan water from the City of Chicago to the member communities. Each member community will purchase water from the GPWC and be responsible for providing it to their customers.



Where Are We NOW?

All six member communities are currently working together to design the water transmission system required to bring water from Chicago to the region. Current activities include determining the transmission main route and locations for pumping facilities, storage tanks, and connections to each community, as well as preparation of design documents for the improvements. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2024 and the system will be in operation by 2030.




This is the first newsletter for the new Grand Prairie Water Commission.

Newsletters will be produced quarterly to provide updates regarding the Commission and the latest news on development of infrastructure to bring Lake Michigan water to our members.

What We're Building

To bring Lake Michigan water to our region the GPWC will build more than 60 miles of new water transmission pipeline between the southwest side of Chicago and water delivery structures that will serve the six member communities. Three major pump stations and three new water storage tanks will be built along the transmission main to provide required pressure and support system operations.

The GPWC will own and maintain the regional water transmission system up to the water delivery structures. Member communities will still own and maintain the local water main and facilities that provide water to their individual customers.



Project Funding

The infrastructure of the Grand Prairie Water Commission will be designed to maximize the economies of scale, share common risk, provide benefit to all communities equally, and obtain the advantages of the latest technologies and materials. The conceptual capital costs for the program range from \$600 - \$800 million in 2020 dollars.

The funding strategy for the Grand Prairie Water Commission is to finance the infrastructure with a combination of revenue bonds, state low interest loans, federal low-interest loans that are only available to projects of this size, and available grant funding.

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) provides low-interest loans for municipal water projects through its Public Water Supply Loan Program. These loans are awarded to individual projects annually based on consideration of a range of technical and economic factors. The USEPA administers federal, low-interest loans through its Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) Program. WIFIA provides low-interest credit at flexible payment terms for major infrastructure projects over a period of several years. USEPA recently approved the GPWC's Letter of Interest for WIFIA funding and invited the agency to submit its application for WIFIA support of program construction costs.

Community SPOTLIGHT

CREST HILL
is planning a variety
of improvements
throughout 2023.

Early 2023 Plainfield Rd/Rt. 30 watermain will be lined from Caton Farm Road to just south of Susanna Way. The City will begin the process of changing out over 4,000 water meters to accommodate automatic meter reading software.

Spring 2023 Rain barrels will go on sale. Additional details are available on Crest Hill's [website](#).

Mid 2023 Chaney from Broadway to Center, along with Center from Theodore to Chaney will have its watermain replaced.

Throughout 2023 and beyond: The City will be completing valve exercising, hydrant painting, and yearly leak locating.

Conservation CORNER

Turning off the tap while brushing your teeth can save 8 gallons of water per day and, while shaving can save 10 gallons of water per shave. Assuming you brush your teeth twice daily and shave 5 times per week, you could save nearly 5,700 gallons per year

Here's a TIP to help you **SAVE WATER.**

