

Toilet  
Replacements



Automated  
Metering



Utility Trainee  
Program



Affordability  
Priorities



## Project Updates

Board of Water  
Commissioners

October 2024

Racquel Vaske  
Assistant General Manager

Toilet  
Replacements  
\$100k

+

Advanced  
Metering  
Infrastructure  
\$150k



**Two Part Water Efficiency Grant  
from the Metropolitan Council**

# Toilet Replacement Project

- \$100,000 Grant from the Metropolitan Council
- 242 Toilets Replaced (\$413/toilet = parts + labor)
- Estimated savings of 3.4 Million Gallons/Year
- 40 gallons/day/toilet replaced
- Estimated Savings: \$7/Unit/month = \$84/year

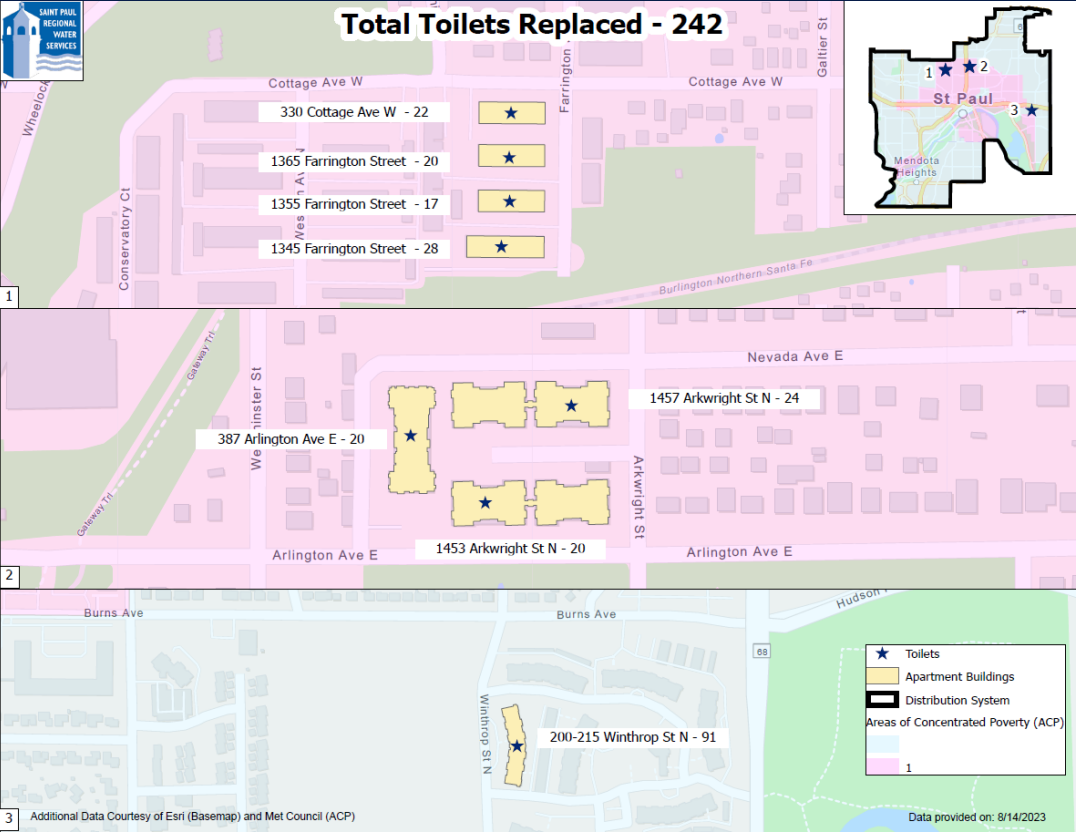
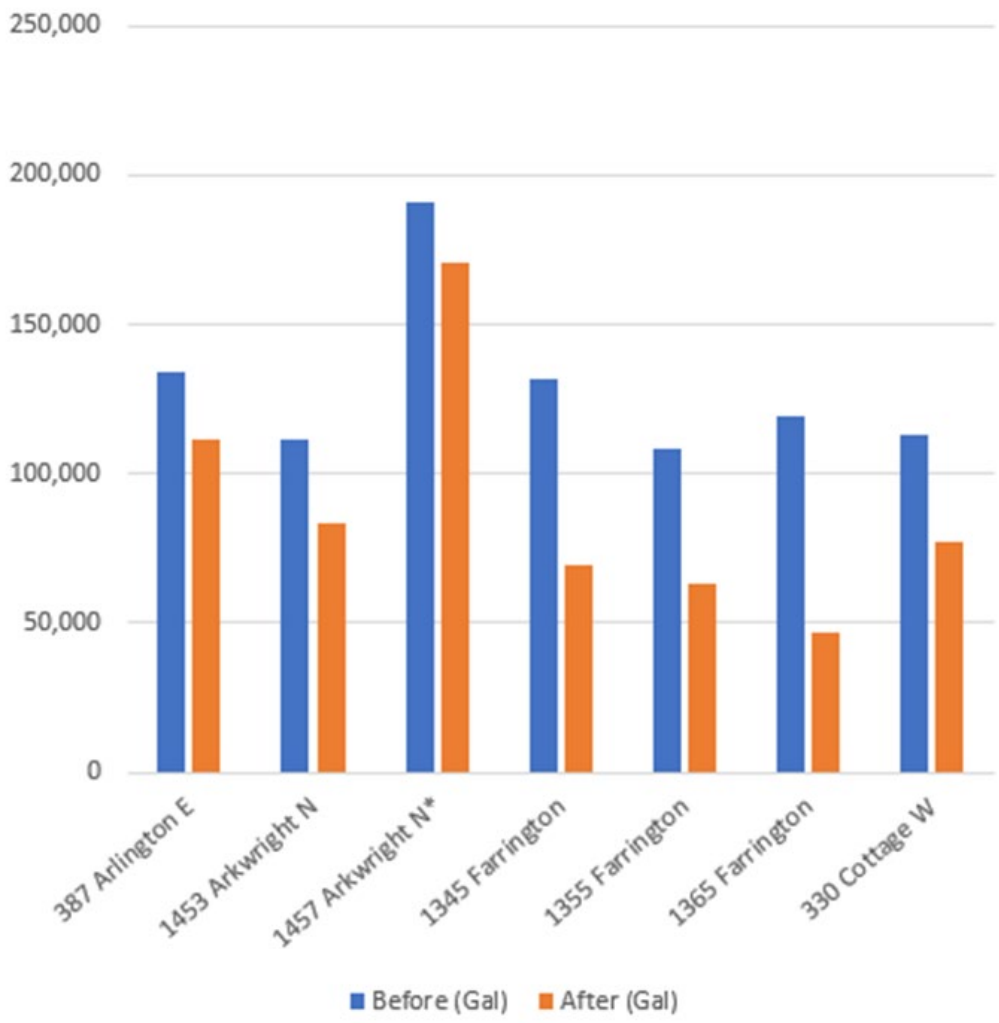


Chart Area Average Monthly Consumption (Gallons)  
Before and After Project

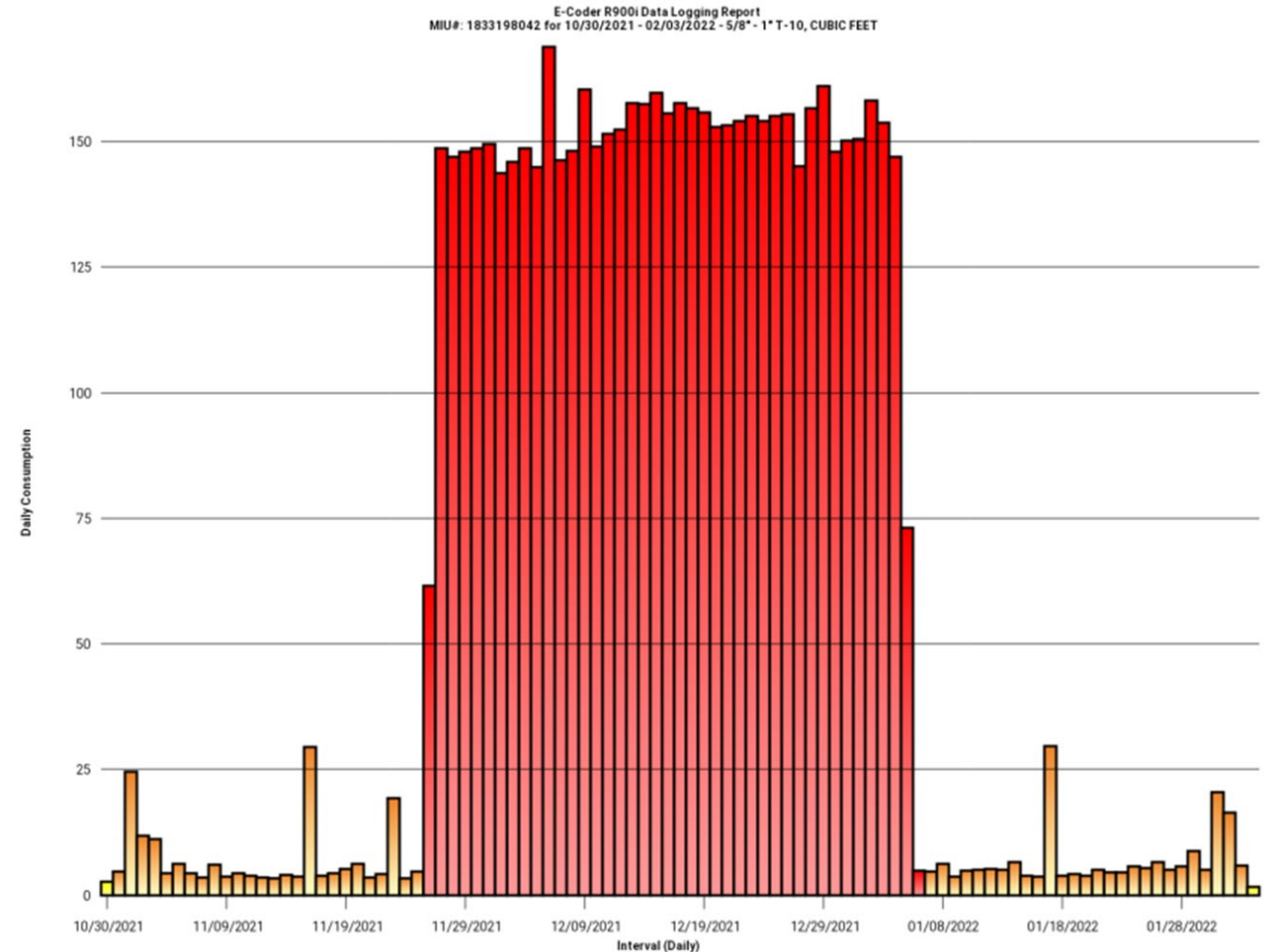


# Automated Metering Infrastructure

## Remembering the “WHY”

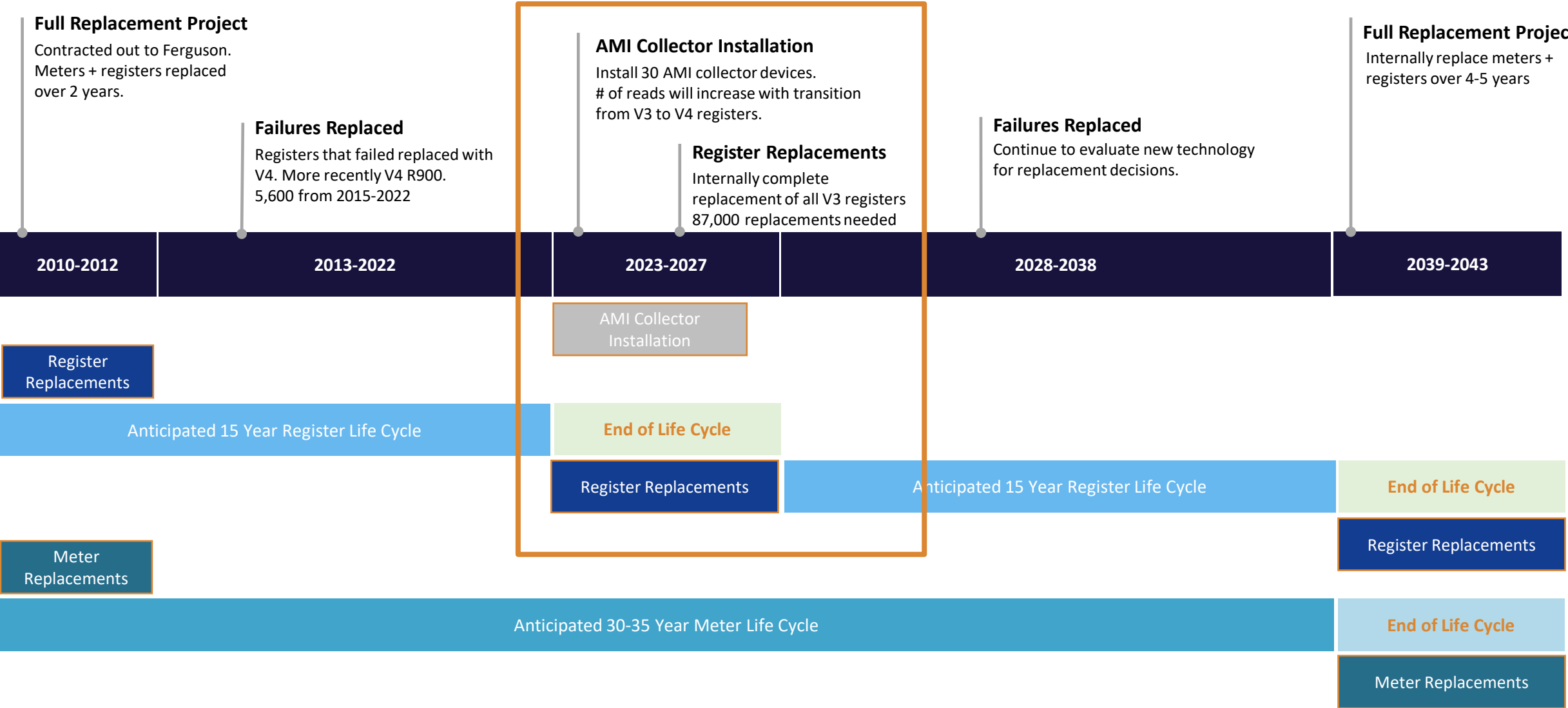
SPRWS currently collects meter reads and bills quarterly.

While it is helpful to use the data collected to alert customers of potential concerns, in many cases the leak may have existed for weeks if not months by the time we detect it.



# Meter Operations Capital Investments

## Registers, Meters, and AMI Collectors











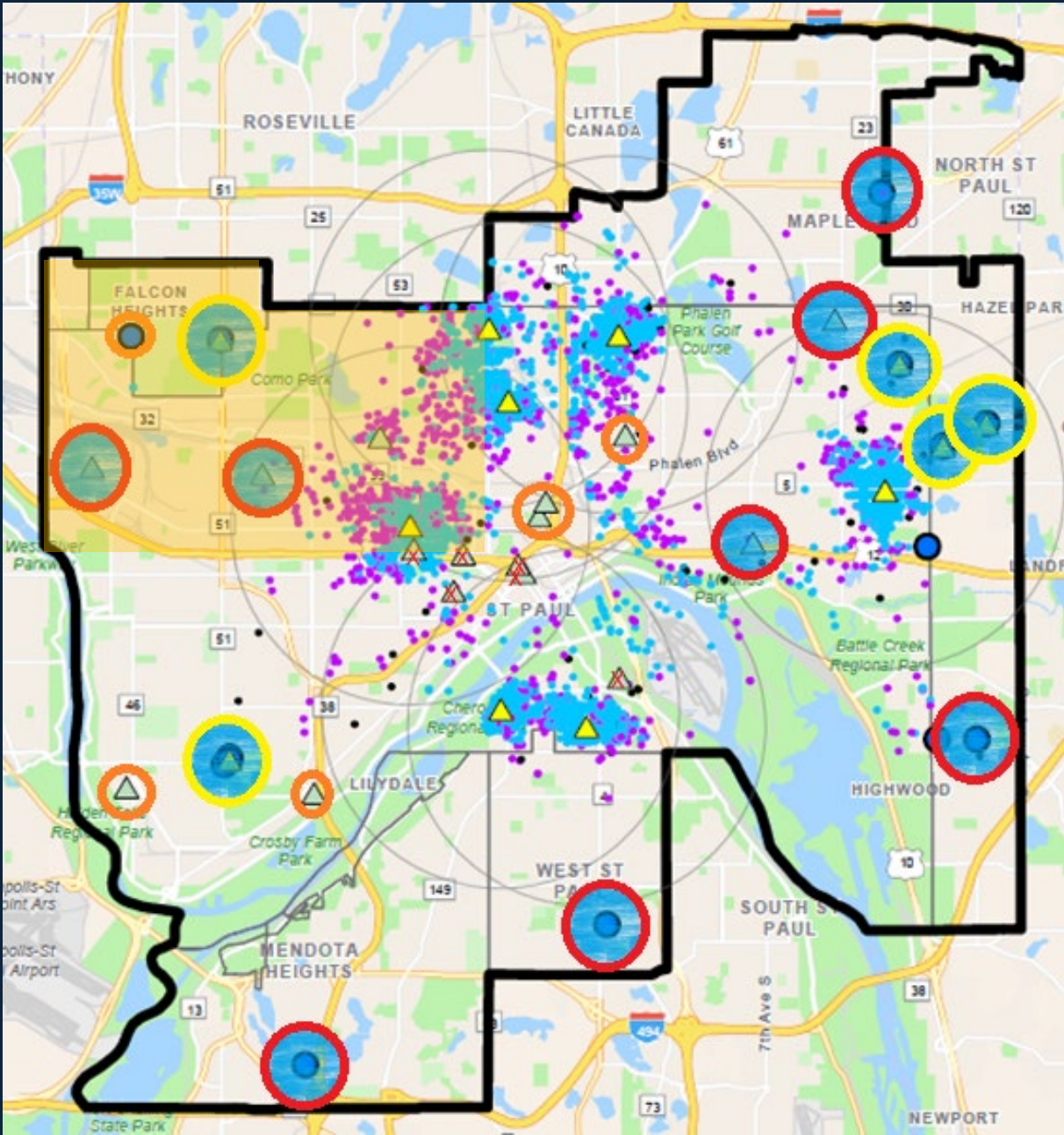
# Automated Metering Infrastructure

12 Collectors Currently Installed: ~ 12,000 accounts  
Additional 10 Collectors Ordered for January Install: + ~10,000 accounts

Pursue Met Council Grant Funding in Q2 of 2024  
for 8 Additional Collectors: + ~ 8,000 accounts

Complete Collector Rollout by End of 2024  
30 Collectors: 30,000-40,000 accounts

	Actual V3 Reads from Installed Collectors
	Actual V4 Reads from Installed Collectors
	Proposed Collector Locations January 2024 + Anticipated Area of V3 Reads
	Locations of September 2023 Installed Collectors + Anticipated Area of V3 Reads
	Potential Additional Collector Locations Tanks or PHA
	Proposed Area for Register Replacement Prioritization in 2023-2024 Starting in NW Corner (Lauderdale). Working East to 35E and South to 94. Skipping all Blue areas (V3 Already Caught by Current Collectors)



# Register Replacement Overview

Full AMI System  
after Year 4

## Year 1 2023

1,500 failure replacements  
(or gaps)

300 replacements  
during Lead Free SPRWS

Winter:  
1 Lead Meter Tech  
+ 3 WUWI  
30/day \* 18 weeks  
= 2,700 replacements

**TOTAL: 4,500**

## Year 2 2024

2,000 failure replacements  
(or gaps)

1,000 replacements  
during Lead Free SPRWS

Winter:  
5 Lead Meter Techs  
+ 15 WUWI  
30/day/crew \* 18 weeks  
= 13,500 replacements

**TOTAL: 16,500**

## Year 3 2025

3,000 failure replacements  
(or gaps)

3,500 replacements  
during Lead Free SPRWS

Winter:  
5 Lead Meter Techs  
+ 15 WUWI  
30/day/crew \* 18 weeks  
= 13,500 replacements

**TOTAL: 20,000**

## Year 4 2026

5,000 failure replacements  
(or gaps)

3,500 replacements  
during Lead Free SPRWS

Winter:  
5 Lead Meter Techs  
+ 15 WUWI  
30/day/crew \* 18 weeks  
= 13,500 replacements

**TOTAL: 22,000**

## Year 5 2027

7,000 failure replacements  
(or gaps)

3,500 replacements  
during Lead Free SPRWS

Winter:  
5 Lead Meter Techs  
+ 15 WUWI  
30/day/crew \* 18 weeks  
= 13,500 replacements

**TOTAL: 24,000**

SAINT PAUL REGIONAL WATER SERVICES

# UTILITY TRAINEE

**YOUR CAREER STARTS HERE!****\$21.50+ per Hour / Monday-Friday / 7am-3:30pm**

Transportation assistance to &amp; from work may be available within Saint Paul

**APPLY NOW!**Only Requirement:  
16+ Years Old[www.stpaul.gov/jobs](http://www.stpaul.gov/jobs)**LEARN MORE**

In partnership with Ramsey County, we have developed a few opportunities to learn more. Job seekers are eligible for a \$25 giftcard for attending!

Virtual Session  
March 1st 2-2:30pmHiring Open House  
1900 Rice Street  
March 8th 3-5pm**BENEFITS**

Health Insurance

Paid Time Off

Holidays, Vacation, &amp; Sick Leave

Variety of Training

Basic Job Skills, Technical Training, &  
Driver's Education

Career Development

Participants who obtain their driver's  
license and pass the program will be  
promoted to Water Utility Worker I  
(~\$30/hour)

Represented by LIUNA Local 363

175  
Candidates49%  
Saint Paul  
Residents36%  
Without Driver's  
License15%  
Female75%  
People of Color  
or Indigenous



# UTILITY TRAINEE UPDATE

8 Trainees  
Hired in May  
2023

7 of 8 Still  
Employed by  
SPRWS

2 Trainees  
Already  
Moved to  
Distribution

All 7  
Successfully  
Passed  
WUWI  
Physical Job  
Simulation

## Training & Development

Giving and Receiving Feedback

Time Management

Financial Literacy

Benefits Overview

Emotional Intelligence

Conflict Management


Insights Discovery

Pipelining Certification




# AFFORDABILITY PRIORITIES

<p>Population Served</p> <p><b>448,959</b></p>	<p>Average Annual Household Water Expense in 2023</p> <p><b>\$600</b></p>
<p>Median Household Income</p> <p><b>\$70,357</b></p>	<p>Average Bill Increase 2017-2023</p> <p><b>16.5%</b></p>
<p>Customers in Areas of Concentrated Poverty*</p> <p><b>30%</b></p>	<p>SPRWS Annual Water Works Contribution</p> <p><b>\$100,000</b></p>



**Affordability Dashboard**

Data informed analysis to assist in decision making



**Expand Water Works Funding**

Advocate for ongoing LIHWAP and/or increase assistance funding



**Increase Participation**

Targeted outreach and education to help customers understand options

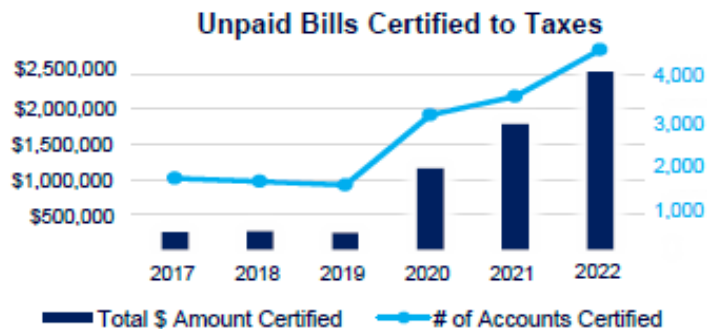
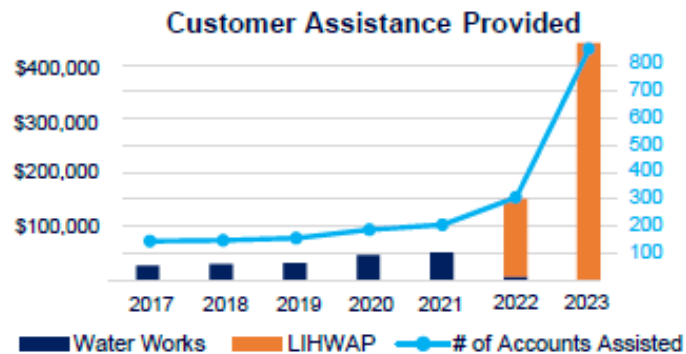


**Enhance Leak Audit Program**

Automated metering infrastructure implementation

# Request for Continued LIHWAP Funding

## Low Income Household Water Assistance Program



**LIHWAP** was created to ensure that economic challenges would not put access to household water and wastewater service at risk. While this has been very helpful, affordability challenges exist beyond the pandemic and ongoing assistance is necessary.

A permanent, federally funded **LIHWAP** would promote public health among all members of a community similar to existing programs around energy.

