



City of Grand Forks  
Staff Report

Committee of the Whole – February 23, 2026  
City Council – March 2, 2026

**APPROVED & ACCEPTED**  
by City Council

03/02/2026

*Maureen Storstad*  
Maureen Storstad  
City Auditor

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**Agenda Item:** Plans and Specifications for City Project No. 8998.01 – 2026 Watermain Replacement Cottonwood St (4<sup>th</sup> Ave S – 7<sup>th</sup> Ave S) & 8998.02 – 2026 Watermain Replacement on 7<sup>th</sup> Ave N ( N Washington St to N 7<sup>th</sup> St)

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**Submitted by:** Engineering Department, Anthony Ryan, PE (Senior Civil Engineer)  
Christian Danielson, PE (Assistant City Engineer)

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**Staff Recommended Action:** **Approve Plans and Specifications and direct Engineering Department to advertise for construction bids for City Project No. 8998.01 – 2026 Watermain Replacement Cottonwood St (4<sup>th</sup> Ave S – 7<sup>th</sup> Ave S) & 8998.02 – 2026 Watermain Replacement on 7<sup>th</sup> Ave N ( N Washington St - N 7<sup>th</sup> St)**

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**Committee Recommended Action:** Motion by Sande, second by Vein to refer staff recommendation to City Council with a recommendation to approve. Motion carried unanimously.

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**Council Action:**

Motion by Berg, second by Fridolfs to approve on consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

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**BACKGROUND:**

These Projects consist of replacing the existing watermains on Cottonwood St (4<sup>th</sup> Ave S – 7<sup>th</sup> Ave S) and on 7<sup>th</sup> Ave N (North 4<sup>th</sup> Street (Alpha Avenue to Park Avenue) and on 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue South (South 14<sup>th</sup> Street to South Washington Street). The existing main on Cottonwood St is a 6” cast iron pipe that was installed in the 1940s. The existing main on 7<sup>th</sup> Ave N was installed in the 1940s. These areas were selected for replacement due to deterioration of the pipe resulting in costly repairs in recent years. Replacing the existing mains will help to avoid further repairs. The existing mains will be abandoned in place and new 8” PVC mains will be installed.

The watermain replacement on Cottonwood St is estimated to cost \$980,723.60. The watermain replacement on 7<sup>th</sup> Ave N is estimated to cost \$428,400.37. This Project will be funded from Fund 5300 (Water – Transmission & Distribution), where \$650,000 has been allocated. It is anticipated that these Projects will be greater than the budgeted amount. 7<sup>th</sup> Ave N will be bid as an alternate. If favorable bids are received, City staff will recommend award of both watermain replacements and request any necessary budget amendments. If necessary, the watermain replacement on 7<sup>th</sup> Ave N will be pushed to the following year.

One of the key factors driving the cost of this year's watermain replacement that differs from previous years, is the City's lead service line replacement requirements. In 2024, the EPA issued a final rule requiring drinking water systems across the country to identify and replace lead pipes by 2037. Since then, the City has established a cost share program for residents and/or establishments to replace lead service lines from the curb stop to the water meter. City staff is recommending that lead service lines be incorporated into the watermain replacement since the water main contractor will be in these areas. Lead service lines that are present within this Project will be replaced at no cost to the owner, if desired.

On a typical watermain replacement, service lines are only replaced up to the curb stop. Service replacements on this Project would go to the water meter to replace the exterior lead water service. It is anticipated that future watermain replacements will continue to include any lead service line replacements.

#### **ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS OF FACT:**

- The cost for Project 8998.01 is estimated at \$980,723.60.
- The cost for Project 8998.02 is estimated at \$428,400.37.
- The combined cost for both Projects is \$1,409,123.97
- Funding source is Fund 5300 – Waterworks – Transmission & Distribution where \$650,000 has been budgeted.
- It is anticipated that City staff will ask for a budget amendment at the time of bid award.
- Project 8998.02 is being bid as an alternate.
- If favorable bids are received, City staff will recommend award of 8998.02.
- Construction is anticipated to take place during the 2026 construction season.
- A project timetable with milestone dates is attached with this staff report.

#### **SUPPORT MATERIALS:**

- Project Location Map (1 page)
- Page 429 of the 2025 City Budget (1 page)
- Project Timetable (1 page)

# PROJECT LOCATION MAP GRAND FORKS, NORTH DAKOTA

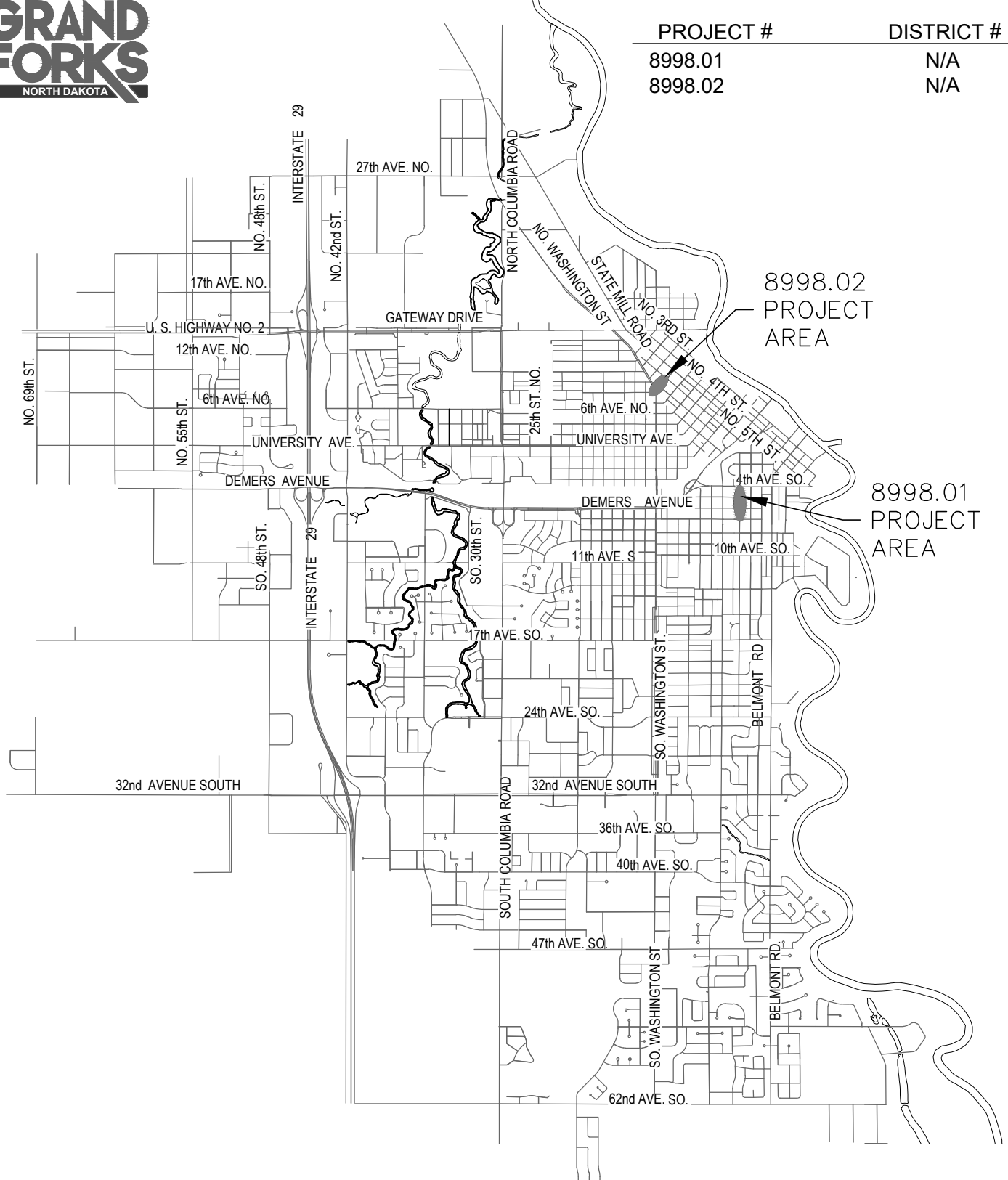
2026 WATERMAIN REPLACEMENT

8998.01 - COTTONWOOD ST (4TH AVE S - 7TH AVE S)

8998.02 - 7TH AVE N (N WASHINGTON ST - N 7TH ST)



PROJECT #	DISTRICT #
8998.01	N/A
8998.02	N/A





# Waterworks - Transmission & Distribution

G/L Account	Account Description	2023 Amended Budget	2023 Actual Amount	2024 Amended Budget	2024 Actual Amount	2025 Adopted Budget	2026 Adopted Budget	
5300.100.5340 460.0050	Education & Training	5,000.00	3,552.88	5,050.00	4,638.15	6,500.00	6,500.00	
5300.100.5340 460.0060	Travel	12,500.00	12,589.46	2,820.00	2,739.46	6,000.00	6,000.00	
5300.100.5340 460.0080	Freight	500.00	203.49	1,500.00	189.02	1,500.00	1,500.00	
5300.100.5340 460.0090	Dues	8,100.00	8,072.62	7,950.00	8,309.43	8,500.00	9,000.00	
5300.100.5340 460.0170	Attorney Fees	.00	.00	.00	7,624.37	.00	.00	
5300.100.5340 460.0240	Real Estate Tax	1,000.00	.00	1,000.00	.00	1,000.00	.00	
5300.100.5340 470.0027	Community Outreach	910.00	910.00	9,050.00	9,029.44	.00	.00	
5300.100.5340 470.0040	Contingency	.00	.00	5,150.00	1,000.00	15,000.00	5,000.00	
5300.100.5340 470.0153	City Share of RRVWS project	240,000.00	160,344.72	110,100.00	140,983.30	.00	.00	
<i>Other Operating Expenses Totals</i>		\$275,960.00	\$193,198.49	\$151,300.00	\$183,037.96	\$46,000.00	\$36,500.00	
<i>Operating Transfers Out</i>								
5300.100.5340 900.0010	Operating Transfers Out	150,000.00	2,200,421.15	.00	.00	.00	150,000.00	
	<i>Level</i>					<i>Number of Units</i>	<i>Cost Per Unit</i>	<i>Total Amount</i>
	Council Adopted					1.0000	150,000.00	150,000.00
								Council Adopted Totals
								\$150,000.00
<i>Operating Transfers Out Totals</i>		\$150,000.00	\$2,200,421.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150,000.00	
<i>Capital Outlay</i>								
5300.100.5340 650.0010	Work In Progress	841,917.00	926,882.23	3,493,236.00	3,284,631.65	4,830,000.00	1,038,090.00	
	<i>Level</i>					<i>Number of Units</i>	<i>Cost Per Unit</i>	<i>Total Amount</i>
	Council Adopted					1.0000	248,090.00	248,090.00
	Council Adopted					1.0000	100,000.00	100,000.00
	Council Adopted					1.0000	40,000.00	40,000.00
	Council Adopted					1.0000	650,000.00	650,000.00
								Council Adopted Totals
								\$1,038,090.00
5300.100.5340 700.0030	Communication & Elec	.00	.00	5,000.00	758.01	5,000.00	5,000.00	
5300.100.5340 700.0040	Furniture & Fixtures	.00	.00	1,200.00	.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	

## TIMETABLE FOR CITY FUNDED PROJECTS

Project Name 2026 Watermain Replacement

Project Number 8998

- Water
- Sewer
- Water & Sewer
- Sidewalk
- Other

This timetable prepared by ajr

Revised by \_\_\_\_\_

Date 1/22/2026

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Action

Date of Action

Action	Date of Action			Approved
	Other	Committee	Council	
Approval of plans & specs/set bid date		2/23/26	3/2/26	
**Advertisement for bids prepared.	3/5/26			
*Advertisement for bids published.	3/11/26			
***Bids received, opened & tabulated.	4/2/26			
Recommend award of contract.		4/13/26		
Award Contract.			4/20/26	

\*Responsibility of Finance & Administrative Services Office

\*\*Responsibility of Engineering Department.

\*\*\*Responsibility of Finance & Administrative Service Office & Engineering Department.