



City of Joliet Alternative Water Source Program



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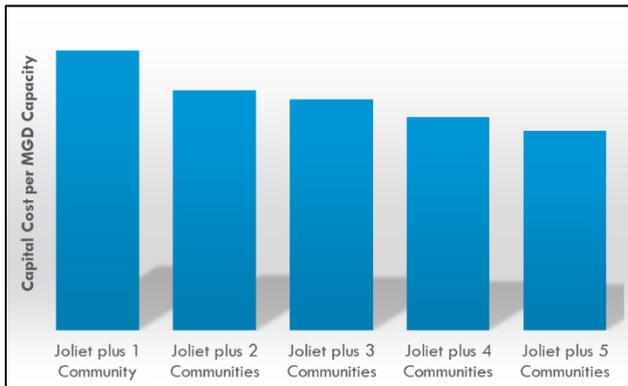
Joliet and Partners Take Action to Form a New Regional Water Commission

On February 1, 2022 the Joliet City Council voted to approve a Preliminary Agreement to form a regional water commission with Channahon, Crest Hill, Minooka, Romeoville, and Shorewood. By February 16th, the other five communities had also approved the agreement and joined Joliet as charter members committed to establishing a new Lake Michigan water source for the region by 2030. Click [here](#) to see a press release from the Will County Governmental League describing this important milestone. A full copy of the Preliminary Agreement can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

Water Commission Benefits

Early in its efforts to select an alternative for a new water source, Joliet recognized that the need for a reliable, sustainable, high-quality water supply was a regional issue that could best be solved through regional collaboration. Having multiple communities work together and share in the cost of forming a new water commission will provide economies of scale and reduce the unit cost of water for customers within Joliet and its partner

communities. A regional commission also provides benefits related to sharing of risks during program implementation, obtaining support of state and federal legislators and potential funding agencies, and increasing options for acquiring easements or right-of-way for construction of the new regional water pipeline.



Program Calendar

Program Activities: Recent and Upcoming

- March 9th, 5 PM to 7 PM – Water Main Replacement Open House, Eastside WWTP Administration Bldg, 815 Adler Street, Joliet
- March 14th – Public Service Committee Update
- March 14th to 20th – Fix-a-Leak Week
- April 18th – Public Service Committee Update
- April 21st – Public Stakeholder Meeting (virtual)
- May 16th – Public Service Committee Update
- June 14th – Joliet Slammers Game and Water Conservation event
- June 21st – Finance Committee Meeting
- July 18th – Public Service Committee Update

Fix-a-Leak Week – March 14th to 20th

March 14th to March 20th is Fix-a-Leak week in Joliet and across the United States. US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) data indicates that as much as 10,000 gallons of water can be lost to leaks in an average household over the course of a year. Common trouble spots include toilets, faucets, and outdoor hose connections. Check out the EPA website www.epa.gov/watersense/fix-leak-week for tips on how to find and correct common household leaks and save money on your monthly water bill.

Be a Leak Detective

Search. Tighten. Replace.

#FixALeakWeek

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RethinkWaterJoliet.org

Wyland National Mayor's Challenge

During the month of April, Joliet will join other cities from around the United States in the Wyland National Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation. The Challenge is a friendly competition between cities to see who can be the most "water-wise". To participate and increase Joliet's ranking, residents are asked to make an online pledge to adopt simple actions to reduce water use in their homes. There is no cost and pledges can be made online at www.mywaterpledge.com. In addition to contributing to Joliet's water conservation efforts, participants have the chance to win individual prizes or give a local non-profit a chance to win a 2022 Toyota Highlander Hybrid.



WYLAND NATIONAL MAYOR'S CHALLENGE
FOR WATER CONSERVATION

MAKE YOUR PLEDGE
APRIL 1 TO APRIL 30, 2022

Engineering Design Progress

Preliminary design of the infrastructure required to bring Lake Michigan water to Joliet is continuing. Drilling is being performed at the site of the proposed connection to the Chicago water system to collect information about soil and rock beneath the ground. Results from the drilling will be used by the design team as it prepares plans and updated cost estimates for the tunnel, water storage reservoir, and pumping stations to be constructed at this location. Other design work in progress includes: investigation of land rights for the water transmission main pipeline and pumping and storage facilities between Chicago and Joliet, creation of layouts for new facilities, and preparation of plans for improvements to the Joliet water system.



Water Source Transfer Testing

Last December, Joliet's water quality experts completed initial laboratory tests to support planning for the City's transition from groundwater to Lake Michigan water in 2030. Follow-up testing using lead and lead-copper water service lines harvested from the Joliet system is now being conducted using the set-up shown in the photo to left. Currently, Joliet water is flowing through the services. Once conditions have stabilized, Chicago water will be introduced to simulate Joliet's future switch in water source and allow strategies for maintaining water quality to be analyzed. The results from these tests will guide the development of Joliet's strategy for a successful transfer from groundwater to the new Lake Michigan water source in 2030.

\$87 million Bond Anticipation Note

Short-term borrowing to jump start Program

- 2022, 2023 Water Main Replacement Program
- 2022, 2023 AWSP Design, Land Acquisition, Program Mgmt

\$308 million WIFIA Loan

Long-term flexible credit arrangement to fund 49% of:

- AWSP Design, Construction Engineering, Program Mgmt
- Water Main Replacement Program through 2030

2022 Funding Milestones

Joliet is moving quickly to complete arrangements for the first elements of its funding strategy and secure attractive interest rates for loans to finance design and construction efforts. The initial borrowing will fund work associated with both Joliet's Water Main Replacement Program and the Alternative Water Source Program (AWSP). Costs associated with the water commission portion of the AWSP work will eventually be shared among all commission members based on each member's share of the system's design capacity.

To learn more check us out at RethinkWaterJoliet.org

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