

Recommendation for the Fridley Membrane Filtration Plant Project

presented by
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to the

Transportation & Public Works
Committee

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Regulatory Timeline & Minneapolis' membrane implementation



Membrane feasibility studies.

Decision made to move ahead with membrane filtration at both Columbia Heights and Fridley

CHMFP = Columbia Heights Membrane Filtration Plant

Regulatory Setting – Anticipated vs. Final

➤ Mid- to late-1990's

- Value engineering and peer reviewed studies in anticipation of regulations determined the plant should be designed for **99.9999%** removal of *Cryptosporidium*
- Final regulations require 99% removal, based on our source water testing. Our current Fridley Filter Plant meets this requirement
- Also... Fridley Filter Plant is not in need of replacement at this time... It is in much better condition than the old Columbia Heights Filter Plant.

Rising costs of the Fridley Membrane Filtration Plant

- Construction Cost Estimates
 - 2004 cost estimate: \$45,000,000
 - 2008 cost estimate: \$68,000,000
- Operation and maintenance costs of membrane plants are significantly higher than that of conventional filter plants.

Summary

- Existing Fridley Filter Plant meets current and foreseeable EPA Regulations.
- FMFP creates significant financial burden for rate payers.
- Existing Fridley Filter Plant has 20+ years of useable life with modest improvements.
- With present economic uncertainties, this is not the best use of City resources.

Staff Recommendation:

- Direct staff to proceed with the cancellation of the Fridley Membrane Filtration Plant project and authorize City officials to negotiate with the parties that hold partially completed agreements for the project to close out those agreements in an appropriate manner.