



## **City Council Staff Report**

Public Works Department

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### **Accomplishments 2024**

#### **TOPIC 1 – Public Services Division**

The Public Services Division includes Streets, Fleet Maintenance, Marina, Water Distribution, and Sewer Collection. It consists of 1 Deputy Director, 1 Superintendent, and 1 Marina Manager. In addition, the Streets department consists of 1 Operation Foreman, 1 Maintenance Lead, and 8 Maintenance I. The water and sewer distribution and collection department consists of 1 Operation Foreman, 2 Operators, 2 Assistant Operators, 2 Apprentice Assistant Operators, and 1 Asset Locator. The Fleet Maintenance division has 1 Fleet and Supply Controller and 3 Mechanics.

**Public Works:** The following items include all Public Works Departments.

#### **Public Works Summer Flood**

The June 2024 flood crested at 16.19ft, resulting in the closure of Bay Point Park, Levee Park, Colvill Park, Levee Road, and East 5<sup>th</sup> Street. Public Works staff spent 1498 labor hours preparing for the flood, moving road closures, cleaning up a log jam at the old Cannon River Bridge, and cleaning up after the flood. Because of the flood, both the Little River and Colvill Ole Miss Marina needed to be dredged. Staff is working with state and federal emergency management agencies for reimbursement for the 2024 flood and 2023 flood.

**Ole Miss Marina** – The marina saw another busy year with almost 100% occupancy of our 285 slips. Revenue was up for slips and storage and now carries a fund balance of \$542,000+. Gas and

transient docking were down due to flooding. Dockwa was introduced in 2020 and continues to be a great tool for the marina. This web-based software allows customers to sign contracts and make payments online. This has saved many hours of staff time preparing contracts to be mailed out. All transient reservations are also made through Dockwa, with 103 transient reservations made online in 2024. The D dock was decked and refloated, and work started on the electrical upgrade on D dock. Dredging was completed at Ole Miss Colvill during the spring of 2024, removing roughly 3,000 yards of material that was hauled and placed at the material handling site on Levee Road. This material will be dried out and blended with compost to make black dirt for use on City projects. The project was completed with local contractors and City staff. A new office, restrooms, and a garage were also finished at the Ole Miss Storage Yard. Staff are working with FEMA to fund another dredging project in the spring of 2025.

**Fleet Maintenance** – The shop had 1550 shop tickets for vehicle repair. 20 new vehicles or equipment were delivered in 2024, of which 7 were ordered in 2023 and just arrived in 2024. 16 vehicles and equipment were sold or traded; 10 were traded in, and 6 were sold on GovDeals or at auction.

**Storm Damage** – There was spring flooding in 2024. The Mississippi River crested on 7/01/24 at 16.19'. Crews spent 1498-man hours preparing and cleaning up. The total cost came to \$351,682. Staff was successful in getting funds from FEMA for staff time and damage.

**Riverboats** – There were 19 scheduled visits from four different boats from American Cruise Lines and Viking River Cruises. Four trips were canceled due to flooding. Staff is expecting a busy 2025 season. There are 17 scheduled visits from four different boats in 2025, starting on June 12<sup>th</sup> and ending on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Marina Leases** – Red Wing Marina approached the City about possibly selling the marina. RWM's current lease expires in 2026.

**Sidewalks** – Staff and crews continued working on the Mayor's Task Force sidewalk maintenance program. 1191 Inspections were done on the city's sidewalks in 2024. From those inspections, 40 sections of sidewalks were rated bad, with damage to 30 of those 40 being caused by trees. Staff created a list of residential sidewalks in the poorest condition from 2023 inspections, with 21 letters sent out this past spring. In 2024, City crews replaced 6 sections of sidewalks that were out of compliance and 91 sections that needed to be replaced because of damage caused by boulevard trees. The trees and the sidewalk were removed and replaced with new ones. City crews replaced 22 ADA sidewalk approaches in preparation for the mill and overlay project.

**MNGL** - Staff worked with a local contractor to remove 80 stumps. They also paved 2000 feet of cart paths and spray-patched some of the hills.

**Streets:** There are 105 miles of paved streets, 6 miles of alleys, and 15 miles of gravel roads to maintain, spread over 40 square miles with 5,569 street signs, 12 miles of trails, and 69 miles of sidewalks.

**Street Work** – Public Work crews reconstructed the Grandview Ave Alley between Harrison Street and West End Ave. This consisted of removing the old blacktop, sub-base installation, new curb and gutter, installation of new bituminous, and matching up to all driveways. Crews spent 805 hours spray patching potholes using 3251 gallons of oil and 60 yards of rock on various city streets. Staff spent

368 hours painting crosswalks, stop bars, and parking stalls using 385 gallons of paint. We also contracted the painting of all 125,183 feet of centerline striping. Staff contracted 41,100 lbs. of crack sealer to be applied to streets. 150 signs were replaced due to vehicle accidents or failed the retro-reflectivity test.

**Concrete and Blacktop** – Crews poured approximately 672 yards of concrete and paved roughly 1,022 tons of blacktop on various city projects.

**Snow and Ice** - crews spent 1538-man hours on snow and ice removal operations last season. We applied 92 tons of treated salt, 269 tons of straight salt, 22 yards of class 5 mixed with salt on gravel roads, 6400 gallons of anti-ice liquid pretreating roads, and hauled away 2,633 yards of snow from the downtown area and some residential areas. We called no snow emergencies. We received about 24" of snow for the season with 18 snow events. The first was 2.5" on 10/31/23, and the last was 2.75" on 3/27/24. A total of \$97,217 was spent on labor. The total cost of snowplowing the previous season was \$183,280. Crews spent most of the winter trimming trees.

**Sweeping** – Crews spent 1064 hours sweeping city streets, picking up over 453 yards of spring debris and 849 yards of leaves at a cost of \$109,430.

**Material Handling Site** - We hired a contractor to crush our yearly blacktop and concrete piles. They crushed 994 tons of concrete and 1153 tons of blacktop, which will be reused on upcoming projects for the year. The cost of crushing was \$9,668.00.

**Water Distribution, Sewer Collection, and Storm:** Maintains all underground infrastructure including 1,010 fire hydrants, 3,020 water valves, and 102 miles of water main. The sewer system includes 13 lift stations, 2,369 manholes, and 99 miles of sewer mains. Storm Water System: Consists of 926 manholes, 2,890 inlets, 209 outlets, 64 ponds (57 City, 7 private), 7 miles of tunnels, and 50 miles of storm water pipes. All storm water projects are completed with staff from both streets and utilities.

**Sewer Main Repairs and Maintenance** – The sewer collections crews responded to 1 sewer main backup which was in a private line. The Vactor cleaned about 241,638 feet of the 523,000 total feet of sewer lines and videotaped 55,547 feet of sanitary and storm sewer. Crews spent 30 hours doing Vactor work for other departments and 423 hours adjusting manhole castings.

**Lift Stations** - We have Finished installing the Colvill Lift Station panel from 2023. The 2024 Bryan Lift Station rehab started, and we are waiting for the panel to be built and installed in 2025. Work is planned for 2025, including finishing the panel installation for the Bryan Lift Station rehab when it is done, starting the Oriole Lift Station rehab, and the Xcel sanitary rehab.

**Construction Projects** - Crews spent 331 hours on the city mill and overlay projects repairing inlets and water main valve boxes. Worked with a contractor to slip line 5,326 ft of sewer main.

**ISO Project and Hydrants** – (Insurance Service Office) Crews have been working on the ISO project initiated by the Fire Department to get a better fire rating for insurance rates. Public Services crews had 207 tasks in Cartegraph for Hydrant maintenance and painting. Crews also spent 478 hours on 2,040 tasks for flushing and required annual inspections of hydrants.

**Water Main Repairs** – Crews responded to 4 water main valve leaks and 1 service leak. We also had 4 water main breaks, 1 on Plum and 4th Street, 2 on Wilkinson Street, and 1 on Glenwood

Street. 292 hours were spent replacing broken or inoperable water main valves, 109 hours repairing valve boxes, replacing 2 fire hydrants hit by traffic, and relocating. Crews exercised 78 water main valves. There were 365 service order requests to turn off/on water and lock water meters. 45 hours for bagging water hydrants for salt protection. 364hrs installing 160 Ft of watermain and 4 services on Washington Street. Staff conducted 531 hours of lead and copper inspections, which identified 511 needing replacement, 2449 unknown, and 2708 were cleared.

**Storm Water Repairs** – Crews spent 755 hours clearing trees and brush from easements and storm ponds, rebuilt 37 storm inlets, and spent 36 hours with the vacator cleaning storm sumps and safl-baffles. The 12th Street tunnel project is expected to be completed in 2025.

**Airport** – Crews spent 100 hours clearing snow and ice at the Airport.

## **TOPIC 2 - Airport**

**Grants** – Red Wing Regional Airport received a grant for the relocation of the AWOS (Automated Weather Observation System) from the State of Minnesota for the planning and design work in the amount of \$27,700. This work is still underway with the installation being planned for some time in 2025.

**Access Road Rehabilitation & Parking Lot Expansion** – Bids were accepted, and a work order was approved for the main access road rehabilitation in 2023. The total project cost was \$257,825.74, but with grant funding received in 2024, the local cost for the project was \$12,891.29. Aslakson's Services completed the project in the fall of 2024.

**Master Plan** – The FAA requires that an Airport owner update their Master Plan and Airport Layout Plan (ALP) every 10 years to remain eligible for Federal and State funding. In 2023, the Federal Grant was approved for the project. This project will be funded through the BIL program at 90% (\$409,500), and the remaining 10% (\$44,500) will be funded by the City. The city will be reimbursed \$4,000 for city administrative fees through the grant. Work on the plan began in early 2024 and is expected to be completed in early 2025.

**New Hangar Construction** – One general aviation hangar started construction in 2024 and is expected to be completed in the Spring of 2025.

**Lot Leases** – The City entered into 4 new hangar lot leases in 2024, with 1 lease renewal and 1 lot lease amendment. The City also entered into a one-year real estate lease with Kevin Ballman to lease farmland for the 2024 growing season.

**Wisconsin Property Tax Law Change** - Effective January 1, 2024, there was a change in how personal property taxes were handled statewide. With the enactment of Assembly Bill 245 by the WI State Legislature on June 20, 2023, the City of Red Wing is now responsible for paying the entire personal property tax for RGK and collecting payment from hangar owners, who will need to remit their payment to the City of Red Wing instead of directly to the tax authority. To reflect this change, the City drafted a lease amendment for all the Private Hangar Lot Leases and executed 51 lot lease amendments.

### **TOPIC 3 - Buildings and Grounds**

There are 128 different buildings to maintain at 24 locations and 686 streetlights with 22 miles of electrical lines. Our grounds consist of 20 different playground areas within 38 parks on 1,423 acres with 5984 trees located in city parks and boulevards, three cemeteries on 117 acres, and maintaining 69 acres of it with 17,420 internments and 12 miles of trails.

The Buildings and Grounds Department includes Buildings, Cemeteries, Parks, Utility Locating, and Asset Management. It consists of 1 Deputy Director, 2 Superintendents, 1 Operation Foreman, 1 Facilities Maintenance Tech, 1 Facilities Repair Tech, 1 Electrician (vacant), 1 Plumber, 1 Infrastructure Asset Specialist, and 5 Maintenance I.

**Weed Violations** – B&G performed 92 weed violation inspections around town.

#### **Parks and Boulevard Trees**

- Trees planted – 240
- Trees Removed – 402
- Ash Trees Treated for EAB - 208

#### **Cemeteries**

- Full Burials - 25
- Cremation Burials - 56
- Columbarium Burials - 4
- Regular Lots Sold – 29
- Columbarium niches sold - 14
- Perpetual Flower Sales - 23
- Marker Installations - 25
- Foundations Poured - 23

### **Parks and Grounds**

**Downtown Core** – Replaced 8 sculptures on the rotating sculpture walk.

**Graffiti** – Painted over or removed 25 instances of graffiti around the community amounting to 62.5 hours of maintenance employee's labor.

#### **Audrey Park**

- Replacement of the existing basketball court with a larger court and new hoop.

#### **Barn Bluff/He Mni Can**

- Removed the buckthorn infestation on the park's east end in conjunction with the Conservation Corp using donated funds from the Friend of the Bluff Organization.
- Assisted with vegetation removal and site restoration on the Kiln Trail Project.

#### **Bay Point Park**

- Replaced the playground surfacing washed away by the summer flood.
- Finished the new accessible guest dock installation.
- Rehabilitated the fishing pier on the east end of the park.

### **Colvill Park**

- Replaced the old playground near the screen in pavilion with a new tot park, swing set and slide.
- Worked to PIIC to ensure no cultural artifacts were present when digging for this project.

### **Memorial Park**

- Replace the 9 vandalized limestone tabletops in the upper quarry.

### **Traffic Signals**

- Sandblasted and Painted the traffic signals at the intersections of Hwy61 and Bench Street and Hwy61 and Tyler Road.

### **Buildings**

#### **City Hall**

- Replaced half of the batteries for the UPS in the basement of City Hall.

#### **Seminary Parking Ramp**

- Modernization of the elevator at the Ramp took place this winter. Equipment original to the building's construction was replaced and brought up to state code, ensuring that the building complies with all ADA laws.

#### **Mississippi National Golf Course**

- Representatives at the course requested the City Staff help to alleviate a hazard created when several ash trees were removed due to EAB. Staff installed posts and netting to ensure that oncoming balls would not hit golfers on a tee box.
- Representatives at the course requested the replacement of the original wooden fencing along the cart path on the highlands1. PW Staff replaced a couple of hundred feet of the fence.
- Representatives at the course requested an AC unit be installed in the kitchen area of the clubhouse to help cool the cooks. A mini-split was added to the kitchen to help cool.
- Refurbishment and relocation of the Mississippi National sign located at Hwy 61 and Golf Links Drive as part of the MNDOT bridge realignment project.

#### **Private Use of Public Property (PUPP) Applications**

Public Works office staff processed 71 PUPP applications for events in 2024.

In addition, staff processed 353 reservations for park shelters, Central Park bandshell, and the Colvill Courtyard.

### **TOPIC 4 - Utility Division**

The day-to-day activities related to the City's water and wastewater utility operations fall within two Public Works Divisions: Public Services and Utilities. The Public Services component includes operation and maintenance of the water distribution and fire protection systems; sanitary wastewater collection, including remote lift stations; and the storm water collection, conveyance, and treatment/discharge facilities. The Utility Division components include the operation and maintenance of five wells, two water treatment plants, seven water storage reservoirs, five booster pump stations, three pressure-reducing valve vaults, an industrial wastewater pretreatment plant, the main

wastewater lift station, and the main wastewater treatment plant. The Utility Division also provides engineering design and construction contract administration to utility-related capital improvement and maintenance projects and is responsible for the programming requirements, permitting, and inspection associated with the storm water management program.

Utility Division personnel that are not part of Public Services include the Deputy Director, Environmental Services Manager, Field and Laboratory Technician, Chief Wastewater Operator, Chief Water Operator, one Water Operator, one Assistant Water Operator, two Wastewater Operators, an Assistant Wastewater Operator and a Maintenance 1 in Wastewater.

Public Services Division staff breakdown and accomplishments were provided elsewhere. Some of the more significant accomplishments of the Utility Division are identified below.

### **Utility Division Accomplishments**

The accomplishments identified below represent specific projects outside of the main Division focus, which is operating the water and wastewater treatment and pumping facilities.

**Wastewater Facility Planning** - The City of Red Wing Wastewater Treatment Facility entered into facility planning with Bolton & Menk Inc. consultants in the spring of 2024. The major drivers for improvements are aging infrastructure and future effluent limits as well as the desire to provide additional treatment capacity, collection, and conveyance for future development of the community. The facility plan will describe and evaluate the overall state of the sanitary sewer systems/facilities and integrate previous facility and sanitary sewer plans, studies, maintenance logs, reports, operating conditions, treatment data, and completed sewer projects. The completed facility plan is a critical part of the process of planning for future upgrades and potential funding for future construction. Completion is expected in October of 2025.

**Bench Street Industrial Pretreatment Plant Optimization** – The Bench Street Pretreatment Plant uses chemical treatment and enhanced settling to treat the water from the S.B. Foot Tannery. This treatment process is unique, and its operation is continually optimized and enhanced. The treatment process results in a sludge that is dewatered and landfilled at an industrial landfill. Work continues in optimizing the operation of both the water and sludge treatment facilities with continuous discussion and cooperation with SB Foot. Approximately 1,300 tons of sludge was dewatered and hauled to SKB landfill in 2024.

**Water Division** — the Water Treatment Plants produced and distributed over 500,000,000 gallons of treated potable water for the year 2024. The City of Red Wing worked with Bolton and Menk to finalize plans and secure funding for the demo and reconstruction of the 10th Street Booster Station. Bidding and construction will begin in 2025. Work also continued on the Sorin's reservoir to secure \$500,000 of EPA congressionally designated funding to repair the aging infrastructure. An open house at the water plant was well attended this year as well as multiple tours for 4th grade students and high school classes.

**Wastewater Division**—the Wastewater Treatment Plant treated over 600,000,000 gallons of wastewater in 2024. We land applied 2,020,422 gallons of biosolids on local MPCA-approved farmland and in addition hauled 58,500 gallons to the City of Zumbrota. The Red Wing WWTF successfully endured another record flooding year without any bypasses or permit violations. The City of Red Wing completed the PFAS sampling required on influent samples and began work in the PFAS Management Plan. PFAS is a group of man-made chemicals that have been found to have negative health impacts. The City lab successfully completed all requirements to maintain certification

for drinking water and wastewater analysis. The NPDES permit application package was successfully assembled and submitted to the MPCA as required before the February 2025 expiration date.

**Stormwater Division** — As part of an effort to increase residential participation in stormwater management, 50 rain barrels were offered to residents whose properties were located in the 7th Street road reconstruction project area. These rain barrels were funded through grants from the Greater Zumbro Watershed Alliance and the Goodhue County Soil and Water Conservation District. The Adopt-a-Drain program had another successful year with many new adoptions and drain cleanings in Red Wing.

**TOPIC 5 - Solid Waste Division**

The Solid Waste Division includes the Refuse and Recycling Collection operations, the Material Recovery Facility (MeRF), and the Waste Campus activities listed below. Staffing for these operations and activities is distributed as follows: 1 Deputy Director, 1 Superintendent with oversight of both R/R & Waste Campus operations, 1 Office Coordinator, and 1 Office Clerk. Refuse and Recycling Collection Staff consists of: 1 Operational Foreman Refuse/Recycling and 8 Maintenance I positions. The Material Recovery Facility (MeRF) and Waste Campus operations Staff include: 1 Operations Foreman, 2 FEFC Maintenance Operators, 6 Maintenance I, the Red Wing Correctional Facility, Institution Community Work (ICWC) Crew Leader with 4-6 staff, and 4-5 Express Temporary Staff that cover Saturday morning attendant duties, assist on collection routes and in the MeRF operations.

**Refuse & Recycling Collection 600 Fund**

The Refuse & Recycling collection operations have been running well and consistently over the last year. Refuse & Recycling operations were mostly fully staffed in 2024 and remain so currently. Collection operations are still supplemented by the employment of individuals from Express Temporary Services, located in Red Wing, as well as seasonal staff. The rationale for using temporary staff is the economic savings of employing non-CDL individuals that are needed in assistance types of labor, such as a rider in a rear load truck or non-CDL related collection routes. Currently, Refuse & Recycling operations have filled all its open positions, and operations are running smoothly.

Refuse & Recycling operations continue to gain new accounts, including several multifamily housing units and commercial entities. For over 10 years, new residential and commercial accounts have been added to existing routes without the need to create new positions, purchase new equipment, or develop new routes. The City’s switch to single-sort recycling was critical in gaining efficiencies in service volumes, but there will be a point where operations will need to consider adding staff, equipment, and routes to manage the increase in customer collections.

Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), single-sort recycling, and recycled cardboard tonnages have steadily increased from 2022 through 2024. Specifically, from 2023-2024, each year increased by +252.32 tons, +47.40 tons, and +19.0 tons, respectively. In total, City collected tons of waste, and recycling has increased by 321.72 tons in 2024 without adding staff or equipment resources.

Tons Collected/Received 2022-2024	YEAR			Difference 2023 vs.2024
	2022	2023	2024	



<b>Tons Waste Received from Non-City Haulers</b>	<b>35,170.99</b>	<b>32,590.21</b>	<b>31,236.24</b>	<b>-1,353.97</b>
<b>Tons Waste Collected by City Crews</b>	<b>6,976.96</b>	<b>7,301.88</b>	<b>7,557.20</b>	<b>255.32</b>
<b>Tons Single Sort Recy. Collected by City Crews</b>	<b>1,381.34</b>	<b>1,464.51</b>	<b>1,511.91</b>	<b>47.40</b>
<b>Tons Cardboard Recy. Collected by City Crews</b>	<b>317.78</b>	<b>495.83</b>	<b>514.83</b>	<b>19.00</b>
<b>Total Tons Waste &amp; Recycling Collected by City Crews</b>	<b>8,676.08</b>	<b>9,262.22</b>	<b>9,583.94</b>	<b>321.72</b>

In addition to the City's residential and commercial collection services, the City also provides Roll-Off & Compactor collection services. Roll-off rentals or leases are available to both residents and commercial customers for short-term, long-term, and ongoing needs. Roll-offs are available for large cleanups, demolitions, or oversized and bulky material disposal. Compactors are typically for large-scale hotels, resorts, retailers, or institutional needs. City operations saw a marked increase in roll-off rentals, leases, and tonnages in 2023, with reductions in 2024 similar in use and tonnages reported in 2022.

<b>Roll-Off &amp; Compactor Collection Services (Leases/Rentals) &amp; Tonnage</b>			
	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>Roll-Offs Rented/Leased</b>	<b>202.00</b>	<b>267.00</b>	<b>185.00</b>
<b>Compactors Serviced Weekly (or more)</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Total Service Stops</b>	<b>1,028</b>	<b>1,326</b>	<b>1,181</b>
<b>Tonnages Collected</b>	<b>2,299.77</b>	<b>3,282.62</b>	<b>2,811.18</b>

Residential rates for waste & recycling services charged to residents since 2015 are provided in the table below. These would be the same charges residents would see on their monthly utility billing statement, less the \$1.00 fuel surcharge. This was not included in the table below as it is only added to the utility billing when diesel rates for three consecutive months have averaged more than \$3.00/gallon. No fuel surcharge will be included in the first three months of 2025 as the average fuel cost in October, November, and December of 2024 was less than \$3.00/gallon. Charges presented in the table below include the disposal charge, CESC, Recycling, and all State Solid Waste Taxes applied. Commercial entities with the same volume of service would be slightly higher due to a higher tax rate applied by the State of Minnesota for commercially generated waste. Red Wing charges are the same for residential and commercial service levels. Valet waste services are also provided to residents at no additional charge upon legitimate request or need.

Rates Charged for Residential Refuse/Recycling Services				
Year	48 gallon	96 gallon	recycling	Rate of Inflation on \$25.00
2015	\$ 20.34	\$ 37.39	\$ 5.45	\$ 25.00
2016	\$ 20.34	\$ 37.39	\$ 5.45	\$ 25.83
2017	\$ 20.34	\$ 37.39	\$ 5.45	\$ 26.37
2018	\$ 20.51	\$ 37.72	\$ 5.45	\$ 26.87
2019	\$ 20.51	\$ 37.72	\$ 5.70	\$ 27.49
2020	\$ 19.24	\$ 38.45	\$ 5.70	\$ 27.86
2021	\$ 19.26	\$ 38.49	\$ 5.70	\$ 29.82
2022	\$ 19.80	\$ 39.56	\$ 6.70	\$ 31.75
2023	\$ 20.06	\$ 40.09	\$ 6.70	\$ 32.81
2024	\$ 20.38	\$ 40.73	\$ 6.70	\$ 33.76
2025	\$ 20.38	\$ 40.73	\$ 6.70	?

### **Waste Campus 603 Fund**

The overriding environmental goals for Waste Campus waste processing operations include recovery of recyclable commodities from the waste stream and landfill abatement. Landfill abatement is clearly about keeping waste out of the landfill. The City achieves this through the removal of commodities and the shifting of incoming waste from disposal by landfill to disposal via resource recovery through either a Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) disposal at Xcel's Steam Plant, located in Red Wing or the use of the Olmsted Waste to Energy mass burn facility in Rochester. The benefits of using the Red Wing facility over the Rochester operation include increased recovery of recyclable materials from the waste, significantly less transport related issues (environmental and economic), use of local business, and a reduction in the cost of disposal. To those ends, the City's waste processing operations have made concerted efforts to increase the production of RDF to achieve these benefits.

The first initial and significant increase in RDF production occurred in 2023 when the City's operations increased RDF production by almost 5,000 tons, generating 25,069 tons for disposal at Xcel's facility in Red Wing. In 2024, the City purchased a new industrial slow-speed sheer shredder to manage the oversized and bulky waste that in previous years was non-processible and therefore directed to Olmsted County or area landfills. This was clearly the second piece of the increase in RDF production to reach the 30,000 ton per year goal. Operational improvements can be clearly observed below.

Waste & Recycling Tonnages Received & Managed @ Red Wing Waste Campus							
YEAR							
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Change in Tons 2023-2024	% Change (2022-2024)
Total Tons Received	37,772.6	42,079.7	39,147.9	39,878.5	38,653.2	-1,225.3	-1.26%
Tons to Xcel	20,268.9	20,400.5	20,986.6	25,069.1	29,869.5	4,800.4	42.33%

<b>Tons to Olmsted WTE</b>	<b>7,273.6</b>	<b>6,851.3</b>	<b>5,451.9</b>	<b>7,251.5</b>	<b>3,983.3</b>	<b>-3,268.2</b>	<b>-26.94%</b>
<b>Total Tons to Landfills</b>	<b>8,216.7</b>	<b>12,621.9</b>	<b>10,921.9</b>	<b>4,907.9</b>	<b>1,976.9</b>	<b>-2,931.0</b>	<b>-81.90%</b>
<b>Total Metal Recycled</b>	<b>1,032.0</b>	<b>1,183.3</b>	<b>1,144.3</b>	<b>1,329.7</b>	<b>1,260.1</b>	<b>-69.6</b>	<b>10.12%</b>
<b>Total Cardboard Recycled</b>	<b>748.1</b>	<b>696.0</b>	<b>720.1</b>	<b>782.8</b>	<b>633.1</b>	<b>-149.7</b>	<b>-12.08%</b>
<b>Total Single Sort Recycled</b>	<b>1,407.4</b>	<b>1,413.5</b>	<b>1,381.3</b>	<b>2,257.9</b>	<b>1,827.9</b>	<b>-430.0</b>	<b>32.33%</b>

In reviewing the impacts of improvement in waste processing from 2022 to 2024, it is very clear that the City's waste processing operations have made significant strides toward the goals of recyclable material recovery and landfill abatement. The overall increase of RDF production from 2022 to 2024 is 42.33%, and tons of waste disposed of at regional landfills over that same period have decreased by 81.90%. Other metrics of operational improvements would be the increases in metal recovery, and total tons of single sort materials received and managed offsite. While the Olmsted facility also provides resource recovery and thus landfill abatement, it is in the City's environmental and economic interests to use Xcel's steam plant as the primary source of disposal. The economic benefits also appear to be evident in the 603 fund budget; however, this will not be known until the final budgets are completed for 2024.

In June of 2022, the City was informed that it was awarded a \$148,000 grant from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to conduct an Organic Food Scrap Feasibility Study. City staff have nearly completed this work and performed an organics program feasibility study to determine the best course of action for developing an innovative regional Source Separated Organics (SSOs) program for collection and disposal. Organics, typically food scraps, in the waste stream are a significant source of Green House Gas (GHG) generation. Removing these organics is an integral part of managing waste in the best manner according to the Waste Management Hierarchy. The study's goal was to comprehensively review all aspects of collection and on-site management. As a part of this feasibility study, the City performed a regional audit to determine sources and volumes of available organic materials, evaluate potential facility locations, review various methods for SSOs collection and best practices, evaluate MPCA permitting requirements, assess environmental impacts, and conduct cost/impact analysis of organics management.

At the completion of this report, the City performed a three-month pilot program that included providing residential curbside collection of SSOs to a select Red Wing neighborhood through the distribution of Durable Compostable Bags (DCBs) to participants. This collected load was brought to the City's Material Recovery Facility, where staff removed the DCBs from the waste stream. Additionally, over this same period, the City has set up an organics drop-off site at the Waste Campus, which is available to all residents free of charge to monitor and assess the need to place an ongoing organics drop-off in the City. This study is nearing completion but will not be fully completed until early 2025, when a full report will be submitted to the State for review.

Below are some year-end statistics for the Waste Campus convenience drop-off operations. These numbers are based on actual cash/charge transactions; yard waste customers are counted to the best of our ability through daily estimates made by staff. It is apparent the number of customer visits

through verified transactions is consistently increasing from year to year, indicating a high degree of customer satisfaction and value from these City-provided services.

Customer Services & Visits at the Waste Campus			
	Year		
	2022	2023	2024
Walk-Ins Cash & Charge Customers	13,518	15,837	18,992
Daily Average	42.21	54.8	63.1
Yard Waste Customers	9,653	12,242	12,516
Daily Average	32.28	42.36	41.58
Total Estimated Annual Customer Visits	23,171	28,079	31,508
Revenues from Waste Campus Customers	\$400,459.99	\$500,770.70	\$561,065.00

## **TOPIC 6 – GIS Program**

### **City of Red Wing GIS Program Return on Investment 2024**

#### **Service Hours- 1193**

#### **Web Mapping Application Views**

City of Red Wing External Parcel Viewer annual views: 6,029

City of Red Wing Internal Parcel Viewer annual views: 1,208

Public Work Utilities Viewer views: 13,419

Red Wing GeoHub views: 21,220

Red Wing InterHub views: 3,478 views

#### **Project List/Accomplishments 2024**

- Upgrade GIS system to Enterprise 11.3
- 2024 Aerial Photo dataset delivery
- Parking Study Recommendations mapping
- Scrolling Dashboard for Fire Department
- Parks web app updates including photo attachments
- CIP Projects for MOU PIIC review
- Land Analysis project for Planning
- Final apps migration in ArcGIS Online
- Updates to Three Rivers Transit Route maps
- Updates to Red Wing GeoHub
- Launched updated versions of Red Wing External/Internal Parcel Viewers
- Map Requests
- Database Maintenance

- Attended GIS/LIS State Conference in Duluth
- Stay & Play App for EDA partners
- Parcels web service in support of CloudPermit software

#### Project List 2025

- Add Business Analyst license to ArcGIS Online
- 2024 Aerial Imagery data updates
- Stormwater Utility Updates Workflow
- Plans and Drawings As-Built Esri Solution
- EagleView software for City staff
- Community Health Outreach Esri Solution
- Public Services Dashboard



**Shawn Blaney**  
Public Works  
Director

