

City of Butterfield

103 2nd Street North, Butterfield, MN 56120

507-956-2501

Population: 601 MHI: \$57,000

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Phase one-Project Cost: \$15.8 Million Funding Request: \$7.9 Million

The City of Butterfield has reviewed its infrastructure and determined there are significant needs to replace or repair much of the wastewater treatment, sanitary sewer collection, water distribution, storm sewer, and streets. In total, it is estimated the City has over \$30 million in repairs to make. To complete this work, funding has been requested from Watonwan County for county roads, federal congressional directed spending, and USDA-Rd Loan/Grant Combo, and the Deed Small Cities Grant.

Existing Infrastructure Conditions: The City of Butterfield is seeking funding for repairs and upgrades to the wastewater treatment facility, the city's force main, and lift station due to outdated, failing and hazardous infrastructure. The City's lift station that pumps all sewage collected from the City requires entry into a hazardous and unsafe confined space. Sanitary sewers are overwhelmed by I/I during rainfall and spring snow melt. Many water mains are cast iron and consistently breaking. Storm sewers have broken and caused sinkholes in the street above them. Butterfield Ranked 28 with a score of 73 on the 2025 Clean Water PPL for the sanitary sewer treatment system.

Proposed Project: The City of Butterfield needs to update its wastewater facility to meet upcoming permit requirements. Improvements at the wastewater treatment facility include demolition of the old wastewater treatment facility that currently operates as a lift station, dredging of the ponds, replacement of the lift and transfer station, control structure replacement, site generator, replacement of aeration equipment, and many associated electrical and mechanical repairs. The city infrastructure including force mains, sanitary sewer mains, storm sewer, water main, and associated street restoration. This is considered Phase 1 of the City's proposed improvements and will complete approximately half of the needed improvements.

Funding Efforts and Challenges: Given the small size of the community, the City of Butterfield does not have the financial means to take on a project of this size on its own. To address the funding gap, the City of Butterfield has also applied for a congressional spending request and/or USDA-RD Loan and Grant request in the amount of \$5M-\$6M and \$1.8 Million from Watonwan County. The DEED Small Cities Grant will also be applied for. The City will continue to increase sanitary/water user fees and assessments to help pay for loans. Receiving funding from this bonding bill request is expected to be the first step in securing funding from these other sources.