# Capital Improvement Project
# Farmington: 4th St. and Willow St. TSS Reduction

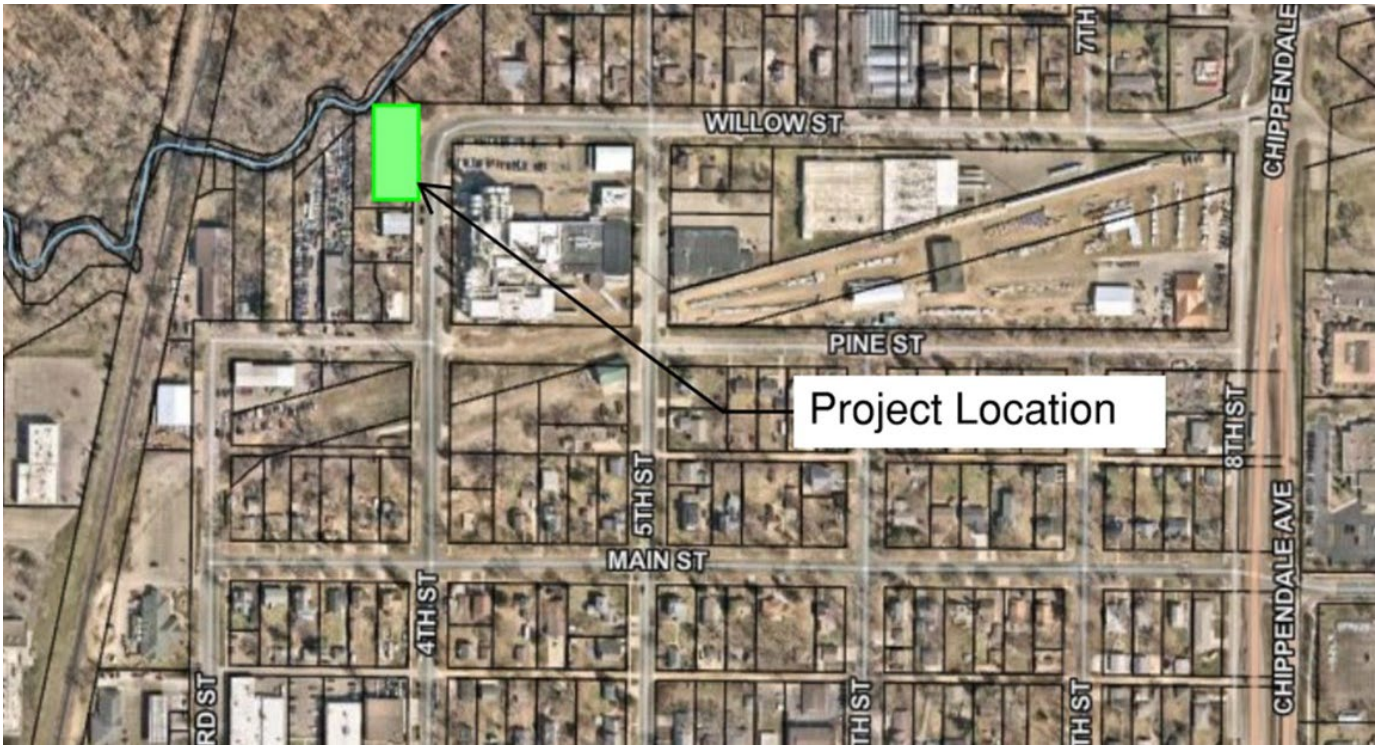


Figure 1. Screengrab of a map of the intersection of 4th St. and Willow St. in Farmington. The planned location for a hydrodynamic separator is demarcated in green and is next to the Vermillion River.

The Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO), in partnership with the City of Farmington and Dakota County, is working to systematically address sources of total suspended solids (TSS) contributing to the Vermillion River. The intersection of 4th St. and Willow St. in Farmington is an older area with little to no stormwater treatment, since the drainage area was developed before stormwater treatment requirements were implemented. This area discharges stormwater runoff directly into the Vermillion River, in a reach designated as a trout stream by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, making it a significant issue to address.

During the 2024-25 Watershed-Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) planning process, the VRWJPO and the City proposed installing a hydrodynamic separator (HDS) at this intersection. An HDS is a stormwater device that uses cyclonic forces to remove pollutants in stormwater runoff, namely TSS. It will be connected to the existing storm sewer system, which outlets into the river and can remove an average of 19.5 tons/year of TSS from stormwater.

The project will be funded in part by a WBIF grant, money distributed to the Vermillion River Watershed from the Minnesota Clean Water Fund by the Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources (BWSR).

**Partners:**

- VRWJPO
- City of Farmington
- Dakota County
- BWSR

**Installation (anticipated):**

- 2026

**Location:**

- Farmington

**Subwatershed:**

- Middle Main Stem of the Vermillion River

**Costs and Contributions (anticipated):**

- VRWJPO: $39,207
- City of Farmington: $1,900
- Dakota County: $5,000
- BWSR: $71,013 in WBIF grant funds

**Benefits:**

- The HDS is projected to remove an average of 19.5 tons/year of TSS from stormwater flowing into the Vermillion River from the contributing 161-acre drainage area.
- According to recent studies, TSS is the primary stressor to aquatic organisms in the Vermillion River. Reducing TSS from stormwater runoff would address the impairments for fish and macroinvertebrates as well.

Figure 2. An example of a hydrodynamic separator being installed.

A grant from the Clean Water Fund, one of four funds established by the Clean Water, Land & Legacy Amendment, supports this project. Clean Water Stories can be found on the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources website.

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