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City of Saint Anthony Village unveils first of its kind water treatment plant to sustainably eliminate pollutants

(Minneapolis – August 9, 2017) – The first advanced oxidation plant for drinking water in Minnesota was unveiled at a ribbon cutting ceremony yesterday in the City of Saint Anthony Village, Minnesota. After an extraordinarily accelerated timeline, the city's new water treatment facility will physically break up and eliminate an emerging contaminant in the city's municipal wells without redirecting to another water supply.

Historically priding itself on a strong commitment to being a sustainable community, the City of Saint Anthony Village retained WSB & Associates, Inc. in April 2015 to begin to evaluate potential solutions for the groundwater contamination. The contaminant, 1,4-dioxane, was a widely used chemical for many years at the Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant in Arden Hills. The Minnesota Department of Health alerted the city to an elevated level in one of the city's wells. After notification, the well was immediately shut down and WSB & Associates began feverishly working on feasibility and preliminary design solutions.

“We’re incredibly proud of being able to provide the City of Saint Anthony Village with a tactical, efficient, cost-effective and sustainable solution to their water treatment needs,” said Todd Hubmer, Vice President of Water Resources at WSB & Associates and City of Saint Anthony Village City Engineer. “This 27-month process was one of the most rapid in water treatment history and the collaboration between WSB, city staff, city council, the US Army, Minnesota Department of Health and Pollution Control Agency was incredibly vital to the success of this project.”

The water treatment plant uses ultraviolet (UV) light and hydrogen peroxide to remove 1,4-dioxane from the water. When water enters the UV reactor, the hydrogen peroxide absorbs the UV light, producing radicals that break down 1,4-dioxane into nontoxic compounds, of carbon dioxide and water, eliminating the contaminant.

“Finding a resolution that not only removes the contaminant from the ground, but eradicates it from the environment completely is the type of sustainable innovation the City of Saint Anthony Village hopes to continue to employ,” says Jerry Faust, Mayor, City of Saint Anthony Village.

About the City of St. Anthony Village

Our mission is to be a progressive and livable community, a walkable village which is sustainable, safe and secure. St. Anthony is five miles northeast of down-town Minneapolis and eight miles northwest of downtown St. Paul. The St. Paul and Minneapolis campuses of the University of Minnesota are a 10 to 15-minute drive from St. Anthony. The City is easily accessible via I-35W, County Road D, Highway 88, Highway 280, I-94, Silver Lake Road and I-694 and Highway 10 via Silver Lake Road

About WSB

WSB's culture of relationship building, forward thinking, and collaboration enables technically advanced,

thoughtful, and creative engineering and design solutions that build a legacy – *your* legacy. With over 400 staff members across nine offices, WSB integrates planning, design, and implementation across 25+ service areas.

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