Located 15-miles north of Champaign, Illinois, the Village of Fisher provides drinking water and wastewater service to a population of 1,900 people through 888 customer connections per utility.

Challenges

- **Financial:** Village officials were concerned about the capital needed to invest in both their water and wastewater systems to meet regulatory requirements and industry standards.
- **Compliance:** The Village's wastewater system had been plagued by phosphorus and suspended solids issues. Future phosphorus regulations would require significant upgrades to the treatment process.
- Rates: The Village's existing rates were unable to sustain the operations, maintenance, and capital improvements necessary to adequately provide water and wastewater service to residents.

Solutions

After contracting with an expert consultant to perform system evaluations on both the water and wastewater assets, the Village decided to issue a Request for Proposals to sell its assets. Through the RFP process, the Village selected Illinois American Water as the best long-term solution provider for its residents.

Benefits

- **Financial:** The Village of Fisher received approximately \$6.8 million for the sale, allowing the Village to retire outstanding debt and invest in other community projects.
- Compliance: As part of the acquisition, Illinois American Water committed approximately \$2.9 million in investments to maintain regulatory compliance, elevate system performance and improve customer service.
- Rates: Customers are included in Illinois American Water's existing
 rate structures, which will be able to sustain any future capital needs
 for the systems.

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\$2.9 million invested

over five years to improve the Village of Fisher's water and wastewater infrastructure.

Solutions That Work

The sale of Village of Fisher's water and wastewater system to a private provider made good sense for customers and the community.