



Capitol Region Watershed District Starts Construction for New Headquarters in Midway Neighborhood

Building will Showcase Best Practices in Sustainability and Water Resource Management

Saint Paul (May 22, 2018) –Today **Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD)** hosted a groundbreaking event to mark the official start of the construction phase of the organization’s new headquarters at 595 Aldine Street in the Midway neighborhood in Saint Paul. The event took place from 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the building that once housed the **MacQueen Equipment** company.

Representatives from **MSR Design**, architectural firm of the project, and **JE Dunn**, the construction manager, joined CRWD representatives and board members, members of the Citizen Advisory Committee, local dignitaries, and community partners in a ceremony that marked the beginning of the demolition process. Guest speakers included:

- Mary Texer, Board of Managers, Capitol Region Watershed District
- Russ Stark, Chief Resilience Office, Mayor Melvin Carter’s Office
- Janice Rettman, Ramsey County Commissioner, District 3
- Toni Carter, Ramsey County Commissioner, District 4
- Samantha Henningson, Ward 4 City Council, City of Saint Paul
- Michael Jon Olson, Executive Director, Hamline Midway Coalition

“Capitol Region Watershed District is a critical partner of the City of Saint Paul in our work to protect the Mississippi River from pollution, prevent flooding, and be good stewards of water, our most precious natural resource,” said **Saint Paul Mayor Melvin Carter**. “I am excited about CRWD’s new location in the Midway and look forward to many more years of partnership.”

“Our new space will create a sustainable, healthy workplace for our staff while conserving natural resources and protecting water resources,” said **Mark Doneux**, administrator at CRWD. “By adopting the City of Saint Paul’s Sustainable Building Policy, the building will be able to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification.”

“JE Dunn is pleased and honored to be part of this exciting project in Saint Paul, transforming this tired old building into a beautiful new space will be an exciting process,” said **Jason C. McMillen**, LEED AP, Senior Project Manager.

“MSR is pleased to be working with the Capitol Region Watershed District to deliver their ambitious new workplace project that highlights best practices through on-site energy production, enhanced workplace daylighting, sustainable material choices, and progressive water capture and reuse systems that will demonstrate how everyone can participate in protecting water as one of our most important resources,” said **Dan Vercruyse** with MSR Design.

The ceremonial groundbreaking took place in the soon-to-be pocket park area, with CRWD board members: Joe Collins, Mary Texer, Seitu Jones, Shirley Reider and Rick Sanders; the speakers: Russ Stark; Janice Rettman, Samantha Henningson and Michael Jon Olson; and Mark Doneux using shovels to represent digging in the soil.

About the Future Space:

CRWD purchased the former MacQueen Equipment building in early 2017, with the plan of creating a renovated space that will utilize green building principles such as stormwater management practices and energy efficiency measures to conserve natural resources. The \$7.3 million facility will feature gathering spaces for community and partner organizations to use, a watershed learning center and will offer on-site educational opportunities to showcase its work to protect, manage and improve water resources in the district. The building will be remodeled using the principles of the **City of Saint Paul’s Sustainable Building Policy**, resulting in a structure that meets the Gold standards of the **Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)**.

The new building will provide a flexible workplace to accommodate the CRWD’s growth without the need to acquire additional building space. There will also be a pocket park, combining the natural and built environments with interactive elements for neighbors and visitors to enjoy. The move-in date will be in fall 2018.

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About Capitol Region Watershed District

[CRWD](#), established in 1998, covers 40 square miles and includes portions of Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Maplewood, Roseville and Saint Paul, protecting water sources such as Como Lake, Crosby Lake, Loeb Lake, Lake McCarrons and the Mississippi River. CRWD is governed by a five-member Board of Managers that work to protect, manage and improve the water resources of the District.

About MSR Design

[MSR](#) creates responsible and enduring architecture and seeks to enrich lives and the environment through design. MSR’s strategic goal is to be the leading design firm that achieves

inspiring, generative impacts across the board on every project. Their sustainability initiative is designed to encourage, educate, and inspire employees, clients, consultants, and the public.

About JE Dunn

[JE Dunn](#), an expert in construction management, is a leader in construction sustainability and a platinum member of the US Green Building Council. As a client-centered contractor, much of JE Dunn's work is delivered using a Construction Manager model.

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