

NEWS

In St. Paul's Hamline-Midway, former MacQueen building will be water advocacy headquarters, learning center, pocket park



A rendering of the new Capitol Region Watershed District headquarters in St. Paul. The \$7.2 million facility is expected to open in 2018.

By **FREDERICK MELO** | fmelo@pioneerpress.com | Pioneer Press

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A few blocks north of University Avenue, a vacant industrial building in a nondescript corner of St. Paul's Hamline-Midway neighborhood will soon get a makeover into a learning center, community space and headquarters for a water advocacy organization.

Capitol Region Watershed District has chosen the architecture firm of MSR Design and the construction manager JE Dunn to renovate the former MacQueen Equipment building at Aldine Street and Thomas Avenue into its new headquarters. Plans call for a watershed learning center, a pocket park and community meeting rooms. Construction begins in March and is expected to wrap up in the fall.

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The [\\$7.2 million project at 595 Aldine St.](#) will be the organization's first non-leased headquarters. The building is expected to show off the latest storm water management and energy efficiency techniques. In a statement, CRWD administrator Mark Doneux said the community watershed learning center will offer on-site education showcasing how to protect, manage and improve water resources around the Mississippi River.



Workers with the Capitol Region Watershed District inspect mortar between the limestone blocks of the Trout Brook Storm Sewer system in St. Paul. (Courtesy of Capitol Region Watershed District)

Tags: [St. Paul development](#)



Frederick Melo

Frederick Melo was once sued by a reader for \$2 million but kept on writing. He came to the Pioneer Press in 2005 and brings a testy East Coast attitude to St. Paul beat reporting. He spent nearly six years covering crime in the Dakota County courts before switching focus to the St. Paul mayor's office, city council, and all things neighborhood-related, from the city's churches to its parks and light rail. A resident of Hamline-Midway, he is married to a Frogtown woman. He Tweets with manic intensity at @FrederickMelo.



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"This conduct in this case is as brazen as anything you could imagine a pharmaceutical company doing," Swanson said in a press conference.

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Mayor Carter rolls out 'biggest loser' energy strategy for the city's largest buildings

May 30, 2018, 4:56 pm

The city of St. Paul is rolling out a summer contest in the style of "The Biggest Loser" for buildings. The goal is to get property owners associated with 100 of St. Paul's largest commercial and multi-family buildings to commit to reducing their energy usage for the summer. Themed workshops, tip sheets and networking events each month will focus on...

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At missing TV anchor's 50th birthday, billboard campaign seeks new clues in 1995 case

May 31, 2018, 8:21 am

Jodi Huisentruit's smiling face is jarring next to the ominous message on billboards that friends and family hope will find the woman who disappeared in 1995.

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In South St. Anthony Park, planned apartments clash with old businesses

May 28, 2018, 6:41 pm

In South St. Anthony Park, developer Jamie Stolpestad has big plans for his future home at the Lakes and Plains Building -- the old Carpenter's Union Hall. To the chagrin of some immediate neighbors, he has even bigger plans for the vacant land next to it. Ringed by single-family homes, the former union hall at 842 Raymond Ave. now houses about...

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May 30, 2018, 6:25 am

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May 29, 2018, 6:23 pm

NEW YORK MILLS, Minn. — Medical examiners have identified the human remains found in west-central Minnesota on May 20 as those of 46-year-old Lynda Renae Meyer, according to a news release. The Midwest Medical Examiner's Office positively identified Meyer on Friday. Her remains were discovered by someone walking through a section of woods between railroad tracks and a roadway in...

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