

# Final location of Milwaukee pumping station still unknown

Facility will be about the size of a house

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MILWAUKEE — An open house designed to update residents on Milwaukee's southwest side about plans to install a pump house as part of Waukesha's plans to buy Lake Michigan water,

helped give residents a clear picture of the impact of the project, Waukesha Water Utility General Manager Daniel Duchniak said.

Held at Hamilton High School on Wednesday evening, the gathering provided information to area residents about a water main extension that will be part of the pipeline that brings water to Waukesha, as a water pumping station Milwaukee will be building somewhere between 60th and 76th streets, and West Howard and Oklahoma

avenues. Waukesha aldermen voted in December to approve a 40-year contract for the purchase of Lake Michigan water from Milwaukee.

The deal allows Waukesha to draw up to 8.2 million gallons of Lake Michigan water per day.

Milwaukee will design, build, own and operate the pumping station, Duchniak said, as well the two miles of new water main in the city that will branch off from an an existing under-

ground main on 60th Street. During the open house, area residents got a chance to see just where the pumping station could be located and were given a better scope of just how small a pumping station is.

"Some residents were worried that their houses were going to be taken for the project. They didn't quite understand the size (of the pumping station). It will be about the size of a house, about 15-by-20 feet," Duchniak said. "If it is in a park area it will look more

like a brick building. If it's in a residential neighborhood it will look like a house. We will make it blend in with the neighborhood."

Duchniak said staff also made it clear to residents that although the city is looking at a wide area for where it will locate the pump house, it is focusing on properties that are for sale or already owned by the city of Milwaukee.

"We don't have specific location for it yet, because we don't have the land yet,"

he said.

As they select a final location for the pumping station, water utility officials in both cities say the location will take into account criteria such as distance to transmission main, environmental considerations, zoning, and permitting requirements.

Waukesha is still working to narrow down which of three possible routes it wants to take to bring the water from Milwaukee's city limits to Waukesha itself.