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Policy for Cost Share of CIP Projects for MIDS Pollutant Removal Credit

Background:

In 2015, the Commission agreed to allow the cities of New Hope and Golden Valley to take partial credit for pollutant removals from BCWMC CIP projects for adjacent city projects in order to comply with the Commission's water quality standards or Minimal Impact Design Standards (MIDS) requirements for linear developments/projects. This was allowed because the cities were providing some funding for the CIP projects, however there was no guidance to the Commission for making these decisions. The Commission realizes that there may be instances where collaboration with a member city on a CIP project may have benefits including cost savings and/or the implementation of a more comprehensive or more effective project. The Commission's cost sharing of a project where a member city plans to use a portion of the pollutant removal credits must follow these policies.

Policies:

- 1. If cities know that they plan to request pollutant removal credit from a particular future CIP project, that information should be presented during the development of the 5-year CIP list.
- 2. A request to share in the costs and take pollutant removal credits must come from a member city no later than during the feasibility study phase of the project.
- 3. The city must demonstrate an explicit reason and need for the request to take pollutant removal credit such as plans for a future project or development in the same area.
- 4. The city must demonstrate that other mechanisms (including innovative and emerging technologies) for pollutant removal in the area are not possible, are considerably less practical, or are considerably more costly than collaborating on the CIP project.
- 5. The city must contribute financially to the project in the same ratio of city costs to total project costs as city pollutant removal credit to total pollutant removal, as determined through the feasibility study.
- 6. The city project for which pollutant removal credit is being sought must be located within the same BCWMC <u>subwatershed</u> as the CIP project.
- 7. The agreement between the city and the BCWMC to design and construct the project must include appropriate language detailing the cost sharing/pollutant removal arrangement.