

Project Category: Water Quality

Project Title: Sochacki Park Water Quality Improvements

Total Estimated Cost: \$2,300,000 (multiple funding sources)

BCWMC Project Number: BC-14

Description:
 This project in the cities of Robbinsdale and Golden Valley will reduce total phosphorus by approximately 67 lbs/year, improving water quality within MnDNR protected wetlands and Bassett Creek, reducing chronic erosion and sedimentation, enhancing buffers and wildlife habitat, and improving recreation and educational opportunities. This is a joint project with multiple partners seeking grant funds from multiple sources. BMP recommendations are based on a subwatershed assessment completed in 2022.

Source of Project Funding	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
CIP Account – BCWMC ad valorem tax levy through Hennepin County	\$300,000	\$300,000			

Justification:

Public wetlands within this highly-used regional park are ecologically degraded, negatively impacting Bassett Creek which is impaired for biota. Wetlands do not meet the subwatershed assessment study goals for total phosphorus (concentration of 75 µg/L), chlorophyll a (concentration of 40 µg/L), or secchi disk transparency (1 meter). This highly-collaborative project seeks to protect and improve DNR wetlands and Bassett Creek with a holistic approach while enhancing existing and planned nature-based programming in the park. Partners include the cities of Robbinsdale, Golden Valley, and Crystal, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD), MnDNR, and potentially others.

Scheduling and Project Status:

[Subwatershed assessment](#) completed by partners in 2022. TRPD is funding the engineering and permitting to a 90% design level in 2023, consistent with BCWMC feasibility study parameters, to improve and strengthen grant applications.

Relationship to BCWMC Plan and Other Projects:

Project is part of the BCWMC trunk system. Project improves or protects water quality in a priority waterbody (Bassett Creek) Project addresses erosion and sedimentation issues. Project addresses multiple Commission goals (e.g., water quality, runoff volume, aesthetics, wildlife habitat, recreation, education) Subwatershed draining to project includes more than one community (three cities)

Effect on Annual Operations Costs:

This project is anticipated to have no effect on BCWMC Annual Operations Costs.



Sochacki Park in Robbinsdale and Golden Valley, showing Grimes, North Rice, and South Rice Ponds. Yellow markers show proposed sites for pond creation and restoration activities. Bassett Creek is immediately downstream (south) of South Rice Pond.

Summary and Planning Level Costs of Proposed Activities, February 17, 2023

BMP ID/ Location	Estimated Annual TP Removal (lbs/yr)	Planning Level Capital Cost Estimate	Recommended Sequence for Implementation
Revegetate/control upland soil erosion	NA	\$ 10,000.00	1a
Increased Street Sweeping in untreated subwatersheds	NA	NA	1b
Clear inlet/outlet debris, remove sediment deltas and stabilize erosion	NA	\$ 100,000.00	1c
Conduct pond water level drawdowns	NA	\$ 154,000.00	1d
Dredge/expand existing SR4 pond (Basin J)	33.5	\$ 456,000.00	2a
Construct stormwater pond at GR6	14.9	\$ 684,000.00	2b
Construct stormwater pond at NR1	3.8	\$ 287,000.00	2c
Construct stormwater pond at SR3	3.7	\$ 392,000.00	2d
Alum Treatment of Grimes, North and South Rice Ponds	11.2	\$ 217,000.00	3
TOTAL	67.1	\$ 2,300,000.00	

Potential Funding Options

- BWSR Clean Water Funds
- Conservation Partners Legacy (for habitat components)
- Hennepin County Opportunity or Stewardship grants
- MPCA grants and MN Public Facilities Authority funds
- MnDNR short term action request grants
- Partner CIP funds (for potential grant match)

Sochacki Park Improvements

September 9, 2020

