



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

MEMO

Date: January 10, 2018
From: Laura Jester, Administrator
To: BCWMC Commissioners
RE: **Administrator's Report**

Aside from this month's agenda items, the Commission Engineers, city staff, committee members, and I continue to work on the following Commission projects and issues.

CIP Projects (more resources at <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects.>)

2019 Medicine Lake Road and Winnetka Avenue Area Long Term Flood Mitigation Plan Implementation Phase I: DeCola Ponds B & C Improvement Project (BC-2, BC-3 & BC-8), Golden Valley: At their meetings in September and October, the Commission approved a proposal and additional proposed actions (respectively) from the Commission Engineer to complete a feasibility study for this project. Feasibility study field work began in late September. A project kick-off meeting was held October 6th, a public open house was held November 9th, and a meeting with permitting agencies was held December 8th and a meeting with Met Council regarding the existing sanitary sewer line was held in late December. The Commission Engineer submitted the workplan to the MPCA related to the environmental investigation, documentation, and reporting tasks, including the participation in the VIC program. MnDNR staff is following-up on establishing the ordinary high water level (OHWL) and confirm past correspondence regarding pond water levels. Tree survey data and resident sight lines are being reviewed to help develop appropriate alternatives. Project website: <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?CID=433>

2019 Bryn Mawr Meadows Water Quality Improvement Project (BC-5), Minneapolis: At their meeting in September, the Commission approved a proposal from the Commission Engineer to complete a feasibility study for this project. A project kick-off meeting was held on October 23rd. A wetland delineation is complete and submitted for approval. Preliminary concepts were developed and discussed with designers for Minneapolis Park and Rec Board. The development and implementation of the project will coincide nicely with the MPRB's planning and implementation of significant improvements and redevelopment Bryn Mawr Meadows Park where the project will be located. A meeting with permitting agencies is scheduled for January 19th. Project website: <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/bryn-mawr-meadows-water-quality-improvement-project>

2019 Westwood Lake Water Quality Improvement Project (WST-2), St. Louis Park: At their meeting in September, the Commission approved a proposal from the Commission Engineer to complete a feasibility study for this project. The project will be completed in conjunction with the Westwood Hills Nature Center reconstruction project. A kick-off meeting was held November 21st. A wetland delineation was completed and approved. The Commission Engineer has received the architect's survey and building location. Additional information is being sought from City consultants to better understand what types of BMPs could be incorporated into the Nature Center's reconstruction project. Project website: <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects/all-projects/westwood-lake-water-quality-improvement-project>

2018 Bassett Creek Park Pond Phase I Dredging Project: Winnetka Pond, Crystal (BCP-2): The final feasibility study for this project was approved at the May 2017 meeting and is now available on the project page online at <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?CID=403>. At the September 2017 meeting, the Commission held a public hearing on the project and adopted a resolution officially ordering the project, certifying costs to Hennepin County, and entering an agreement with the City of Crystal for design and construction. Hennepin County

approved the 2018 final levy request at their meeting in November 2017. Project design and permit application development is underway by Barr Engineering (hired by City of Crystal).

2017 Plymouth Creek Restoration Project, Annapolis Lane to 2,500 feet Upstream (2017CR-P) (See Item 4D): All project documents including the feasibility study and 90% design plans are available online at <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=284>. The BCWMC executed agreements with the BWSR for a \$400,000 Clean Water Fund grant and with Hennepin County for a \$50,000 Opportunity Grant and a subgrant agreement with the City was executed. Project design was completed by the city's contractor, Wenck Associates, with 60% and 90% design plans being approved by the Commission at the April and August 2017 meetings, respectively. Plymouth City Council awarded a construction contract in early December and construction got underway on December 11th. The first request for reimbursement to the City of Plymouth is included in item 4D. I will develop and submit grant reports by February 1st.

2017 Main Stem Bassett Creek Streambank Erosion Repair Project (2017CR-M) (No change since October): The feasibility study for this project was approved at the April Commission meeting and the final document is available on the project page at: <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?cID=281>. A Response Action Plan to address contaminated soils in the project area was completed by Barr Engineering with funding from Hennepin County and was reviewed and approved by the MPCA. The Commission was awarded an Environmental Response Fund grant from Hennepin County for \$150,300 and a grant agreement is in the process of being signed by the county. A subgrant agreement with the City will be developed. The City hired Barr Engineering to design and construct the project. Fifty-percent and 90% designs were approved at the August and October Commission meetings, respectively. In September, design plans were presented by Commission and city staff to the Harrison Neighborhood Association's Glenwood Revitalization Team committee and through a public open house on the project. Bidding for construction is expected in February.

2016 Northwood Lake Improvement Project, New Hope (NL-1): (No change since August.) Northwood Lake Improvement Project is nearing completion with all major work complete. The storm water tank was fully operational in June and will be irrigating the fields for the summer. The educational sign is being designed and will be installed soon. The 2nd rain garden was planted with the fescue grass in June.

I recently submitted grant audit materials to MPCA which were approved. A grand opening of the park was held on May 15th. Friends of Northwood Lake disseminated water quality educational materials, including BCWMC materials. A semi-annual grant report was submitted to the MPCA in July.

2016 Honeywell Pond Expansion Project, Golden Valley (BC-4) (No change since October): In spring 2016, the Honeywell Pond Project was bid as part of the City of Golden Valley and Hennepin County's Douglas Drive (CSAH 102) Reconstruction Project. The reconstruction project began in June 2016. Excavation of the pond basin is complete and the disturbed soils around the pond were temporarily stabilized. The force main work was recently completed. The lift station and pumps have been installed and will be connected to the Sandburg Athletic complex this fall. Park Construction is working with Excel Energy to complete the final connection of power to the lift station. Final stabilization of the pond is set to be completed later this month. The area will be seeded with a mix of natives including wetland and upland species.

2015 Main Stem Restoration Project 10th Avenue to Duluth Street, Golden Valley (2015CR) (No change since October): The restoration project is being constructed in two phases, each under separate contract. Phase one included stream bank shaping, placement of field stone rock and 12-inch bio-logs, and repair of storm sewer outlets. The first phase of the project began in November 2015 and was finished in June 2016. Turf establishment and minor restoration repairs in Phase 1 were accepted in late October 2016. Repairs to some areas where flooding impacted rocks or biologs were completed and accepted in mid-December 2016. Phase 1 of the construction project has entered the warranty period.

Phase 2 of the project includes the establishment of native vegetation along the stream, including grasses, wildflowers, shrubs, live stakes and fascines, and cordgrass plugs. The project has been seeded and stabilized and maintenance mowing and spot treatments have been completed. Applied Ecological Services (AES) installed live stakes and fascines this spring and completed the tree and shrub planting along the restoration project. AES will continue to monitor and maintain the native vegetation through 2018. It is anticipated that the total contract amount for both Phase one and Phase two will be within the Watershed's overall project budget.

2014 Schaper Pond Diversion Project, Golden Valley (SL-3) (No change since October) (See Item 5H): Repairs to the baffle structure were made in 2017 after anchor weights pulled away from the bottom of the pond and some vandalism occurred in 2016. The city continues to monitor the baffle and check the anchors, as needed. Vegetation around the pond was planted in 2016 and a final inspection of the vegetation was completed last fall. Once final vegetation has been completed, erosion control will be pulled and the contract will be closed. The Commission Engineer began the Schaper Pond Effectiveness Monitoring Project last summer and is in the process of analyzing results. Additional monitoring project funding is being requested in item 5H to cover unforeseen circumstances and equipment set up costs.

2014 Twin Lake In-lake Alum Treatment, Golden Valley (TW-2): (No change since January 2017) At their March 2015 meeting, the Commission approved the project specifications and directed the city to finalize specifications and solicit bids for the project. The contract was awarded to HAB Aquatic Solutions. The alum treatment spanned two days: May 18- 19, 2015 with 15,070 gallons being applied. Water temperatures and water pH stayed within the desired ranges for the treatment. Early transparency data from before and after the treatment indicates a change in Secchi depth from 1.2 meters before the treatment to 4.8 meters on May 20th. There were no complaints or comments from residents during or since the treatment. Water monitoring continues to determine if and when a second alum treatment is necessary. Lake monitoring this summer will help determine if a second dose of alum is needed to retain water quality.

2013 Four Season Area Water Quality Project/Agora Development (NL-2) (No change since August): At their meeting in December 2016, the Commission took action to contribute up to \$830,000 of Four Seasons CIP funds for stormwater management at the Agora development on the old Four Seasons Mall location. At their February 2017 meeting the Commission approved an agreement with Rock Hill Management and an agreement with the City of Plymouth allowing the developer access to a city-owned parcel to construct a wetland restoration project and to ensure ongoing maintenance of the CIP project components. At the August 2017 meeting, the Commission approved the 90% design plans for the CIP portion of the project.

Other Work

CIP Project Work and Technical Assistance

- Attended MPRB's "Design Charette" to discuss options for Bryn Mawr Meadows Water Quality Improvement Project
- Set agency meeting for Bryn Mawr Meadows Water Quality Improvement Project
- Corresponded with TRPD and Commission staff and Commissioner Carlson about zebra mussels in Medicine Lake and possible next steps
- Corresponded with Golden Valley staff and Commission Engineer regarding Sweeney Lake Aeration Study schedule

Administration and Education

- Organized, reviewed, culled Commission's paper files, prepared some files for scanning and boxed all others for transfer from Plymouth City Hall; moved file cabinets and file boxes to Crystal Public Works Facility and reorganized file drawers
- Participated in BWSR's informational meeting on Watershed Based Funding
- Communicated with Dawn Pape and Wenck staff regarding 2018 contracts
- Communicated with Met Council re: 2018 WOMP contract and submitted 2017 WOMP expense report
- Communicated with Hennepin County on River Watch activities
- Reviewed 2017 education expenses
- Reviewed responses to staff evaluation/Commission direction questionnaire