



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

January 19, 2023

Ms. Judie Anderson
Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission
3235 Fernbrook Lane N
Plymouth, MN 55447

Re: Review of the 60-day draft of the 2023 – 2032 Shingle Creek West Mississippi Watershed Management Commission Watershed Management Plan

Dear Ms. Anderson:

Thank you for providing the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (BCWMC) with the opportunity to review the 60-day draft of the 2023–2032 Shingle Creek West Mississippi Watershed Management Commission (SCWM WMC) Watershed Management Plan (Plan). On behalf of the BCWMC, we offer the following comments regarding the draft SCWM WMC Plan.

1. The BCWMC collaborated with the Shingle Creek WMC to update their shared legal boundary along the southern border of the Shingle Creek watershed. Updates to the legal boundary were finalized in December 2022, so we understand the final maps were not available when the Plan was submitted for 60-day review. As a result, the maps included in the main text of the Plan and Appendix B – Inventory and Condition Assessment do not reflect the recently updated boundary. We recommend updating the maps to show the new legal boundary prior to Plan adoption.
2. In Section 4.2.3, the Plan text notes:

“As a part of this planning process, the watersheds partnered with Bassett Creek WMO to learn and start a conversation about environmental injustice, how other organizations are increasing their outreach to underserved communities, and how to begin building relationships and work toward more equitable environmental outcomes.”

The BCWMC appreciates the work of the SCWM WMC in collaborating to host a workshop in April 2022 focusing on diversity, equity, and inclusion in watershed management. We are pleased to see this and future efforts referenced in the Plan.

3. In Appendix Section E.4, the text notes:

“A southerly tier of subcatchments flows through storm sewer and a series of ponds to Lower Twin Lake. Under certain conditions the pond system is outletted by pump south to the Bassett Creek watershed.”

The BCWMC appreciates the identification of potential discharge across WMO boundaries. Prior to Plan adoption, we request confirmation and more information about this drainage system, and under what conditions flows are directed to the Bassett Creek watershed. If this discharge is confirmed, it will require approval by the BCWMC, as we have no record of approving it. If this cannot be clarified and approved prior to Plan adoption, we request revising the statement to clarify the conditions under which pumping occurs (e.g., water level above a specified elevation) and that BCWMC approval will be required.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to review the 2023-2032 SCWM WMC Plan. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Catherine Cesnik
Chair, Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

c: Steve Christopher, BWSR