



## Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

### Watershed Plan Development - Progress Tracker October 2024 Update

At their meeting on October 2<sup>nd</sup> the Plan Steering Committee (PSC) finalized issue statements and goals for DEIA-related issues; reviewed and discussed the proposed street sweeping prioritization study, the format for portion of draft Plan section(s) addressing activities, and the water monitoring plan; and began discussing linear project standards and other development project review triggers.

**The next Plan Development Commission Workshop will be held during the November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting and will focus on goals in the Education and Organizational Effectiveness categories.**

Month and Year	Plan Steering Committee Work
September 2023 thru February 2024	<p>Developed format for presenting and discussing issue statements, desired future conditions, 10-year goals, potential actions/strategies, and tracking notes.</p> <p>Developed mission statement: <i>Stewardship of water resources to reduce flood risk and improve watershed ecosystem health.</i></p> <p>Developed issue statements and measurable goals addressing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impaired waters</li> <li>• Chloride loading</li> <li>• Streambank and gully erosion</li> <li>• Lakeshore erosion</li> <li>• Wetland health and restoration</li> </ul> <p>Received update on plan development budget.</p> <p>Reviewed input from the Plan TAC which met in December 2023.</p> <p>Planned for January 2024 Commission workshop and responded to input received.</p> <p>Discussed implementation capacity of Commission.</p>
March 7, 2024	<p>Reviewed and approved updated waterbody classification table; recommended keeping current list of priority waterbodies.</p> <p>Reviewed plan development calendar and timeline.</p> <p>Revisited discussion on future funding and governance structure, acknowledging complicated matter given JPA status and difficulty writing a 10-year plan considering that the future structure or funding of the organization could change . General</p>

Month and Year	Plan Steering Committee Work
	<p>approach agreed to: 1) get the JPA updated and keep the JPA update simple; 2) engage with cities to gain support for additional staff hours/higher operating budget; 3) build the plan with a tiered approach dependent on staffing and structure; 4) analyze organizational structure early in plan Implementation.</p> <p>There was concern from some that momentum for analyzing organizational structure will wane once new JPA is adopted. PSC members acknowledged that future structure will be further explored within the “organizational effectiveness” category in the coming months and a commission workshop would incorporate this item.</p> <p>Developed issue statements, measurable goals and possible implementation actions for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aquatic Invasive Species</li> <li>• Groundwater – Surface Water Interaction (partial)</li> </ul>
April 3, 2024	<p>Revisited discussion on future funding and governance structure for the Commission. Noted that at March Commission meeting, the topic was introduced but without enough background and written materials. The group considered providing a memo on the governance item to the Commission but ultimately decided to provide a monthly status report to the Commission that includes a summary of PSC discussions and plan development progress. Again, the PSC confirmed the funding and governance topic would be subject of a future Commission workshop.</p> <p>Finalized development of issue statements, measurable goals and possible implementation actions for Waterbody and Watershed Quality category including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Groundwater – Surface Water Interaction</li> <li>• Degradation of Riparian Areas</li> <li>• Degradation/Loss of Upland Areas</li> <li>• Groundwater Quality</li> </ul> <p>Discussed format and timing for next Plan TAC meeting.</p> <p>Rescheduled June and July PSC meetings.</p>
May 1, 2024	<p>Developed issue statements, measurable goals and possible implementation actions for a portion of the Flooding and Climate Resiliency category:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impact of climate change on hydrology, water levels, and flood risk</li> </ul> <p>Reviewed draft mockup of Waterbody and Watershed Quality Issues and Goals section.</p> <p>Discussed timing and topics for next Commission workshop.</p>
June 12, 2024	<p>Finalized issue statements, measurable goals and possible implementation actions for a portion of the Flooding and Climate Resilience category:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impact of climate change on hydrology, water levels, and flood risk</li> </ul>

Month and Year	Plan Steering Committee Work
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bassett Creek Valley flood risk reduction and stormwater management opportunities</li> <li>• Groundwater quantity</li> </ul> <p>Began developing issue statements, measurable goals and possible implementation actions for Education and Outreach category:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide outreach to and develop relationships with diverse communities (need policy from Commission before finalizing)</li> <li>• Recreation opportunities</li> </ul>
July 10, 2024	<p>To the extent possible (without a DIEA policy), finalized issue statements, measurable goals and possible implementation actions for Education and Outreach category:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide outreach to and develop relationships with diverse communities</li> <li>• Protect recreation opportunities</li> <li>• POTENTIAL NEW ISSUE: Increase resident and stakeholder capacity for stewardship</li> </ul> <p>Developed issue statements, measurable goals and possible implementation actions for some issues in the Organizational Effectiveness category:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organizational assessment of capacity and staffing</li> <li>• BCWMC funding mechanisms</li> </ul> <p>Begin planning for Commission August 15<sup>th</sup> Commission workshop to discuss the remaining 9 goals of the Waterbody and Watershed Quality category and all 10 goals in the Flooding and Climate Resilience category.</p>
August 7, 2024	<p>Reviewed Planning TAC input on remaining goals in Waterbody and Watershed Quality category and all goals in Flooding and Climate Resiliency category</p> <p>Finalized plans for August 15<sup>th</sup> Commission Workshop</p> <p>Finalized issue statements, measurable goals and possible implementation actions for Organizational Effectiveness category.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress assessment</li> <li>• Public ditch management</li> <li>• Carbon footprint of BCWMC projects</li> </ul>
September 4, 2024	<p>Reviewed input from August Commission Workshop and made revisions to issues and goals.</p> <p>Finalized issue statements, measurable goals and possible implementation actions for remaining goals area under the Education and Outreach category and Organizational Effectiveness category:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engagement of diverse communities</li> <li>• Projects and programs implemented through a DEI lens</li> </ul>

Month and Year	Plan Steering Committee Work
	Discussed mechanism for developing and discussing technical policies and implementation strategies such as street sweeping, buffer standards, linear project requirements, chloride reduction strategies, etc.
October 2, 2024	<p>Finalized DEIA-related issues and goals</p> <p>Reviewed proposed street sweeping prioritization study</p> <p>Reviewed format for portion of draft Plan section(s) addressing activities</p> <p>Began discussing linear project standards.</p> <p>Reviewed draft water monitoring plan</p> <p>Set next Commission workshop on Education and Organizational Effectiveness goals for November 20<sup>th</sup>.</p>
Nov 6, 2024	<p>Review draft education and engagement plan</p> <p>Continue discussing possible revisions to the BCWMC’s Requirements document including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential changes to linear project standards</li> <li>• Potential changes to water quality and rate control triggers</li> <li>• Requirements related to winter maintenance and chloride minimization design practices, including chloride management plans for applicable projects/locations</li> <li>• Changes to permitted activities in floodplains</li> <li>• Stream and wetland buffers</li> </ul> <p>Consider additional activities or associated guidance for addressing various goals (building on content developed during goal development). What changes, additions, deletions from 2015 policies are needed?</p> <p>Finalize plans for Commission workshop on Education and Organizational Effectiveness goals.</p>
Dec 4, 2024	Continue discussion on activities.
January 2025	Review updated CIP prioritization metrics to reflect this plan’s priority issues. Review potential CIP projects 2026 – 2035.
February 2025	Discuss implementation of plan including CIP implementation and staff capacity.
March 2025	<p>Catch up month for unfinished work from last few months.</p> <p>Review complete implementation program, including CIP.</p> <p>Plan for Commission workshop</p>
April 2025	<p>Finalize activities and implementation program</p> <p>Review various plan sections</p>

<b>Month and Year</b>	<b>Plan Steering Committee Work</b>
	Prepare recommendation on complete plan for Commission action at May 15 Commission meeting
May 2025	Review the complete Plan document
May 20 – July 20, 2025	60-day comment period
August 2025	Review comments and discuss draft responses to comments
September 2025	Review and finalize responses to comments Plan for public hearing (required per MN Rule 8410) Prepare recommendations to Commission
October 2025	
Nov 1 – Jan 31, 2025	90-day comment period; presentation to BWSR (likely week of Jan 5, 2026); target January 28, 2026 BWSR Board meeting for approval
February 2026	Final BWSR approval and Commission adoption (5 months past due)

\*Plan TAC = Regular city TAC members plus state and local agencies and other partners