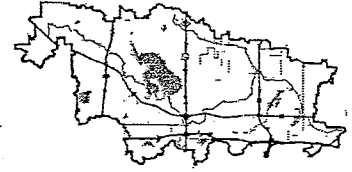


# Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

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September 14, 2006

Mr. Brad Wozney, Board Conservationist  
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources  
520 Lafayette Road North  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**Re: Minor Plan Amendment—September 2004, Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission's *Watershed Management Plan***

Dear Mr. Wozney:

The Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (BCWMC) proposes a minor plan amendment to the Commission's September 2004, *Watershed Management Plan* to modify its Water Quality Management and Flood Control 10-Year Capital Improvements Program, Table 12-2 of the Plan to include the West Medicine Lake Park Pond and the Northwood Lake East Pond. The West Medicine Lake Park Pond is located on Plymouth Creek immediately upstream of Medicine Lake. The Northwood Lake East Pond is located in New Hope immediately downstream of Northwood Lake and outlets to the North Branch of Bassett Creek.

The West Medicine Lake Park Pond was being studied by the City of Plymouth when the September 2004 Plan was adopted. Preliminary plans for either a treatment pond or a chemical treatment facility were developed as part of the *Medicine Lake Watershed and Lake Management Plan* prepared by the BCWMC in 1999. The City of Plymouth's, *Medicine Lake Plan* recommended that the treatment pond be constructed and that the stormwater treatment facility; included in Table 12-3, item ML-8, of the Commission's *Watershed Management Plan*; be delayed until it can be determined if implementation of the other best management practices in the Medicine Lake watershed were successful in meeting the goals for the lake. The treatment pond is described in Section 4.3.3.1, Medicine Lake; Plymouth Creek Drainage District, of the Commission's *Watershed Management Plan*.

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A copy of the City of Plymouth's feasibility study for the proposed pond, *Plymouth Creek Phase I, Feasibility Report for Construction of the West Medicine Lake Park Pond, May 2006*, is enclosed in support of this minor plan amendment. The feasibility report includes a detailed description of the proposed pond, a cost estimate for the pond and maps showing the location of the pond.

In addition to water quality education programs, other stormwater best management practices that have been implemented in the Medicine Lake watershed include:

- Construction of several large regional stormwater treatment ponds.
- Stormwater treatment to remove sediment and nutrients using onsite stormwater treatment for all new development in the watershed since 1994.
- Grants program to encourage lakeshore vegetation buffers.
- Management of geese populations around the lake.
- Phosphorus fertilizer restrictions since 1999.
- Inlake nutrient reduction efforts focused on macrophyte management in 2004, 2005 and 2006.

In addition, stream channel restoration efforts are planned to repair channel erosion and to prevent additional future erosion. The construction of this proposed pond on Plymouth Creek is consistent with the intent of Section 4.0, Water Quality, of the Commission's *Watershed Management Plan*, to implement water quality best management practices that will meet the desired water quality goals for Medicine Lake.

The estimated construction cost for the Medicine Lake Park Pond that was developed as part of the feasibility study is \$900,000. The current estimated construction cost for the stormwater treatment facility in the CIP is \$2,300,000. If the construction of this pond and the other BMPs that have been implemented, or will be implemented, are successful in reducing phosphorus levels to met goals, the stormwater treatment facility in the CIP will not be needed.

The Northwood Lake East Pond was proposed in the February, 1996, City of New Hope *Surface Water Management Plan*. A copy of the City of New Hope's, feasibility study for the proposed pond *Northwood Lake East Pond, Feasibility Study, August, 2006*, is enclosed. The feasibility study includes a detailed description of the proposed pond, a cost estimate for construction of the pond and maps showing the location of the pond. The construction of the proposed pond is consistent with the intent of Section 4.0, Water Quality, of the Commission's *Watershed Management Plan* to

implement water quality best management practices that will meet the desired water quality goals for the North Branch of Bassett Creek and Bassett Creek Park Pond. The estimated construction cost for the pond is \$45,000.

The proposed West Medicine Lake Park Pond project and the proposed Northwood Lake East Pond project will be funded through an ad valorem tax levied by Hennepin County. With a watershed tax levy, there will be no direct financial impact on the local units of government since the cities will not be paying the tax.

In accordance with MN Rules 8410.0140, we are sending copies of this proposed minor plan amendment to the affected cities, Hennepin County, the Metropolitan Council and the state review agencies for their review and comment. Copies of the minor plan amendment will also be made available on the BCWMC's website ([www.bassettcreekwmo.org](http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org)). Written comments should be sent to me at the address shown below. As provided by MN Rules 8410.0140, the BCWMC will conclude that this is a minor plan amendment and proceed accordingly, unless the Commission hears to the contrary from the MN Board of Water & Soil Resources (BWSR) within 75 days of your receipt of this amendment. Assuming you receive this minor plan amendment on August 25, 2006, the 75-day review period will end on November 8, 2006. Prior to taking action, BCWMC will hold a public hearing to receive comments on the proposed minor plan amendment.

Thank you for your review of this proposed amendment. We look forward to a determination by the BWSR that this is a minor plan amendment. Please call either Charlie LeFevere, Esq., the BCWMC's legal representative, at (612) 337-9215, or Len Kremer, P.E., the BCWMC's engineer, at (952) 832-2781 if you have any questions.

Very Truly Yours,



Michael Welch  
Chair, Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

Note: please send written comments to:

Mr. Michael Welch  
Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission Chair  
c/o Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission Recording Administrator  
4700 West 77th Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55435

Enclosures

c: Hennepin County – Mr. Joel Settles  
Hennepin Conservation District – Ms. Stacy Lijewski  
City of Crystal – Ms. Janet Lewis, City Clerk  
City of Golden Valley – Ms. Sue Virnig, City Clerk  
City of Medicine Lake – Mr. Chris Lentz, City Clerk  
City of Minneapolis – Ms. Merry Keefe, City Clerk  
City of Minnetonka – Ms. Kathleen Magrew, City Clerk  
City of New Hope – Ms. Valerie Leone, City Clerk  
City of Plymouth – Ms. Sandra Engdahl, City Clerk  
City of Robbinsdale – Ms. Dianne Krogh, City Clerk  
City of St. Louis Park – Ms. Nancy Smith, City Clerk  
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources – Ms. Charlotte Cohn  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency – Mr. John Hensel  
Minnesota Department of Health – Mr. Terry Bovee  
Minnesota Department of Agriculture – Ms. Becky Balk  
Metropolitan Council – Ms. Judy Sventek  
Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

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