



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

MEMO

Date: June 8, 2017
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.>)

2017 Plymouth Creek Restoration Project, Annapolis Lane to 2,500 feet Upstream (2017CR-P): (See Item 5A)

The final feasibility study and project information are available online at <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/index.php?CID=284>. The BCWMC recently executed agreements with the BWSR for a \$400,000 Clean Water Fund grant and with Hennepin County for a \$50,000 Opportunity Grant. A subgrant agreement with the City will be developed and executed. Project design is underway through a contract between the City and Wenck Associates. The City will soon apply for permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Natural Resources. Sixty-percent designs were submitted to the Commission Engineer and will be presented at this meeting. 90% plans are slated to be presented at the July Commission meeting. A public open house on the project will be held on Monday June 26th, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. at Plymouth City Hall. I plan to attend that meeting to hear the questions and concerns from residents in the area. The project is slated for construction next winter.

2017 Main Stem Bassett Creek Streambank Erosion Repair Project (2017CR-M): 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 County Board approved the 2017 maximum levy request at their meeting on July 28th. At the September meeting, the Commission held a public hearing on the project and adopted a resolution ordering the project and certifying a final levy to Hennepin County. Also at that meeting, the Commission entered an agreement with the City of Minneapolis to design and construct the project. 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 recently entered a contract with Barr Engineering to design and construct the project.

2013 Four Season Area Water Quality Project/Agora Development (NL-2): At their meeting in December, 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 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. The developer recently submitted plans for the wetland restoration portion of the project to the Commission Engineer for review. The plans were submitted to the Commission Engineer in late May. The Commission Engineer and the developer's consultant, Solution Blue, are working through some details. The plans with Commission Engineers comments and recommendations are slated for presentation at the July Commission meeting. At this time, the development parcel has not yet been sold to Rock Hill Management.

2014 Schaper Pond Diversion Project, Golden Valley (SL-3): Last August, the Commission Engineer reported that the structure had been vandalized and repair was needed. The City executed a change order with Sunram Construction (the contractor for the project) to add weights to some of the baffle anchors. The weights will provide more support against wind loading on the baffle. Ice formed on the pond before the contractor could perform the work last fall. The contractor performed more seeding in the two access areas, which improved vegetation coverage, but more coverage is required to achieve final stabilization. The contractor returned to the site in Mid-April to reinstall baffle anchors. The contractor also added weights to the baffle anchors to hold them in place in windy conditions. Staff will continue to monitor the baffle and anchors to ensure that they stay in place. The contractor has some final vegetation establishment to complete before the contract can be closed. Erosion control will be removed once the final stabilization is completed. The Commission Engineer recently began the effectiveness monitoring with equipment purchase; coordination with vendors on equipment options/system design; obtaining quotes and place equipment orders; and visiting the site and preparing the shelter for equipment and start up.

2014 Twin Lake In-lake Alum Treatment, Golden Valley (TW-2): (No update since January.) 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.

2015 Main Stem Restoration Project 10th Avenue to Duluth Street, Golden Valley (2015CR): (No update since May) 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 second phase of the contract, Native Buffer Vegetation installation is underway. The project has been seeded and stabilized and maintenance mowing and spot treatments have been completed. Applied Ecological Services (AES) has installed live stakes and fascines this spring. Shrubs and trees will be planted later this month. The contractor also will touch up some areas that were damaged by high water and ice over the winter and will replace erosion control blanket where needed. 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.

2016 Northwood Lake Improvement Project, New Hope (NL-1): Northwood Lake Improvement Project is nearing completion with all major work complete. The storm water tank was fully operational as of yesterday and will be irrigating the fields for the summer. The educational sign is being designed and will be installed within the next two months. Grading and seed touch ups will occur over the next month. The 2nd rain garden will be planted with the fescue grass this month.

Grant reporting is up to date although I need to perform a grant audit with MPCA per the grant agreement. A grand opening of the park is scheduled for the evening of May 15th. Friends of Northwood Lake will disseminate water quality educational materials, including BCWMC materials. At a Friends of Northwood Lake annual meeting

in May, Hennepin County Commissioner Opat mentioned the project and indicated it was a good example of a partnership. The city held a grand opening of the park on May 15th; the Friends of Northwood Lake distributed BCWMC education materials. The educational signage for the project is currently being designed and will be installed this summer. I recently completed forms and provided materials for a MPCA financial audit for the Clean Water Partnership grant.

Photos and construction progress are available at: <http://www.ci.new-hope.mn.us/departments/publicworks/2016infrastructure.shtml>

2016 Honeywell Pond Expansion Project, Golden Valley (BC-4) (No update since May): 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 contractor will finish installation of the storm sewer and install the pumps for the water reuse system next month. Final grading and stabilization will also be completed within the next month.

2018 Bassett Creek Park Pond & Winnetka Pond Dredging, 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>. The Commission also approved a maximum levy amount for this project at its May 2017 meeting. I will attend a Hennepin County Commission committee meeting regarding the maximum levy (along with the Commission Engineer and Crystal staff) on June 20th. At its September 2017 meeting, the Commission will hold a public hearing on the project and consider a resolution to order the project and enter an agreement for design and construction with the City of Crystal.

Other Work

Administrative and Financial:

- Submitted proposed 2018 operating budget to cities for comment by August 1st
- Prepared maximum levy document for Hennepin County and coordinated with County staff to describe 2018 projects and funding needs
- Finalized and posted 2016 annual report; submitted to the State
- Updated website with Flood Control Project policies (adopted Sept 2016) and background materials: <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects>
- Posted final XP-SWMM Report and presentation: <http://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/projects>

Volunteers and Education:

- Prepared and distributed letter of understanding to cities reporting on 2016 BCWMC education activities for their MS4 permit reports
- Coordinated volunteers for June 3rd events
- Delivered education materials for Westwood Nature Center event
- Secured venue for Parking Lot and Sidewalk Winter Maintenance Training Course, Oct 13th, Crystal Community Center
- Coordinated with Dawn Pape regarding newly approved educational activities

Other Activities:

- Attended meeting with Blue Line LRT Project Office staff, Commission Engineer, and city representatives. The Commission will likely hear a presentation on the Blue Line LRT project at their July meeting.
- Prepared for and attended APM/AIS Committee meeting
- Met with Winnetka Apartment managers, Commission Engineer, and city staff to discuss pond dredging project, native buffer and goose management