

Memorandum

To: Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission
From: Barr Engineering Co.
Subject: Item 7Biii. Approval of 2014 Watershed Management Plan Goals
Date: September 12, 2013
Project: 23270051.34 PLAN 009

7Biii. Approval of Draft 2014 Watershed Management Plan Goals

Recommendations:

1. Approve the three draft goals (highlighted) that were “tabled” during the August Commission meeting, subsequently reviewed by the Plan Steering Committee, and re-recommended as stated (regarding flooding, groundwater and ditches).

Background

The draft goals for the 2014 Watershed Management Plan (Plan) were developed according to the following process:

- July 1, 2013 – the Plan Steering Committee reviewed the current (2004 Plan) goals and notable goals from other watershed management organizations (WMOs). The Plan Steering Committee revised existing goals, created new goals, and eliminated goals no longer applicable. The Plan Steering Committee directed the Commission Engineer to revise those goals not discussed during the meeting.
- July 18, 2013 – the Commission held a workshop, which included Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members, state review agencies and other stakeholders to discuss and revise the draft goals. The Commission directed the Commission Engineer to perform word-smithing not completed during the workshop.
- July 22, 2013 – the Plan Steering Committee reviewed the draft goals as revised based on discussion from the July 18, 2013 workshop and performed final edits prior to submission for Commission approval.
- August 19, 2013 – The Plan Steering Committee reviewed goals related to public ditches, groundwater management, and flood reduction based on comments received since the July 22 Plan Steering Committee meeting. No changes were made to the goals based on that review.

Draft 2014 Plan Goals

- Manage the surface water resources of the watershed to meet or exceed state standards and BCWMC water quality goals for wetlands, lakes, and streams.
- Improve the quality of stormwater runoff reaching the Mississippi River by reducing nonpoint source pollution.
- Protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat in the BCWMC.
- Consider aesthetics and recreational opportunities within the watershed when completing BCWMC projects.
- Reduce stormwater runoff volume for the purposes of improving water quality.
- Reduce flooding along the Bassett Creek trunk system.
- Protect human life, property, and surface water systems that could be damaged by flood events.
- Reduce stormwater runoff rates and volumes to minimize flood problems, flood damages, and the future costs of stormwater management systems.
- Provide leadership and assist member cities with coordination of intercommunity stormwater runoff issues.
- Notwithstanding that which occurs from natural processes, minimize erosion and sedimentation to protect the BCWMC's water resources and health, safety and welfare.
- Maintain or improve shoreland integrity and implement stream restoration measures to maintain or enhance ecological functions as well as human health, safety, and welfare.
- Increase the quality and quantity of wetlands in the BCWMC.
- Protect the quantity and quality of groundwater resources.
- Manage public ditches in a manner that recognizes their current use as urban drainage systems.
- Raise awareness of the BCWMC's existence and its role in protecting and improving water quality, minimizing flooding, and preserving the watershed's ecological functions and aesthetics.
- Strengthen public confidence in the BCWMC's expertise and enable meaningful public participation in the planning process and ongoing projects conducted by the BCWMC.
- Raise awareness of the impact that individuals, businesses, and organizations have upon water resources and motivate these audiences to change personal/corporate behavior that has a negative impact on the watershed.
- Minimize the spread and manage the adverse impacts of harmful aquatic invasive species.
- Develop a greater understanding of climate change and its impact on water resources, including stormwater infrastructure capacity and flooding, and develop strategies to appropriately manage future impacts.