



April 17, 2013

Ms. Laura Jester, Administrator
Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission
c/o Barr Engineering Co.
4700 West 77th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55435

RE: 60-DAY REVIEW OF DRAFT 2013 MAJOR PLAN AMENDMENT

Dear Ms. Jester:

Board of Water and Soil Resources staff have completed review of the 60-day draft plan amendment to add three capital projects to the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) totaling \$898,000. We believe the amendment is compliant with rule and statute and we commend the Commission for maintaining a current CIP.

Sincerely,

Bradley J. Wozney
Board Conservationist

Cc: State Reviewing Agencies (via email)
Joel Settles, Hennepin County Environmental Services (via email)
Tom Petersen, HCD (via email)

Bemidji 701 Minnesota Avenue Suite 234 Bemidji, MN 56601 phone (218) 755-4235 fax (218) 755-4201	Brainerd 1601 Minnesota Drive Brainerd, MN 56401 phone (218) 828-2383 fax (218) 828-6036	Duluth 394 S. Lake Avenue Room 403 Duluth, MN 55802 phone (218) 723-4752 fax (218) 723-4794	Fergus Falls 1004 Frontier Trail Fergus Falls, MN 56537 phone (218) 736-5445 fax (218) 736-7215	Marshall 1400 E. Lyon Street Box 267 Marshall, MN 56258 phone (507) 537-6060 fax (507) 537-6368	New Ulm 261 Highway 15 S. New Ulm, MN 56073 phone (507) 359-6074 fax (507) 359-6018	Rochester 2300 Silver Creek Road N.E. Rochester, MN 55906 phone (507) 281-7797 fax (507) 285-7144	Saint Paul 520 Lafayette Road N. Saint Paul, MN 55155 phone (651) 296-3767 fax (651) 297-5615
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March 12, 2013

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

RE: Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission's (BCWMC) – Major Watershed Management Plan Amendment 60 day review
Metropolitan Council Review File No. 19848-6

Dear Mr. Wozney:

The Metropolitan Council has completed its review of the BCWMC Watershed Management Plan Amendment. The plan amendment includes three new projects to the Capital Improvement Program. The first proposed project modifies Schaper Pond to improve the pond's ability to remove phosphorus and to help meet the Sweeney Lake TMDL phosphorus reduction goals. This project is estimated to remove 81-156 pounds of phosphorus each year and cost \$550,000. The second proposed project would construct a water quality treatment pond that is estimated to remove 14 pounds per year at a cost of \$200,000. The third proposed project is to treat Twin Lake with alum at a cost of \$148,000 to reduce an estimated 242 pounds per year of internal phosphorus loading for the lake.

The plan amendment is consistent with the Council's *Water Resources Management Policy Plan* and Council goals of reducing nutrient loads in our regional water resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this plan. If you would like to discuss the comments contained in this letter, please contact Judy Sventek at 651-602-1156.

Sincerely,



William G. Moore
Deputy General Manager

WM: js

CC: Laura Jester, Administrator BCWMC
Roxanne Smith, Metropolitan Council District 1
Lona Schreiber, Metropolitan Council District 2
Jennifer Munt, Metropolitan Council District 3
James Brimeyer, Metropolitan Council District 6
Gary Cunningham, Metropolitan Council District 7
Keith Buttleman, Assistant General Manager, MCES, Environmental Quality Assurance Dept.
Freya Thamman and Tori Dupre, Metropolitan Council Sector Representatives
Raya Esmaeili, Metropolitan Council Reviews Coordinator

From: Sip, Rob (MDA) [<mailto:rob.sip@state.mn.us>]
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2013 8:01 AM
To: Bassett Creek Recording Administrator
Subject: RE: Major Plan Amendment Request from the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

The MDA does not have any comments at this point.

Robert L. Sip
Environmental Policy Specialist
Pesticide and Fertilizer Management Division
Minnesota Department of Agriculture
625 Robert Street North
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Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

1200 Warner Road
Saint Paul, MN 55106-6793



April 5, 2013

Laura Jester, Administrator
Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission
c/o, Barr Engineering
4700 West 77th St.
Edina, MN 55435

RE: DNR Comments on Major Plan Amendment for Bassett Creek Watershed Management
Commission's 2004 Watershed Management Plan

Dear Ms. Jester:

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) offers the following comments on the Commission's Major Plan Amendment.

The Commission proposes to reduce phosphorus loads into Sweeney Lake by modifying Schaper Pond to improve the pond's ability to remove phosphorus by constructing an additional diversion structure (BCWMC Project SL-3, 2014). Schaper Pond is immediately upstream of Sweeney Lake. Schaper Pond is DNR Public Water Wetland #27-649 so DNR authorization is required to construct the diversion structure.

In 1997 DNR issued Public Waters Work Permit 1997-6094 to the City of Golden Valley authorizing dredging of Schaper Pond to create deeper water areas that would collect sediment and to construct a berm that would facilitate the flow of water into these deeper areas. The proposed additional diversion structure would require an amendment to permit 1997-6094. However, due to changes in rules and policies, the DNR may not be able to authorize this proposal or a similar concept. A similar, recent proposal in the metropolitan area to enhance a Public Water's function as sediment basin was denied. Like Schaper's Pond, this Public Water also had previous DNR authorization that allowed dredging and berm construction to trap sediment. Our understanding is that Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) rules do not allow enhancement of Public Waters that have previously been modified to serve as storm water ponds. We recommend you consult with Brian Livingston at the MPCA on their rules and regulations.

As we stated in our input in August 2012 to the Commission's 3rd Generation Plan, we recommend and encourage the Commission to allocate funding to systematically conduct intensive subwatershed assessments aimed at identification of opportunities to retrofit storm water Best Management Practices (BMPs) that will achieve runoff volume reductions, which we'd expect to lead to less sediment entering Bassett Creek and the lakes in the Commission's area. For an example, you may wish to look into the Metro Conservation District's program which recently completed an assessment in the Crystal Lake subwatershed in the City of Robbinsdale. We also encourage the Commission to review its rules and standards to address

infiltration/abstraction BMPs for redevelopment as well as new development projects. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's work on Minimal Impact Design Standards should also be reviewed and incorporated as appropriate.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Commissions Major Plan Amendment. If you have questions or would like further discussion, please contact DNR Area Hydrologist Kate Drewry at Kate.Drewry@state.mn.us or 651-259-5753.

Sincerely,



John (Jack) Gleason
DNR Hydrologist
John.Gleason@state.mn.us
651-259-5754

cc: Brad Wozney, BWSR
Daryl Ellison, Fisheries
Kate Drewry, EWR

Terri Yearwood, EWR
Melissa Doperalski, EWR
Nick Proulx, EWR