



## Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

### MEMO

Date: August 13, 2014  
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

**2012 Main Stem Restoration Project, Golden Valley Rd. to Irving Ave. N., Minneapolis and Golden Valley (mostly in Wirth Park) (2012CR):** Final design plans are nearing completion. The Commission Engineer and WSB, the engineering firm developing the designs, are meeting later this week to discuss the results of the flood stage modeling. Additionally, the Minneapolis Park and Rec Board is still working to secure a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. We are still hoping to begin construction this fall. A request to extend the Clean Water Fund grant for this project was submitted by the Commission to BWSR last month.

**2014 Schaper Pond Diversion Project, Golden Valley (SL-3):** (See agenda item 5D). Barr Engineering recently updated its proposal to Golden Valley for designing the project. At this meeting, the Commission will consider approving an agreement with the City of Golden Valley to proceed with design and construction of the project. 50% Plans are expected to be completed this fall and construction could begin in early 2015.

**2014 Twin Lake In-lake Alum Treatment, Golden Valley (TW-2):** The Commission Engineer will analyze water quality data as it becomes available in order to make a recommendation on whether or not to proceed with an alum treatment this fall.

**2014 Briarwood/Dawnview Water Quality Improvement Project, Golden Valley (BC-7):** The Commission will review and consider approving the 90% plans for this project at the September Commission meeting.

**2015 Main Stem Restoration Project 10th Avenue to Duluth Street, Golden Valley (2015CR):** The next step for the 2015 Main Stem Restoration Project is determining which sites to restore and which restoration methods to use. City of Golden Valley staff met with their consultant on June 9<sup>th</sup> to define our priorities. City staff has started meeting with effected residents to discuss their concerns and preferences for stabilization. The September and October Commission meetings will include public hearings for this project. The project is expected to be ordered by the Commission at their October meeting.

**2016 Northwood Lake Improvement Project, New Hope (NL-1):** The Commission approved development of a feasibility study for this project at their May meeting. The draft feasibility report will be reviewed by the Commission Engineer and will be presented at the September Commission meeting. The City of New Hope conducted the first neighborhood meeting on June 24<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Elder and Alternate Commissioner Crough attended that meeting along with 15 residents. A second neighborhood meeting is scheduled for August 13<sup>th</sup>.

## **Other Projects**

**Major Plan Amendment:** No comments were received during the Commission's 6/19/14 public hearing. The County received no comments at their 5/13/14 public hearing and County staff also have no comments. At its meeting on 6/24/14, the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners approved the Major Plan Amendment (along with the maximum levy of \$1M). The Board of Water and Soil Resources received additional minor comments from the MDNR regarding tree health and environmental review. Staff provided a response to these comments. The BWSR Metro Water Planning Committee approved the proposed amendment at their August 7th meeting. The full BWSR Board is expected to approve the amendment at their 8/28/14 meeting. At the September meeting the Commission will consider adopting the Major Plan Amendment.

**Watershed Map Project:** Ted Hoshal and Hedberg Maps have been working on final edits to the map. 2,500 copies of the map will be ordered from the printer. Delivery is expected in time for the Golden Valley Days event next month.

**Hennepin County Natural Resources Partnership:** Hennepin County recently held their first meeting of this group. Commission Engineer Chandler attended in my absence. I plan to attend future meetings when they include pertinent or useful topics. This group plans to meet several times a year. The goal of the partnership is to discuss issues of common interest, provide a venue for presentations on an array of poignant topics, and promote a more comprehensive and collaborative approach to county-wide natural resource management.

**Sweeney Lake Educational Sign(s):** Two signs – one relaying information on how residents can help improve and protect water quality and the other with facts about algae have been designed and approved by Golden Valley staff with some input from me on behalf of the Commission. Plans for sign placement and installation continue with the City and homeowners associations. The Hidden Lake Homeowners Association considered the signs at a recent meeting and tabled the item pending more information.

**Next Generation Watershed Management Plan:** (See agenda item 5E) I continue to help draft policies, coordinate Plan Steering Committee meetings, disseminate information, and track the project timeline. The Plan Steering Committee met on July 7 and July 28<sup>th</sup>. A Commission workshop was held on August 11<sup>th</sup>. Another workshop is expected in September. The current Plan development timeline includes the release of the 60-day review draft this November. We are still hoping to meet that timeline.

**NEMO workshops:** (See agenda item 5J.) A total of 14 local officials and/or BCWMC Commissioners attended the July 23<sup>rd</sup> Workshop on the Water. A final event - a bus tour of projects in the west metro is scheduled for September 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Develop "New Commissioner" materials:** See agenda item 5F.

**Commission Policies:** As recently directed by the Administrative Services Committee, by the end of the year I will develop policies on records and data retention, public access to documents, and fiscal policies.

**CIP Process Improvement:** There has been no change on this item since my June Administrator's Report. I hope to work with Alternate Commissioner Tobelmann on the use of project management software and with Amy Herbert on creating one webpage per CIP project.