



Item 6C.  
BCWMC 2-20-14

## Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

DRAFT

February XX, 2014

Mr. Steve Christopher  
MN Board of Water and Soil Resources  
520 Lafayette Road N.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**Re: Major Plan Amendment for the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission's September 2004 "Watershed Management Plan"**

Dear Mr. Christopher:

The Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (BCWMC) proposes a major plan amendment to the September 2004 BCWMC *Watershed Management Plan* (BCWMC Plan). The proposed amendment would modify the following parts of the BCWMC Plan:

- Adding to the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) a project for 2015 (CR2015) to restore approximately 1.8 miles of the Main Stem of Bassett Creek from 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Duluth Street in the City of Golden Valley

The revised CIP (Table 12-2 in the BCWMC Plan) showing this project is attached to this request. The revised table shows the additional project, along with the completed and future CIP projects. The CIP shows the projects proposed to be completed from 2010 through 2018 and their estimated costs. The CIP also lists the completed CIP projects and the actual project costs; the year of completion is shown in the notes at the bottom of the table.

Also attached is a draft of the language within the BCWMC Plan that is proposed for change (Section 12.6.6, 2014 Major Plan Amendments). This language is in addition to the current plan text and does not replace any existing text.

The remainder of this letter describes the proposed BCWMC Plan modifications in more detail and the major plan amendment process.

### **Addition to the CIP— Main Stem of Bassett Creek Restoration 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Duluth Street, Golden Valley (BCWMC Project CR2015) (2015)**

The BCWMC Plan recognized the need to restore stream reaches damaged by erosion or affected by sedimentation. Section 7.0 of the BCWMC Plan describes the issue, the Commission's policies relating to channel restoration, and the benefit of stream restoration in preserving fisheries habitat and minimizing nutrient and sediment loads to the creek and downstream waters. The Commission established the Creek and Streambank Trunk System Maintenance, Repair and Sediment Removal Fund (the Restoration Fund) to address the issue. The Commission decided to assess the cities in the watershed \$25,000 annually to fund channel restoration projects (Restoration Fund). The cities

conducted inventories of the channel reaches and the BCWMC Plan identified specific problem areas.

The 2013 Golden Valley Erosion Site Survey identified numerous problem areas along the project area of Bassett Creek within the City of Golden Valley. The problems include a heavy tree canopy of volunteer trees; degraded vegetative diversity; invasive species of trees, vegetation, and shrubs; areas of active streambank erosion; deposition of sediments; and failing infrastructure.

The work to restore the channel in this area has been requested by the City of Golden Valley, which has very little ownership of or easement rights to the property adjacent to the creek. Restoration of the sites along this reach is proposed to be included as a group for design and construction in the BCWMC's 2015 CIP.

The Bassett Creek Golden Valley Main Stem channel restoration project proposed to be added to the CIP will consist of a variety of erosion control measures including:

- Removal of hazard and invasive trees and vegetation
- Reshaping and stabilization of eroded streambanks
- Installation of a variety of stream stabilization measures and flow diversion methods to address erosion problems, including biologs, rock vanes, boulders, riprap, live stakes, and native vegetation and plantings
- Repair of storm sewer outfalls, and other failing infrastructure along the creek
- Establishing native vegetation, trees, and shrubs along the creek
- Removal of miscellaneous debris from within the creek

Based on the draft Feasibility Report for the 2015 Bassett Creek Main Stem Restoration Project, the total estimated project cost ranges from \$1,319,000 to \$1,659,000.

### **Major Plan Amendment Process**

In accordance with MN Statute 103B.231, copies of this proposed plan amendment are being sent to the member cities, Hennepin County, the Metropolitan Council, the MDNR, the Minnesota Department of Health, the MPCA, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MnDOT, and BWSR for their review and comment. Copies of the major 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 the Commission Administrator at the address shown below. The 60-day review period would end on XXX, 2014. Upon completion of the review period, the BCWMC will respond to comments, hold a public hearing on the plan amendment, and then submit the plan amendment to BWSR for Board approval.

This project is proposed to be constructed in 2015. For this to happen, the BCWMC must order the projects and submit its tax levy request to Hennepin County by the end of September 2014.

Thank you for your review of this proposed amendment. We look forward to working with the BWSR staff to gain the BWSR Board's timely approval of this major plan amendment. After approval of the major plan amendment, but prior to ordering the project in the amendment, the BCWMC will hold another public hearing to receive comments on the proposed project.

Please call either Charlie LeFevre, Esq., the BCWMC's legal representative, at (612) 337-9215, or Karen Chandler, P.E., the BCWMC's engineer, at (952) 832-22813 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Virginia (Ginny) Black,  
Chair, Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

**Note: please send written comments to:**

Laura Jester, Administrator  
Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission  
c/o Barr Engineering Co.  
4700 West 77<sup>th</sup> St, Suite 200  
Minneapolis, MN 55435

Enclosures

Proposed CIP Table 12-2 in the BCWMC Plan  
Proposed language for Section 12.6.6, "2014 Major Plan Amendment"

c: Hennepin County – Mr. Randy Anhorn  
City of Crystal – Ms. Chrissy Serres, City Clerk  
City of Golden Valley – Ms. Sue Virnig, City Clerk  
City of Medicine Lake – Ms. Nancy Pauly, City Clerk  
City of Minneapolis – Mr. Casey J. Carl, City Clerk  
City of Minnetonka – Mr. David Maeda, City Clerk  
City of New Hope – Ms. Valerie Leone, City Clerk  
City of Plymouth – Ms. Sandra Engdahl, City Clerk  
City of Robbinsdale – Mr. Tom Marshall, City Clerk  
City of St. Louis Park – Ms. Nancy Stroth, City Clerk  
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources – Mr. Nick Proulx  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency – Ms. Juline Holleran  
Minnesota Department of Health – Mr. Art Persons  
Minnesota Department of Agriculture – Mr. Rob Sip  
Metropolitan Council – Ms. Judy Sventek  
Minnesota Department of Transportation – Mr. Nick Tiedeken  
Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

## **12.6.6 2014 Major Plan Amendment**

In August and September 2014, BWSR approved and the BCWMC adopted, respectively, a major plan amendment to add the following projects to the BCWMC's 10-year CIP (Table 12-2): Main Stem of Bassett Creek Restoration 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Duluth Street (CR2015).

### **Main Stem of Bassett Creek Restoration 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Duluth Street, Golden Valley**

The BCWMC Plan recognized the need to restore stream reaches damaged by erosion or affected by sedimentation. Section 7.0 of the BCWMC Plan describes the issue, the Commission's policies relating to channel restoration, and the benefit of stream restoration in preserving fisheries habitat and minimizing nutrient and sediment loads to the creek and downstream waters. The Commission established the Creek and Streambank Trunk System Maintenance, Repair and Sediment Removal Fund (the Restoration Fund) to address the issue. The Commission decided to assess the cities in the watershed \$25,000 annually to fund channel restoration projects (Restoration Fund). The cities conducted inventories of the channel reaches and the BCWMC Plan identified specific problem areas.

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The Bassett Creek Golden Valley Main Stem channel restoration project proposed to be added to the CIP will consist of a variety of erosion control measures including:

- Removal of hazard and invasive trees and vegetation
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This project is on the BCWMC CIP starting in 2015 (project CR2015 in Table 12-2 – CIP table) with an estimated cost of \$1,659,000 (high end of estimated cost range).

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Table 12-2 Water Quality Management and Flood Control 10-Year Capital Improvements Program

	Water Quality Improvement	Capital Cost <sup>1</sup>		Year								
		A (Actual Project Cost)	E (Estimated Project Cost)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Medicine Lake												
ML-1 <sup>2</sup>	Construct wet detention pond for subwatershed BC94B1 (Option 8 in Medicine Lake Plan)		\$0									
ML-2 <sup>3</sup>	Reduce Goose Loadings by 75% (Option 17 in Medicine Lake Plan)											
ML-3, ML-4 <sup>4</sup>	Reroute flows from subwatershed BC94 to a larger wet detention pond for BC92 (Option 9a in Medicine Lake Plan) & dredging of accumulated sediment  Medicine Lake East Beach wet detention pond for subwatershed BC107 (Option 11 in Medicine Lake Plan) & dredging of accumulated sediment	A	\$893,000									
ML-5 <sup>5</sup>	Construct wet detention pond for subwatersheds BC98, BC98A and BC98B (Option 10a in Medicine Lake Plan) & dredging of accumulated sediment		\$0									
ML-6	Construct wet detention pond for subwatershed BC94B2 (Option 6 in Medicine Lake Plan)	E	\$14,000									\$14,000
ML-7 <sup>6</sup>	In-Lake Herbicide Treatment (Option 18 in Medicine Lake Plan)	A	\$132,000									
ML-8	Lakeview Park Pond						\$196,000					
ML-11 <sup>15</sup>	Medicine Lake Park Pond	E	\$1,100,000									
Plymouth Creek												
PC-1 <sup>19</sup>	26th Avenue to Medicine Lake	E	\$965,000	\$902,462								
PC-2 <sup>19</sup>	26th Avenue to 37th Avenue	E	\$559,000							\$105,000	\$454,000	
Parkers Lake												
PL-6 <sup>14</sup>	Improvements to stormwater basin in PL-A13 near Circle Park (from the City of Plymouth's Parkers Lake Implementation Plan)	E	\$73,000									
Wirth Lake												
WTH-1 <sup>7</sup>	Dredging subwatershed FR-5 detention pond (Option 2 in Wirth Lake Plan)	A	\$69,000									
WTH-2 <sup>8</sup>	Highway 55 detention pond (option 3 in Wirth Lake Plan)	E	\$215,000									
WTH-3 <sup>8</sup>	In-lake alum treatment (Option 1 in Wirth Lake Plan)	E	\$59,000									
WTH-4	Modify outlet to prevent back-flow (Wirth Lake TMDL Implementation Plan)		\$180,000			\$180,000						
Sweeney Lake												
SL-3	Schaper Pond Diversion Project	E	\$612,000					\$612,000				
Twin Lake												
TW-1 <sup>9</sup>	Pond expansion (Option 1 in Twin Lake Plan)	E	\$182,000									
TW-2	Twin Lake In-Lake Alum Treatment	E	\$163,000					\$163,000				
Westwood Lake												
WST-1 <sup>10</sup>	Flag Avenue detention/ skimming facility (Option 1 in Westwood Lake Plan)	A	\$174,000									
Bassett Creek Park Pond												
	None-see Table 2 Potential future water quality projects											
Northwood Lake												
NL-1 <sup>11</sup>	Construct ponds NB-35A, B, C and NB-29A, B (Option 4 in Northwood Lake Plan)	E	\$595,000							\$595,000		
NL-2 <sup>22</sup>	Four Seasons Mall Area Water Quality Project	E	\$990,000				\$990,000					
NL-3 <sup>23</sup>	Divert Lancaster Lane storm sewer (Option 3 in Northwood Lake Plan)											
NL-4 <sup>12</sup>	Construct ponds NB-36A, NB-37A, NB-38A and NB-28A, B (Option 5 in Northwood Lake Plan)	A	\$153,000									
NL-7 <sup>16</sup>	Construct pond adjacent to creek	E	\$139,000									
Bassett Creek Main Stem												
BC-1 <sup>13</sup>	Pond BC 10-3 (Option 4 in Bassett Creek Main Stem Plan)		\$0									
Crystal Boundary to Regent Ave <sup>20</sup>	Channel restoration	E	\$636,000	\$34,800	\$601,200							
Wisconsin Ave to Crystal Boundary	Channel restoration	E	\$580,000		\$290,000	\$290,000						
BC-7	Brianwood/Dawnview Water Quality Improvement Project, Golden Valley	E	\$250,000					\$250,000				
Irving Avenue to Golden Valley Road	Channel restoration	E	\$856,000			\$856,000						
10th Avenue to Duluth Street	Channel restoration, Golden Valley	E	\$1,659,000						\$1,000,000	\$659,000		
Sweeney Lake Branch												
Cortlawn Pond to Turners Crossing <sup>17</sup>	Channel restoration	A	\$386,000									
North Branch												
36th Ave to Bassett Creek Park <sup>21</sup>	Channel restoration	E	\$835,000		\$600,000	\$235,000						
Grimes, North, & South Rice Ponds												
GR-2	Grimes Pond wet detention pond (Option 4 in Rice and Grimes Ponds Plan)	E	\$104,000									\$104,000
Crane Lake												
CL-1	Ramada Inn detention/ skimming facility (Option 1 in Crane Lake Plan)	E	\$116,000									
CL-2 <sup>18</sup>	Joy Lane Wet Detention Pond (Alt. #2)		\$0									
Turtle Lake												
	None Proposed											
Lost Lake												
	None Proposed											
		Capital Cost		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
	ANNUAL ESTIMATED COST			\$937,262	\$1,491,200	\$1,561,000	\$1,186,000	\$1,025,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,359,000	\$454,000	\$118,000

**Notes:**

1. Capital Cost does not include land acquisition costs, but does include legal, administration, and 25% additional for contingencies.

2. Constructed by City.

3. Periodically completed by City.

4. This project includes dredging of accumulated sediment and was completed in 2006.

5. Mn/DOT sound wall construction in New Hope will require relocation and resizing of storm sewer in this watershed.

6. Treatment completed by the City of Plymouth in 2005, 2006, and 2008.

7. Completed in 2006.

8. Project authorized in 2006. Issues regarding participation by Mn/DOT and future maintenance have delayed construction, no current schedule.

9. Project authorized in 2006. Issues regarding site contamination and right-of-way have delayed construction, no current schedule.

10. Project completed in 2006.

11. The City of New Hope constructed NB-35A, B, C but not to the same degree as proposed in the lake and watershed management plan. NB-29 A and B have not been constructed. These improvements will need to be re-evaluated as part of the feasibility study. Costs shown are for NB-29A and B only. Costs will be added to the CIP to upgrade these ponds if the feasibility study indicates that they should be upgraded.

12. The City of New Hope constructed NB-28A and B. NB-36A, NB-37A and NB-38A were completed in 2006.

13. This project was completed as part of the Boone Ave and Brookview Golf Course improvement projects in 2004.

14. Project approved for construction in 2006, to be completed as part of street repaving project.

15. Minor Plan Amendment approved April 2007. Project to be completed in 2010.

16. Minor Plan Amendment approved September 2007. Project completed in 2009.

17. Minor Plan Amendment approved August 2007. Project completed in 2008.

18. Not feasible per city of Minnetonka in 2008.

19. Minor Plan Amendment approved June 2009. Project PC-1 to be completed in 2011.

20. Minor Plan Amendment approved June 2009.

21. Project construction proposed to start in 2011 using CIP reserve funds.

22. The Four Seasons Mall Area Water Quality Project includes construction of two new water quality treatment ponds and restoration of an eroding stream channel. One of the ponds will be located on the Four Seasons Mall site; the other pond will be located southwest of the mall site, near the intersection of 40th Ave. N. and Pilgrim Lane. The original proposed project (from the 1996 *Northwood Lake Watershed and Lake Management Plan*) was to dredge and enlarge pond NB-07 to provide additional treatment of stormwater runoff. The 2012 feasibility study for the Four Seasons Mall Area Water Quality Project concluded that it was not feasible to convert pond NB-07 (a wetland) to a stormwater pond. The feasibility study also included two scenarios as alternatives to the proposed dredging. The Commission selected Scenario 1 as their preferred alternative.

23. Project removed from CIP - no longer needed.