

Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

Executive Summary: 2017 Annual Report



2017 Activities & Achievements

The BCWMC worked on the following activities in 2017 in order to fulfill its mission:
Stewardship of Water Resources to Protect and Enhance Our Communities.

Major Projects (Capital Improvement Program)

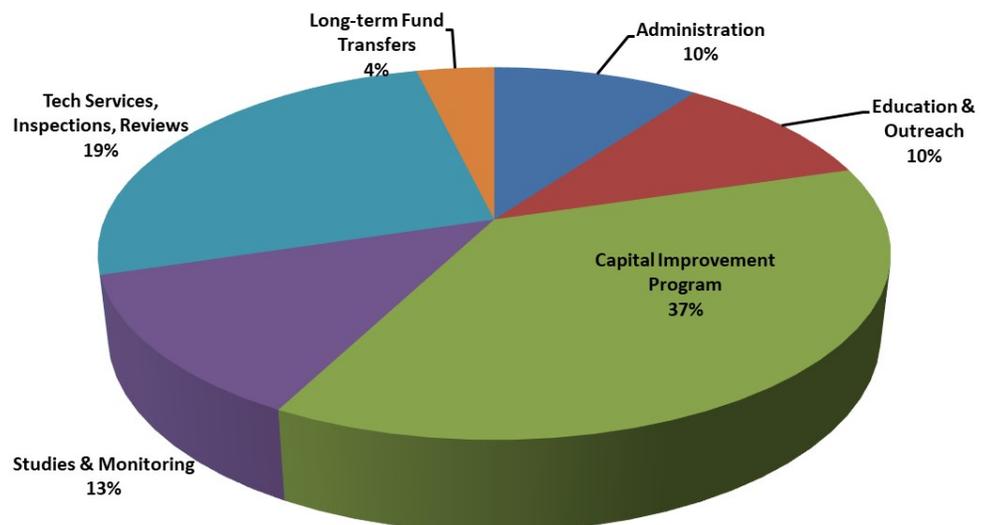
The BCWMC continued to implement its capital improvements program. Information on all BCWMC projects (completed, on-going, and proposed) can be found at www.bassettcreekwmo.org.



- **COMPLETED PROJECTS:** 1) Northwood Lake Improvement Project in New Hope that includes a 160,000-gallon underground tank that captures storm water runoff for use in irrigation, rain gardens and a storm water pond. The project was partially funded with city contributions, a Clean Water Fund grant and a Clean Water Partnership Grant. 2) Honeywell Pond Expansion Project in Golden Valley that improves the pollution removal capacity of the pond and uses a pumping station to pump storm water from the pond to ballfields for irrigation. 3) Phase 1 of the Main Stem Restoration Project 10th Ave. to Duluth St. in Golden Valley included stream bank shaping, placement of field stone rock and 12-inch bio-logs, repair of storm sewer outlets and native vegetation planted along the streambanks. Phase 2 which includes maintenance of the new vegetation will continue through 2018.
- **UNDERWAY:** Project design was completed and construction began on the Plymouth Creek Restoration Project in Plymouth. The project includes repairing eroding streambanks and establishing vegetation along Plymouth Creek in Plymouth Creek Park and downstream of Fernbrook Ave. This project received grant funds from Hennepin County and a Clean Water Fund Grant.
- **UNDERWAY:** Project designs were completed for the Main Stem Erosion Repair Project in Minneapolis near the Fruen Mill and downstream of Cedar Ave. Construction is planned for 2018. This project received Environmental Response Funds from Hennepin County.
- **UNDERWAY:** The feasibility study was completed and project designs began for the Bassett Creek Park Pond Phase I Dredging Project: Winnetka Pond in Crystal. Construction is slated for late 2018/early 2019.

Budget

In FY 2017, the BCWMC spent approximately \$699,400 on activities and programs and \$416,600 on capital projects. BCWMC income included \$500,000 from member cities, \$781,398 in grants, \$19,400 in reimbursements, and \$73,700 in development review fees. Another \$1.304 million was collected through a Hennepin County tax levy on watershed residents for the capital projects. For an itemization or more information on the BCWMC's 2017 expenditures, see the Year End Financial Report in Appendix A or the financial audit online.



2017 BCWMC Expenditures

Water Monitoring Activities

The BCWMC assessed the health of its lakes and streams through various monitoring activities including:

- Assessed the health of Lost, Sweeney, and Twin Lakes by collecting data on water quality, plankton, and aquatic plants (Appendix B)
- Participated in Metropolitan Council Environmental Services' Citizen-Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP) for seven lakes
- Performed continuous stream monitoring on Bassett Creek at the Watershed Outlet Monitoring program coordinated by the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services

Find information about all the major BCWMC lakes & streams at:
www.bassetcreekwmo.org

The Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (BCWMC) is governed by a board composed of representatives from each of the nine member cities: Crystal Golden Valley Medicine Lake Minneapolis Minnetonka New Hope Plymouth St. Louis Park and Robbinsdale. Representatives are appointed by their cities and serve three-year terms.

Education & Outreach Activities

- Continued partnering with Metro Blooms on the Harrison Neighborhood Project to engage residents, train youth, and install water quality practices in Minneapolis' Near North neighborhood. Received \$100,000 grant from the Met Council in 2016 and \$134,500 Clean Water fund grant in 2017.
- Participated with the West Metro Water Alliance, a consortium of watershed organizations and other partners that collaborate on education programming including programs in 4th grade classrooms, and development and promotion of the "Pledge to Plant" campaign.
- Provided watershed education to the public at the Plymouth Yard/Garden Expo, the Golden Valley Arts and Music Festival, and the Westwood Nature Center restoration event.
- Provided watershed map, salt dispenser cups, and dog waste bag dispensers at watershed education events.
- Provided financial support to Metro Watershed Partners for their "Clean Water MN" media campaign, and the Children's Water Festival.
- Provided funding for Commissioner education for conference registrations.
- Provided funding for the Hennepin County's River Watch - a program for high school students to collect benthic invertebrates to determine stream health.
- Hosted "Parking Lot and Sidewalk Winter Maintenance Workshop" for twenty-one city staff, private applicators, and parks district staff. Most participants took an exam to become certified in level one "smart salting."
- Designed, had fabricated and Installed Bassett Creek signs at four creek crossings in Golden Valley.

