



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

Watershed Plan Steering Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 3, 2024

8:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Bassett Creek North Room, Brookview

AGENDA

1. WELCOME

2. REVIEW MARCH 7 MEETING NOTES – attached with meeting materials

3. DISCUSS NEXT STEPS TO ADDRESS FUTURE IMPLEMENTATION

At the March PSC meeting, members confirmed that the next steps in considering the future funding and governance of the Commission were to:

- A. Continue to improve commissioner knowledge and engagement, working primarily through the Administrative Services Committee, and to add the ability to compensate commissioners in the updated JPA.
- B. Consider increasing staff capacity as early as 2025. The Budget Committee is reviewing budget implications of this action.
- C. Include an action within the first two years of watershed plan implementation to perform a comprehensive analysis of the options for organizational structure and funding mechanism(s).

There was acknowledgement that this committee will discuss this topic within the “Organizational Effectiveness” issue category in the coming months. There was also discussion about when to engage TAC members on this item but the outcome of that discussion was not clear.

This item was introduced at the March commission meeting and a brief discussion ensued. Commissioners desired additional, written information on this item and it was acknowledged that the issue is intertwined with updating JPA. Committee Chair Kennedy noted that a future commission workshop will thoroughly address this topic.

Staff would like to: 1) confirm that future implementation structure and funding will be discussed at a future commission workshop but not before; and 2) receive direction on the desired timing of input from the TAC.

4. REVIEW ISSUE STATEMENTS AND DRAFT GOALS FOR REMAINING WATERBODY AND WATERSHED QUALITY CATEGORY – attached with meeting materials

At this meeting, the goal is to review and finalize the remaining issues in the Waterbody and Watershed Quality category (starting on page 15):

Groundwater-Surface Water Interactions (discussion began last month; tracked changes shown)
Degradation of Upland Areas
Degradation of Riparian Areas
Groundwater Quality

5. DISCUSS PLANS FOR NEXT PLANNING TAC MEETING

The Planning TAC includes regular city TAC members along with staff from Hennepin County, MPRB, TRPD, and state, local, and regional review agencies. As stated in the plan development scope, the purpose of Planning TAC meetings is to review and gather input on draft plan content including measurable goals, policies, performance standards, implementation actions, schedule, and budget. At the initial Planning TAC meeting held in December, staff asked attendees to provide feedback such as:

- What are your thoughts on the measurable 10-year goals?
- Are the priorities of your organization included here?
- In a fully developed watershed, what projects or programs are working elsewhere to move the needle on resource improvements? (particularly for chlorides and stream biota)
- Are there insights, reminders, or best practices you can share for the use of subwatershed analyses or other targeting tools?

As staff prepares to reconvene the Planning TAC, we request input from the committee on how best to utilize Planning TAC expertise and the desired timing and format for the meeting. In response to committee feedback after the initial Planning TAC meeting, the PSC members will be invited to the next Planning TAC meeting. Staff recommends that the Planning TAC meeting be held separately from a regular PSC meeting so the PSC can continue to make progress on the watershed plan.

6. DISCUSS POTENTIAL TO SHIFT SCHEDULE FOR JUNE AND JULY PSC MEETINGS

Due to staff vacations and the 4th of July holiday, the committee could consider rescheduling the June 5th and July 3rd meetings. Potential alternatives include the following Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m. – June 12th and July 10th.

7. REVIEW ISSUE STATEMENTS AND DRAFT GOALS FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCY – attached with meeting materials

If time permits, the committee could begin reviewing the issue statement, desired future condition, and 10-year goals for the Climate Resiliency issue category.

8. ADJOURN